



Equity for Equity's Sake: *Advancing Transportation Projects with the End-User in Mind*

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01

The Language of Equity



***Coming Together and Speaking
the Same Language***

Same as what we call "**fairness**" or "**horizontal equity**":

- ✓ Equal distribution of impacts and benefits between individuals and groups

Grounded in the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**:

- ✓ prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin
- ✓ protections for sexual orientation or gender identity added in June 2020

What Is Equality?



What Is Equity?



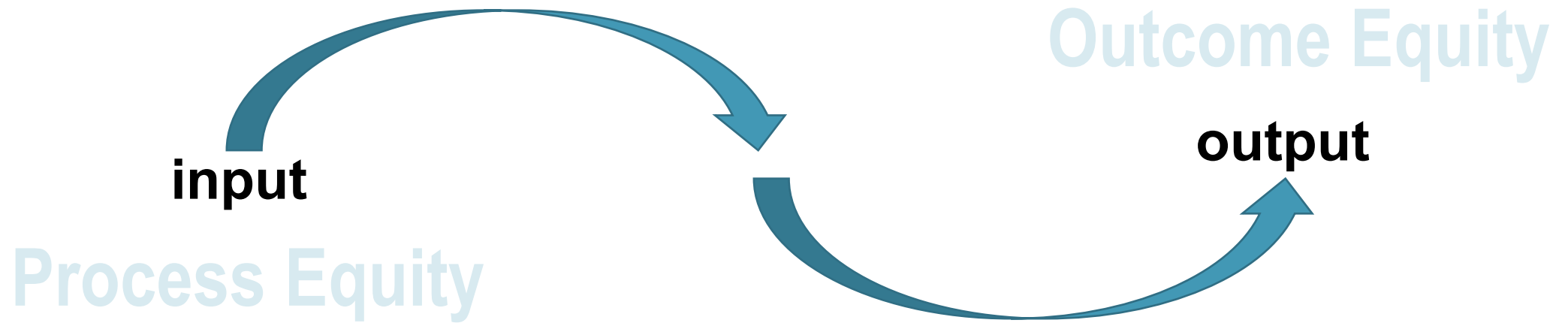
Equity is based on communities' perspectives of their needs and what they think can benefit them

*In the context of our work, it is often the same as what we call "**vertical equity**":*

- ✓ Equity considers the **distribution of effects** between individuals and groups that **differ** by income, social class, or even mobility needs
- ✓ Policies are equitable if they address the **specific needs** of economically and socially disadvantaged groups
- ✓ *Equity is outcome-based*: we strive to provide opportunity for everyone to **achieve the same outcome**

Process versus Outcome Equity

Many agencies and projects have embraced the two complementary sides of equity – *process and outcome*



Equitable decision-making

The Road from Inequality to Justice

INEQUALITY

Unequal access
to opportunities



FINISH

FINISH

The Road from Inequality to Justice

EQUALITY

Evenly distributed
tools and assistance



The Road from Inequality to Justice

SOCIAL EQUITY

Custom tools that identify
and address inequality



The Road from Inequality to Justice

JUSTICE

Fixing the system to offer equal
access to both tools and opportunities



02

The Drivers of Equity



Responding to the Needs of Our Communities

The Equity Landscape



January 2021 to present:

- EO 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
 - EO 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
 - EO 14035, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce
-
- Interim Implementation Guidance for the Justice40 Initiative
 - USDOT Equity Action Plan
 - EO14091, Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government
 - EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All



As per EO 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government ...

Equity is defined as the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as:

- ✓ **People of Color (Black, Latino, Indigenous, Native American, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, others)**
- ✓ **members of religious minorities**
- ✓ **LGBTQ+ persons**
- ✓ **persons with disabilities**
- ✓ **persons who live in rural areas**
- ✓ **persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality**

Justice40 Initiative

- Included in EO 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*
- Ensures that Federal agencies deliver the promise of **at least 40%** of the overall benefits to **disadvantaged communities** from Federal investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and the development of critical clean water infrastructure

*Affirms a mandate to **measure** equity benefits – not just report on potential effects of federal actions*

USDOT Equity Action Plan



Wealth Creation

Technical assistance to small disadvantaged businesses, enabling them to more effectively compete for USDOT contracting opportunities and build wealth



Interventions

Provide direct, hands-on technical support with local impact – providing targeted assistance in areas of planning, project development, grant applications and project delivery



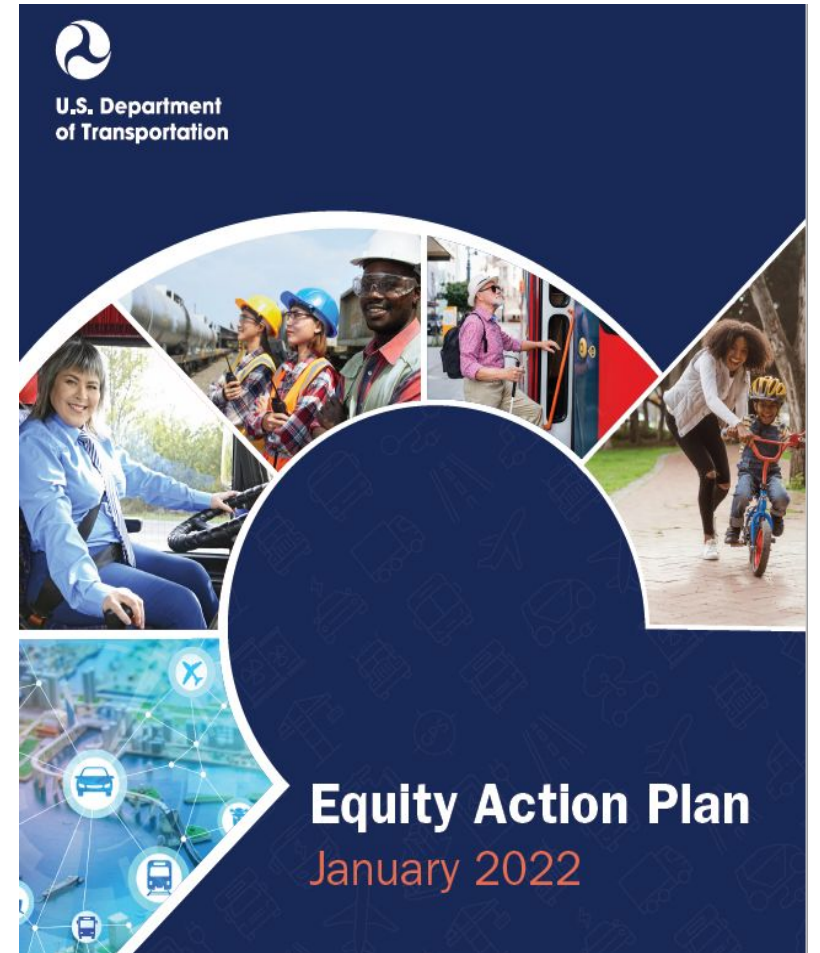
Power of Community

Re-emphasizing agency reviews to prevent disparate impacts on protected classes and empower communities in transportation decision-making



Expanding Access

Address barriers to accessing affordable transportation options and help bring measurable transportation options and help bring measurable transportation benefits to disadvantaged communities per Justice40



What is Environmental Justice?

1994 – 2023, in a nutshell (per EPA):

the **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people regardless of **race, color, national origin, or income**

2023 forward (per EO 14096):

The **just treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people, regardless of **income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability**, in agency decision-making and other federal activities, that affect human health and the environment so that people:

- ✓ Are fully protected from disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects (including risks) and hazards, including those related to **climate change**, the **cumulative impacts** of environmental and other burdens, and the **legacy of racism** or other **structure or systemic barriers**; and
- ✓ Have equitable access to a **healthy, sustainable, and resilient environment** in which to live, play, work, learn, grow, worship and engage in cultural and subsistence practices.



Environmental Justice since 1994

- ✓ **1994:** EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations
- ✓ **1997:** USDOT Order 5610.2, Order on Environmental Justice
- ✓ **2012:** FTA Circular 4703.1, Environmental Justice Policy Guidance for FTA Recipients
- ✓ **2012:** USDOT Order 5610.2A, Order on Environmental Justice
- ✓ **2016:** USDOT Environmental Justice Strategy, revised
- ✓ **2021:** USDOT Order 5610.2C
- ✓ **2022:** EPA Legal Tools to Advance Environmental Justice
- ✓ **2023:** EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All
- ✓ **2023:** NPRM: NEPA Implementing Regulations Phase 2

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508

[CEQ–2023–0003]

RIN 0331–AA07

National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Regulations Revisions Phase 2

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is proposing this “Bipartisan Permitting Reform Implementation Rule” to revise its regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including to implement the Fiscal Responsibility Act’s amendments to NEPA. CEQ proposes the revisions to provide for an effective environmental review process that promotes better decision making; ensure full and fair public involvement; provide for an efficient process and regulatory certainty; and provide for sound decision making grounded in science, including consideration of relevant environmental, climate change, and environmental justice effects. CEQ proposes these changes to better align the provisions with CEQ’s extensive experience implementing NEPA; CEQ’s perspective on how NEPA can best inform agency decision making;

Environmental Justice *per EO 14096*



Redefines EJ Communities to be more inclusive:

- Focuses on *income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability*
- Goes beyond **low-income** and **minority populations** to capture “*communities with environmental justice concerns*”
- Includes communities who are otherwise “*adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality*”
- Encourages a more comprehensive look at communities to identify concealed *environmental and human health injustices*



Environmental Justice *per EO 14096*



Requires consideration of:

- Any “*legacy of racism*” or other structure or systemic barriers
- Any *cumulative impacts* of environmental and other burdens
- Effects of *climate change*



ALL INFORMED BY MEANINGFUL
INVOLVEMENT



More and More Focus on Inclusive, Intentional, and Meaningful Involvement

Public Information
Meetings with
One-way
Communication

Workshops and
Open Houses with
Two-way
Communication

Focused
Engagement with
Affected
Communities

Project
Co-creation and
Having a “Seat at
the Table”

*Per USDOT Order 5610.2C; Equity
Action Plans, EO 14096*

03

Implementing Equity in Our Work

Considering the end user



What do transportation planners hope to achieve?

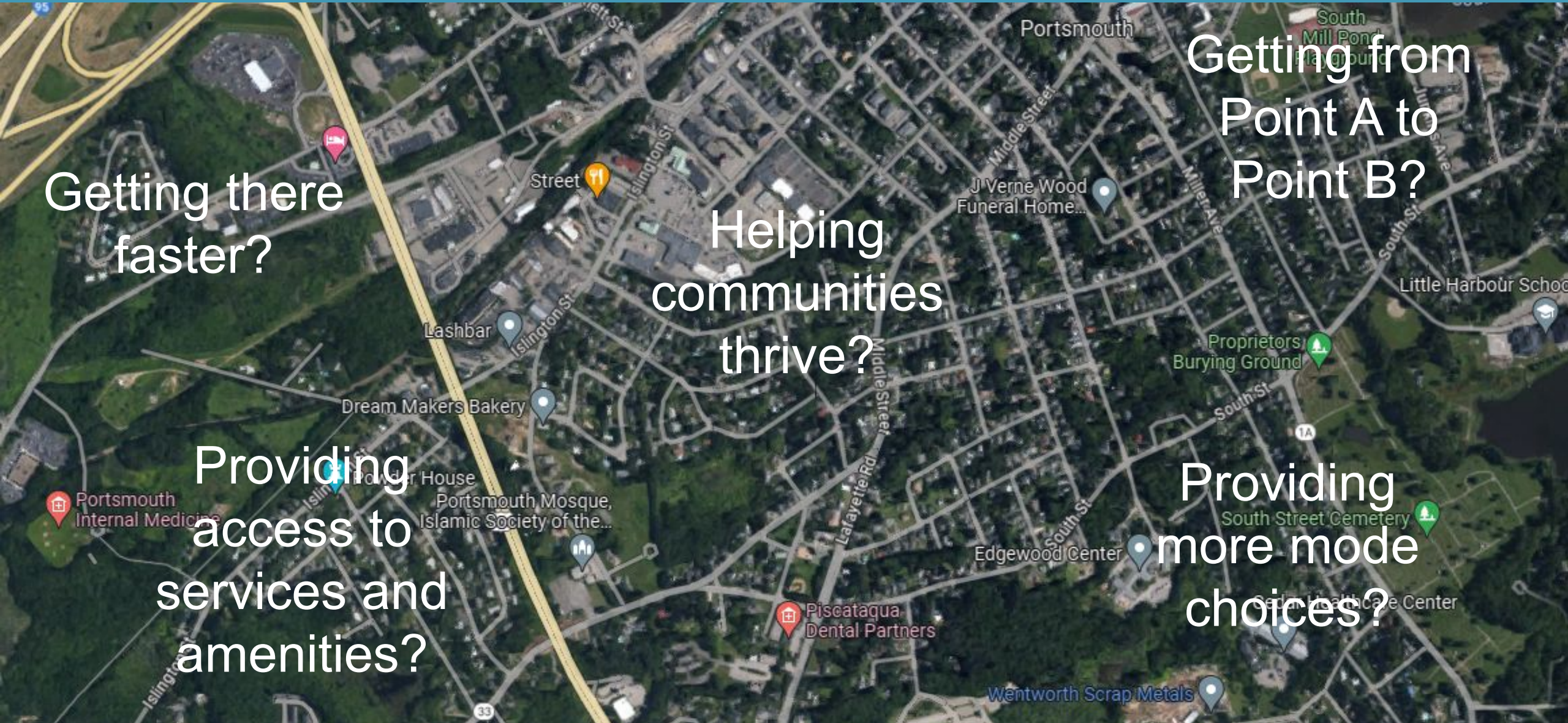
Getting there
faster?


Getting from
Point A to
Point B?

Helping
communities
thrive?

Providing
access to
services and
amenities?

Providing
more mode
choices?





I cannot afford a toll
on this road!

This doesn't really
help my commute.

How can we ensure that this
helps, not hurts, vulnerable
communities?

I don't need new transit
– I just need my
sidewalk fixed!

What about people who
must drive for work at
specific times, like at night?

Construction is
going to really hurt
my neighborhood!

Are low-income and
disadvantaged
communities being
heard?

How do we sometimes fall short due to unintended consequences?

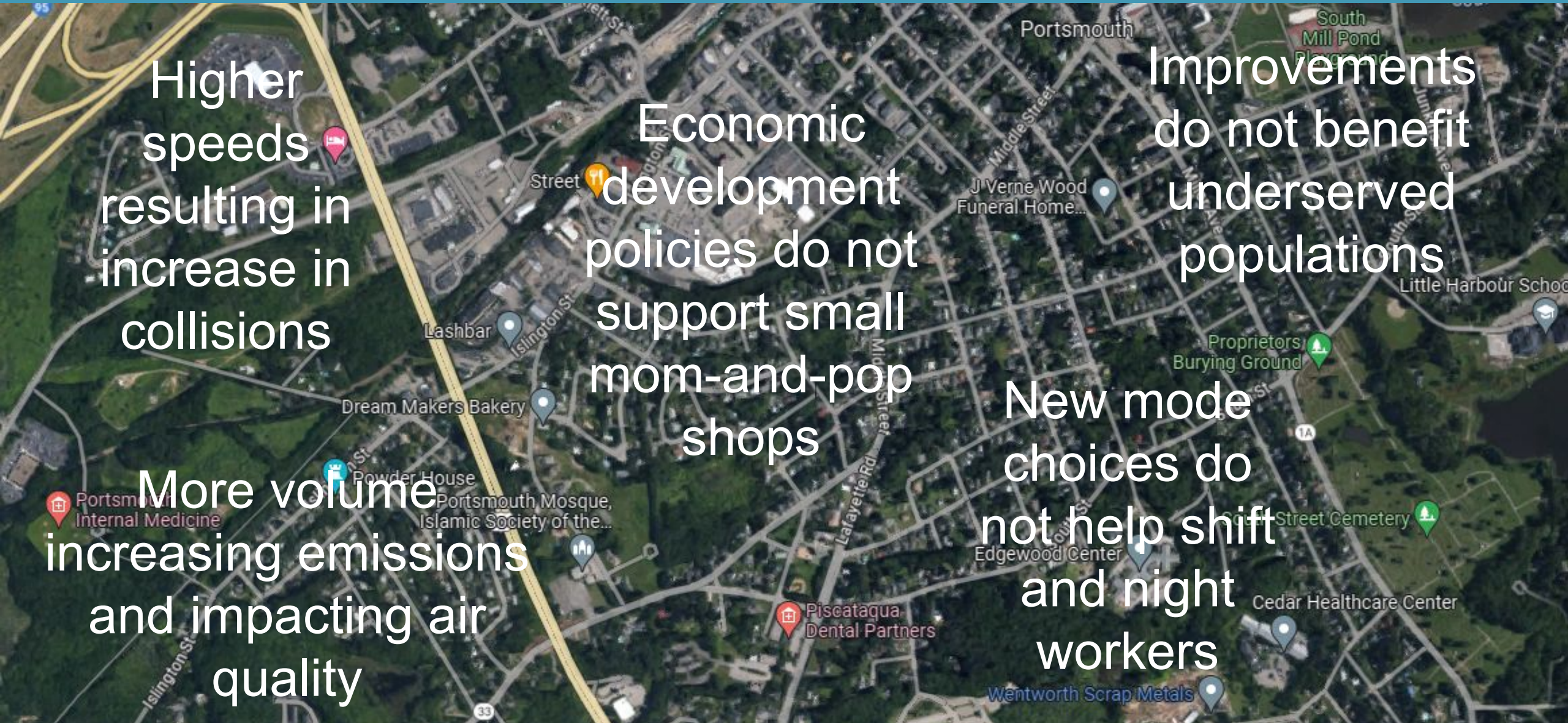
Higher speeds resulting in increase in collisions

More volume increasing emissions and impacting air quality

Economic development policies do not support small mom-and-pop shops

Improvements do not benefit underserved populations

New mode choices do not help shift and night workers



Understanding the Consequences of our Actions

? Who are we serving? Who are the end users?

? How will the end users benefit from this investment?

? Are the benefits and burdens different for different types of people?

? How have other projects / improvements fallen short for the end users?

**New Bike
Lanes**

**Express Lane /
HOT Lane Project**

**Commuter
Rail Service
Change**

**Freeway
Interchange
Replacement**

Implementing Equity in Our Work



Respecting the Past, Understanding the Present, and Preparing for the Future

Respecting the Past



Equity acknowledges **not all people or communities are starting from the same place** due to historic and current systems of oppression

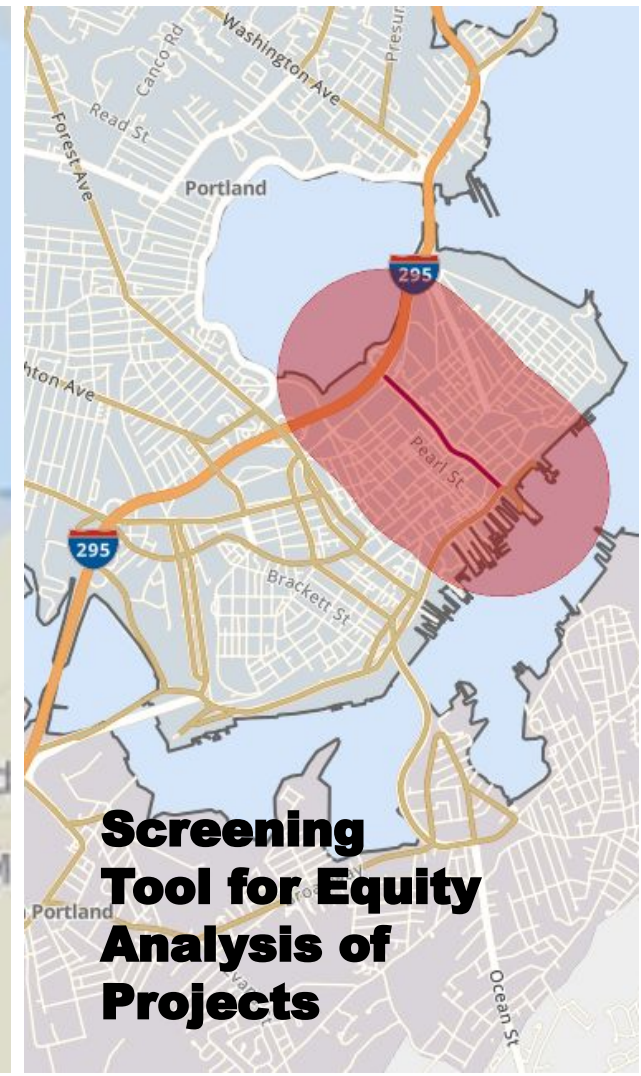
- Do your homework
 - Know that no two projects and no communities are the same
 - Be prepared when you engage the community
- Speak to the community
 - Be intentional in how you engage communities
 - Listen to their stories

Respecting the Past

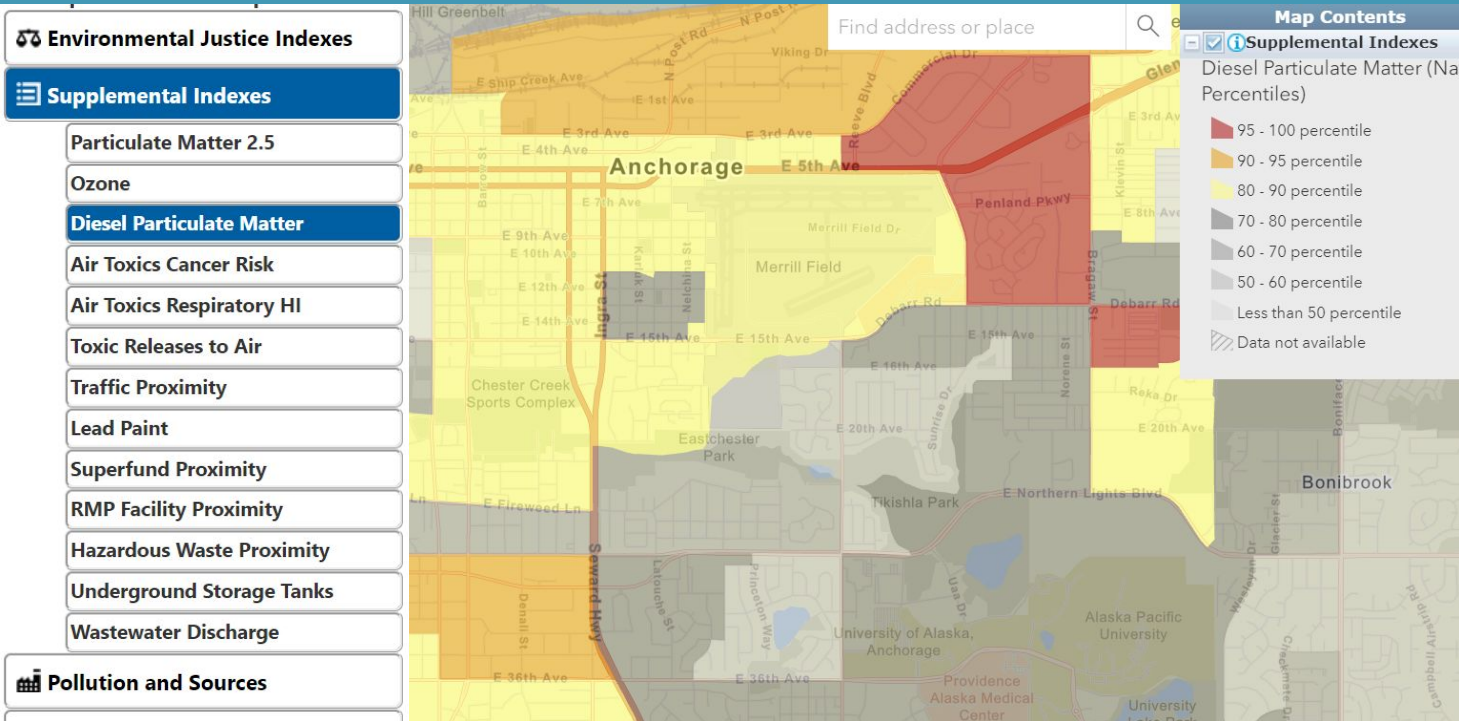


- Ask questions of the community, your team, and yourself:
 - Have there been unintended negative impacts of past projects?
 - Have past actions divided the community?
 - Did land use patterns affect development?
 - Are there long-standing transportation gaps that have affected access to opportunities?

Understanding the Present: Using the Right Tools



Tools Developed for Our Use: USEPA's EJScreen 2.2

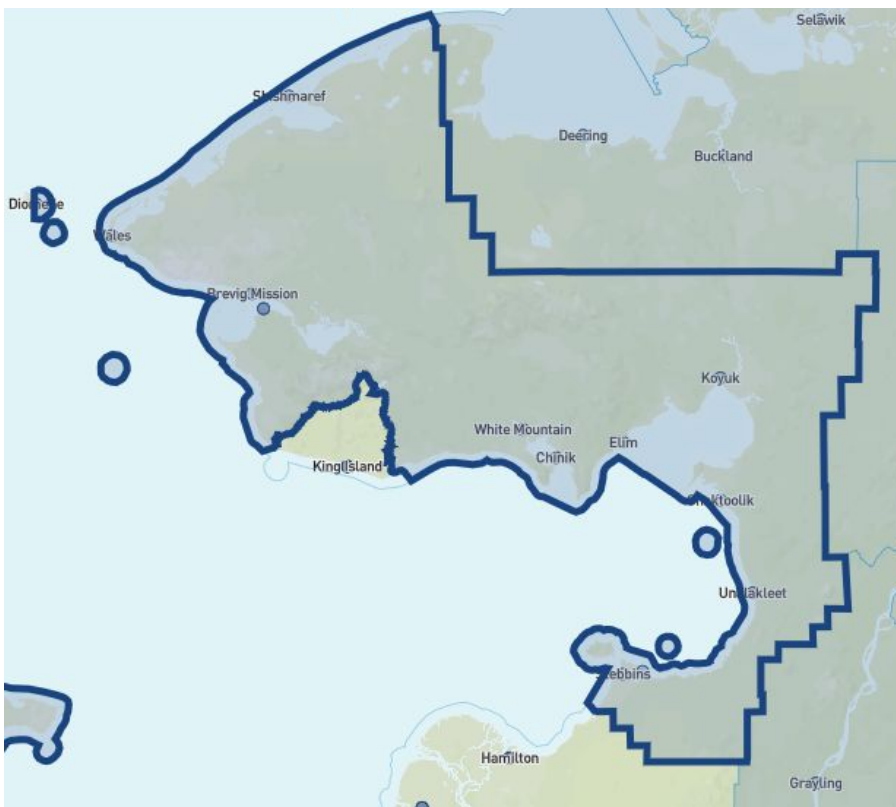


- Provides data at the census tract block group level – a more granular geography for analysis
- Compares selected locations to the rest of the state or the US

- Identifies disadvantaged communities as:
 - any census block group at or above the 90th percentile for any of the **Supplemental Indexes**, compared to the nation or state, or
 - any geographic area within Tribal lands and indigenous areas

Tools Developed for Our Use: CEQ's Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool

- Identifies burdens at the **census tract** level
- Identifies burdens across eight categories: **climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development**

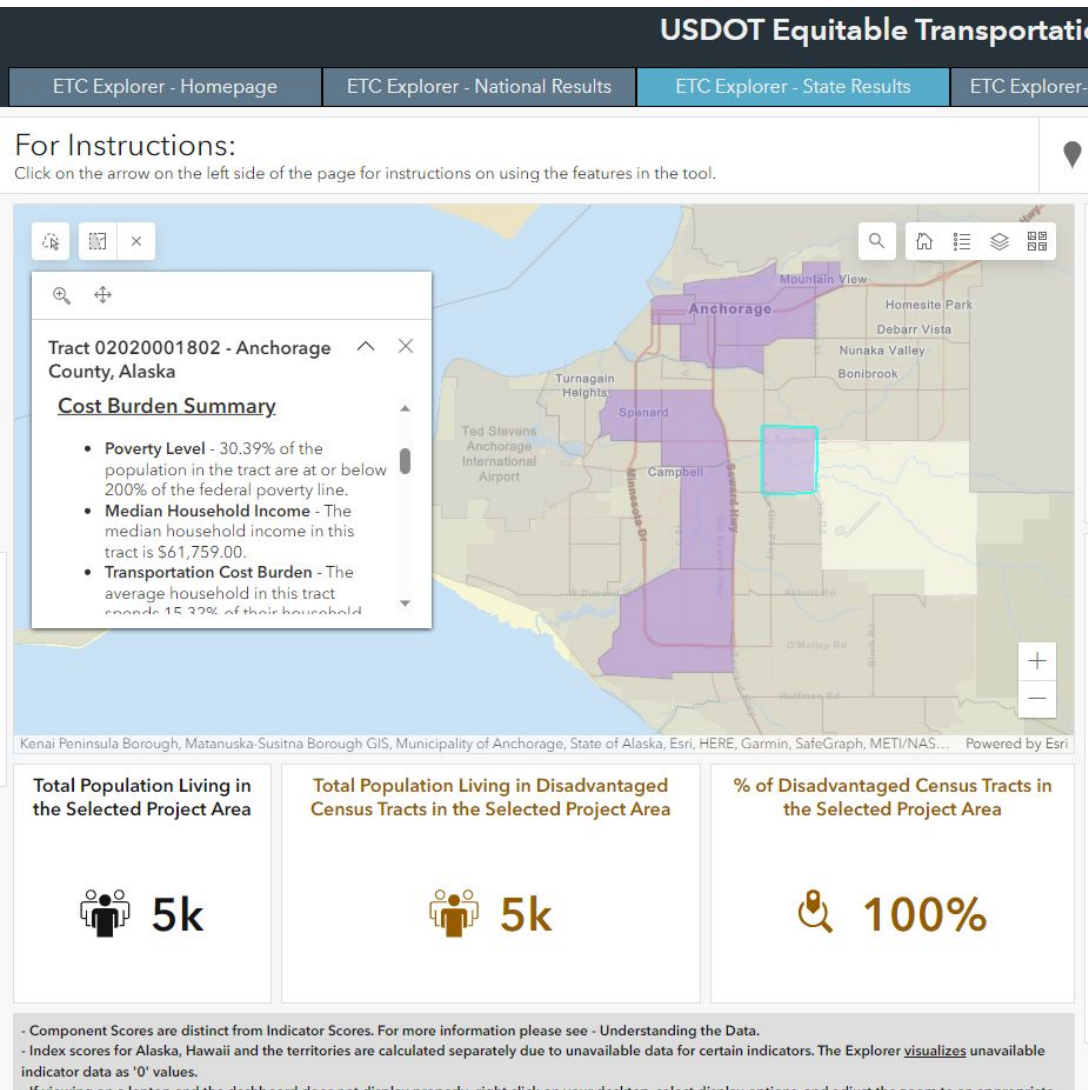


Climate change	+
Energy	+
Health	+
Housing	+
Legacy pollution	+
Transportation	+
Water and wastewater	+
Workforce development	+

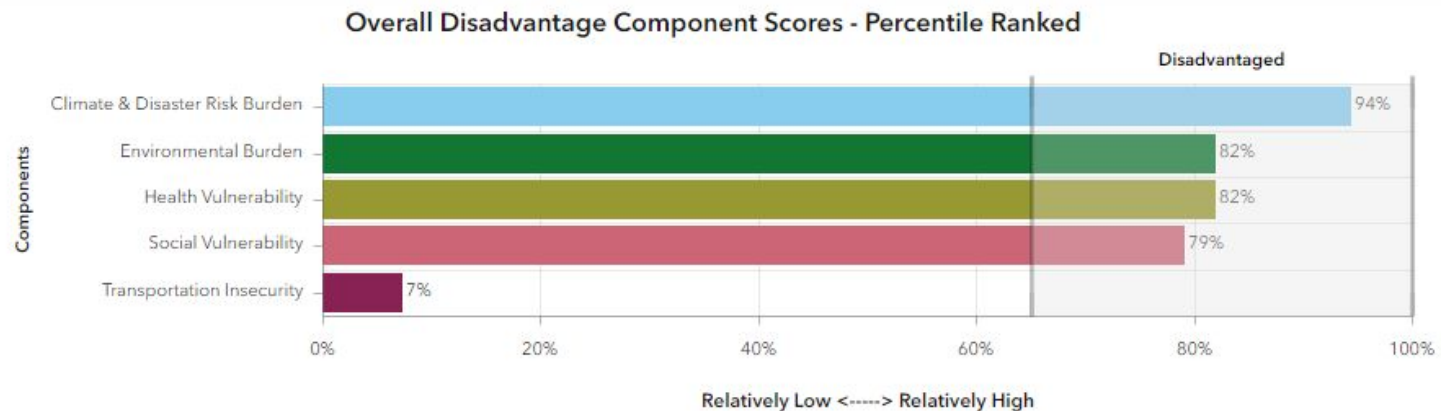
Health	—
Asthma Share of people who have been told they have asthma	97th above 90th percentile
Diabetes Share of people ages 18 years and older who have diabetes other than diabetes during pregnancy	87th not above 90th percentile
Heart disease Share of people ages 18 years and older who have been told they have heart disease	90th above 90th percentile
Low life expectancy Average number of years a person can expect to live	4th not above 90th percentile
AND	
Low income People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed	95th above 65th percentile

- **Communities are considered disadvantaged if:**
 - they are in census tracts that meet the thresholds for at least category, or
 - they are on land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes

Tools Developed for Our Use: US DOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer



- Designed to complement CEQ's Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool
- Provides users a deeper understanding into **how a community is experiencing transportation disadvantage** to help ensure that the benefits of investments are addressing the transportation related causes of disadvantage.



Tools Developed for Our Use: Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)

Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)

Planning, Environment, Realty (HEP) | [HEPGIS](#) | [Help](#) | [About](#) | [Sources](#) | [Contact](#)

The screenshot displays the STEAP web application. On the left, a map of Anchorage, Alaska, shows major roads like E 3rd Ave, E 5th Ave, Seward Hwy, and Glenn Hwy. A red shaded buffer zone is centered on a small purple rectangle located between E 3rd Ave and E 5th Ave. The word "Anchorage" is written in large black letters over the map.

1. Zoom to a Location

Anchorage

[ANCHORAGE AK](#)
[ANCHORAGE KY](#)

2. Select Major Roads
Left-Click to Select, Right-Click to Erase

Or Draw A Line
Do not select/draw more than 25 miles

Clear Line (0.4 Miles)

3. Choose: ACS Census Block Groups ▼
Distance: within 0.5 Miles
and within _____ Miles (optional)
Enter a number less than 3

Create Buffer Analysis
Get Spreadsheet
Clear Analysis

- Enables rapid screening of project locations anywhere in the U.S. to support **Title VI, environment justice (EJ)** & other **socioeconomic data** analyses
- Provides a report for download that summarizes available data:

Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP) Project Buffer Analysis Profile Report

Data Source: American Community Survey 2016-2020
Prepared by FHWA Office of Planning

	Buffer Estimates	Percent	City/Town Anchorage AK	County Anchorage AK	State Alaska
General Buffer Area Statistics					
Land Area (in square miles)	1		1,707	1,707	571,022
Population	6,189		292,090	292,090	736,990
Housing Units	3,518		118,293	118,293	318,370
Households	2,768		106,970	106,970	255,173
Families	1,140		69,571	69,571	167,815

Don't forget about meaningful engagement!

- ✓ Seek out and encourage the involvement of persons and communities potentially affected by potential / proposed actions
 - ✓ Bring project information and opportunities for engagement to affected communities – don't wait for them to come to you
 - ✓ Partner with community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, and small DBE firms to build trust with affected communities
 - ✓ Provide accessible opportunities for participation
- ✓ Fully consider public input provided as part of decision-making processes





Prepare for the Future

Smart, People-Centric, Future-Focused Planning

EQUITY

consider the needs of disadvantaged communities
avoid disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged communities
include all voices in the decision-making process

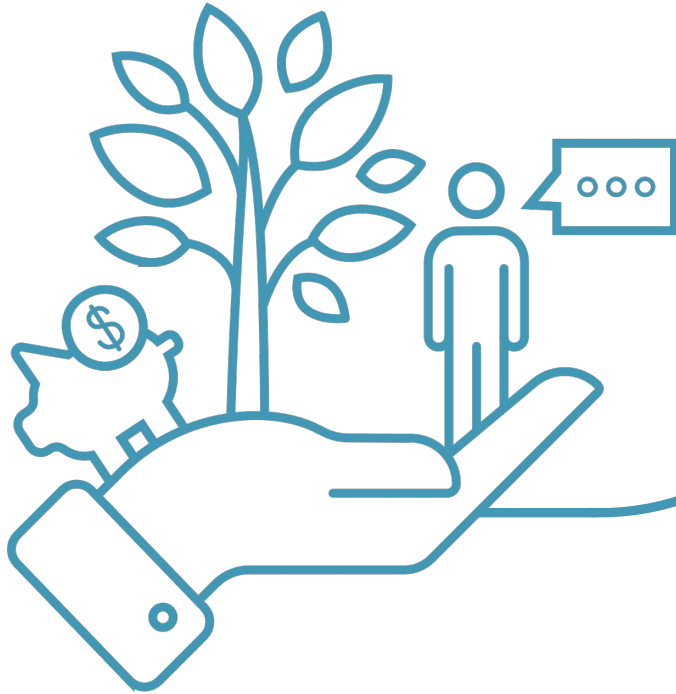
RESILIENCY

anticipate and prepare for changing conditions
respond to emergencies
recover from disruptions

SUSTAINABILITY

meet the needs of today and tomorrow
avoid / minimize impacts on environment
preserve our natural resources

Definitions



SUSTAINABILITY

The act of balancing the environmental, social and economic needs of the built and natural environments for present and future generations.



RESILIENCY

The capacity for people, communities, buildings and infrastructure to endure, rapidly respond to and prosper despite impacts from shocks and stress.

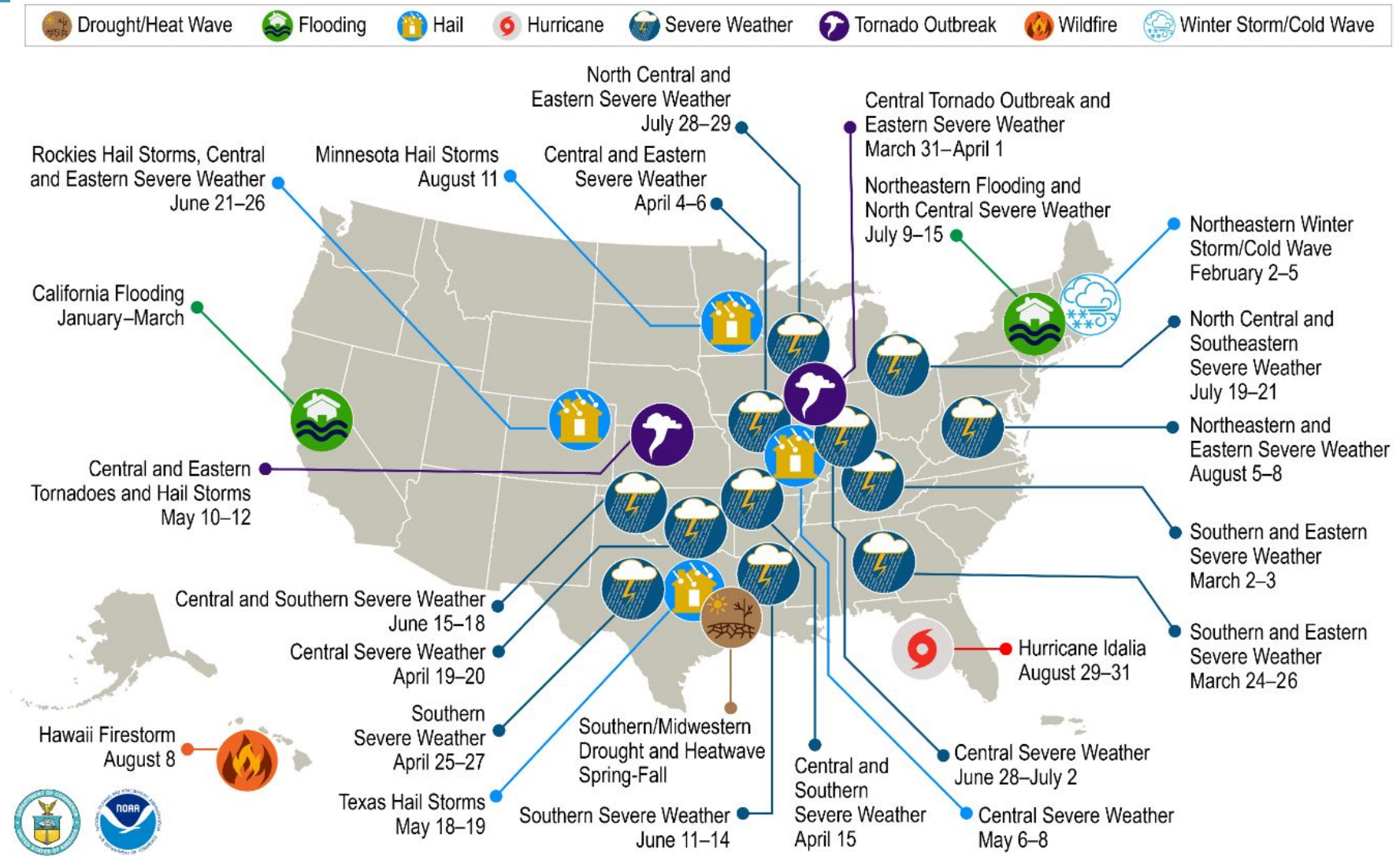
Climate Economic Impact (2023)

372 weather and climate disasters sustained in U.S. since 1980

TOTAL COST EXCEEDS
\$2.475 trillion

In 2021, President Biden signed a
\$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill

for historic funding to protect the U.S. against the detrimental affects of human-caused climate change.



NOAA map denotes approximate location for each of the 18 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the U.S. in 2022.

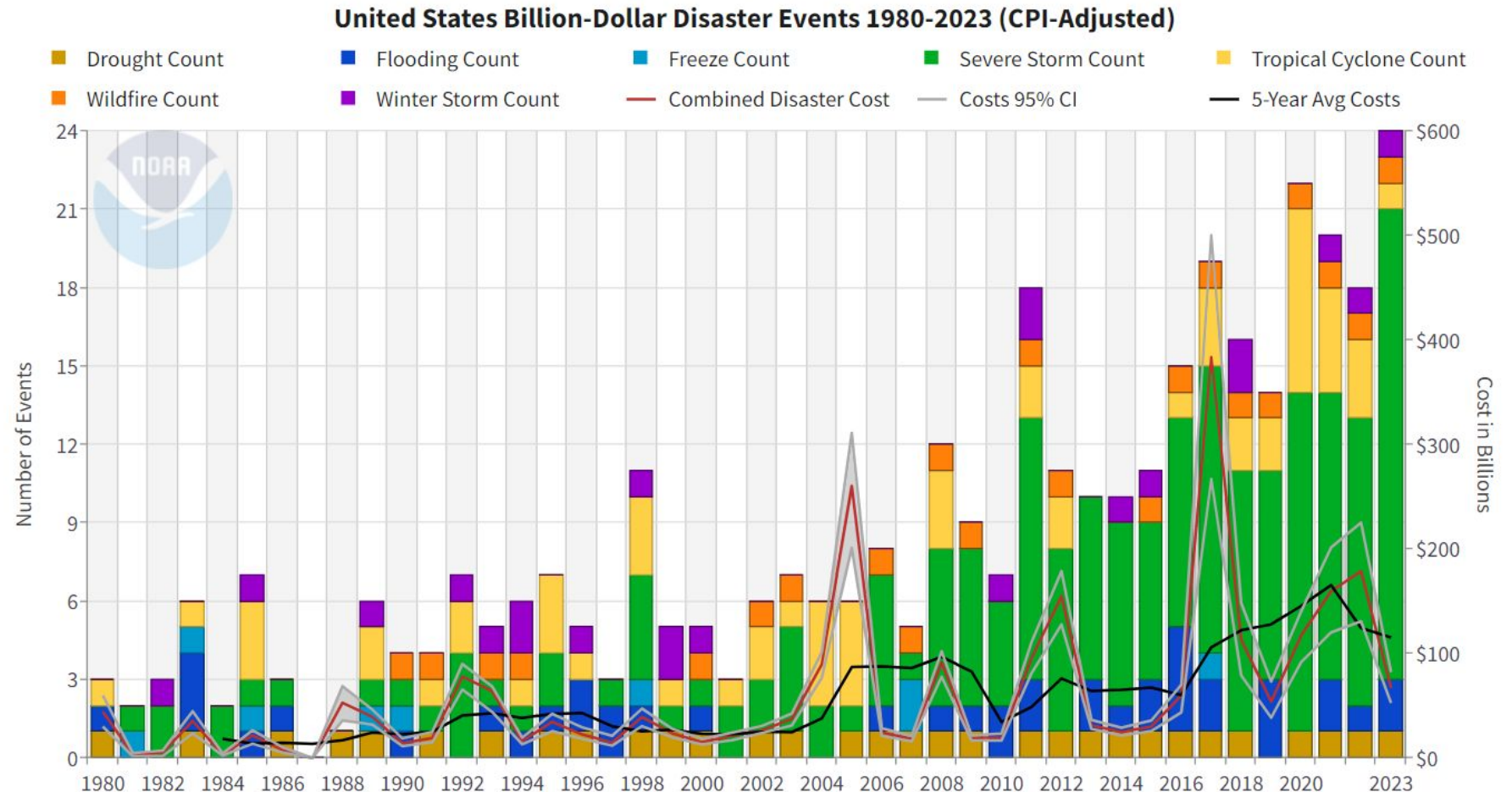
Climate Economic Impact (2023)

24 weather and climate disaster events in 2023

LOSSES IN U.S. EXCEEDING
\$1 billion

More than 3 million adults forced to evacuate homes

in the past year (2022) because of a natural disaster, according to a new Census Bureau tally.



Updated: October 10, 2023
Source: NOAA

Sustainability, Resiliency & Equity



Photograph Source: Denver Post

- Environmental sustainability
 - Electrification & EV access
- Social sustainability
 - Transportation access
 - Quality of life
- Climate Gentrification
 - Insurance premium increases leading to high housing costs
 - Repeat natural disasters requiring repair and associated costs
 - Sea level rise pushing coastal residents inland to higher ground
 - Most vulnerable communities may be most historically-disadvantaged

04

Project Examples



Bringing the Pieces Together



ADVANCING A COMMUNITY-DEVELOPED PROJECT

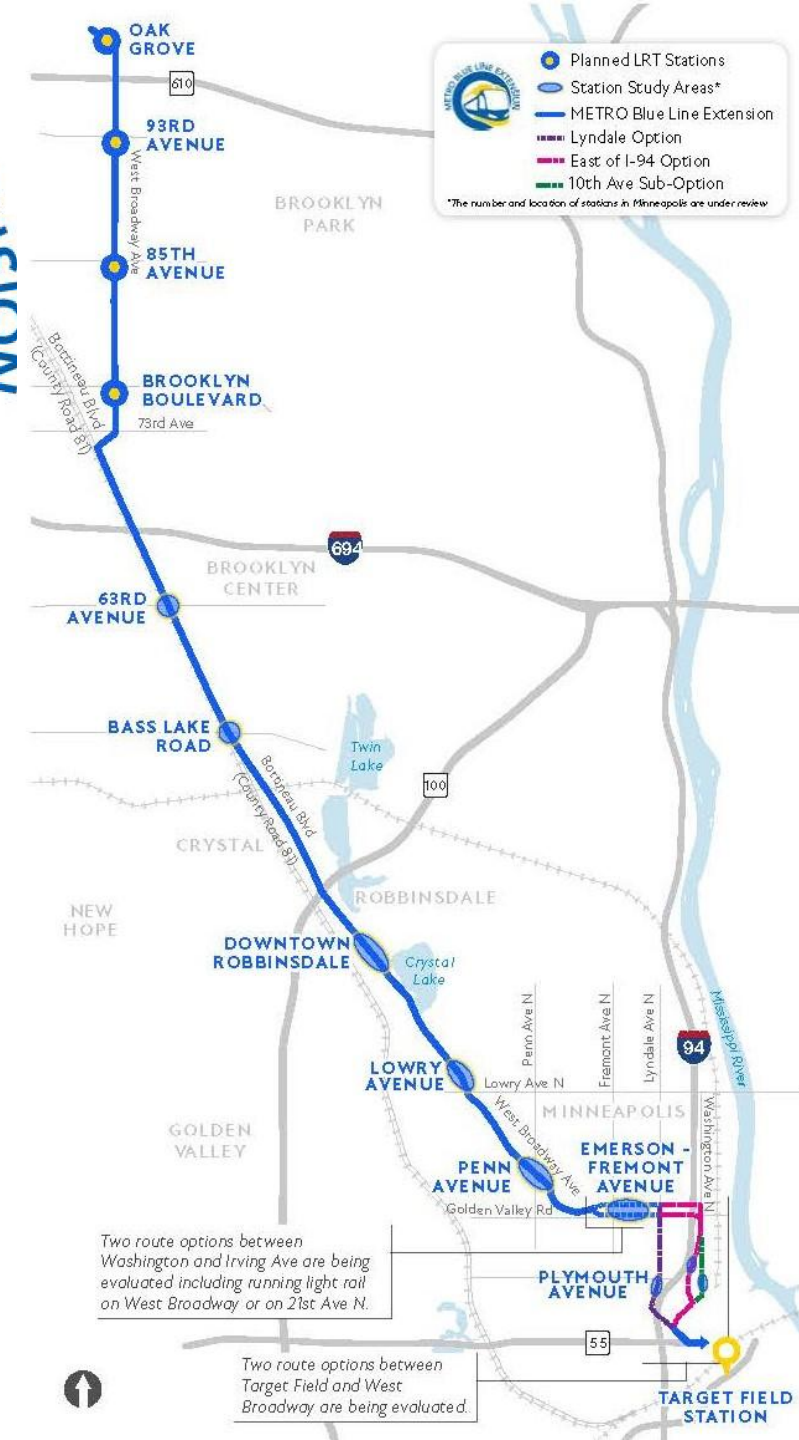
METRO Blue Line Extension

Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County

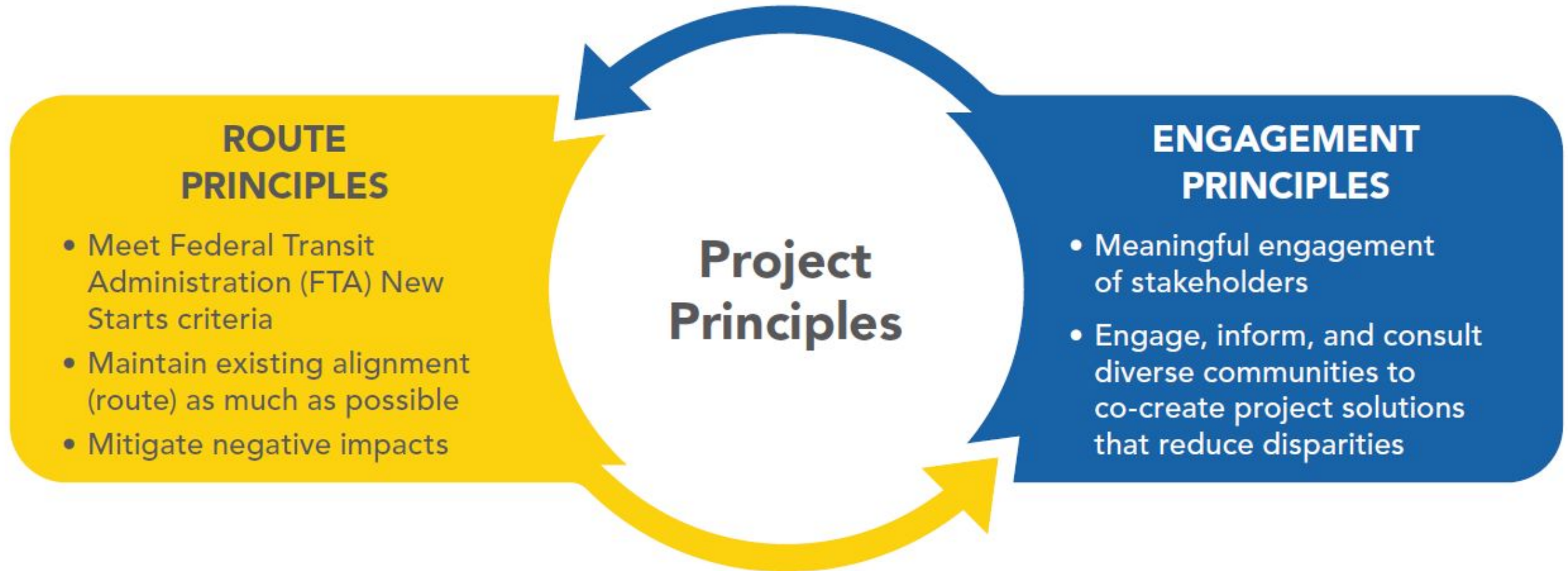
Minneapolis, MN



- Currently in NEPA phase: Development of a Supplemental EIS
- Advancing a project that extends the METRO Blue Line from the existing Blue Line light rail transit from Target Field Station in Minneapolis to Crystal, Robbinsdale, and Brooklyn Park
- Project sponsor and partners seized the opportunity to develop a **community-supported route** based on extensive public and stakeholder engagement



Co-creating Project Solutions with Communities



Meaningful Engagement Leading to Project Changes

- Developed several options from 2020 to 2022 in collaboration with communities
- Responded to community input about an option east of I-94
 - Avoids community impacts on west side
 - Provides access to industrial job opportunities
 - Serves affordable housing
 - Opportunity to invest in an underserved community
- Engaged communities through several in-person meetings, door-knocking, virtual events, and on-line survey

Benefits of the Blue Line Extension Community-Supported Route:

- *Best meets the Project goals*
- *Grounded in community feedback through collaboration with stakeholders*
- *Supported by project corridor communities and decision-makers*



Community-Developed Anti-Displacement Policies

- Hennepin County developed an Anti-Displacement Working Group in response to community concerns about housing affordability, business support, and displacement
- Partnered with the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to lead this effort
- Worked with community, local governments, and other stakeholders to evaluate the potential for current and future displacement related to the project

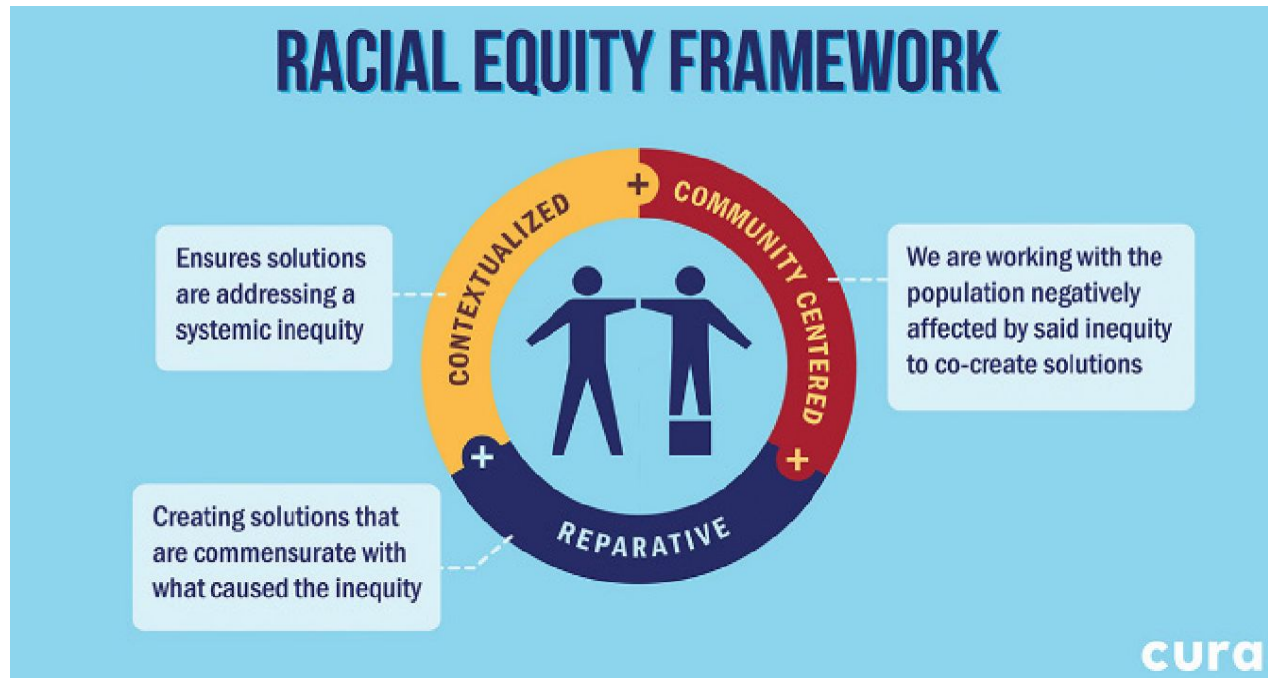
Fighting Against Gentrification



Source: CURA, April 2023

Environmental Justice in NEPA: Including Anti-Displacement Policies

- Applied a Reparative Justice Framework and Organizing Philosophy that sought to:
 - Contextualize displacement in the Twin Cities through research
 - Center community by creating a workgroup that elevated community agency and capacity
 - Recommend anti-displacement strategies and policies that would lead to important community-defined outcomes



- Developed **17 recommended policies**, including:
 - ✓ Tenant Opportunity to Purchase
 - ✓ Rent Control / Stabilization
 - ✓ Zero- to Low-Interest Loans
 - ✓ Small Business Grants / Small Business Support
 - ✓ Workforce Programs
 - ✓ Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing Preservation
 - ✓ Limiting Investor Purchasing and Corporate Ownership
- **Community added:** community development that increases safety, walkability, and urban amenities in the corridor



ADDRESSING TOLLING CONCERNS HEAD ON

**New York Central Business
District Tolling Program**

New York Central Business District Tolling Program

New York, NY



- Also known as the Congestion Pricing program
- Will improve quality of life by reducing traffic in Manhattan's most congested areas
- Asserts that fewer cars means cleaner air, safer streets, and better transit throughout New York City

Addressing Inequities in NEPA: Low-Income Users

Inequities : Toll Prices - Access to E-ZPass - Transit Alternatives - Pollution

- Final Environmental Assessment published in April 2023
- FONSI issues in June 2023
- EA determined there is disproportionate and adverse effect on low-income

populations



- Low-Income Discount
- E-ZPass Tag \$10 Deposit Waived
- Cash Reload at Retail
- Pay per Trip



- Education and Outreach on Existing Low-Income Transit Assistance



- \$15B in Transit Capital Improvement
- Improved Bus Service to Low-Income and Minority Households and Neighborhoods

Addressing Inequities in NEPA: Air Quality

Inequities : Toll Prices - Access to E-ZPass - Transit Alternatives - Pollution



- Expanding the NYC Clean Trucks Program
- Replacing Hunts Point Refrigeration Diesel to Electric Conversion
- Upgrading School Air Filtration
- Electric Truck Charging Infrastructure
- Installing Vegetation
- Renovating Parks and Green Space
- Establishing Asthma Case Management Program

Sustainability Planning



Equity

Defining Equity at CapMetro

Communities and neighbors will share in the benefits of the Sustainability Vision Plan, especially in historically disinvested communities.

Public transit is an essential public service, and is especially important to staying connected to employment opportunities and community services. The ability to travel assures that human needs, such as food, water, and shelter are met, while the quality of transportation enhances our well-being and the feelings of safety, security, belonging, esteem, autonomy, and the ability to thrive. It is CapMetro's goal to provide safe, equitable, reliable, and cost-effective public transit to improve mobility, and stimulate economic development. The mobility CapMetro provides ensures access to jobs, healthcare, education, worship, entertainment, and much more. Moreover, CapMetro provides resources and essential sustainability benefits, such as zero emission buses and Metrolink shared mobility systems, to help keep our air clean, reduce environmental impact on our surroundings, and reduce the risks of climate change. We will prioritize communities and neighborhoods that have not shared in these benefits historically. Sustainability and equity are inherently linked and will continue to be a high priority in the implementation of Project Connect.

Current Activities

- Developing an Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD) tool to guide transit investments.
- Supporting local and underserved business development through our disadvantaged business enterprise/small business enterprise program.
- Participation in the Austin Climate Equity Plan, identifying and supporting climate strategies through community input.
- Integrating equity as a decision-making lens in the Metrolink Strategic Plan.
- Implementing significant outreach efforts through our ETOD program with a goal to increase participation from black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) populations, seniors, and low-income populations.
- Partnering with Central Texas Food Bank to convert a bus into a mobile food pantry to bring fresh and healthy food to identified food deserts.

Pathway to Equitable and Sustainable Transit

- Identify opportunities for equitable distribution of urban transit and green infrastructure investments.
- Create a training academy to give a local workforce to support planning and implementing our transit infrastructure.
- Advance accessibility and connect transit services to bikeways that accommodate all ages and abilities.
- Grow our local green economy and creating sustainability markets.

CapMetro

Progress CapMetro has made toward meeting sustainability

- Numbers in comparison to 2016 on an annual basis

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

IN 2021, 97% OF PURCHASED ELECTRICITY ORIGINATED FROM TEXAS WIND FARM, TOTALING AROUND 1.7 MILLION KILOWATT HOURS OF ENERGY

WATER USE REDUCTION

REDUCED FACILITY WATER CONSUMPTION BY 2.8 MILLION GALLONS ANNUALLY

AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS AND EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

REDUCED TRANSIT BUS PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS BY 96%

REDUCED TRANSIT BUS GHG EMISSIONS BY 15%

REDUCED FACILITY GHG EMISSIONS BY 11%

REDUCED TRANSIT BUS NO_x EMISSIONS BY 70%

PURCHASED 12 ELECTRIC BUSES IN 2021 TO REDUCE OVERALL FLEET EMISSIONS

REDUCED OVERALL SOLID WASTE PRODUCTION BY NEARLY

90,000 POUNDS ANNUALLY



Climate Change Effects

Rising Temperatures

New Jersey is warming faster than the rest of the Northeast region and the world.

Sea-Level Rise

Sea-levels are increasing at a greater rate in New Jersey than other parts of the world.

Decreased Water Quality

Surface and groundwater quality will be impaired as increased nutrients and contaminants enter waters due to runoff from more intense rain events.

Drought

Droughts may occur more frequently due to the expected changes in precipitation patterns.

* Source: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, 2020. New Jersey Scientific Report on Climate Change. Version 1.0. Eds. R. Hill, M.M. Rutherford, L.A. Laster, J. Golevich, N.A. Procopio. Trenton, NJ, 184 pp.

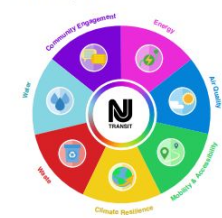
INTRODUCTION

OUR VISION IS TO BE A LEADER IN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR EMPLOYEES, OUR COMMUNITIES, AND

Sustainability Plan

WHAT IT IS

The Sustainability Plan builds upon our existing sustainability programs to develop a comprehensive and inclusive sustainability framework related to our social, environmental, and economic performance.



The Sustainability Plan is organized into seven sustainability themes as depicted above.

WHAT IT DOES

The Sustainability Plan will be our ongoing sustainability framework, and will guide our operations and business decisions.

WHY IT MATTERS

Sustainability matters because it helps us to create a better future for ourselves and the planet.

THE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- It helps set practices, standards, and goals.
- It helps to and progress sustainability.
- It establishes a common vision.
- It aims to account for all stakeholders.
- It is a living document that will be reviewed regularly.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



GOAL

Reflect the needs of the diverse communities served to improve transit service and infrastructure design, and deliver a high-quality experience with the entire customer journey in mind

LEGEND

ASPECTS

TARGETS

ACTIONS

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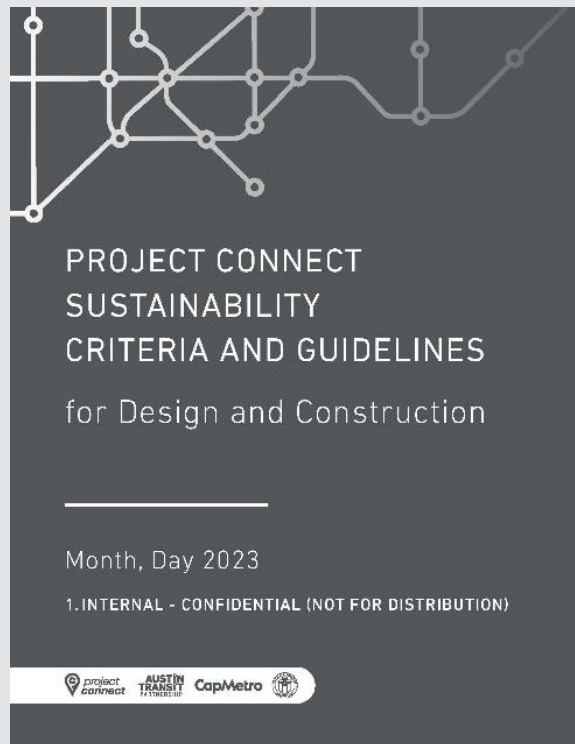
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Sustainability Planning Guidelines & Standards



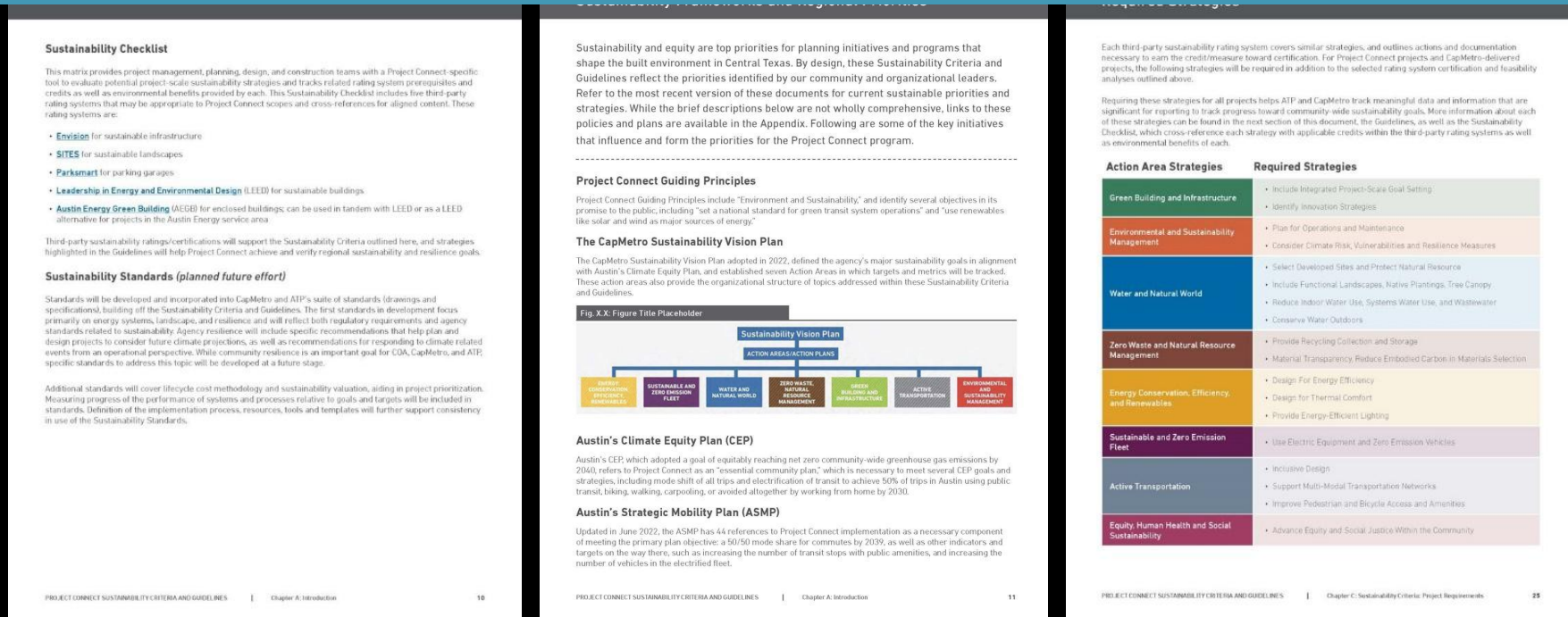
Revision History		
Revision	Description of Change	Date
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PROJECT CONNECT SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES | Introduction 2

Table of Contents	
Executive Summary (Placeholder).....	4
Introduction.....	7
Purpose	8
Project Connect Sustainability Toolkit Overview	9
Sustainability Frameworks and Regional Priorities	11
How to Use These Criteria and Guidelines	13
Introduction to the Criteria and Guidelines.....	14
Project Typologies	15
Project Implementation Phases.....	16
Sustainability Criteria: Project Requirements	21
Sustainability Certification.....	22
Feasibility Analyses	24
Required Strategies	25
Sustainability Guidelines.....	27
Structure of the Guidelines.....	28
Action Areas	
1. Green Building and Infrastructure Strategies.....	32
2. Environmental and Sustainability Management.....	44
3. Water and Natural World.....	54
4. Zero Waste and Natural Resource Management.....	66
5. Energy Conservation, Efficiency and Renewables.....	76
6. Sustainable and Zero Emission Fleet.....	88
7. Active Transportation.....	94
8. Equity, Human Health and Social Sustainability.....	102
Sustainability Checklist.....	112
Appendix	115
Regulatory Framework.....	116
Resources	118
Definitions	122
Acronyms	124

PROJECT CONNECT SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES | Introduction 3

Sustainability Planning



The Guidelines booklet follows a Sustainability Checklist to guide designers and PMs to achieve ATP sustainability goals in alignment with the following third rating system:

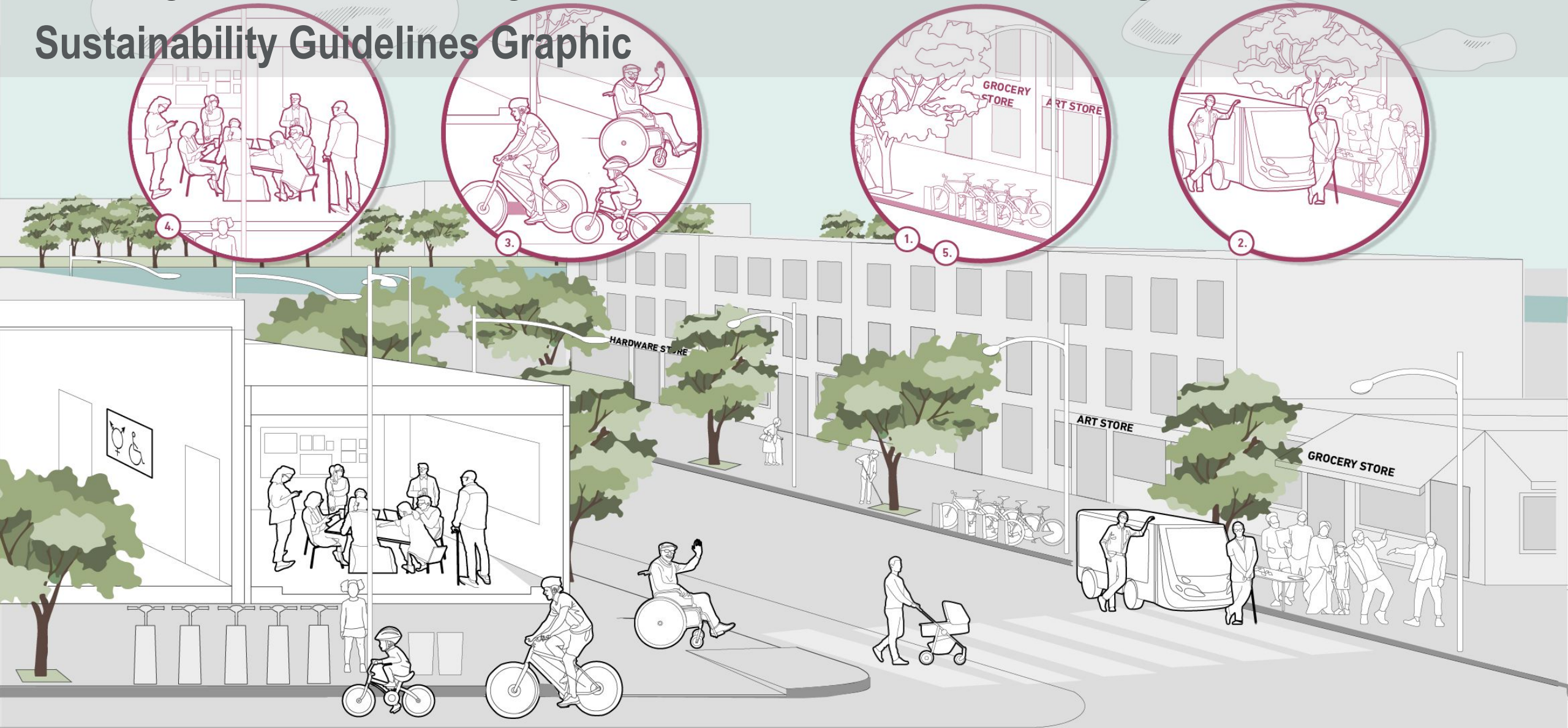
- Envision for sustainable infrastructure
- SITES for sustainable landscapes
- Parksmart for parking and garages
- Leadership and Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for sustainable buildings
- Austin Energy Green Building for enclosed buildings



CONSIDERING EQUITY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND RESILISNCY

Equity, Accessibility and Social Sustainability

Sustainability Guidelines Graphic



1. Incorporate Community Benefits and Other Infrastructure Improvements

2. Promote Sustainability Awareness and Education

3. Advance Equity and Social Justice within the Community

4. Social Equity within the Project Team

5. Social Equity within the Supply Chain

Monroe County Risk & Vulnerability Analysis

- Criticality, vulnerability, risk of SLR and other climate events
- Analysis of hundreds of roads in Florida Keys
- Project prioritization
- Significant stakeholder engagement
- Transparent GIS dashboard
- Identification of roadway projects to prioritize



05

Summary



Leaning into some best practices

Thinking and Planning Ahead: Best Practices in Equity Going Forward



- ***Expand data collection***, using a variety of sources, but acknowledge that ***qualitative data*** are as valuable as quantitative data
- Develop a ***relationship-building*** mentality and seek to co-create with communities
- Seek to ***shift power*** to historically disadvantaged or underserved groups
- Conduct ***outreach*** where people are physically located, and in their understanding
- ***Listen first***
- ***Start engagement early!***



Questions?

For more information, please reach out to:

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