

December 19, 2023, Environmental Justice Workshop Exercise #1

Dot Poll Regarding Draft Environmental Justice Policies

At the December 19, 2023, March JPA Environmental Justice Workshop, meeting attendees were asked to identify what the most important or necessary policies were for the March JPA, from the list of draft Environmental Justice policies. The following tallies identify the result of the dot poll, listed by vote count and then by policy number.

Poll Frequency	Policy Number	Draft Environmental Justice Policy
11	HC 15.2	Encourage collaboration among the March JPA, county, community, and community-based organizations, as well as local stakeholders, and environmental justice focus groups in promoting environmental justice.
11	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 childcare facilities to be located away from uses that pose potential hazards to human health and safety.
10	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.
9	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.
8	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.
6	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.
5	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.
4	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.

2	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.
2	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.
2	HC 18.9*	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Using design standards of the appropriate Specific Plan land use category. b. Construction of structures in accordance with the requirements of March JPA’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.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
2	HC 19.2*	Develop of high-quality parks, green space, hiking trails, recreational facilities and natural environments in areas where such facilities are lacking.
2	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.
1	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.
1	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.
1	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 March JPA has to address regarding environmental justice criteria.
1	HC 16.8	Evaluate creating a cap or threshold on the number of pollution sources within EJ communities and make recommendations thereon.
1	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.
1	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.
1	HC 16.13	Provide buffer spaces and vegetative barriers between high-volume roadways/ transportation and train track corridors and sensitive land uses.
1	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.
1	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.
1	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.
1	HC 17.7*	Promote edible landscaping and community gardens for suitable public and private land as well as for residential and mixed-use projects.

1	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.
1	HC 19.1	Collaborate with the relevant agencies to promote opportunities to provide recreational facilities for residents, including 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.
1	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.
1	HC 20.9	Ensure that safe and potable drinking and cooking water is available in the EJ communities.
1	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.