Welcome!

We Will Begin Momentarily

NYC Summer Town Hall on Environmental Justice
Summer Town Hall on Environmental Justice

Hosted by the NYC Mayor’s Office and Environmental Justice Advisory Board
This is how we Zoom it!
Click "Interpretation 🌐🌐" on the Meeting Controls taskbar to select a language.

একটি ভাষা নির্বাচন করতে মিটিং কন্ট্রোল টাস্কবারে "ব্যাখ্যা 🌐🌐" ক্লিক করুন।

点击会议控制任务栏上的“口译🌐🌐”，选择粤语。

Klike sou "Entèpretasyon 🌐🌐" sou ekstrè Reyinyon Kontwòl la pou chwazi yon lang.

单击会议控制任务栏上的“口译🌐🌐”以选择普通话。

Нажмите «Интерпретация 🌐🌐» на панели задач управления совещанием, чтобы выбрать язык.

Haga clic en "Interpretación 🌐🌐" en el controles de la reunión para seleccionar un idioma.
Part 1:

What is Environmental Justice?
Environmental Justice

Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all persons

Regardless of race, color, national origin, or income

With respect to:

• the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, policies, and activities

• the distribution of environmental benefits
Environmental Justice:
In Our Own Words
Part 2:

What is NYC’s Environmental Justice program?
NYC’s Environmental Justice Laws

Local laws 60 & 64 of 2017 codified environmental justice into City decision-making.

Became law after 10 years of advocacy from grassroots environmental justice organizations and the leadership of elected officials including NYC Councilmembers Charles and Inez Barron and Costa Constantinides.
NYC’s Environmental Justice Laws

Our roadmap to identify and address Environmental Justice concerns in NYC.

**ASSEMBLE**
- Establish an Advisory Board of local leaders and experts
- Convene a Working Group of City agencies

**ASSESS**
- Identify EJ Areas and outline concerns through a study/report
- Publish a web portal with EJ maps, data, and programs

**ADDRESS**
- Develop a Citywide EJ Plan to:
  - Incorporate EJ concerns into City decision-making
  - Identify City initiatives for promoting EJ

Current step
Environmental Justice Team

Each role helps ensure that the process and final plan are transparent and impactful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interagency Working Group</th>
<th>Environmental Justice Senior Advisor</th>
<th>Environmental Justice Advisory Board</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Conduct research and develop the EJ report</td>
<td>• Manage process</td>
<td>• Independent body</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Assemble relevant data to publish EJ portal</td>
<td>• Convene Interagency Working Group and Advisory Board</td>
<td>• Review and advise on the work throughout</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop Citywide EJ Plan</td>
<td>• Advise on environmental justice issues</td>
<td>• Engage with environmental justice communities and the public</td>
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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REPORT, PORTAL, AND PLAN
Part 3:

What is the Environmental Justice for All Report?
Draft Scope: EJ Report

- The scope is a statement of issues to be studied in the report and our approach for analyzing those issues.
- Incorporates input from the public and EJ Advisory Board following public comment period February-April 2021.

The Report will assess the state of Environmental Justice by completing the following tasks:

Task 1: Assessing Environmental Outcomes

Task 2: Reviewing City Programs and Policies

Task 3: Examining Engagement with Communities
Task 1: Analyze Environmental and Climate Vulnerabilities

Identify environmental justice and climate concerns

Assess the impact each concern has on New Yorkers

Estimate investment in programs and projects that advance climate and environmental justice

For each environmental justice concern, the Report will:

- Identify locations in the city experiencing the concern
- Assess the physical presence of the concern overlaid with social and economic vulnerability.
- Propose data collection, or research that may be done to identify locations in the city experiencing the concern or better understand the concern, should sufficient data not exist.
Task 1: *EJ for All Report*

**Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns**

- Defined with input from the EJ Advisory Board and the public via a public comment period.

- Based on this input, the EJ IWG took a broad approach to delineating environmental justice concerns -- identifying issues with a demonstrable, direct link to environment and health outcomes.

- Also considered a broader set of issues that relate to quality of life and the principle that all people, regardless of race, disability status or economic background, have a right to live, work, and play in communities that are safe, healthy, and free of harmful environmental conditions.
Task 1: EJ for All Report

Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns

1. Hazardous Materials Exposure

2. Indoor Air & Housing Quality

3. Energy Use & Utility Affordability, including Energy Cost Burden and Energy Efficiency
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Task 1: <em>EJ for All Report</em></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns</strong></td>
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<td>4. Solid waste management, including but not limited to illegal dumping</td>
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<td>5. Outdoor air quality, including proximity to nearby polluting infrastructure or activities</td>
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<td>6. Noise, including from construction and heavy infrastructure</td>
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<td>7. Land use issues which may contribute to other EJ concerns</td>
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<td>8. Traffic, including traffic volumes, congestion, and traffic safety</td>
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<td>9. Transit and alternative transportation access</td>
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## Task 1: *EJ for All Report*

### Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Concern Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Drinking water quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Proximity to impaired water bodies</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Sewer infrastructure quality and management</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Non-park green resources, including street trees and natural areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Park, waterfront, and public green spaces access</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Park and tree canopy maintenance and quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Fresh food and nutrition access</td>
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Task 1: *EJ for All Report*

Climate Concerns to be Assessed:

- Heat
- Flooding from heavy rains
- Coastal flooding
- Droughts
- Cold snaps
Task 2: Analyze the City’s Contribution to Environmental Justice

Root causes of current conditions

Current city programs

EJ programs in other cities or states
Program designed to:
• Reduce negative environmental outcomes or poor health outcomes
• Improve quality of life, including in the areas of mobility, accessibility, sanitation and waste, and housing conditions
• Distribute environmental benefits
• Bolster resiliency against climate hazards.

Program must:
• Be a citywide program that may lead to positive impacts on people living in EJ areas;
• Targeted programs in specific communities based on vulnerability, need, and historic or systemic inequality.
• Allow for public participation in agency decision-making.
Task 3: Review Public Engagement in Environmental Decision-making

- **Identify:**
  - Legally required formal public engagement processes
  - Informal engagement on environmental decision-making

- **Evaluate:**
  - For fair treatment and meaningful involvement, based on federal guidance

- **Examine:**
  - Principles and values from the environmental justice movement

- **Outline:**
  - Possible changes to facilitate better participation by populations in EJ areas
Part 4:

How can I get involved?
How will public input shape this work?

- **Aug – Sept 2021**: Provide comments on draft Scope
- **July – Sept 2022**: Propose solutions for the EJ Plan
- **Feb – Apr 2021**: Help develop the draft Report scope
- **Dec 2021 – Feb 2022**: Feedback on the draft EJ Report
- **Jan – Mar 2023**: Comment on the draft EJ Plan
We want to hear from you!

Leave a public comment
- online at nyc.gov/ejstudy
- email EJ@climate.nyc.gov
- voice message 212-788-4144

Comments must be submitted by September 5, 2021

Share with your community

Stay in touch @NYClimate @GreeNYC
Stay Involved!

Register to vote

Know your elected officials

Join an EJ organization in your neighborhood

Get involved with your local community board
Make Your Voice Heard!

Are the environmental justice concerns proposed in Task 1 of the scope representative of your priorities and lived experiences?

Are there City's environmental programs or activities that have improved your neighborhood or quality of life in your community?

What does "meaningful involvement" in environmental decision-making look like to you?
Discussion

nyc.gov/EJstudy  EJ@climate.nyc.gov  212-788-4144  @NYClimate & @GreeNYC

NYC Town Hall on Environmental Justice
NYC Environmental Justice Team

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

- City Commission on Human Rights
- Dept. of City Planning
- Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services
- Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Dept. of Buildings
- Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Dept. of Transportation
- Dept. of Parks and Recreation
- Dept. of Sanitation
- Economic Development Corporation
- Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development
- Mayor’s Office of Climate Policy and Programs
- Mayor’s Office of Resiliency
- New York City Housing Authority
- Mayor’s Office of Environmental Coordination
- Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation
- Mayor’s Office of Operations
- Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings

Environmental Justice Advisory Board

- Chair: Peggy Shepard, Executive Director, WE ACT
- Rebecca Bratspies, Professor of Law, CUNY Law
- Shoshanah Brown, Founder and CEO, AIRnyc
- Marco Carrión, Executive Director, El Puente
- Dr. Luz Claudio, Professor and Chief of Division of International Health, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- Omar Freilla, Environmental Justice Organizer and Bronx Resident
- Diana Hernandez, Associate Professor, Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia
- Anhthu Hoang, NYC Resident
- Albert Huang, Senior Attorney, NRDC
- Tina Johnson, Environmental Justice Advocate and NYCHA Resident
- Beryl Thurman, Executive Director, North Shore Waterfront Conservancy of Staten Island