# Group 6 - Alameda County EJ Element - Community Workshop #2

## 1.) Pollution and Air Quality

### What we heard from the community

- Many children have asthma, get sick easily, and have difficulty breathing
- There is trash, needles, human waste on the street
- Truck pollution
- A concern about trucks being allowed on 580
- Loud noise from the train

trash, littering, needles

Provide information about asthma triggers

provide information about available resources and services

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Collect and monitor data.
- Raise awareness on the sources, impacts, testing and remediation of air, water and soil pollutions.
- Collect and monitor data.
- Provide a buffer and screening between freeways/ industrial uses and sensitive land uses (e.g., homes, school, parks),
- Provide home testing kits for lead.
- Plant trees in the most burdened areas.
- Work together with agencies to provide education on Asthma.
- Add air filtration to buildings.
- Establish pollution warning zones (e.g., signage).
- Prioritize bike lanes.
- Phase out polluting industry (e.g., body shops) near residences.
- Provide tax incentives to clean up pollution
- Provide gardening education
- Provide safe drinking water in parks.
- Tax polluting businesses
- Incentivize work-from-home; and
- Improve bus routes to enable commuting without cars.
- Provide safe drinking water in parks.

### Your Policy Ideas

- equitable access to environmetal benfits
- addressing trash and pollution in the creeks - allowing residents to organize to get trash out
- protect open spaces that support wildlife
- publicly available data for NGO's and community members
- performance targets for tree planting to reduce heat effects. tree ordinances for private property

## 2.) Safety and Sanitary Homes

### What we heard from the community

- Rent, mortgage, and housing costs are too high
- Living conditions need improvements
- Growing population of unhoused neighbors
- Gentrification and displacement
- Neighborhood safety

Advertise available grqants and loan programs for home repairs or energy efficient appliances/ fixtures

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Increase awareness of resources for improving the health of homes.
- Create a system to report mold and lead.
- Build new sidewalks where needed most.
- Streamline application process for residential improvements.
- Adopt an ordinance to address tenant protection.
- Establish a community land trust.
- Enforce prohibition of short-term rentals.
- Enforce smoke free housing ordinance.
- Create a tenant resource line.
- Provide pre-approved Accessory Dwelling Units.
- Fund air purifiers and indoor air monitors.
- Create a loan fund for lead abatement / rebates / repairs.
- Care for street trees.
- Control for disease vectors.
- Set up a permit concierge to assist with permitting process.
- Streamline application process for residential improvements.
- Provide pre-approved Accessory Dwelling Units.

### Your Policy Ideas

- high quality sidewalks
- no smoking multi-unit housing
- Implement a Rental Inspection Program
- well lighted nieghborhoods
- push for proatctive rental inspection for unit policy and rental registry
- can't discrimate based on section 8 voucher
- making resources readily available from ARP and other grants/funding opportunities for energy efficency

## 3.) Public Facilities

### What we heard from the community

- Public transit is too expensive and too hard to access
- Sidewalks need repairs
- More streetlights are needed for safety
- Schools are being closed in black and brown neighborhoods*
- Unincorporated areas need greenspaces and parks*
- Community programs: exercise class, sports, after school programs etc.

people couldn't access East Bay Regional Parks Districts

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Increase public transportation routes or add shuttles that connect to other public transportation.
- Activate spaces more for pedestrians rather than vehicles (e.g., wide sidewalks, lighting and speed bumps).
- Green Space/Public Gathering. Make quantitative goals for annual tree planting, create placemaking and build more outdoor gathering spaces.
- Strengthen existing facilities into resilience hubs (e.g., cooling centers), including school-based hubs.
- Work with school districts to provide community needs on school sites.
- Provide education to decision-makers about mental health and substance addiction issues.
- Create one-stop welcome hubs similar to REACH for adult populations.
- Prioritize public facilities and open space in areas with a significant need, especially where new housing is planned or proposed.
- Provide mental health and other support services with affordable housing projects.
- Improve bike/ pedestrian connectivity.
- Address community concerns around school closures.
- Reduce vehicle idling.

### Your Policy Ideas

- East Bay Regional Park District had a program for disadvantaged communities without cars
- Build San Lorenzo creekway - collab between HARD & Flood Control

## 4.) Food Access

### What we heard from the community

- Grocery stores with healthy options are too far away
- Fresh and healthy food is too expensive
- School lunches need to be improved so that students can get healthy food
- Community members need access to food resources like food banks

Make sure that folk are not taking advantage of free food programs

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Offer incentives to businesses to provide and advertise healthier food options.
- Increase food delivery to seniors/disabled.
- Organize bi-monthly farmers markets, and offer free or affordable produce for the lower income.
- Create incentives to design rooftop gardens.
- Train community members and youth on how food is grown and how to care for community gardens.
- Invest in food coupons at local stores
- Limit non-healthy food businesses (e.g., fast food, liquor stores)
- Work with local farmers and produce markets to bring food to neighborhoods.
- Create edible landscaping and parklets.
- Incorporate community gardens in housing projects.
- Educate the community about ordinances that allow for livestock for food.

### Your Policy Ideas

- mobile food van, visit new neighborhoods that are food dessserts. Partnering with SNAP program - https://www.freshapproach.org/mobilemarket/
- healthy food in corner/liquor stores
- healthy ways to cook foods, maybe a class of sorts
- Promoting/teaching home gardneing
- monitoring who receives food coupons
- Creating program for private residents to collect wasted produce from fruit trees
- Desal & Supervisor Chan through local effort established fresh produce to diabetic youth to help with health effects. Medicaid has agreed to cover vouchers now. Parnership with Children's Hsopital Oakland
- Setting up grocery stores/having stores sell healthier options

## 5.) Health and Physical Activity

### What we heard from the community

- Need access to mental health resources
- Heart health issues in the community
- Need more recreation facilities
- Community spaces are not safe for exercise because of crime, needles, and litter
- Need community programs that promote healthy lifestyles

Incentive programs to encourage participation

Promote leadership roles

Having the county actively participating in youth/other activities that HARD, DSAL & other groups are leading

Youth prevention

Solicit sponsors for events

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Raise awareness of programs on an ongoing basis and how to sign up; include language access.
- Work with local agencies to offer preventative mental health support.
- Provide support to re-entry and unhoused populations to promote health and wellness for them and their families.
- Work with local churches to organize health and wellness events (e.g., health education combined with walking or yoga).
- Increase outdoor spaces for diverse recreation (e.g., outdoor roller hockey rink in Pleasanton).
- Organize annual events, such as walks, runs, bike rides, block parties, including events for people with disabilities.
- Provide year-long affordable programs.
- Offer youth jobs in leading activities.
- Expand health education programs (nutrition, physical activity) for families with children.
- Organize trips for youth to regional parks
- Train/pay re-entry individuals to care for parks, gardens and open space areas.

### Your Policy Ideas

- align community programs with neighborhood desires - i.e. Pogo Park
- Follow-up from county government, accountability & committment
- Raise scholarships for program participants to help subsidize programs
- Oversight from county agencies that responds to community concern when there's jurisdiction to do so
- Promote physical activities without needing organized events - i.e. available public workout equipment like at Lake Chabot
- Having accessible sidewalks, walkways, clean pathways, routes through quiet neighborhoods & shaded streets
- Having pool facilities (may be one at Mission & Maddox)

## 6.) Civic Engagement

### What we heard from the community

- Community voices are not prioritized in decision making
- Unincorporated areas are left out of conversations
- Meetings need to be better advertised and made more accessible
- Information needs to be given in multiple languages
- Accommodations need to be made for seniors so that they can participate

### Policy Ideas from Partner Organizations

- Establish an "Office of Unincorporated" (like a City Manager's office for Unincorporated) in CAO's office
- Designate MAC seat(s) for EJ census tract resident(s)
- Establish an Unincorporated Youth Commission advisory body (like City of Hayward )
- Fund and institutionalize the Ashland Cherryland Health Communities Collaborative (collaborative group of County and CBO service providers in unincorporated)
- Develop Block Associations & Business Improvement Districts
- Establish a permanent cadre of community outreach workers/ CBOs on contract to support outreach to diverse communities
- Establish a centralized contact list for County and service providers to use for community outreach
- Create a County-run mini-grant program to fund CBO and individual EJ projects
- Invest in a centralized digital engagement tool/website (see "Have Your Say Monterey")
- Establish a County-supported volunteer program for community greening and beautification
- Make translation standard at all public meetings
- Mail a monthly or quarterly outreach newsletter community-wide
- Invest in an iPad fleet for use by community outreach workers
- Develop a transparent County privacy policy for participation in public surveys
- Create program to bridge Tech Divide, i.e. free internet, classes, equipment, hotspots

### Your Policy Ideas

- Standardizing a community outreach process and how plans are created/communities are engaged
- Health in All policy (i.e. Richmond) to ensure health/wellness is the underlying priority - https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/2575/Health-in-All-Policies
- Use of social media platforms like Nextdoor to share content/info
- Pogo Park: Pogo Park is a community development corporation based in Richmond, California. Pogo Park transforms blighted, neglected, and little-used city parks in one of the Bay Area's toughest inner-city neighborhoods into safe, beautiful, and green public spaces for children to play. Pogopark
- pogopark.org