

# **17th Technical** Training Series

### April 3–6, 2017 · Long Beach Hyatt 200 South Pine Avenue · Long Beach, California, 90802

# **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE APPLICATION IN LEA WORK**

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**POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION** SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

APRIL 3, 2017

# **OBJECTIVE**

 Review how Environmental Justice (EJ) has been applied to LEA work in San Francisco

O Case Study

**O Identify Best Practices** 

- Challenges
- Benefits
- Lessons Learned

# WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER TO LEA?



# WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies

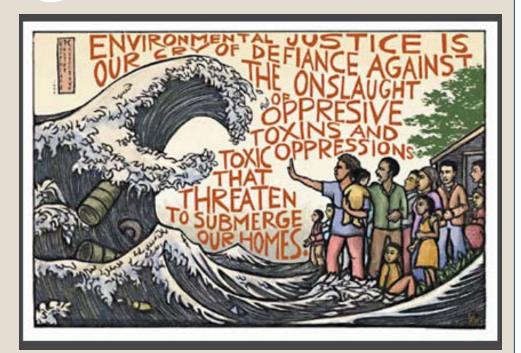


Illustration by Ricardo Levins Morales

# WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Regardless of where they are located, everyone within our jurisdiction should enjoy:

- the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards
- equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work

# **LEGAL OBLIGATION**



- Executive Order
- EJ Legislation in CA
- Local Law- San Francisco Administrative Code
   Chapter 91: Language
   Access Ordinance

# SAN FRANCISCO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 91: LANGUAGE ACCESS ORDINANCE

- Provide access to translation
- Utilize bilingual employees
- Translate materials and signage
- Translate meeting notices, agendas, and minutes up on written request.



Environmental Health Intranet Forms 

Director's Hearings Staff Directory Resources 

IT Support Search this site 

P
Bilingual Resources

Site Contents

#### If your customer needs a second language interpreter:

- Sign to show customer(Language Line Solutions how to request services.pdf) so they can point to the language they speak;
- List of EH employees (EHB Bilingual Speakers 8-19-16.xls) are avilable to provide language interpresting services;
- When none of those EH employees are avilable, how to order phone-based Language Line Solutions (LanguageLineSolutionsInterpretationServices.pdf)



请注意:你是否理解信件的全部内容?如有任何问题,我们提供免费翻译服务,请致电三藩市公共卫生局 415-252-3800。

¿Puede leer este documento? Sí no puede, alguien lo puede ayudar. Para obtener ayuda gratis llame al Departamento de Salud Pública al (415) 252-3800.

# **OUR GOAL**

- Increase protection of public health and safety, and the environment, within disadvantaged communities.
- Expand our awareness of, and services to varied cultures.
- Address language barriers to best serve communities.
- Minimize negative impacts to disadvantaged communities while performing our LEA duties.
- Increase community knowledge and capacity through environment-based education.

# **OUR GOAL**

 Provide accessible information about our roles, responsibilities, and rules.

 Advance opportunities for community members to participate in the decision-making process, prior to the actual point when decisions are being made, so they have a say in decisions that affect their well-being. This includes working with local enforcement agencies, planning departments, cities, and counties for information sharing about local-level decisions.

# WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T CONSIDER EJ?



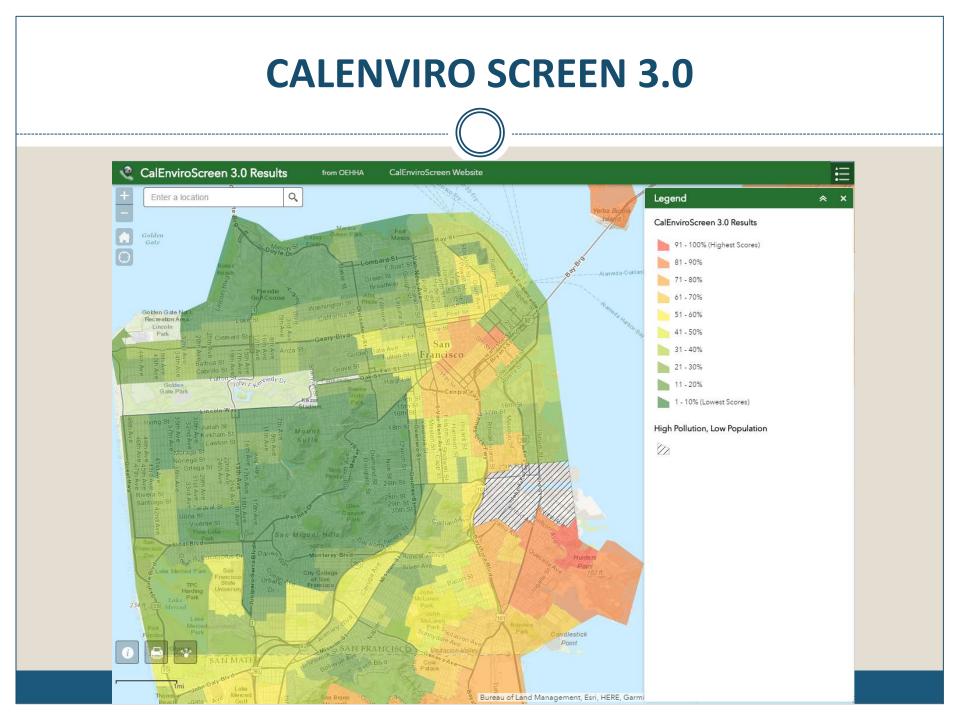
Photo by Chris Brizzard, San Francisco Bay View https://earthdharma.org

# **REALITY IN SAN FRANCISCO**

- Residents in underserved neighborhoods face multiple barriers to food security, safe and affordable housing, and meaningful employment. Poor residents living close to industrial facilities and freeways are often exposed to more air pollution and environmental stressors than those living in San Francisco's more affluent neighborhoods.
- While multiple sources of pollution affects everyone, it disproportionately hurts those with the fewest resources.



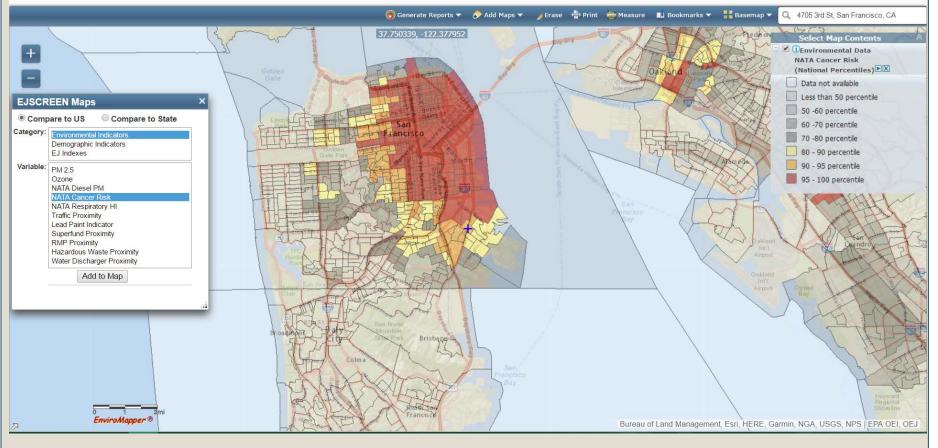
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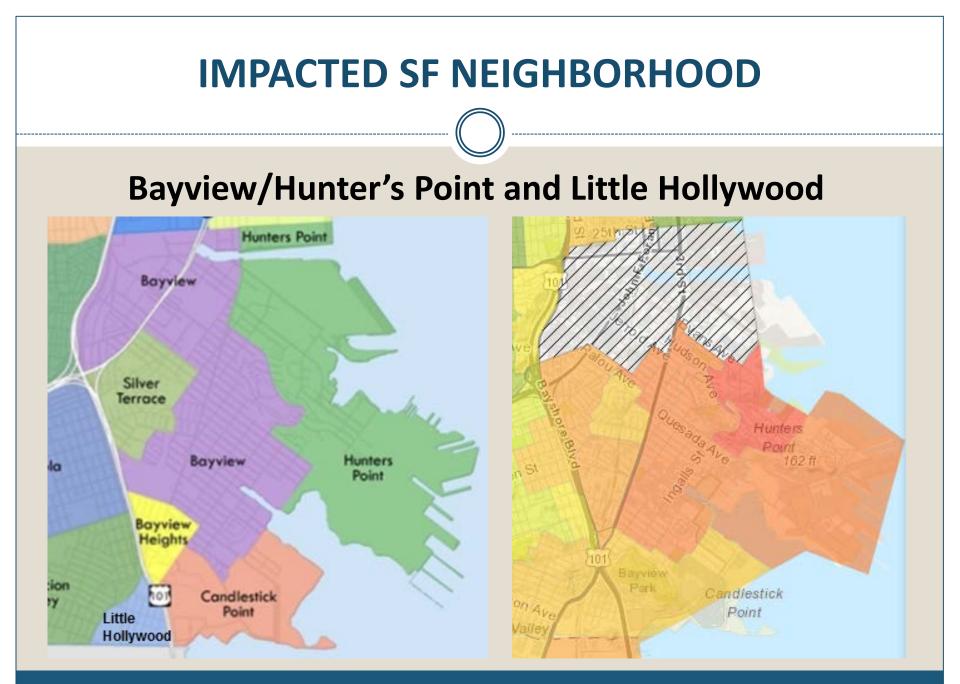


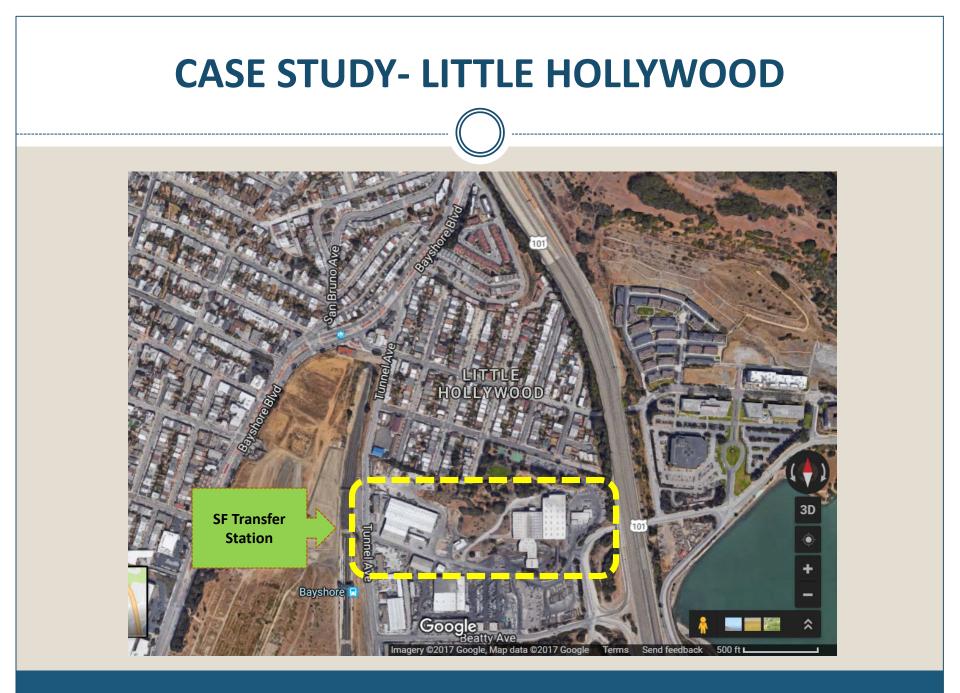
## **EPA EJSCREEN**



EJSCREEN Home | Glossary | Help



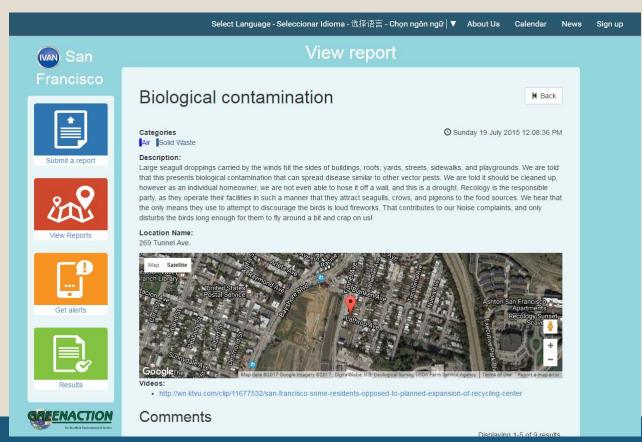






 September 16, 2015- Notified that LEA related community complaint was posted on IVAN website. IVAN is an Environmental Monitoring System that connects the community with people who can help solve local environmental problems.

# Complaint: Excessive bird activity and bird droppings reported.



#### Comments

Displaying 1-5 of 9 results.

O 09:58 Mar 19 2016

Name: Hetty Description:

At last! Someone with the insight to solve the <a href="http://jzxyrvtt.com">prmeobl!</a>

#### Name: Brysen

3 08:47 Mar 19 2016

O7:34 Mar 19 2016

Description:

Me and this article, sitting in a tree, L---G-R-N-I-NEA! http://crqexuih.com [url=http://gbzfnzzkk.com]gbzfnzzkk[/url] [link=http://vmzqiacbuit.com]vmzqiacbuit[/link]

Name: Jahlin Description:

I came, I read this article, I <a href="http://xevcngnepi.com">cogenured.</a>

#### Name: Siti Description:

🛈 09:02 Mar 05 2016

I agree to provide the sofrawte to the school forever and even agree to forfeit the copyright of the sofrawte to the school completely. The effectiveness of the sofrawte is well proven by statistical figures collected in the last 3 years as well as empirical evidence. The rationale of the project was also well supported by the findings from latest linguistic researches.

#### Name: Uzziel Prado, MPH, REHS

O 11:43 Sep 16 2015

Description: Good morning. SF DPH, Environmental Health Branch, Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) regulates permitted solid waste facilities in the City and County of San Francisco. They must meet state minimum standards set by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). This includes the Recology transfer station. Below is the link for the inspection reports for this facility (38-AA-0001) as well as for past/present SF solid waste facilities. Click on the "SWIS NUMBER," "Inspection" tab, and "Inspection Date" date to view inspection reports. Many of your concerns are being addressed by your LEA health inspector regulator. CalRecycle maintains this public resource and website. You can search these facilities with the following links. San Francisco County: http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/SearchList/List?COUNTY=San+Francisco All Counties: http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/Search.aspx

Coto paros 🥵

 September 16, 2015- LEA posted comments informing of LEA role in permitting and inspecting facility to address concerns posted on the complaint.

 October 21, 2015- LEA attended Bayview Hunters Point Task Force IVAN meeting

## • Main Concerns:

- Vector- Rodents, flies, and mosquitoes
- O Birds
- O Noise
- <mark>o</mark> Odor
- Others (Communication, illegal dumping, etc.)



### Coordinated Multi-agency joint inspection/survey with:

- 1. SFDPH Solid Waste Program/LEA
- 2. SFDPH Vector Control Healthy Housing Program
- SFDPH Industrial Hygienist/Noise Specialist
- 4. SF Department of Environment
- 5. SF Public Works Outreach & Enforcement Division
- 6. Bay Area Air Quality District
- 7. CalRecycle



OPULATION HEALTH DIVISION AN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH









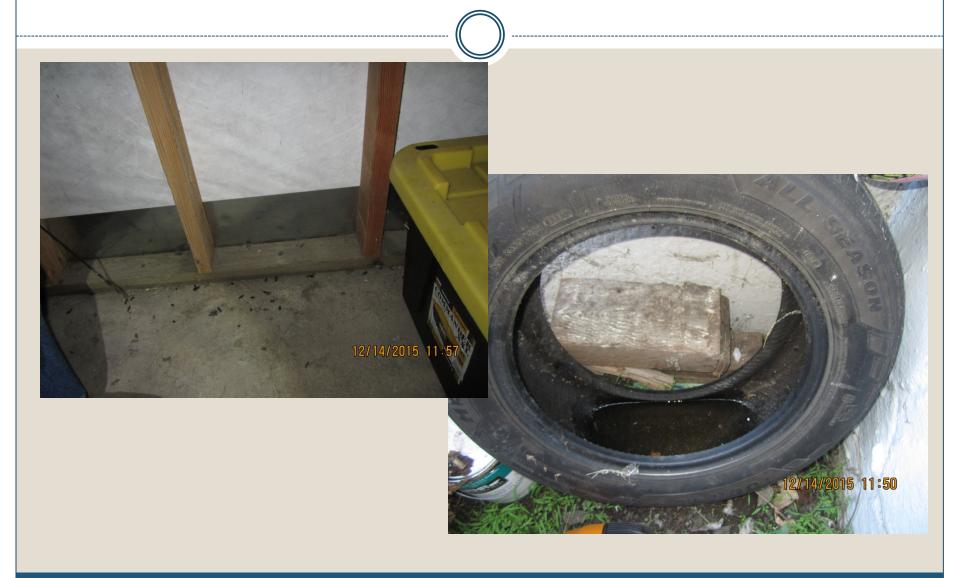


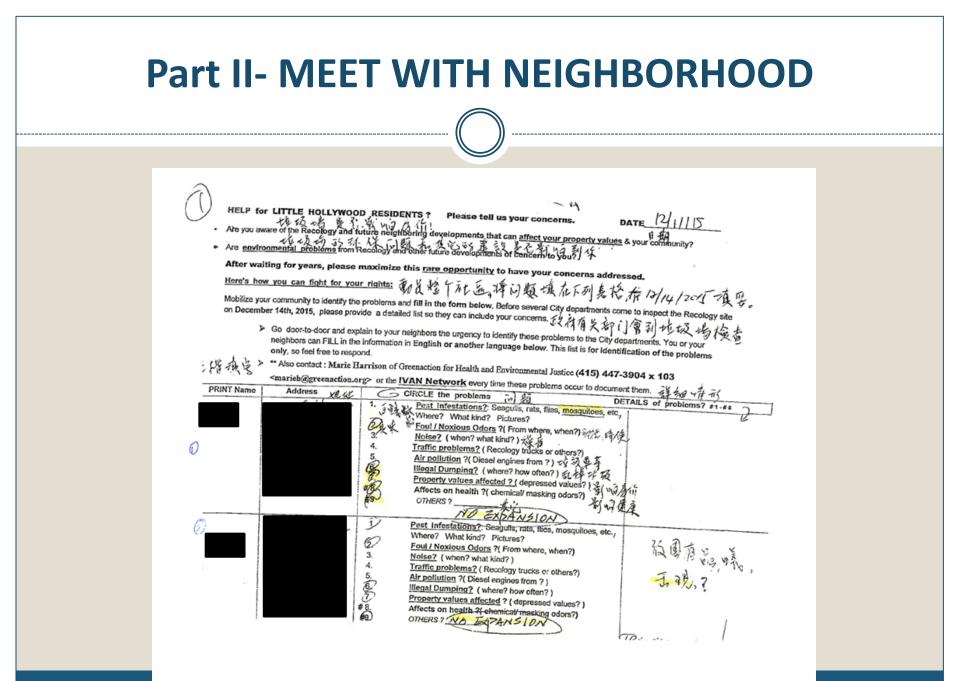
December 14, 2015- Conducted Multi-agency joint inspection

### <u>Agenda</u>

- **Part I:** Survey of the of Little Hollywood neighborhood and perimeter of Transfer Station
- Part II: Meet with Little Hollywood residents and community leaders to listen to concerns and survey additional area (If necessary)
- **Part III:** Survey the facility and meet with facility staff and discuss expansion plans

# Part I- SURVEY NEIGHBORHOOD





# Part II- MEET WITH NEIGHBORHOOD

- Discussed findings during Neighborhood Survey
- Received additional comments from the Neighborhood
- Provided education on each agency's roles
- Discussed about how the neighborhood can help in addressing some of the concerns
- Q&A Sessions



Operator made efforts to address issues

#### **Reducing odor**

1. Installed a special curtain -- North side of transfer station



#### **Reducing odor**

2. Increased power washing of many surfaces.



#### **Pests -- Rodents**

1. Renewed our contract with Terminix.



#### Pests -- Rodents

2. Eliminating places pests can hide.



#### Pests -- Seagulls

2. Added monofilament lines to the transfer station and construction recycling facility.





- Connect and engage with community
- Provide access to services from Solid Waste LEA Program
- Provide access to other city and state services by referrals
- Educate the community type of city and state services
- Provide opportunities for community members to actively participate in making impacts in their community's health, safety and environment

# **CHALLENGES**

- LEA's role in EJ in not clearly spelled out
- EJ application is not defined in EPP Enforcement (in SF)
- Lack of understanding of and collaboration with existing city program (e.g., HIA- Health Impact Assessment, Planning, SF Environment EJ)
- Lack of staff time and resources
- Misperception that addressing environmental justice may slow down the planning process

# **BENEFITS**

- Makes a visible difference in communities that are underserved, under-resourced, and overburdened
- Supports collaborative problem solving
- Improves public involvement
- Empower community to partake in the permit decisions
- LEA can better prepare for Informational meeting

# **LESSONS LEARNED**

- Get to know your neighborhood
- Participate in community meetings if available
- Work with other agencies
  - Partnership with:
    - × CalRecycle EJ
    - × Local EJ (e.g., SF Environment EJ)
- Research and utilize resources available

## SO WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?



# Environmental Justice is about Government Engaging with Communities on a Personal Level

<u> https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/AU8Wyz58EbI?rel=</u>





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