

Environmental Justice Policies and Actions, based on the October 2, 2020 Placeworks memo, proposed by the HMC Planning and Policy Development committee at their January 21, 2021 meeting for inclusion in the update to the County's General Plan

- Amend Goal K, Policy 1 – Discourage construction of new large-scale facilities that treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste from other sources that negatively impact Disadvantaged Communities.
- Amend Goal K, Policy 2 – Promote the ability of residents to advocate for and coordinate with local and regional agencies in efforts to remediate or treat contaminated surface water, groundwater or soils at brownfields or active remedial sites in, or affecting. Disadvantaged Communities.
- Proposed New Policy for Goal K - *The County should have established setbacks for new proposed pipelines, rail lines, oil and gas exploration sites from healthcare, schools, residences, senior and childcare facilities and other sensitive receptors, and should have established setbacks for proposed new sensitive receptors from industrial facilities and other facilities using hazardous materials.*
- Proposed New Action Item for Goal K - *The County should establish criteria for developing setbacks, or mitigation measures in lieu of setbacks, for projects involving hazardous materials being proposed near sensitive receptors, or for sensitive receptors projects being proposed near facilities using hazardous materials.*

Environmental Justice Policies and Actions, based on the October 2, 2020 Placeworks memo, proposed by the Hazardous Materials Program and modified by the HMC Planning and Policy Development committee at their January 21, 2021 meeting for inclusion in the update to the County's General Plan

- Proposed New Policy for Goal K - Staff of the Hazardous Materials Program should be trained on Environmental Justice topics to increase the ability to recognize potential environmental justice or implicit bias issues.
- Proposed New Action item for Goal K - Develop department-wide procedures and training for reporting observed environmental justice issues, and address issues pertinent to Hazardous Materials Programs.

- Proposed New Policy for Goal K - The Hazardous Materials Program should engage with the Contra Costa County Department of Conservations regarding hazardous material/waste considerations during the planning of new business operations in the County. The Hazardous Materials Program should engage with DCD in their efforts to solicit input at an early stage from disadvantaged communities on proposed projects involving hazardous materials/waste that may create a disproportionate impact on the community.
- Proposed New Action Item for Goal K - Establish a comprehensive outreach strategy to provide hazardous material program policy information to disadvantaged communities, including considerations related to hazardous materials and hazardous waste storage, permitting, and inspections, environmental monitoring, hazardous materials incident response, industrial safety ordinance and pollution prevention. Identify and leverage established community and industry groups and other synergistic agency programs to disperse outreach and education materials.
- Proposed New Action Item for Goal K - Identify and designate a communications liaison to ensure that hazardous materials/waste topics are presented to disadvantaged communities in a manner that is easily and clearly comprehensible.
- Proposed New Action Item for Goal K - To the extent possible, involve community members in ‘hands-on’ emergency drills to increase public awareness of emergency response capabilities and understand protective actions the public may be required to take should a hazardous materials incident occur in their community (shelter-in-place and evacuation procedures). Ensure all populations, including disadvantaged communities have access to participate in drills – including available language translation services.

Environmental Justice Policies and Actions proposed by the Hazardous Materials Program related to Sea Level Rise, but not considered by the HMC Planning and Policy Development committee at their January 21, 2021 meeting for inclusion in the update to the County’s General Plan

- Consider the project findings from the Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study in future planning, transportation improvement projects, and sea level rise and flooding mitigation measures to address the disproportionate impact to vulnerable populations.
- Incorporate the Hazardous Materials Programs in discussions and decision-making in these planning and improvement projects to identify where hazardous materials may have increased effect on vulnerable populations.

- Develop strategies, possibly legislative, to further involvement of the Rail Industry in local planning efforts to reduce risk from hazardous materials transportation, particularly as relates to sea level rise and flooding, as well as the rail line's role as ad hoc flood protection for our vulnerable communities.
- Begin to analyze how current policies address thresholds for action to effects on communities that have been identified as having additional risk from hazardous materials as relates to sea level rise and transportation. For example, identifying action levels for infrastructure damage from sea level rise that will disproportionately impact our coastal communities.
- Be proactive in collaboration to lead in regional, state and federal efforts and initiatives to reduce the impacts of sea level rise in our community. Recognition of the dynamic nature of climate change issues on implementation and review of action items and policies.
- Provide education and resources to Vulnerable Populations, including businesses, who could be disproportionately impacted by risks to transportation due to flooding and sea level rise.