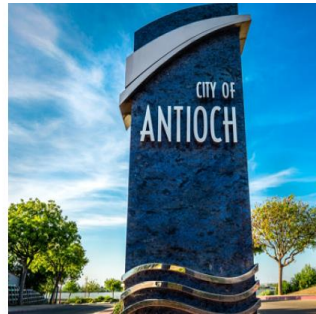


# PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT



## Environmental Justice Element



### Quick Facts

**Applicant:** City of Antioch

**Area:** Citywide

**General Plan Amendment:**  
Environmental Justice Element

### Project Description

The Planning Commission will review and make a recommendation to the City Council on the draft Environmental Justice (EJ) Element. Cities and Counties with disadvantaged communities are required to incorporate EJ goals and policies into their General Plans when adopting or revising two or more Elements concurrently. The City Council recently adopted an updated Housing Element and Environmental Hazards Element. The draft EJ element integrates EJ principles into the planning process and works to improve public participation.

### Requested Approvals

General Plan Amendment: Environmental Justice Element

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend Approval to the City Council**

## BACKGROUND

### State Law

Pursuant to California Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000 [2016], also known as the Planning for Healthy Communities Act), the General Plan must address Environmental Justice (EJ) in disadvantaged communities within the area covered by the General Plan. SB 1000 requires jurisdictions with disadvantaged communities to incorporate EJ objectives and policies into their General Plans when adopting or revising two or more elements concurrently, on or after January 1, 2018. Antioch's updating of the City's Housing Element and Environmental Hazards Element (adopted by Council in January 2023) require the adoption of a new EJ Element.

The California Government Code Section 65040.12 defines EJ as "the fair treatment and meaningful participation of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies." Section 65040.12 states that EJ includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. The availability of a healthy environment for all people.
2. The deterrence, reduction, and elimination of pollution burdens for populations and communities experiencing the adverse effects of that pollution, so that the effects of the pollution are not disproportionately borne by those populations and communities.
3. Governmental entities engaging and providing technical assistance to populations and communities most impacted by pollution to promote their meaningful participation in all phases of the environmental and land use decision-making process.
4. At a minimum, the meaningful consideration of recommendations from populations and communities most impacted by pollution into environmental and land use decisions.

Disadvantaged communities are defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) as areas that may be disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation; and include concentrations of lower-income individuals and sensitive populations. SB 1000 requires jurisdictions to adopt objectives and policies which seek to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, promote civil engagement in the public decision-making process, and prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

In response to feedback from the community, the EJ Element and this Staff Report refer to disadvantaged communities as "EJ Neighborhoods."

### Project Timeline

- Planning Commission: November 17, 2021
- Planning Commission: December 15, 2021
- Community Meeting: February 17, 2022
- Community Meeting (Spanish-Speaking): February 19, 2022
- Community Meeting: April 13, 2022
- First 5 Contra Costa: April 19, 2022
- Contra Costa Health Services: April 25, 2022
- Planning Commission Public Hearing (EIR): January 4, 2023
- City Council (EIR): January 24, 2023
- **Planning Commission Review: March 15, 2023**

## Analysis

### Overview

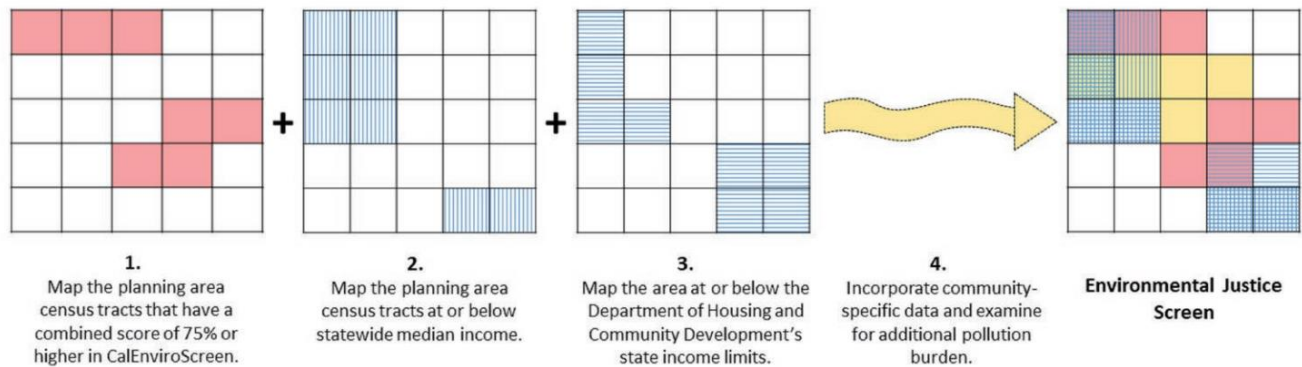
The EJ Element is intended to be a living document that will respond to changes over time. As the EJ Neighborhoods evolve, the EJ Element will address new issues and provide solutions. This iteration of the EJ Element recognizes the needs of the EJ Neighborhoods while taking into account the City's finite financial and staffing resources. Given that the Housing Element and EJ Element overlap in the certain areas, the policies in the EJ Element tie back to the Housing Element where appropriate and feasible. The final draft text of the EJ Element is included as Exhibit A to Attachment A.

The EJ Element chapters are organized as follows:

- 1. Introduction:** Provides an overview of the EJ Element purpose and process.
- 2. Background:** Discusses the definition and methodology of defining EJ Neighborhoods.
- 3. Demographics:** Analyzes demographic trends in EJ Neighborhoods.
- 4. Civic Engagement:** Summarizes the methods and findings of the outreach effort.
- 5. Pollution Exposure:** Discusses the presence and effects of environmental contaminants.
- 6. Public Facilities:** Documents existing public facilities such as schools, hospitals, and parks.
- 7. Healthy Food Access:** Defines healthy food access and identifies underserved areas.
- 8. Safe and Sanitary Homes:** Overviews housing cost burdens and habitability.
- 9. Mobility:** Analyzes transportation modes used by residents.
- 10. EJ Goals, Policies, and Programs:** Provides the framework to address issues presented by residents; identifies actionable programs to be implemented by the City.

## EJ Neighborhoods

Of the 20 census tracts within the City of Antioch, 5 meet the definition of an EJ Neighborhood. As described below, the five census tracts met both the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 criteria and the income criteria to be identified as an EJ Neighborhood.



Source: Governor's Office of Planning and Research

The first criterion used to identify EJ Neighborhoods in Antioch was CalEnviroScreen 4.0 composite scores. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is a mapping tool created by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) on behalf of CalEPA that helps identify California communities that are most affected by, and vulnerable to, pollution. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic data to produce scores for every census tract in California. CalEnviroScreen 4.0, last updated in October 2021, ranks census tracts within two groups: Pollution Burden and Population Characteristics. Each group has 13 and 8 indicators, respectively. The tool converts these scores to percentiles that can be compared with other areas throughout the state. Higher scores indicate areas with more environmental hazards present. Within CalEnviroScreen 4.0, five census tracts had composite scores equal or greater than 75 percent. These census tracts are primarily located near or north of the State Route 4.

The second criterion used to identify EJ Neighborhoods in Antioch is income. The City used the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Methodology for identification of low-income communities under Assembly Bill (AB) 1550. AB 1550 is designed to expand existing environmental laws and fees surrounding pollution. Under this methodology, AB 1550 identifies low-income households or communities according to the definitions below:

1. "Low-income households" are those with household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low-income by the Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) State Income Limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.
2. "Low-income communities" are census tracts with median household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with median household incomes



at or below the threshold designated as low income by HCD's State Income Limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.

To identify low-income census tracts using HCD's income limits, the following five steps were completed for each census tract:

1. Determine median household income;
2. Determine average household size;
3. Identify county;
4. Use county and household size of census tract to match the income limit identified as "low-income" in HCD's State Income Limits for the county; and
5. Identify a census tract as low-income if the census tract's median household income is at or below the appropriate HCD low-income limit.

Using this methodology, 17 of Antioch's 20 census tracts were either considered a low-income census tract under 2019 State limits, 2019 HCD limits, or 2021 HCD limits. Of the 17 tracts, only 5 scored 75 percent or higher on CalEnviroScreen 4.0. These five census tracts, which meet both CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and income criteria, are what the EJ Element refers to when discussing EJ Neighborhoods.

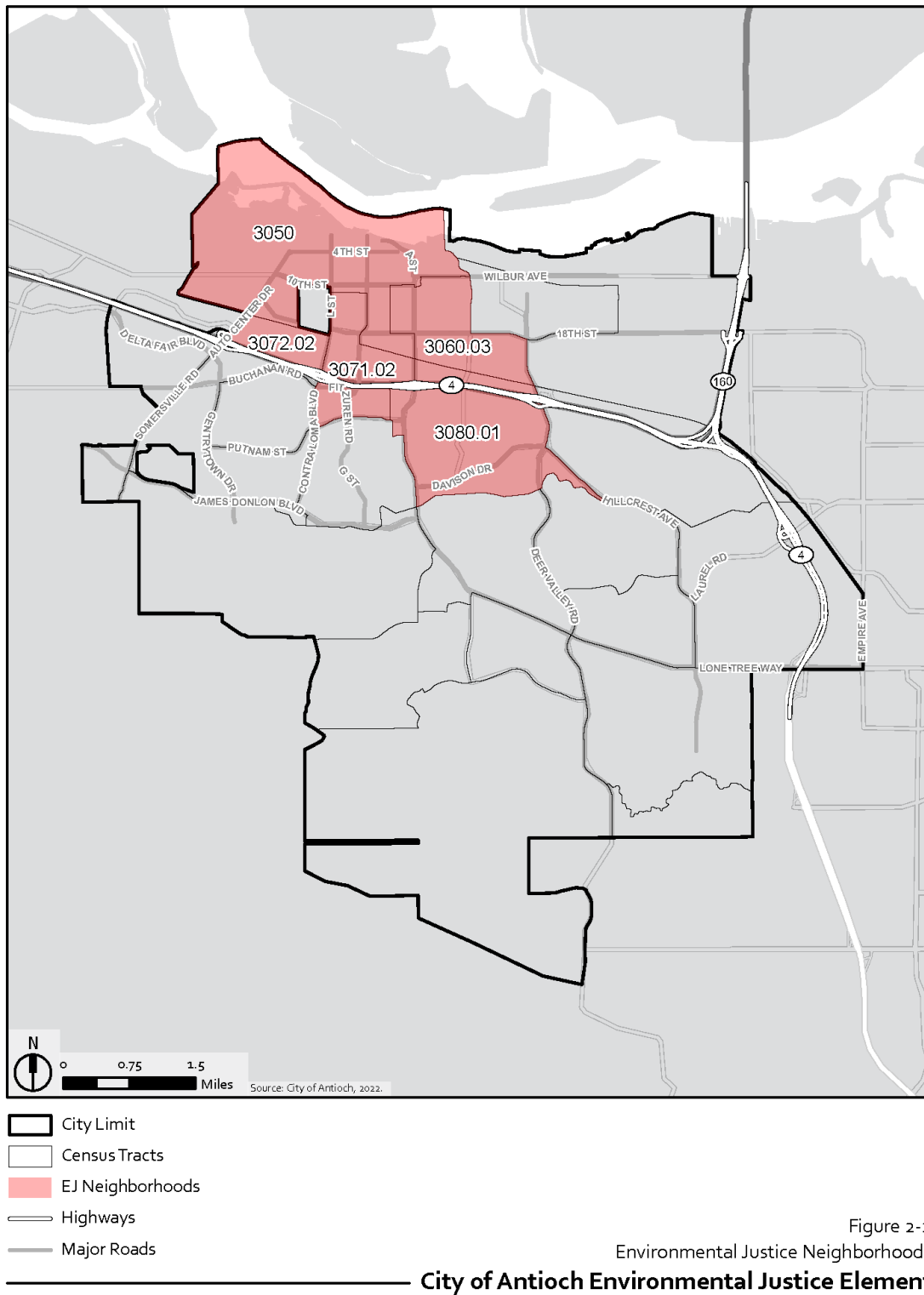
Table 1: EJ Neighborhoods by Census Tract

Census Tract in Antioch	CalEnviro-Screen 4.0 Composite Score	Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2019 State Limits)	Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2019 HCD Limits)	Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2021 HCD Limits)
Census Tract 3050	93	Yes	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3060.03	77	No	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3071.02	79	No	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3072.02	78	Yes	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3080.01	75	No	Yes	Yes

Source: CalEnviroScreen 4.0, California Department of Housing and Community Development

These tracts are primarily located in the northwestern portion of the city, near or north of State Route 4.

Figure 1: EJ Neighborhoods by Census Tract



## Outreach

### Approach

As part of the EJ Element process, the consultant team met with members of the community to gather feedback, establish the primary issues, and present findings.

First 5 Contra Costa, a community-based organization (CBO), provided feedback on community outreach best practices:

1. Weeknights worked better for events
2. Outdoor tabling was more successful than a sit-down workshop
3. Splitting engagement into English and Spanish tracks is not always the right approach

The consultant team collected the following feedback from CBOs related to current barriers to engagement and participation:

1. Language and adequate interpretation of resources
2. Lack of information about the best way to reach out to seniors
3. Limitations on in-person activities due to the ongoing pandemic

Members of CBOs also expressed that in-person activities such as resource fairs, door-to-door outreach, and live presentations were effective strategies to reach their target audiences. In addition, several interviewees emphasized the importance of communication and coordination between organizations.

### Community Meetings

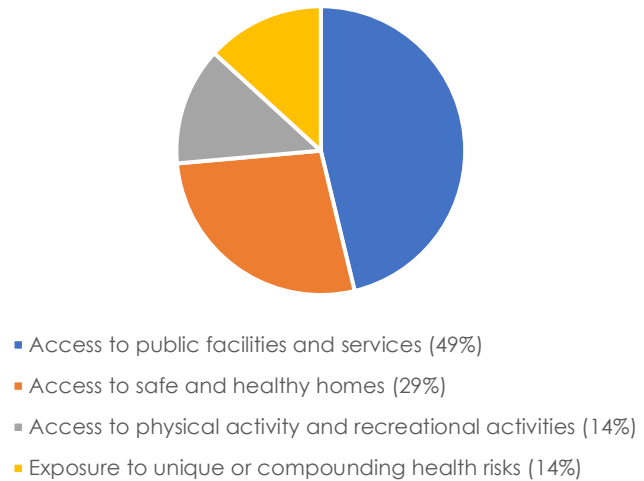
On February 19, 2022, City consultants met with Spanish-speaking Latino residents in a focus group centered around their firsthand experiences in the city. Residents shared concerns about access to safe and well-maintained parks, as well as the availability and accessibility of affordable healthcare, childcare, and housing.

These experiences were echoed in a separate meeting held on April 19, 2022, with City consultants and First 5 Contra Costa. The First 5 Contra Costa focus group shared similar sentiments as the Latino focus group, emphasizing the need for affordable housing options throughout the city, and the need for additional tenant protections to ensure residents can remain in their homes. These stories informed the discussions in the EJ Element on public facilities, safe and sanitary homes, and mobility.

On February 17 and April 13, 2022, community meetings were held to discuss the Housing Element update and the EJ Element. Community members recommended locating new developments away from freeways, encouraging alternative energy sources, and ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to existing residents.

A poll conducted at the February 17, 2022 community meeting asked participants to vote for the most critical EJ topic in Antioch. The results of this poll are found to the right.

Figure 2: Community Meeting Survey Results



### County Health Providers

On April 5, 2022, the consultant team held a meeting with Contra Costa Health Services. Contra Costa Health Services discussed climate change, sea level rise, asthma, lead and mold, ozone, particulate matter, wildfire, mercury, and energy. Contra Costa Health Services recommended the following actions:

1. Provide home improvements to people with asthma. Improvements include air conditioning, vacuums, energy efficient appliances, and repairs to windows and doors.
2. Prepare for rising sea levels by prioritizing the remediation of brownfields. Toxic ground contaminants will be moved inland as water levels rise.
3. Expand capacity for building code enforcement.
4. Weatherize the existing housing stock to protect residents from extreme heat and precipitation. Update homes to reduce exposure to lead and mold.
5. Add an air quality monitor in Antioch. A lack of monitoring may lead to inaccurate tracking of ozone levels. Residents living near SR-4 are at risk of PM2.5.
6. Reach out to communities that are fishing in the river and provide them with information about mercury contamination.
7. Convert to electricity where possible, specifically for cars and industrial machinery.

Contra Costa Health Services recommends updating the EJ Element every five years.

## Findings

### Topic Areas

There are five EJ issues covered in the Element, selected through the community engagement process, with dedicated sections:

- A. Pollution Exposure (Chapter 5)
- B. Public Facilities (Chapter 6)
- C. Healthy Food Access (Chapter 7)
- D. Safe and Sanitary Homes (Chapter 8)
- E. Mobility (Chapter 9)

### Response

In response to EJ issues specific to the City of Antioch, the City crafted goals, policies, and programs which provide pragmatic solutions that contribute to the health of existing and future residents and ensure that all residents, regardless of background, may contribute to the decision-making process.

Chapter 10 of the EJ Element outlines six goals. Goal 1 is intended to bolster the overall engagement process while goals 2-6 are intended to directly address the five issue areas. Each goal contains unique policies to satisfy the goal as well as specific and actionable programs that implement the policies.

#### **Goal 1.** *Encourage Meaningful Civil Engagement*

**Policy 1.1:** Expand access to the civic decision-making process for lower-income and non-English speaking populations.

**Policy 1.2:** Engage and educate youth in the civic decision-making processes.

**Policy 1.3:** Encourage turnout for local elections and community meetings.

Programs under this goal include providing multilingual interpretation services for community meeting invitations and presentations; hosting tabling events; hosting meetings weekdays after 5pm; and partnering with CBOs to promote youth engagement in events and elections.

#### **Goal 2.** *Improve Environmental Conditions*

**Policy 2.1:** Improve air and water quality within EJ Neighborhoods.

**Policy 2.2:** Provide public resources and information on environmental hazards.

**Policy 2.3:** Encourage redevelopment and planning activities which address health hazards in EJ Neighborhoods, such as the clean-up of contaminated sites.

**Policy 2.4:** Mitigate and prepare for the effects of climate change.

Programs under this goal include periodically updating the City's Climate Action Resilience Plan (CARP) and Environmental Hazards Element; utilizing the City's Environmental Resources webpage and providing mapping data; advertising compost resources; encouraging business owners to improve their energy efficiency; continuing efforts to improve indoor air



quality; working with BAAQMD to explore providing street-level outdoor air quality monitors as described by the CARP; maintaining the emergency alert system; the potential identifying of railroad quiet zones; continued efforts to encourage the cleaning and redevelopment of contaminated sites; organized clean-up initiatives; and continued compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit procedures.

**Goal 3. *Improve Access to Public Facilities***

**Policy 3.1:** Ensure public facilities are accessible to all residents.

**Policy 3.2:** Maintain and improve the quality of existing public facilities and services.

**Policy 3.3:** Provide additional public facilities and services within EJ Neighborhoods.

Programs under this goal include adding lighting to parks; identifying potential upgrades to public facilities; designing new facilities accessible to all residents; identifying vacant and underutilized parcels for new facilities; and improving pedestrian connectivity to schools, libraries, parks, and hospitals.

**Goal 4. *Improve Access to Healthy Food***

**Policy 4.1:** Increase the number of grocery facilities within EJ Neighborhoods that provide fresh produce, meat, and other food essentials.

**Policy 4.2:** Improve resident access to healthy food options within EJ Neighborhoods.

Programs under this goal include expanding farmers' markets and the vouchers they accept; developing urban farms; promoting food affordability programs; and incentivizing new grocery stores.

**Goal 5. *Provide Fair, Safe and Healthy Housing***

**Policy 5.1:** Preserve and improve the existing housing stock.

**Policy 5.2:** Educate tenants and landlords regarding fair and safe housing resources.

**Policy 5.3:** Enforce fair and safe housing practices.

Programs under this goal include encouraging residential energy efficiency; implementing targeted code enforcement; conducting fair housing outreach and enforcement; providing safe housing resources; and implementing tenant protections outlined in the Housing Element, which is closely linked to the EJ Element. Due to the overlap of the Housing Element and the EJ Element related to the topic of Safe and Sanitary Homes, many programs under this goal link back to programs in the Housing Element of which their implementation is forthcoming.

**Goal 6. *Mobility and Transit Options***

**Policy 6.1:** Decrease transportation's impact on the environment.

**Policy 6.2:** Improve safety, connectivity, and reliability across multiple modes of transportation.

Programs under this goal include providing bike racks, lockers, and lanes; expanding transit options; and implementing the complete streets approach.

## Environmental Analysis

### Environmental Impact Report

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was prepared for the EJ Element. The EIR also included the Housing and Environmental Hazards Elements along with the associated General Plan Amendments, Zoning Text Amendments, Specific Plan Updates, and the Objective Design Standards. The purpose of an EIR is to evaluate and inform the public and decision makers of a project's potential impacts. The EIR and the associated technical appendices are available on the [Housing Element website](#).

Written comments on the draft EIR were received by the City during the public comment period from September 2, 2022, through October 17, 2022, in accordance with CEQA requirements. The final EIR includes written responses to each public and agency comment received (written and verbal) on the draft EIR and presents corrections, revisions, and other clarifications. The revisions, including project updates, were made in response to comments and as a result of the City of Antioch's ongoing planning efforts.

In summary, the EIR found that the implementation of the Housing Element would result in significant unavoidable impacts related to transportation. Implementation would generate home-based VMT per resident that is greater than 85 percent of the city-wide average home-based VMT per resident. Mitigation measure TRANS-1 would implement reduction measures such as unbundling parking costs, providing car/bike/scooter sharing, and offering subsidized transit passes. Despite this, impacts to transportation would be significant and unavoidable.

Because the EIR has found that the project would result in significant unavoidable environmental impacts related to transportation, a Statement of Overriding Considerations was prepared, which established that the public benefits from a project outweigh the significant environmental impacts of the project. In addition, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) was prepared to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures outlined in the EIR that would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. Compliance with the MMRP is a condition of approval for individual housing developments.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing to review the EIR on January 4, 2023. The Planning Commission recommended that City Council certify the EIR in a resolution dated January 24, 2023. The Statement of Overriding Conditions and MMRP are attached to the resolution. The City Council certified the EIR and adopted the Statement of Overriding Considerations and the MMRP at their meeting on January 24, 2023. The resolution is included as Attachment B.

### Attachments

- A. Resolution Recommending the City Council Amend the General Plan and Adopt the EJ Element as a New Element of the General Plan  
Exhibit A: EJ Element
- B. Resolution #2023/15 – City Council Resolution Certifying the EIR

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION # 2023-xx**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ANTIOCH  
RECOMMENDING THE CITY COUNCIL AMEND THE GENERAL PLAN AND  
ADOPT THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT AS  
A NEW ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the California Government Code Section 65300 et. seq. requires every city and county in California to adopt a General Plan for its long-range development, and further, to periodically update that Plan to reflect current conditions and issues;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Senate Bill 1000, the General Plan must address Environmental Justice (EJ) in disadvantaged communities within the area covered by the General Plan. when adopting or revising two or more elements concurrently, on or after January 1, 2018;

**WHEREAS**, on January 24, 2023, the City Council adopted updates to the Housing and Environmental Hazards Elements of the General Plan;

**WHEREAS**, Section 65358 of the California Government Code provides for the amendment of all or part of an adopted General Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Justice Element has been coordinated with the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element update;

**WHEREAS**, the City, as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), has completed the Housing Element Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the Project, which includes the Environmental Justice Element in the project description;

**WHEREAS**, the Antioch Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to consider the Housing Element EIR on January 4, 2023;

**WHEREAS**, on January 4, 2023, the Antioch Planning Commission adopted Resolution 2023-01 recommending that the City Council certify the Housing Element EIR and adopt CEQA findings, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program;

**WHEREAS**, recitals and findings from the Antioch Planning Commission adopted Resolution 2023-01 are incorporated by reference;

**WHEREAS**, on January 12, 2023 a public hearing notice was published in the East County Times and posted in three public places pursuant to California Government Code Section 65090 for the City Council on January 24, 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held a public hearing on January 24, 2023, considered all public comments received, the presentation by City staff, the staff report, and all other pertinent documents regarding the proposed request;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held a public hearing on January 24, 2023, adopted Resolution 2023/15 certifying the Housing Element Draft EIR, adopted CEQA Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program;

**WHEREAS**, on March 3, 2023 a public hearing notice was published in the East County Times and posted in three public places pursuant to California Government Code Section 65090 for the Planning Commission on March 15, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 15, 2023, considered all public comments received, the presentation by City staff, the staff report, and all other pertinent documents regarding the proposed request.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Planning Commission hereby makes the following findings to recommend the City Council amend the General Plan and adopt the Environmental Justice Element as a new element of the General Plan:

1. The proposed project conforms to the provisions and standards of the General Plan in that the proposed amendments are internally consistent with all other provisions of the General Plan and do not conflict with any of the previously adopted goals, policies or programs of the General Plan.

2. The proposed Environmental Justice Element is necessary to implement the requirements of California Government Code Section 65040.12 to provide for the fair treatment and meaningful participation of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

3. The proposed Environmental Justice Element will not be detrimental to the public interest, convenience, and general welfare of the City. The Element will result in the creation of a healthy environment for all people, the reduction in pollution burdens for populations and communities experiencing the adverse effects of that pollution, the providing of assistance to populations and neighborhoods impacted by pollution and promotion of meaningful participation in all phases of the environmental and land use decision-making process.

4. The proposed amendment will not cause significant avoidable environmental damage in that potential environmental impacts were analyzed in the EIR for the Housing Element, Environmental Hazards and Environmental Justice Elements and either found to be less than significant with mitigations or acceptable pursuant to a Statement of Overriding Conditions.

5. The proposed amendment will not require changes to or modifications of any other plans that the City Council adopted before the date of this resolution, that are not proposed for consideration by the Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Planning Commission of the City of Antioch does hereby recommend to the City Council amend the General Plan and adopt the Environmental Justice Element as a new element of the General Plan, as attached hereto in Exhibit A.



\* \* \* \* \*

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Antioch at a regular meeting thereof held on the 15th day of March, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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**FORREST EBBS,**  
**Secretary to the Planning Commission**

**EXHIBIT A**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT**



# City of Antioch

## Environmental Justice Element



Prepared for:  
**City of Antioch**

March 2023

URBAN  
PLANNING  
PARTNERS  
INC.

**A5**

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose and Framework

In 2016, lawmakers passed Senate Bill (SB) 1000, otherwise known as the Planning for Healthy Communities Act. The Act is intended to integrate Environmental Justice (EJ) principles into the planning process and improve public participation. The Act requires Cities and Counties with disadvantaged communities, as defined, to incorporate EJ goals and policies into their General Plans when adopting or revising two or more Elements concurrently, on or after January 1, 2018.<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of SB 1000, “disadvantaged communities” are areas identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) that are low-income and disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.<sup>2</sup>

As part of community outreach related to the EJ Element, residents concluded that the term “disadvantaged community” felt like an improper representation of their community and needs. Accordingly, this Element will refer to disadvantaged communities as “EJ Neighborhoods.”

The California Government Code defines EJ as “the fair treatment and meaningful participation of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”<sup>3</sup> The EJ Element should accomplish the following:

- (1) Propose planning methods for the equitable distribution of new public facilities and services that increase and enhance community quality of life throughout the community, given the fiscal and legal constraints that restrict the siting of these facilities;
- (2) Propose methods for locating industrial facilities and uses that, even with the best available technology, will contain or produce material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant hazard to human health and safety, in a manner that seeks to avoid overconcentrating these uses in proximity to schools or residential dwellings;
- (3) Propose methods for locating new schools and residential dwellings in a manner that seeks to avoid locating these uses in proximity to industrial facilities and uses that will contain or produce material that because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant hazard to human health and safety; and
- (4) Propose methods for promoting more livable communities by expanding opportunities for transit-oriented development to minimize traffic and pollution impacts from traveling for purposes of work, education, shopping, and recreation.<sup>4</sup>

The EJ Element will establish policies with the intent of minimizing pollution and its effects on communities. The EJ Element will strive to ensure that all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, or income,

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<sup>1</sup> California Government Code § 65302

<sup>2</sup> California Health and Safety Code § 39711

<sup>3</sup> California Government Code § 65040.12

<sup>4</sup> Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, 2020. *General Plan Guidelines*. Section 4.8: Environmental Justice Element. June. Available: [https://opr.ca.gov/docs/20200706-GPG\\_Chapter\\_4\\_EJ.pdf](https://opr.ca.gov/docs/20200706-GPG_Chapter_4_EJ.pdf). Accessed January 30, 2023.

## I. INTRODUCTION

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have equal protection from environmental hazards where they live, work, and play. A critical part of the EJ Element process is ensuring the ability of residents and stakeholders to participate in, and directly influence, the decision-making process regarding environmental regulations.

### 1.2 Process

To comply with SB 1000, jurisdictions will seek to:

- Reduce pollution exposure;
- Promote public facilities;
- Promote food access;
- Promote safe and sanitary homes;
- Promote physical activity;
- Reduce unique or compounding health risks;
- Promote civic engagement; and
- Prioritize the needs of disadvantaged communities.

The goals above will be accomplished by following the EJ Element process, which is as follows:

1. Identify EJ Neighborhoods and confirm designations with residents;
2. Review existing EJ policies;
3. Update or draft new EJ policies; and
4. Finalize policies and adopt the EJ Element.

### 1.3 Alignment with City and County Goals

The EJ Element is informed by several existing documents that serve as the basis for the goals, policies, and programs herein. These documents include:

- City of Antioch Climate Action Resilience Plan<sup>5</sup>
- City of Antioch Vision and Strategic Plan 2019-2029<sup>6</sup>
- City of Antioch 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan<sup>7</sup>
- Contra Costa County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan<sup>8</sup>
- Contra Costa County Climate Action Plan<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> City of Antioch, 2020. Climate Action Resilience Plan. May 6. Available: <https://www.antiochca.gov/fc/environment/climate/carp/Final-CARP.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> City of Antioch, 2019. Vision and Strategic Plan 2019-2029. March 26. Available: <https://www.antiochca.gov/fc/community/announcements/Strategic-Plan-for-Antioch.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>7</sup> City of Antioch, 2020. 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan. May 12. Available: <https://www.antiochca.gov/fc/cdbg/2025-con-plan/City%20of%20Antioch%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Contra Costa County, 2018. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. January 31. Available: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/6842/Local-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>9</sup> Contra Costa County, 2015. Climate Action Plan. December 15. Available: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/39791/Contra-Costa-County-Climate-Action-Plan?bidId=>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

## 1.4 Organization

In response to EJ issues specific to the City of Antioch, the City crafted goals, policies, and programs which provide pragmatic solutions related to each EJ topic; that contribute to the health of existing and future residents; and which ensure that residents, regardless of background, may contribute to the decision-making process. There are five EJ topics, selected through the community engagement process, with dedicated sections:

- A. Pollution
- B. Public Facilities
- C. Food Access
- D. Safe and Sanitary Homes
- E. Mobility

The sections contained herein use a data-informed approach to propose solutions addressing the disproportionate environmental burden in EJ Neighborhoods of the City of Antioch.

This EJ Element is organized as follows:

**Chapter 1. Introduction:** Provides an overview of the EJ Element purpose and process.

**Chapter 2. Background:** Discusses the definition and methodology of defining EJ Neighborhoods.

**Chapter 3. Demographics:** Analyzes demographic trends in EJ Neighborhoods.

**Chapter 4. Civic Engagement:** Documents the methods and results of community outreach.

**Chapter 5. Pollution Exposure:** Discusses the presence and effects of environmental contaminants.

**Chapter 6. Public Facilities:** Documents existing public facilities such as schools, hospitals, and parks.

**Chapter 7. Healthy Food Access:** Defines healthy food access and identifies underserved areas.

**Chapter 8. Safe and Sanitary Homes:** Overviews housing cost burdens and habitability.

**Chapter 9. Mobility:** Analyzes transportation modes used by residents.

**Chapter 10. Environmental Justice Goals, Policies, and Programs:** Provides the framework to address the issues presented by residents; identifies actionable programs to be implemented by the City.

## I. INTRODUCTION

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## 2. Background

### 2.1 What is a Disadvantaged Community (Environmental Justice Neighborhood)?

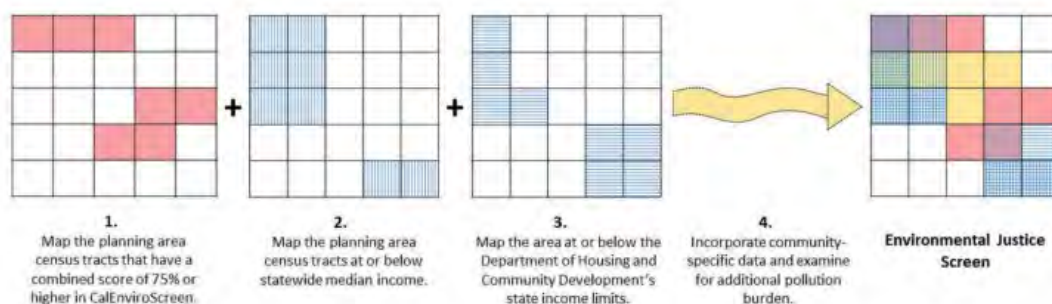
As previously mentioned, a “disadvantaged community” is defined as a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and hazards that lead to negative health effects and/or environmental degradation. This definition is derived from the California Health and Safety Code, which establishes disadvantaged communities as those which are in the top 25 percent of highest scoring census tracts from CalEPA’s mapping tool CalEnviroScreen 4.0.<sup>1</sup> The definition also allows local governments to identify additional disadvantaged communities through their own methods, such as through consultation with residents and local agencies.

Through discussions with residents, the term “disadvantaged community” felt like an improper representation of the community and their needs. For the purposes of this document, the term “EJ Neighborhoods” will be used to refer to disadvantaged communities.

### 2.2 Methodology: Identifying Environmental Justice Neighborhoods

From the 20 census tracts within the City of Antioch, 5 census tracts meet the definition of an EJ Neighborhood. The five census tracts met both the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 criteria and the income criteria outlined in this section to be identified as an EJ Neighborhood. Figure 2-1 illustrates the screening process used to identify EJ Neighborhoods.

**Figure 2-1 Recommended Screening Process for Identifying EJ Neighborhoods**



Source: Governor's Office of Planning and Research

<sup>1</sup> California Health and Safety Code § 39711.



## 2. BACKGROUND

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### 2.2.1. CalEnviroScreen

The first criterion used to identify EJ Neighborhoods in Antioch was CalEnviroScreen 4.0 composite scores. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is a mapping tool created by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) on behalf of CalEPA that helps identify California communities that are most affected by, and vulnerable to, pollution.<sup>2</sup> CalEnviroScreen 4.0 uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic data to produce scores for every census tract in California. CalEnviroScreen 4.0, last updated in October 2021, ranks census tracts within two groups: Pollution Burden and Population Characteristics. The tool converts these scores to percentiles that can be compared with other areas throughout the state. Higher scores indicate areas with more environmental hazards present.

The Pollution Burden group is made up of 13 indicators. These indicators come from the Exposures and Environmental Effects components of the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 model. Pollution Burden represents the potential exposures to pollutants and the adverse environmental conditions caused by pollution. The 13 indicators that make up the Pollution Burden score are listed below:

- Ozone
- PM 2.5
- Diesel Particulate Matter
- Drinking Water Contaminants
- Children's Lead Risk from Housing
- Pesticide Use
- Toxic Releases from Facilities
- Traffic Impacts
- Cleanup Sites
- Groundwater Threats
- Hazardous Waste
- Impaired Waters
- Solid Waste Sites

The Population Characteristics group is made up of eight indicators. These indicators come from the Sensitive Populations and Socioeconomic Factors components of the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 model. These indicators represent physiological traits, health status, or community characteristics that can result in increased vulnerability to pollution. The eight indicators that make up the Population Characteristics score are listed below:

- Asthma
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Low Birth Weight
- Education
- Housing Burden
- Linguistic Isolation
- Poverty
- Unemployment

Census tracts in the City of Antioch range from 24 percent to 93 percent with a citywide average of 57 percent. Lower scores tend to be in the southern portions of the city, while higher scores are in the northern portions of the city, north of State Route 4. The City of Antioch has higher scores compared to adjacent cities with similar urban conditions, such as Pittsburg and Oakley.

Within CalEnviroScreen 4.0, five census tracts had composite scores equal or greater than 75 percent. These census tracts are primarily located near or north of the State Route 4.

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<sup>2</sup> Zeise, L. and Blumenfeld, J., 2021. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Report. OEHHA. October. Available: <https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen40reportf2021.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

### **2.2.2. Income**

The second criterion used to identify EJ Neighborhoods in Antioch is income. The City used the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Methodology for identification of low-income communities under Assembly Bill (AB) 1550. AB 1550 is designed to expand existing environmental laws and fees surrounding pollution.

Under this methodology, AB 1550 identifies low-income households or communities according to the definitions below:

1. “Low-income households” are those with household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low-income by the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) State Income Limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.
2. “Low-income communities” are census tracts with median household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with median household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by HCD’s State Income Limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.

To identify low-income census tracts using HCD’s income limits, the following five steps were completed for each census tract:

1. Determine median household income;
2. Determine average household size;
3. Identify county;
4. Use county and household size of census tract to match the income limit identified as “low-income” in HCD’s State Income Limits for the county; and
5. Identify a census tract as low-income if the census tract’s median household income is at or below the appropriate HCD low-income limit.

Using this methodology, 17 of Antioch’s 20 census tracts were either considered a low-income census tract under 2019 State limits, 2019 HCD limits, or 2021 HCD limits. Of the 17 tracts, only 5 scored 75 percent or higher on CalEnviroScreen 4.0. These five census tracts, which meet both CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and income criteria, are what this Element refers to when discussing EJ Neighborhoods. The census tracts are listed in Table 2-1.

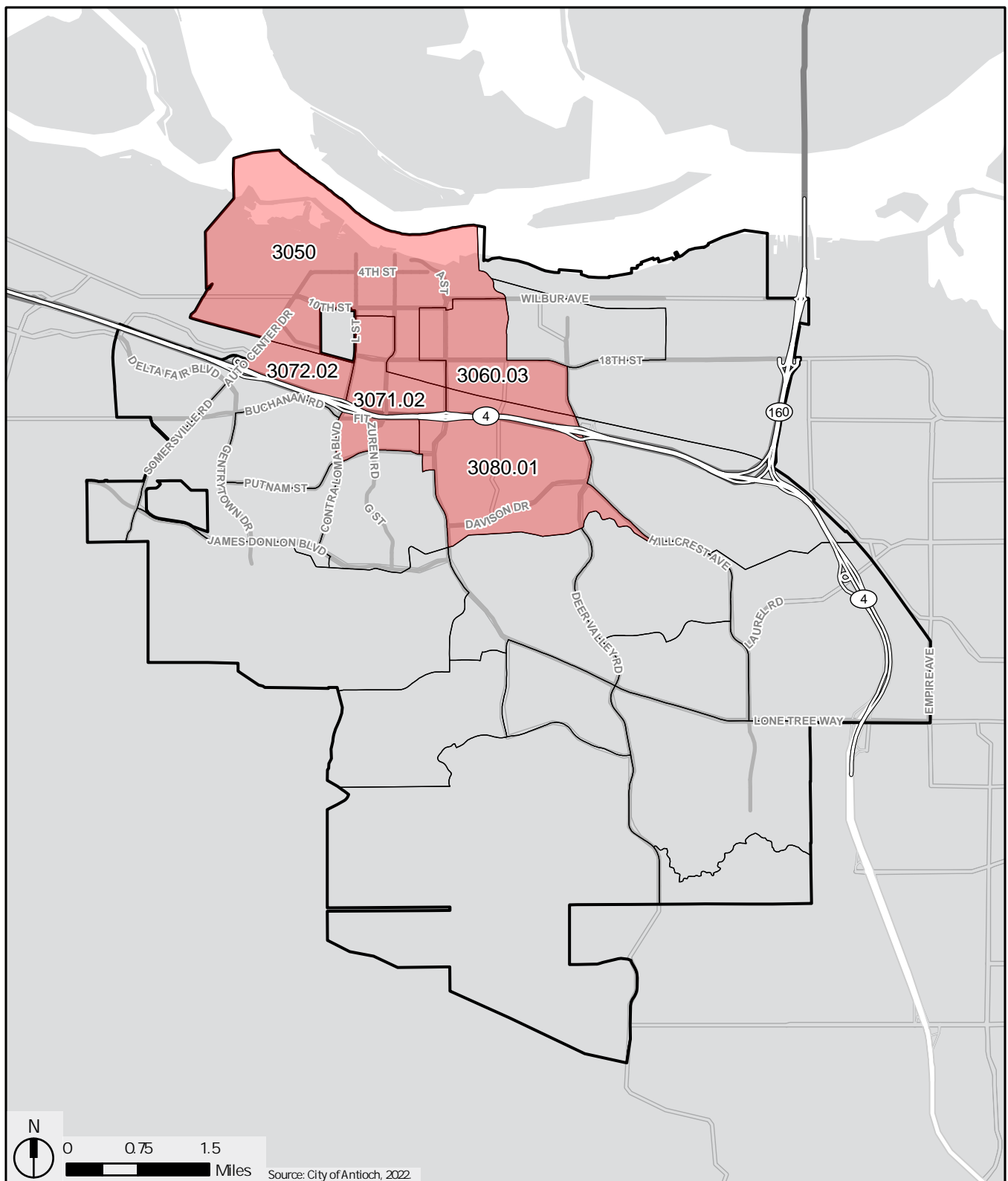
## 2. BACKGROUND

**TABLE 2-1 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE NEIGHBORHOODS**

<b>Census Tract in Antioch</b>	<b>CalEnviro- Screen 4.0 Composite Score</b>	<b>Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2019 State Limits)</b>	<b>Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2019 HCD Limits)</b>	<b>Qualifies as Low-Income Census Tract (2021 HCD Limits)</b>
Census Tract 3050 Contra Costa, CA	93	Yes	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3060.03 Contra Costa, CA	77	No	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3071.02 Contra Costa, CA	79	No	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3072.02 Contra Costa, CA	78	Yes	Yes	Yes
Census Tract 3080.01 Contra Costa, CA	75	No	Yes	Yes

Source: CalEnviroScreen 4.0, California Department of Housing and Community Development

These tracts are primarily located in the northern portion of the city, near or north of State Route 4. See Figure 2-2 for the locations of the EJ Neighborhoods.



- City Limit
- Census Tracts
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Major Roads

Figure 2-2  
Environmental Justice Neighborhoods  
City of Antioch Environmental Justice Element

## 2. BACKGROUND

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### 3. Demographics

To address the health and environmental inequities within Antioch's EJ Neighborhoods, it is critical to understand characteristics for the populations in these areas. This section provides demographic information about the EJ Neighborhoods within the city. Data for this section primarily comes from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2016-2020 5-Year, which was released in March 2022.

#### 3.1 Total Population

EJ Neighborhoods occupy 6.1 square miles or about 21 percent of the area of the City of Antioch. Within this 6.1 square miles, there are approximately 29,000 residents split up into five census tracts. Residents in this area make up 26 percent of the city's total population. Census tract 3072.02 has the highest population density. This census tract, located along State Route 4 and colloquially known as the Sycamore neighborhood, meets the Contra Costa County's definition of a Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Area of Poverty (R/ECAPs). The original R/ECAP criteria developed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) utilizes the federal poverty rate which was found to be unsuitable for analysis in the San Francisco Bay Area due to the high cost of living.<sup>1</sup> R/ECAPs and the Sycamore Neighborhood are discussed in detail in *Chapter 3, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing* of the Housing Element. See Table 3-1 for information regarding Antioch's population and size.

**TABLE 3-1 POPULATION AND SIZE**

Size and Population	City of Antioch	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Total Population	111,468	6,078	5,073	5,850	4,443	7,951
Square Miles	29.2	3.1	0.7	0.6	0.3	1.4

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-year.

#### 3.2 Age and Sex

The median age for residents in the EJ Neighborhoods ranges between 27.4 and 37.9 years. Antioch has an overall median age of 36.4 years. Of the EJ Neighborhoods, census tract 3072.02 has the youngest population with the median age at 27.4 years, while census tract 3060.03 has the oldest population with the median age at 37.9 years.

The younger demographics of census tract 3072.02 are reflected in its percentage of residents 65 and older at 5 percent. This is much lower than the citywide percentage of 13 percent. See Table 3-2 for additional information regarding age in Antioch.

<sup>1</sup> Contra Costa County, 2019. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (2020-2025). June 11. Available: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/59623/Final-BOS-Approved-AI-6-11-19>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

### 3. DEMOGRAPHICS

**TABLE 3-2 AGE**

Age	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Median Age	36.4	33.7	37.9	34.7	27.4	35.9
65 and Older	13%	13%	18%	13%	5%	16%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

Based off 2020 ACS survey data, demographic trends related to sex were similar for EJ Neighborhoods and the entire city. During the ACS data collection process, individuals were asked to mark either “male” or “female” to indicate their biological sex. For most cases in which the answer to this question was invalid, the appropriate entry was determined from other information provided for that resident, such as the person’s first name and household relationship.<sup>2</sup> See Table 3-3 for additional information regarding sex in Antioch.

**TABLE 3-3 SEX**

Sex	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Male	48%	46%	47%	48%	48%	48%
Female	52%	54%	53%	52%	52%	52%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

### 3.3 Race and Ethnicity

Antioch is home to a diverse community. Citywide, Hispanic residents constitute 35 percent of the population, while White residents constitute 27 percent, Black residents constitute 20 percent, and Asian residents constitute 11 percent.

EJ Neighborhoods have a larger percentage of Hispanic residents compared to citywide demographics. Except for census tract 3072.02, Black residents constitute a smaller percentage of residents citywide, ranging from 9 percent to 15 percent, compared to the citywide number of 20 percent. The exception for this trend is census tract 3072.02, where Black residents make up 34 percent of residents, roughly 14 percent more than citywide numbers. This is the same tract mentioned earlier that meets R/ECAP criteria and is known as the Sycamore Neighborhood. Asian residents constitute a smaller percentage of residents, ranging from 3 to 9 percent, compared to the citywide 11 percent.

Native and Islander demographics within the EJ Neighborhoods largely reflect citywide trends except for two census tracts. Tract 3060.03 has 2 percent of residents identifying as Native compared to the

<sup>2</sup> United States Census Bureau, 2020. American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2020 Subject Definitions. Available: [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech\\_docs/subject\\_definitions/2020\\_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/subject_definitions/2020_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf). Accessed January 30, 2023.

citywide 0 percent. Tract 3062.02 has 7 percent of residents identifying as Islander compared to the citywide 0 percent.

White demographics within the EJ Neighborhoods vary compared to the citywide trends, with 27 percent of residents citywide identifying as White. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, percentages of White residents range between 13 and 36 percent. Tract 3060.03 seeing the highest percentage at 35, whereas tract 3072.02 sees the lowest percentage at 13 percent. See Table 3-4 for information regarding race and ethnicity.

**TABLE 3-4 RACE AND ETHNICITY**

Race and Ethnicity	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
White	27%	24.3%	35.8%	22.7%	13.1%	34.2%
Black	20%	15%	9.4%	15%	33.6%	9.9%
Native	0%	0.5%	2%	0%	0.4%	0%
Asian	11%	9.2%	8.1%	4.1%	2.6%	5%
Island	0%	0%	0%	0%	6.9%	0.3%
Other	0%	0.3%	1.1%	0.2%	1.2%	0%
Two+	6%	5.1%	4%	8.2%	6.6%	3%
Hispanic	35%	45.6%	39.6%	49.8%	35.5%	47.7%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

### 3.4 Language Spoken

#### 3.4.1. Children Between Ages 5-17

Languages other than English spoken at home for EJ Neighborhood residents between the age of 5 to 17 vary across categories compared to the citywide trends. As shown in Table 3-5, English-only residents make up 70 percent of the population citywide. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, English-only percentages range between 54 and 78 percent.

Except for tract 3080.01, all tracts within the EJ Neighborhood saw higher percentages of Spanish spoken at home compared to the citywide trend of 24.6 percent. The highest percentage of residents that speak Spanish at home is in census tract 3060.03 at 41 percent.

Trends among children who speak Indo-European, Asian/Islander, or other languages at home, largely reflect citywide trends except for census tract 3050. Census tract 3050 had 8.7 percent of residents speaking an Asian/Islander language at home which was higher than the citywide 2.5 percent.

The indication of other languages spoken at home does not explicitly indicate English is not spoken at home. Based off how the ACS question is written, the presence of these languages could be in addition to English. For example, residents could be speaking both English and Spanish at home. See Table 3-5 for additional details regarding language for this age group.



### 3. DEMOGRAPHICS

**TABLE 3-5 LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH SPOKEN AT HOME, CHILDREN AGE 5-17**

Language Spoken at Home	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
English Only	70%	54%	59%	67%	70%	78%
Spanish	24.6%	37.2%	40.6%	32.6%	27.4%	19.3%
Indo-European	2.0%	0%	0%	0%	0.8%	0.6%
Asian/Islander	2.5%	8.7%	0%	0%	2.1%	2%
Other	0.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

#### 3.4.2. Residents Aged 18 and Older

Languages other than English spoken at home for EJ Neighborhood residents 18 and older vary across categories compared to the citywide trends. Citywide, English-only residents make up 65 percent of the population. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, English-only percentages range between 64 and 70 percent, largely in line with larger citywide trends. These statistics differ compared to residents aged 5 to 17, who saw a larger range of percentages, discussed above.

Except for census tract 3050, EJ Neighborhoods have a higher percentage of Spanish spoken at home compared to the citywide trend of 21.3 percent. The highest percentage is in census tract 3071.02 at 32 percent of residents aged 18 and older.

Trends among residents in EJ Neighborhoods aged 18 and older who speak Indo-European, Asian/Islander, or other languages at home were slightly lower than citywide trends, except for census tract 3072.02. Census tract 3072.02 had 1.3 percent of residents speaking another language compared to the citywide 1 percent. All other EJ census tracts saw lower percentages of these languages spoken among residents aged 18 and older.

Overall, younger residents in the EJ Neighborhoods are more likely to speak more than one language at home with the most common secondary language being Spanish or an Asian/Islander language. See Table 3-6 for additional details regarding language for this age group.

**TABLE 3-6 LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH SPOKEN AT HOME, ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER**

Language Spoken at Home	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
English Only	64.9%	69.6%	63.6%	66.2%	64.3%	66.7%
Spanish	21.3%	21.2%	27.8%	32%	22.7%	28.3%
Indo-European	4.6%	2.7%	2%	0.8%	3.9%	2.6%
Asian/Islander	8.2%	6.1%	6.1%	1.1%	7.8%	2.5%
Other	1%	0.4%	0.6%	0%	1.3%	0%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

### 3.5 Income and Poverty Levels

Incomes are lower across nearly all EJ Neighborhoods compared against citywide income levels. Citywide per capita income sits approximately at \$30,500. With exception of census tract 3080.01, which is located south of State Route 4, EJ per capita incomes are lower than the citywide per capita, with incomes ranging from approximately \$17,000 to \$29,500. Census tract 3080.01 is slightly above the citywide number at approximately \$33,500. Both citywide and EJ Neighborhoods per capita income is significantly lower than the SF-Oakland-Berkeley Metro area's per capita of about \$58,000. See Table 3-7 for information regarding income.

**TABLE 3-7 INCOME**

Income	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Per Capita	30,526	21,313	29,534	23,603	17,065	33,235
Median Household Income	80,234	43,974	55,714	58,241	37,003	70,414
Household Income: under 50k	29%	54%	42%	41%	58%	24%
Household Income: 50k-100k	33%	34%	32%	34%	32%	41%
Household Income: 100k-200k	29%	9%	18%	24%	9%	29%
Household Income: Over 200k	9%	3%	8%	2%	0%	7%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

Antioch's citywide median household income is approximately \$80,000. All EJ Neighborhood tracts are below this number with median household incomes ranging from \$37,000 to \$70,000. The highest income tract being census tract 3080.01, mentioned above, which also had the highest per capita income from the EJ Neighborhoods. The lowest median household income was census tract 3072.02, the same tract that met the modified R/ECAP criteria discussed earlier. Both citywide and EJ Neighborhoods household median income is significantly lower than the SF-Oakland-Berkeley Metro area's median household income of about \$111,000.

### 3. DEMOGRAPHICS

Poverty rates for EJ Neighborhood residents vary across categories compared to the citywide trends. Citywide, there are 12.7 percent of residents below the poverty line. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, percentages range from 9 percent to 33 percent, with the highest being census tract 3072.02. See Table 3-8 for additional information about poverty rate.

**TABLE 3-8 POVERTY RATE**

	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Line	12.7%	24.6%	8.8%	10.9%	32.7%	13.7%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

### 3.6 Unemployment

Unemployment trends within the EJ Neighborhoods largely reflect larger citywide trends, except for two census tracts. Census tract 3072.02 has an unemployment rate of 10 percent compared to the citywide 6 percent, as shown in Table 3-9.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, census tract 3080.01 has a larger percentage of residents not in the labor force at 47 percent compared to the citywide 35 percent. People who are neither working nor looking for work are counted as “not in the labor force,” according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.<sup>4</sup> This could apply to people who are retired or stay at home caregivers. This could be explained in part by the fact that census tract 3080.01 has a slightly higher percentage of residents age 65 and older at 16 percent, compared to the citywide 13 percent.

**TABLE 3-9 EMPLOYMENT**

Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
In Labor Force	64.7%	62.9%	66.4%	67.7%	65.5%	53.4%
In Labor Force: Unemployed	5.5%	7.1%	3.7%	7.3%	10%	6%
Not in Labor Force	35.3%	37.1%	33.6%	32.3%	34.5%	46.6%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020. 2016-2020 American Community Survey Employment Status; Antioch City, California (Table S2031). Available: <https://data.census.gov/table?t=Employment&g=1600000US0602252&y=2020&tid=ACST5Y2020.S2301>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015. Beyond the Numbers; Volume 4, Number 15. December 30. Available: <https://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-4/people-who-are-not-in-the-labor-force-why-arent-they-working.htm>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

### 3.7 Educational Attainment

**TABLE 3-10 EDUCATION**

Educational Attainment	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
High School Grad or Higher	86.7%	83.9%	79.9%	75%	72.6%	87.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	21.1%	10.9%	12.6%	9.4%	7.8%	21.5%
Bachelor's Degree	15.4%	6.2%	8.6%	7.6%	7.8%	13.1%
Post-Grad Degree	5.7%	4.8%	4%	1.8%	0%	8.4%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

Except for census tract 3080.01, areas within the EJ Neighborhoods have lower educational attainment rates compared to the citywide numbers. The difference can be seen within census tract 3072.02, with only 8 percent of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher compared to the citywide 21 percent. Both citywide and EJ Neighborhoods are significantly lower than SF-Oakland-Berkeley Metro area's percentage of 51 percent. See Table 3-10 for additional information regarding education.

### 3.8 Housing Burden

Except for census tract 3080.01, the EJ Neighborhood have significantly more renter occupied units compared to the citywide percentages. Citywide, 39 percent of units are renter occupied. In EJ tracts, renter occupied units range from 42 percent to 86 percent. Census tract 3072.02 has the highest percentage of renters at 86 percent. See Table 3-11 for additional information regarding housing tenure.

Additionally, according to County data, homes in these EJ Neighborhoods are more likely to be older than other areas in the city. These homes are more likely to require repairs compared to newer homes. Given that many of these households are renter occupied, these repairs may be difficult to obtain from property owners. Based off discussions with community members, many renters often face harassment and eviction from their landlords.

More in-depth analysis regarding housing affordability issues can be found in *Chapter 3, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing* in the Housing Element.

**TABLE 3-11 HOUSING TENURE**

Housing Tenure	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Owner Occupied	61.4%	24.1%	58.4%	44.7%	14.2%	77%
Renter Occupied	38.6%	75.9%	41.6%	55.3%	85.8%	23%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

#### 3.9 Sensitive Populations

Overall, residents within the EJ Neighborhoods are more likely to be younger and Black or Hispanic compared to the rest of the city. Additionally, they are significantly more likely to be renters with lower educational attainment and lower incomes. They are also more likely to be single female headed households with children. In one EJ census tract, up to 45 percent of households are single female headed households with children, which is significantly higher than the citywide 29 percent.

In addition to these demographics, the EJ Neighborhoods score higher on CalEnviroScreen 4.0's Low Birth Weight characteristic. This means that children born in these EJ Neighborhoods are more likely to be born less than 5.5 pounds at birth compared to other census tracts in California. This could be due to a variety of reasons such as poor nutrition, lack of prenatal care, stress, smoking, or pollution. Low-birth-weight babies also face a greater risk of developing asthma or other chronic diseases in their life. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, scores range from 57 to 95 percent. Census tract 3080.01 has a score of 95. In other words, the percent of low-birth-weight babies in this tract is higher than 95 percent of the census tracts in California.

These factors place residents in the EJ Neighborhoods in an extremely vulnerable position socially and economically. Based off discussions with community members, these groups often face housing affordability issues. These groups are more likely to live in areas with a larger presence of environmental hazards. Policies and programs outlined in this document seek to amend existing environmental injustices by crafting systemic solutions to repair historically racist practices which excluded these same groups from building generational wealth. Ultimately these policies and programs should serve as a starting point for this type of reparative work.

## 4. Civic Engagement

Civic engagement is critical to improving health and environmental inequities, particularly around topics of land use, housing, and transportation.<sup>1</sup> Community members are the experts of their own experience, and can help identify the issues, needs, and opportunities that impact their health and wellbeing.

Forms of engagement should be unique across communities, neighborhoods, and stakeholders; what works for some may not be accessible to others. Barriers to civic engagement might include the cost of transportation or childcare, timing and location, language or activity format, or use of technical jargon. In addition, community members may be frustrated or distrustful of the City due to previous institutional harms and poor engagement efforts.

### 4.1 Existing Conditions

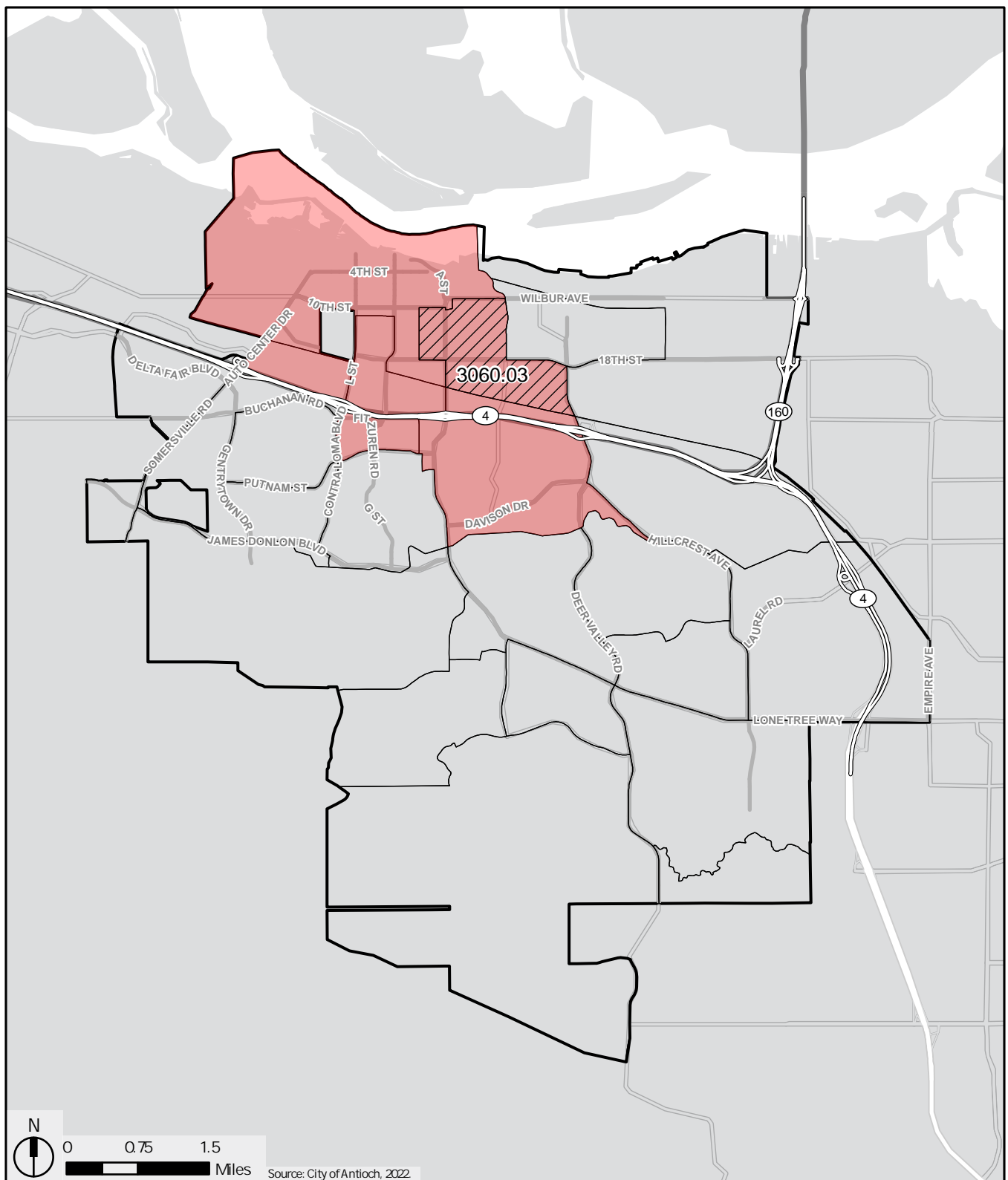
Historically, throughout the Bay Area, low-income communities, often Black and Latino communities, have been excluded from land use decisions that have long term ramifications in their neighborhoods. Antioch's EJ Neighborhoods, made up of many communities of color, may still experience greater barriers to engagement as a result of "one-size-fits-all" outreach. As shown in Figure 4-1, census tract 3060.03 within the EJ Neighborhoods has a greater proportion of limited English-speaking households compared to citywide trends. This indicates that community members may face barriers participating in predominantly English-speaking engagement processes, such as public meetings or communitywide events, without appropriate translation. According to ACS 2020 data, approximately 41 percent of residents age 5-17 and 28 percent of residents age 18 and older in tract 3060.03 speak Spanish at home. These numbers are higher than the citywide 25 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

Voting is another indicator of social cohesion and civic engagement. Residents who are unable to vote or do not have adequate resources to vote are excluded from the political process on both a local and regional level. The UC Berkeley Statewide Database tracks the number of registered voters by precinct. As of 2020, three census tracts within the EJ Neighborhoods, shown below in Figure 4-2, are less likely to participate in voting than other tracts in Antioch.<sup>2</sup>

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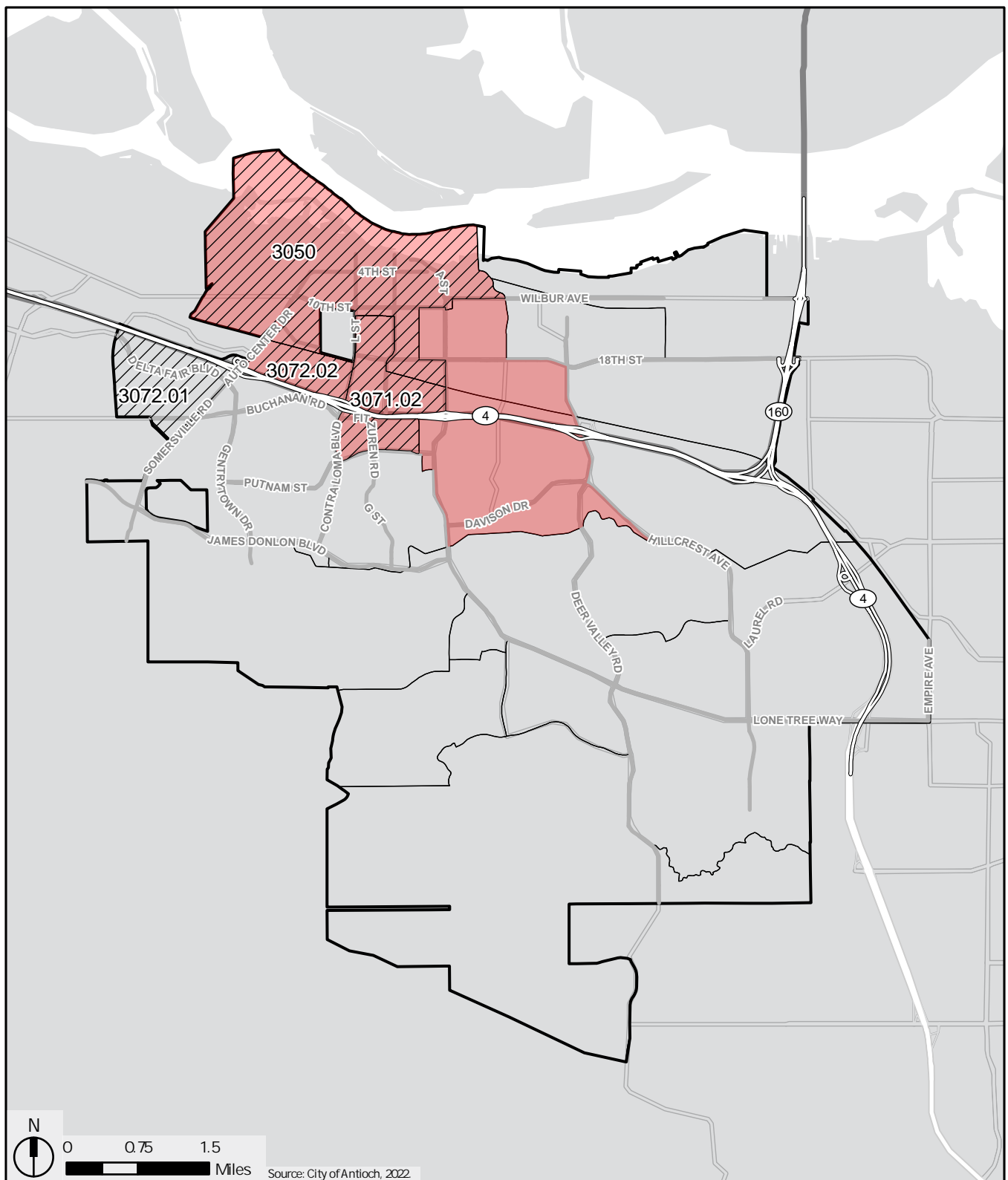
<sup>1</sup> National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2017. Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity. Available: <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/24624/communities-in-action-pathways-to-health-equity>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Public Health Alliance of Southern California, n.d. California Healthy Places Index GIS Portal. Available: <https://map.healthyplacesindex.org/?redirect=false>. Accessed January 30, 2023.



- City Limit
- Census Tracts
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Major Roads
- Census Tract with Linguistic Isolation

Figure 4-1  
Linguistic Isolation



- City Limit
- Census Tracts
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Major Roads
- Census Tracts Where Voter Registration is Below the 25th Percentile

Figure 4-2  
Voter Registration



### 4.2 Current City Practices

The City website includes automatic translation for English, Spanish, Chinese, and Filipino. The City posts promotional materials related to meetings and events on social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Additionally, events are publicized on the City's website, Antioch On The Move. Public meetings are held virtually and in-person.

### 4.3 Public Participation for the Environmental Justice Element

In preparation of the Housing Element update and this EJ Element, the City conducted several outreach activities to gain public input. In accordance with State Law, the City sought to consider barriers to participation, consult key stakeholders, and provide translation or other accessibility services to ensure that public input was representative of the most impacted community members.

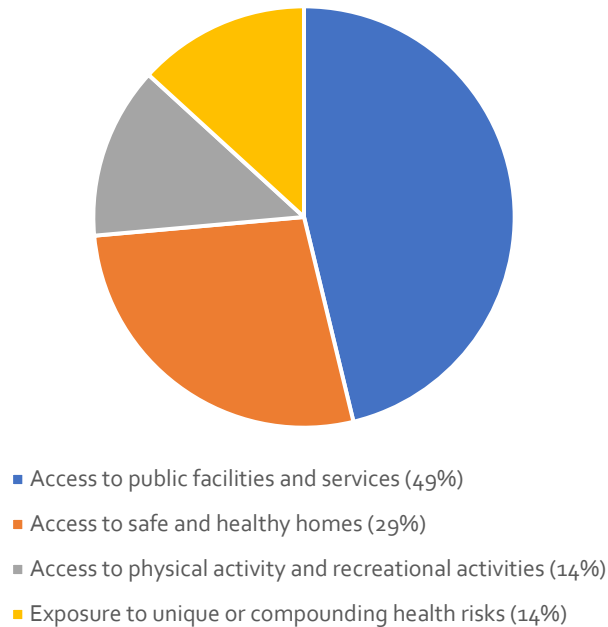
The intention of the outreach sessions was to gain input on EJ issues and solutions. Along with outreach efforts occurring for the Housing Element, such as community meetings, surveys, and interviews, targeted stakeholder focus groups were conducted with the intention of learning about EJ issues from the populations being directly affected by them.

Activities included interviews with community-based organizations (CBOs) as well as focus groups, community meetings, and surveys accessibly to Spanish-speaking residents. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings and focus groups were held virtually and used digital polls and breakout rooms. These meetings were held throughout the duration of the EJ Element process. The City of Antioch distributed meeting flyers via CBOs at physical locations such as grocery stores, coffee shops, and public service providers. The City also co-hosted a community meeting with First 5 Contra Costa, a CBO dedicated to ensuring children grow up healthy, ready for school, and supported in safe and nurturing families and communities throughout eastern Contra Costa County.

Cumulatively, the City reached approximately 30 residents through Spanish-language activities, collected both data and stories conveying stakeholders' experiences, and received higher attendance at Housing Element meetings than other planning efforts. For more details on community engagement efforts and outcomes, see *Appendix E, Public Engagement Input* of the Housing Element.

On February 19, 2022, City consultants met with Spanish-speaking Latino residents in a focus group centered around their firsthand experiences in the city. Residents shared concerns about access to safe and well-maintained parks, as well as the availability and accessibility of affordable healthcare, childcare, and housing. These experiences were echoed in a separate meeting held on April 19, 2022 with City consultants and First 5 Contra Costa. The First 5 Contra Costa focus group shared similar sentiments as the Latino focus group, emphasizing the need for affordable housing options throughout the city, and the need for additional tenant protections to ensure residents can remain in their homes. These stories informed the discussions in the EJ Element on public facilities, safe and sanitary homes, and mobility.

On February 17 and April 13, 2022, community meetings were held to discuss the Housing Element update and the EJ Element. Community members recommended locating new developments away from freeways, encouraging alternative energy sources, and ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to existing residents. A poll conducted at the first community meeting asked participants to vote for the most critical EJ topic in Antioch. The results of this poll are found in Figure 4-3.



**Figure 4-3 Poll Results**

Source: City of Antioch February 17, 2022, Community Meeting

On April 5 and April 25, 2022, City consultants met with Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) to discuss existing and prospective challenges to residents in Antioch. During these meetings, CCHS discussed the impacts of climate change and extreme heat on the quality of homes in Antioch, especially in neighborhoods most impacted by EJ issues. The discussion touched on the existing deficiency of social services in Antioch, alternative energy sources, and the importance of connecting policies in the EJ Element to existing countywide efforts.

#### 4.4 Feedback from Community-Based Organizations

As part of the engagement effort described above, the City co-hosted a community meeting with First 5 Contra Costa. To prepare for this meeting, First 5 Contra Costa provided guidance on best practices for engaging their community members:

1. Weeknights worked better for events
2. Outdoor tabling was more successful than a sit-down workshop
3. Splitting engagement into English and Spanish tracks is not always the right approach

City consultants also held a Housing Element focus group with CBOs regarding housing needs and barriers to housing (see *Appendix E, Public Engagement Input of the Housing Element*). When asked about strategies to distribute fair housing information in Antioch, CBOs identified the following barriers to engagement and outreach:

1. Language and adequate interpretation of resources
2. Lack of information about the best way to reach out to seniors
3. Limitations on in-person activities due to the ongoing pandemic

## 4. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

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CBOs also expressed that in-person activities such as resource fairs, door-to-door outreach, and live presentations were effective strategies to reach their target audiences. In addition, several interviewees emphasized the importance of communication and coordination between organizations.

### 4.5 Other Public Participation Efforts

In 2022, First 5 Contra Costa, East County Regional Group, Healthy & Active Before 5, and Urban Habitat released a community housing assessment report called Antioch Change. These organizations implemented a community-based participatory approach that incorporated community guidance on questions asked and methods of data collection. These organizations along with parent volunteers elected to use a peer-to-peer data collection model that prioritized direct conversations with residents to foster trust. They were able to collect 1,032 survey responses, 81 percent of which were collected in person using tablets and paper surveys.

## 5. Pollution Exposure

Pollution exposure occurs when people come into direct contact with contaminants in the air, water, soil, or food, typically because of incompatible land uses.<sup>1</sup> These contaminants can come from a wide range of sources, including stationary sources such as industrial facilities or equipment, storage tanks leaking hazardous chemicals into groundwater and soil, and agricultural land uses applying pesticides. Mobile sources, such as vehicles emitting exhaust, may also contribute to pollution exposure.

Pollution exposure is linked to diseases including asthma, birth defects, cancer, heart disease, neurologic and reproductive disorders, and exacerbates symptoms for many of these illnesses.<sup>2</sup> Certain populations may be more vulnerable to pollution hazards, including children and infants, the elderly, and people with existing health conditions. Sensitive land uses are places where these populations are most likely to spend their time, such as childcare facilities, schools, residences, senior care facilities, and hospitals.

Antioch is bisected by State Routes 4 and 160, running east-west and north-south, and bound by the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, to the north of the city. State Routes 4 and 160 are highways that carry truck and vehicle traffic, serving as potential sources of air pollution. The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta is identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a water body impaired or threatened by pollutants,<sup>3</sup> as described in greater detail below. As shown in Figure 5-1, the EJ Neighborhoods are generally located near State Route 4 or the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta.

### 5.1 Existing Conditions

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 identifies the following indicators for pollution exposure:

- *Air quality:* ozone, particulate matter (PM) 2.5, diesel particulate matter, pesticide use, toxic release from facilities, and traffic impacts.
- *Water quality:* drinking water contaminants, groundwater threats, and impaired water bodies.
- *Other pollution indicators:* cleanup sites, hazardous waste generators, and solid waste facilities.

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 scores the presence of these indicators in census tracts throughout California; a score of 75% or higher indicates that a census tract is disproportionately impacted by pollution exposure compared to others.<sup>4</sup> The following sections discuss census tracts that scored 75 percent or higher for various pollution indicators in Antioch.

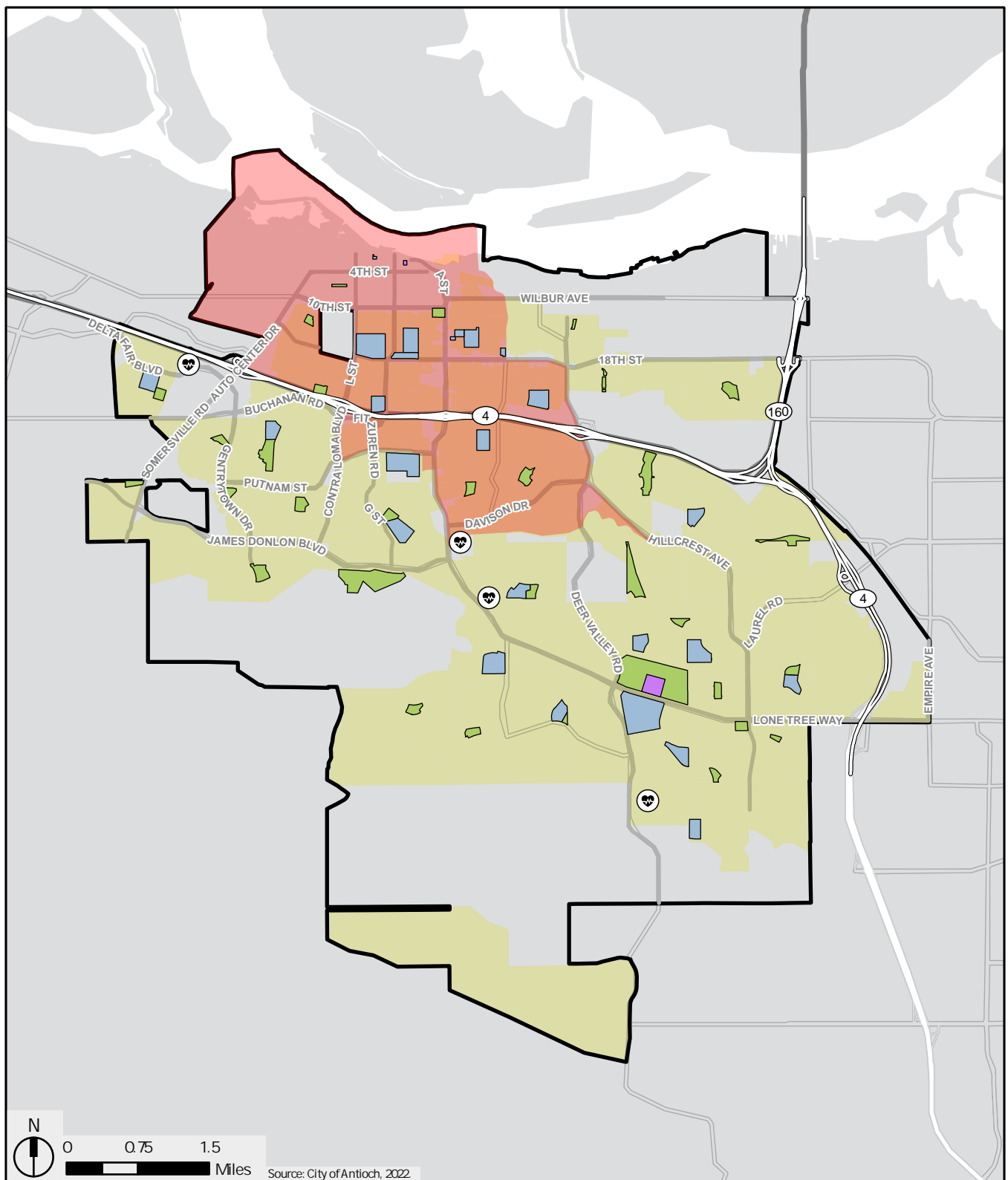
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<sup>1</sup> Ricklin, A., and Shah, S., 2017. Metrics for Planning Health Communities. American Planning Association. May. Available: <https://planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com/document/Metrics-Planning-Healthy-Communities.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 2020. op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2012. Water Quality Challenges in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary: EPA's Action Plan. August. Available: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/actionplan.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Zeise, L. and Blumenfeld, J., 2021. op. cit.



- City Limit
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Major Roads
- Hospitals/Major Medical Centers
- Residential and Planned Development Zones
- Parks
- Public Schools
- Community Centers

Figure 5-1  
Sensitive Land Uses

### 5.1.1 Air Quality

Sources of air quality pollutants include State Routes 4 and 160, running east-west and north-south respectively, and bound by the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, to the north of the city. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 uses air monitoring data from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to identify areas where air pollution exposure is more prevalent. The nearest air monitors to Antioch are in Bethel Island and Concord (more than 10 miles away). Therefore, CalEnviroScreen 4.0's analysis may underestimate the levels and type of pollution exposure experienced in the city.

Diesel PM refers to exhaust particles emitted by diesel engines used in heavy-duty equipment or vehicles. These types of vehicles and equipment are commonly found near ports, railyards, and freeways. California regulations enacted since 1990 have led to a steady decline in diesel emissions that continues today. As shown in Figure 5-2, CalEnviroScreen 4.0 identifies three census tracts where exposure to diesel PM is disproportionately high; two of these census tracts are located within EJ Neighborhoods.

Traffic is a significant source of air pollution in California's urban areas, where more than 50 percent of particulate emissions come from traffic.<sup>5</sup> These emissions are generally concentrated around freeways and major roads where traffic is heavier.

As shown in Figure 5-2, at least one census tract within Antioch falls above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for traffic impacts, meaning that traffic volumes are disproportionately higher within this census tract than others.

### 5.1.2 Asthma

In addition to these conditions, CalEnviroScreen 4.0 measures asthma-related emergency visits by census tract. More than three million Californians currently have this condition, and children, the elderly, and low-income communities suffer from it disproportionately. Air pollutants exacerbate asthma symptoms and can trigger asthma attacks.

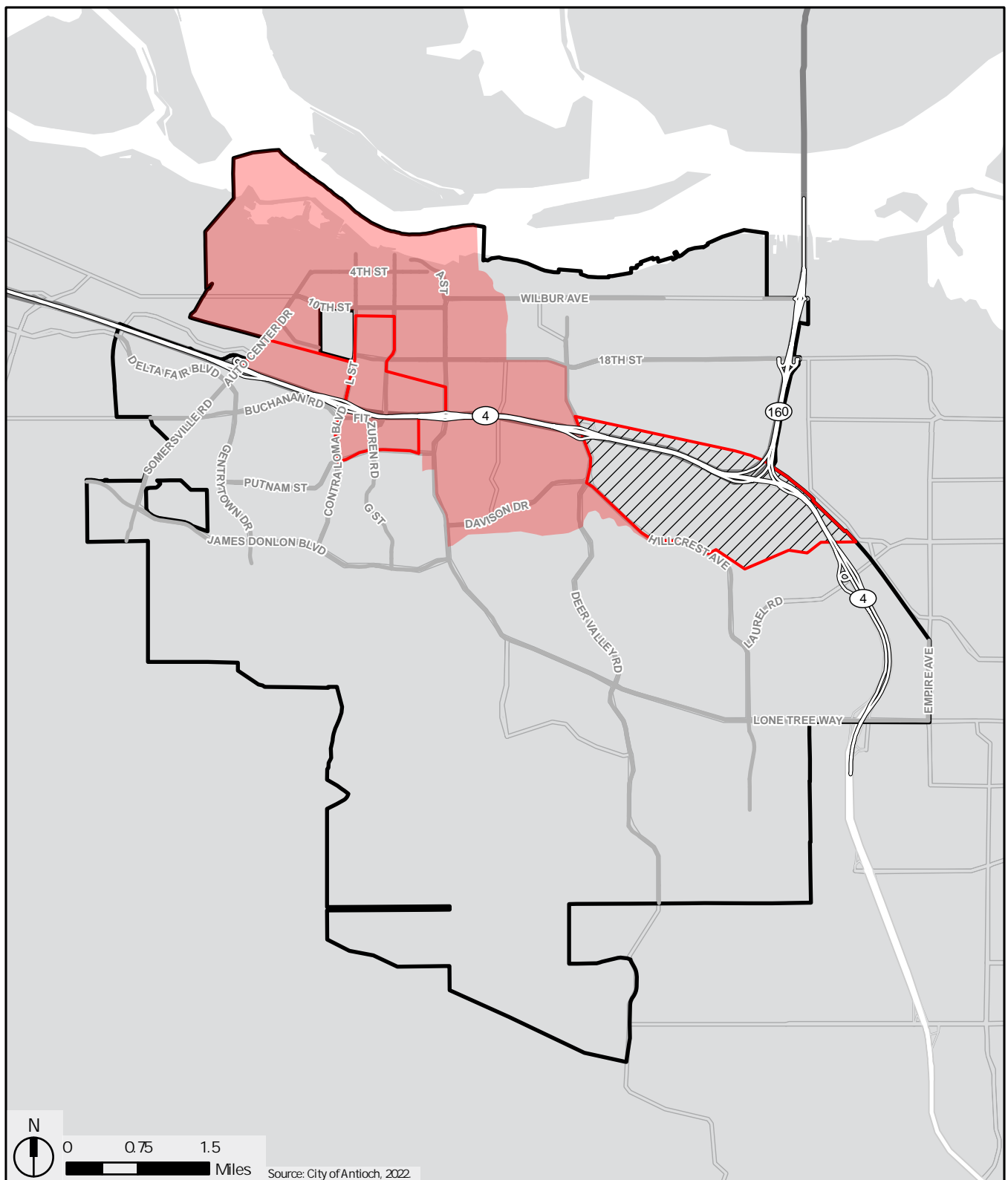
As shown in Figure 5-3, all census tracts in Antioch's EJ Neighborhoods experience disproportionate rates of asthma-related emergency room visits as compared to the state. Within Antioch, asthma rates are most severe in the EJ Neighborhoods, the northeastern areas, and the western areas near the EJ Neighborhoods (i.e., above the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile). Compared to the measure of air pollutants collected by CalEnviroScreen 4.0, these high asthma rates indicate that air pollution exposure is a critical, citywide health issue. These citywide rates reflect Bay Area Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) designation of Antioch as a Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) Program impacted community. This designation is based on detailed emission inventories and air dispersion modeling conducted by BAAQMD.

### 5.1.3 Water Quality

Storage tanks can be used to store hazardous substances above or underground, including gasoline, solvents, heavy metals, and pesticides. When tanks leak, these substances may degrade soil and groundwater. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRBC) keeps track of these leaking sites and their statuses.

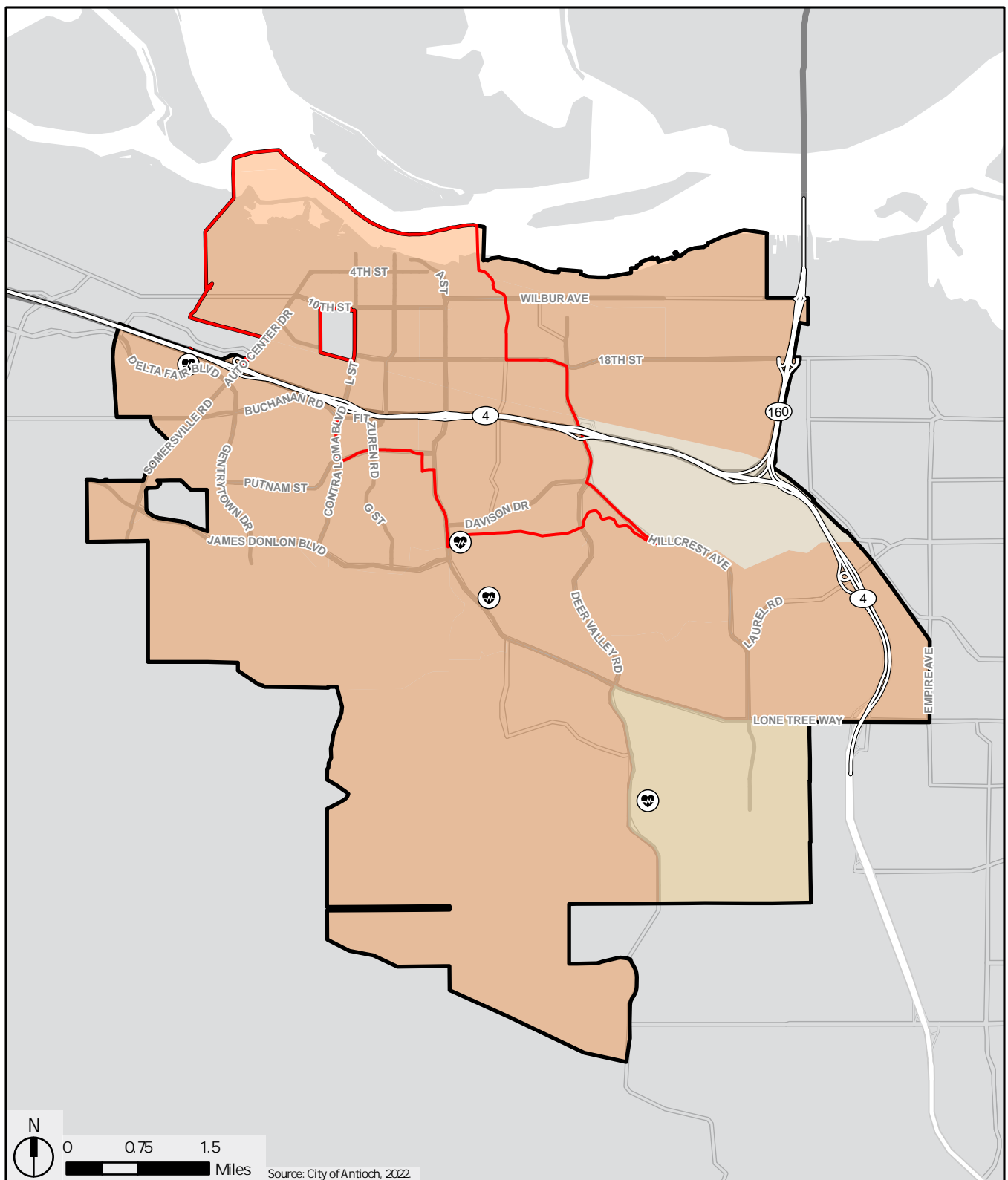
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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.



- City Limit
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Diesel PM (>75th Percentile)
- Traffic (>75th Percentile)
- Highways
- Major Roads

Figure 5-2  
Air Quality Pollutants



- City Limit
  - EJ Neighborhoods
  - Highways
  - Major Roads
  - ♥ Hospitals/Major Medical Centers
- Asthma Percentiles
- <80%
  - 80-90%
  - 90-100%

Figure 5-3  
Asthma-Related Emergency Visits



## 5. POLLUTION EXPOSURE

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CalEnviroScreen 4.0 assesses the severity of these sites' potential health impacts and their proximity to sensitive uses. In Antioch, six census tracts in the north and west portions of the city are disproportionately exposed, indicating that groundwater threats are an environmental hazard both in and around the EJ Neighborhoods.

Rivers, lakes, and marine waters are used for recreation, fishing, drinking/agriculture, and commerce, and may also serve as habitat for local flora and fauna. Waters that are contaminated by pollutants pose increased risks for Antioch communities, particularly residents living nearby or who swim, eat fish, or drink from an impaired water body. In addition, impaired water bodies may affect the health of the surrounding ecosystem, impacting the availability and quality of natural resources.<sup>6</sup> The SWRCB maintains a record of impaired water bodies that assesses both pollutant levels and beneficial use of the resource. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 uses the SWRCB data to analyze each census tract's proximity to pollutants found in impaired water bodies. As shown in Figure 5-4, nine census tracts experience higher levels of pollution exposure from impaired water bodies, including all census tracts identified as EJ Neighborhoods. Water pollutants for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta include pesticides, toxic organics (sometimes associated with petroleum or natural gas), and metals. The most severe of these tracts (above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile) are located to north, along State Route 4 and the San Joaquin River.

### 5.1.4 Other Pollution Indicators

Cleanup, or brownfield sites, are sites that are contaminated by hazardous substances and require cleanup actions before they can be reutilized. The State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) maintains a public database of these sites, the severity of their contamination, and their status. Hazardous substances can move off-site through air, soil, or water, increasing exposure risk for nearby residents and sensitive land uses. In addition, brownfield sites may go underutilized or untreated due to the cost of cleanup. See Figure 5-5 for census tracts with 75 percent score or higher for cleanup sites. Cleanup sites within these census tracts are associated with previous industrial land uses in the area.

Facilities that generate, process, or dispose of hazardous waste are linked to negative health outcomes for residents and environmental conditions in proximity.<sup>7</sup> While newer facilities are designed to prevent contamination, the perception of these sites may negatively affect the economic, social, and physical health of surrounding areas.<sup>8</sup> Within Antioch, three census tracts have higher exposure to hazardous waste sites than others, within the EJ Neighborhoods and other communities in the northern portion of the city.

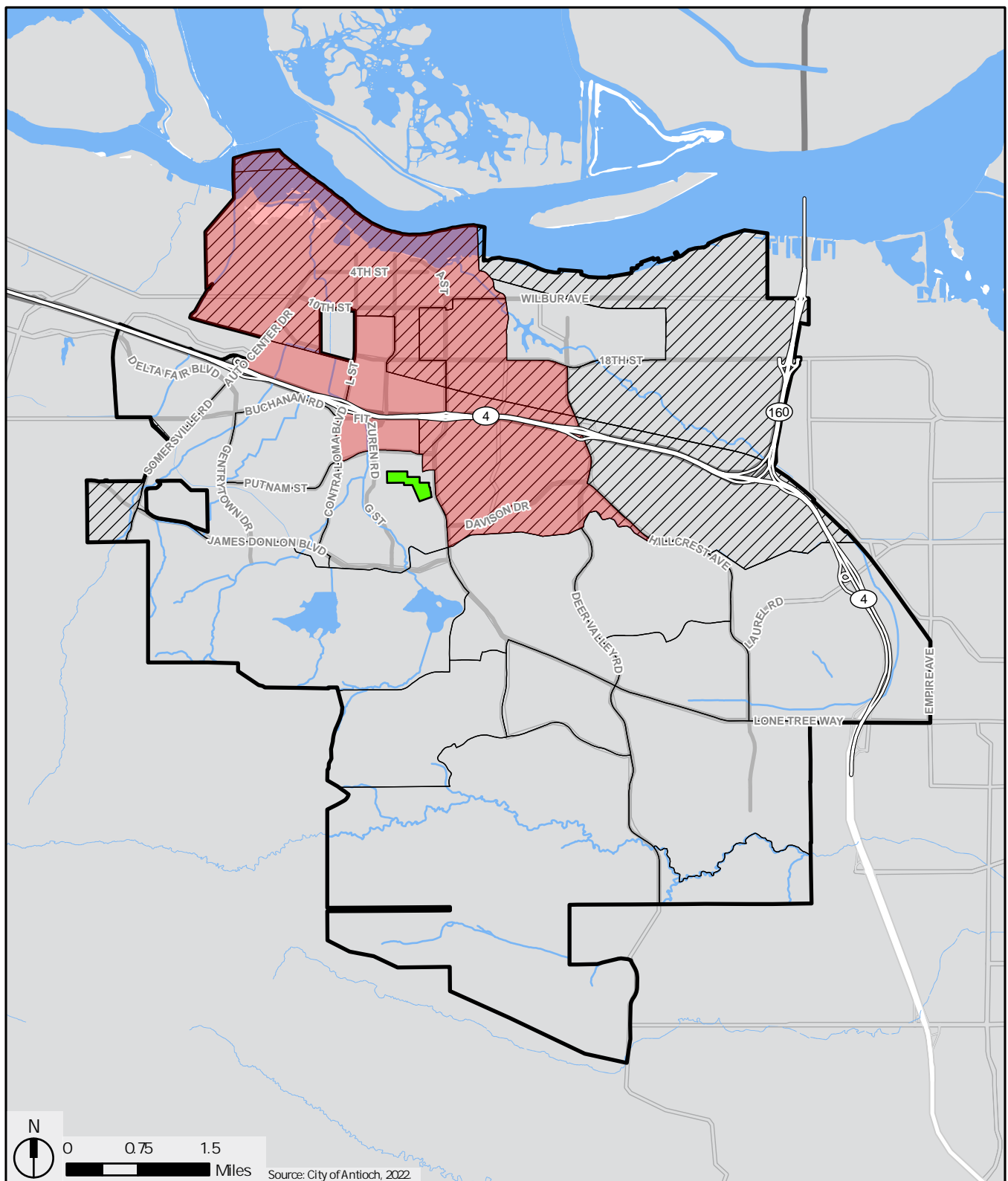
Older solid waste facilities, such as landfills and treatment sites, may be out of compliance with current standards and expose surrounding neighborhoods and environmental conditions to pollutants. In addition, these facilities are associated with other health hazards, including odors, vermin, and increased truck traffic. Figure 5-5 shows that two tracts in the western portion of Antioch experience greater exposure to solid waste sites than the rest of the city.

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

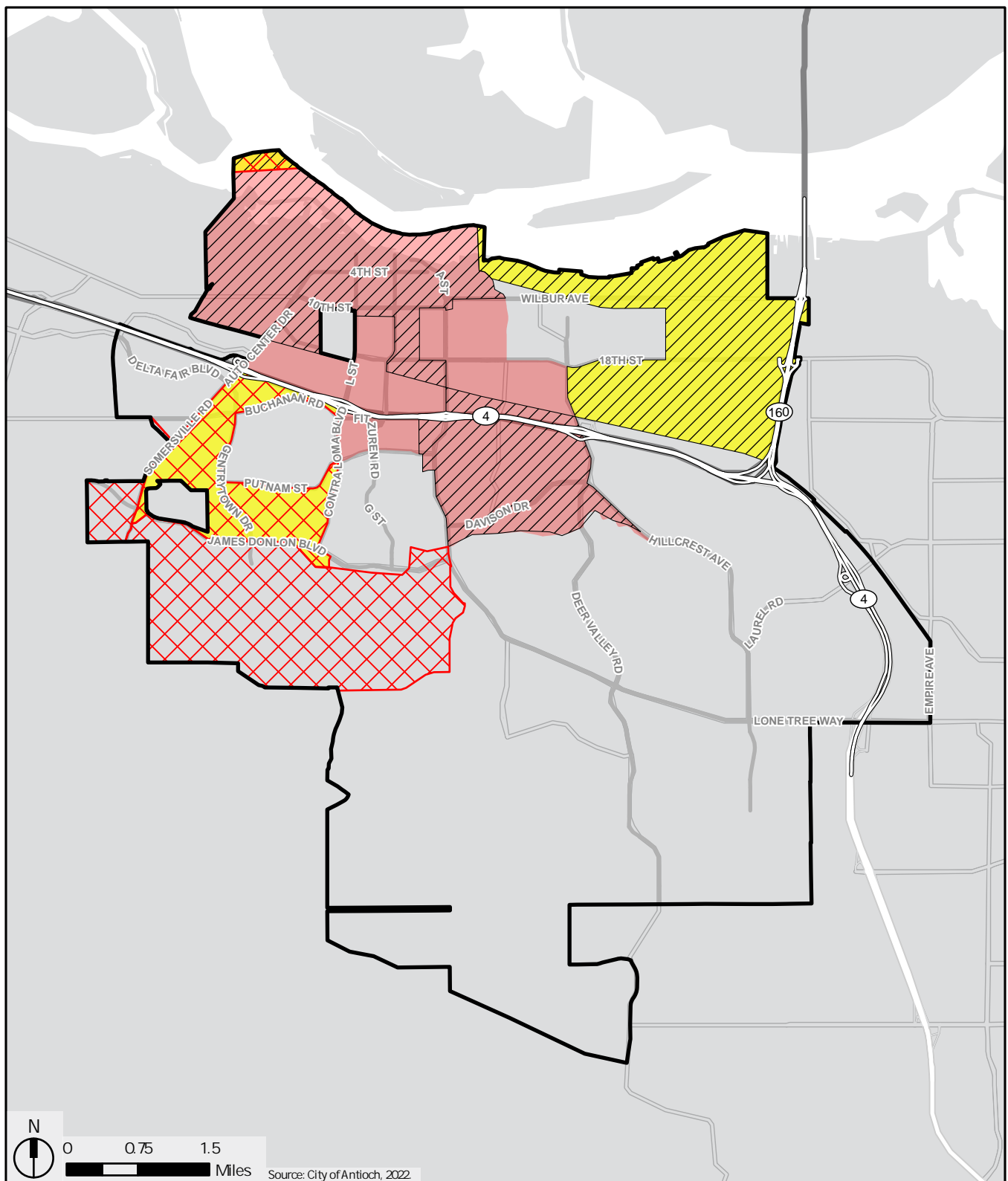
<sup>7</sup> Kouznetsova et al., 2007. Increased rate of hospitalization for diabetes and residential proximity of hazardous waste sites. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 115(1):75-9. January. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1289/ehp.9223>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Zeise, L., and Blumenfeld, J., 2021. op. cit.



- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| City Limit       | Creeks   |
| Census Tracts    | Census Tracts with Groundwater Threat Indicators (> 75th Percentile) |
| EJ Neighborhoods | Impaired Water Bodies  |
| Highways         | Water Treatment Plant  |
| Major Roads      |  |

Figure 5-4  
Water Quality Pollutants



- City Limit
- EJ Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Major Roads
- Solid Waste Sites (> 75th Percentile)
- Hazardous Waste Sites (> 75th Percentile)
- Cleanup Sites (> 75th Percentile)

Figure 5-5  
Cleanup Sites, Hazardous Waste Facilities, and Solid Waste Facilities  
City of Antioch Environmental Justice Element

## 6. Public Facilities

Senate Bill (SB) 1000 uses “public facilities” as an umbrella term that includes, but is not limited to, public improvements, services, and community amenities.<sup>1</sup> In Antioch, this includes parks, community centers, libraries, and schools. In addition to these publicly operated facilities, this section of the EJ Element considers health services to be an important public resource.

Public facilities contribute to the health, safety, and wellness of Antioch by enhancing public spaces and providing services accessible to all community members. Insufficient public facilities can pose safety hazards (e.g., lack of crosswalks or adequate lighting) or subject community members to a lower quality of life (e.g., lack of parks or community centers). In addition, public facilities require ongoing maintenance to meet community needs. For non-public resources such as emergency health centers, the cost of service, language barriers, and other socioeconomic factors may present additional issues.

Based off discussions with residents and local organizations, EJ Neighborhoods struggle with insufficient access to public facilities or substandard quality compared to other neighborhoods. The following discussion assesses existing public facilities in Antioch.

### 6.1 Existing Conditions

#### 6.1.1 Parks

Antioch has approximately 35 parks in varying sizes ranging from 0.5 to 99 acres. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, there are 6 parks as depicted in Figure 6-1. These include Antioch City Park, Contra Loma Estates Park, Fairview Park, Harbour Park, Mountair Park, and Prosserville Park. In addition to these parks, the city is served by multi-use trails running east-west, predominantly located south of State Route 4. According to a Parks Assessment conducted by East County Regional Group and First 5 Contra Costa in 2015, community members identified parks in the northwest portion of Antioch, which encompasses most of the EJ Neighborhoods as needing major improvements. Within this assessment, community members mentioned the importance of safety, play equipment, bathrooms, and water fountains in determining the quality of a park facility.<sup>2</sup>

More recent city-wide efforts, as outlined below, have evaluated access to and the inclusive design and operation of parks and recreation facilities to ensure an equitable distribution of facilities throughout the city.

#### *Policy for Ensuring Equitable Access to Inclusive Play Environments in Parks and Public Spaces*

In 2020 the Antioch City Council voted to authorize staff to develop a policy which provides for the all-inclusive design and programming of existing and future parks and recreation facilities. In response, Staff worked alongside Gates and Associates, and non-profit stakeholders including First Five Contra Costa County and Be Exceptional Programs to draft the City’s Policy for Ensuring Equitable Access to Inclusive Play Environments in Parks and Public Spaces, which was ultimately adopted by Council on September 14,

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<sup>1</sup> Zeise, L., and Blumenfeld, J., 2021. op. cit.

<sup>2</sup> East County Regional Group and First 5 Contra Costa Children and Family Commission, 2015. Antioch Parks Assessment Report. January. Available: [http://www.first5coco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/AntiochParkAssessmentReport\\_FINAL\\_4.21.15.pdf](http://www.first5coco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/AntiochParkAssessmentReport_FINAL_4.21.15.pdf). Accessed January 30, 2023.

## 6. PUBLIC FACILITIES

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2021. The purpose of the policy is to ensure inclusive play environments throughout the city which incorporate design elements intended to serve all members of the community, regardless of physical, cognitive, or behavioral ability. Examples of inclusive design elements include the availability of shade and restrooms; accessible routes, sidewalks, and parking areas; and comfortable places for users to retreat, rest, and observe.

The organizes existing Antioch parks into three tiers based on the existence of inclusive features and current usage. Tier 1 parks are destinations for the whole community and therefore important locations to develop fully inclusive play environments. Tier 2 parks are neighborhood parks with adequate restrooms and parking. Tier 3 parks are those that do not possess characteristics of Tier 1 or Tier 2 parks and require improvements beyond the playground such as level topography, updated restrooms, shaded seating, and adequate space.

The following lists parks located in EJ Neighborhoods according to their tier classification:

- Antioch City Park – Tier 1
- Contra Loma Estates Park – Tier 3
- Fairview Park – Tier 3
- Harbour Park – Tier 3
- Mountair Park – Tier 3
- Prosserville Park – Tier 3

The policy identifies guidelines for future development by tier. Tier 1 guidelines apply to parks that are intended to become fully inclusive upon renovation, including upgrades such as the usage of natural colors versus bright colors, safety surfaces such as pour-in-place rubber, equitable motor skill play experiences such as swinging and balancing, enclosed play environments with seating and controlled access points, and tactile and auditory sensory experiences. Tier 2 guidelines include the addition of play opportunities for all abilities as well as the accommodation of a comfortable environment for parents and children alike. Tier 3 guidelines establish that future renovations shall include inclusive play elements into the overall playground design, along with general accessibility improvements such as sidewalk access, shaded seating amenities, and upgraded restroom facilities.

The Policy also outlines a series of policies and actions for the city to consider as funding becomes available, in relation to each type of facility. These include:

- the conducting of a regularly updated inclusivity assessment of existing city parks to inform the prioritize park renovation projects.
- the intent to develop another Tier 1 park in the northwestern portion of the city, selecting from the list of existing Tier 2 parks to upgrade
- The intent to develop fully inclusive playgrounds at each of the three Tier 1 Parks in the City including Antioch City Park which is located in an EJ neighborhood. Policy for Inclusion in Parks and Recreation Programs for People of All Abilities

In addition to the above-described Policy, staff also worked alongside stakeholders like First Five Contra Costa County to develop a complementary Policy for Inclusion in Parks and Recreation Programs for People of All Abilities, which was adopted by City Council on September 14, 2021. This policy establishes guidelines to ensure that programs offered by the Parks and Recreational Department are accessible to all Antioch residents regardless of their physical abilities. These guidelines include the establishment of a framework for recreation programs designed for persons with varying abilities, outlining the city's

reasonable accommodations process to accommodate persons with disabilities in recreation and parks facilities, and inclusivity training for parks and recreation staff.

### 6.1.2 Community Centers and Libraries

Community centers are centers of public activity for community members of all ages. Community centers offer rooms for community events and meetings, as well as recreational and education programming. In addition, community centers may be used as cooling centers on days of extreme heat or poor air quality. The Antioch Recreation Department operates Antioch Community Center, Antioch Water Park, Nick Rodriguez Community Center, and Antioch Senior Center. As shown in Figure 6-2, Nick Rodriguez Community Center and Antioch Senior Center are located within the EJ Neighborhoods near the northern city boundary.

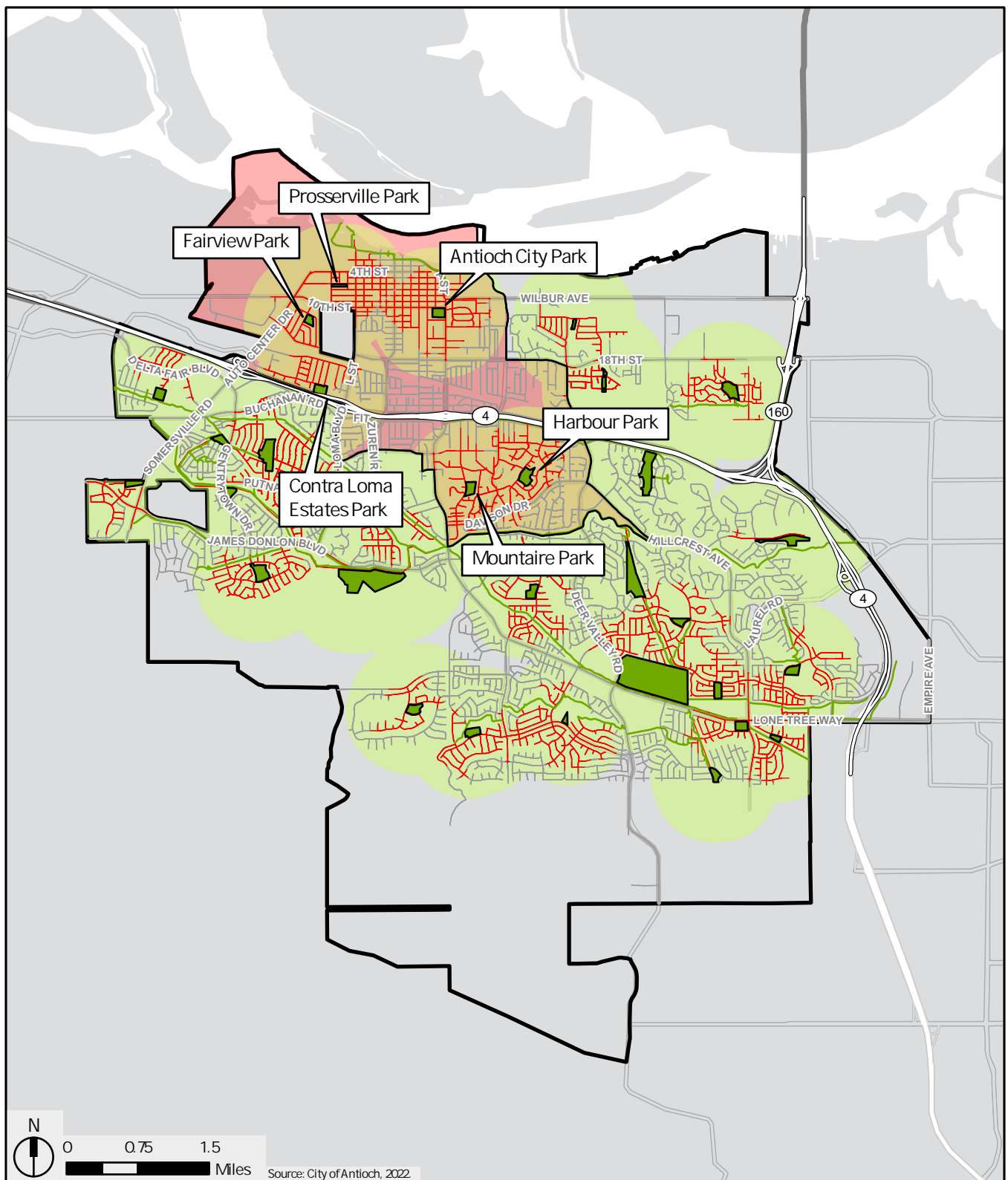


Figure 6-1  
Service Area of Existing Parks

Libraries provide additional public spaces with free, accessible resources and activities that support businesses, families, and individuals in Antioch. The Contra Costa County Library (CCCL) provides free access to reading materials, meeting rooms, adult and youth literacy resources, events, and classes.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the CCCL partners with other organizations and programs to support public access to resources outside of the library district, such as museums and cultural attractions. CCCL serves Antioch at two locations: the Antioch Library and Prewett Library. The Antioch Library is located centrally within the EJ Neighborhoods, to the north of State Route 4, and the Prewett Library is in the southern portion of city within the Antioch Community Center, which is located near the Water Park.

### 6.1.3 Public Schools

As of 2022, the Antioch Unified School District (AUSD) operates 28 schools across the city, including the EJ Neighborhoods.<sup>4</sup> For the 2020-2021 school year, AUSD had a cumulative enrollment of 17,197 students. Of the 17,197 students, 11,247 students qualified for free and reduced-price meals, 126 met the definition of foster youth, and 2,909 were classified as English learners (formerly known as Limited-English-Proficiency or LEP).<sup>5</sup>

Within the EJ Neighborhoods are Prospects High School; Antioch Middle School; Fremont, Kimball, Marsh, and Belshaw Elementary Schools; and Bidwell Continuation High School. Several of these schools – Marsh, Belshaw, and Bidwell – have facilities within proximity of State Route 4. In addition, Park Middle School is located just south of the EJ Neighborhoods. Communities to the east of the EJ Neighborhoods and north of State Route 4 have limited school access; Orchard Park Elementary School, part of the AUSD system, is located just east of the city boundary. Some neighborhoods along the southeast city boundaries are served by Liberty and Brentwood Unified School Districts.

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<sup>3</sup> Contra Costa County Library, n.d. About Us. Available: <https://ccclib.org/about-us/>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Antioch Unified School District, n.d. School Directory. Available: <https://www.antiochschools.net/domain/52>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Educational Data Partnership, n.d. Antioch Unified. Available: <http://www.ed-data.org/district/Contra-Costa/Antioch-Unified>. Accessed January 30, 2023.



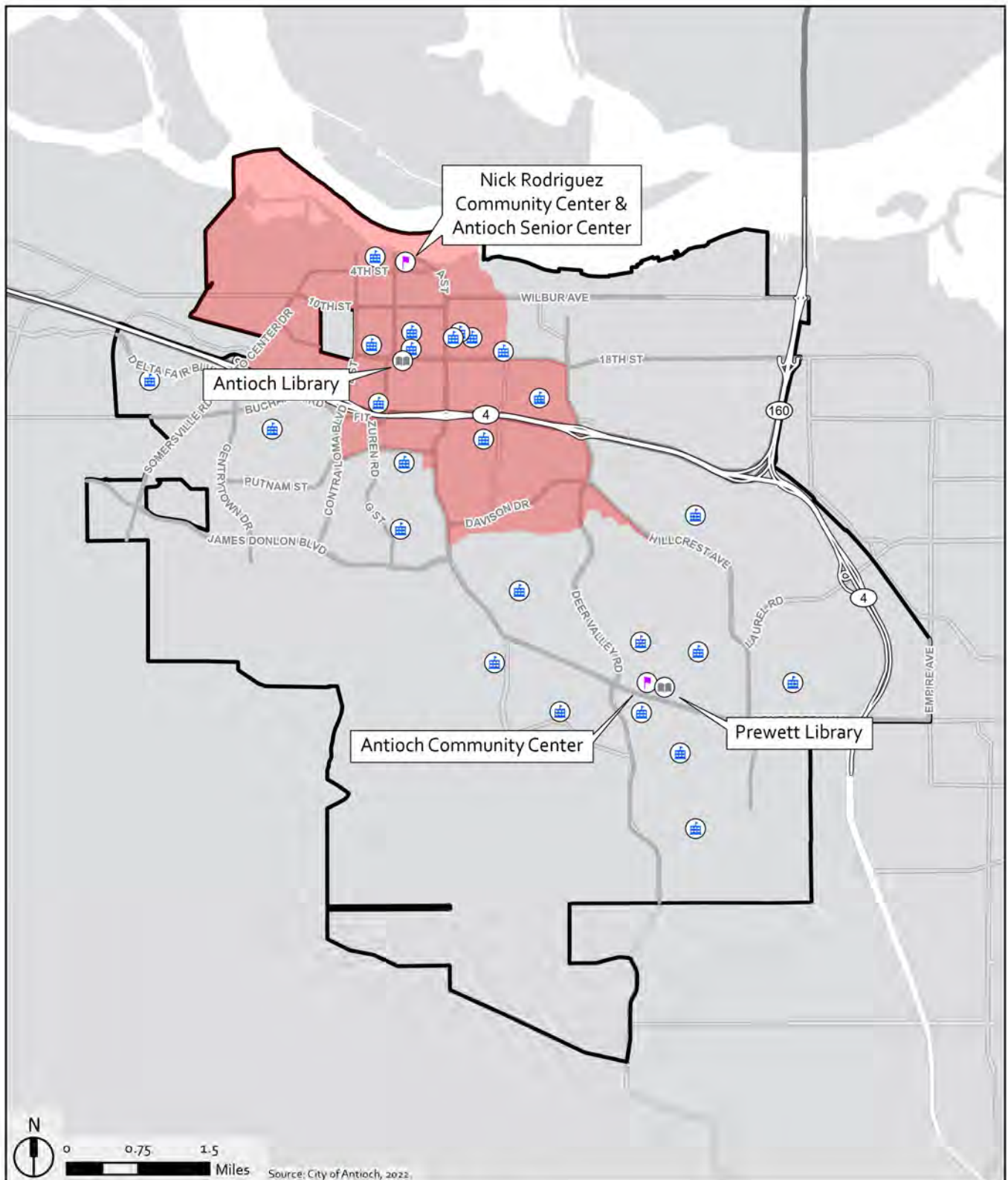


Figure 6-2  
Community Centers, Schools, and Libraries  
City of Antioch Environmental Justice Element

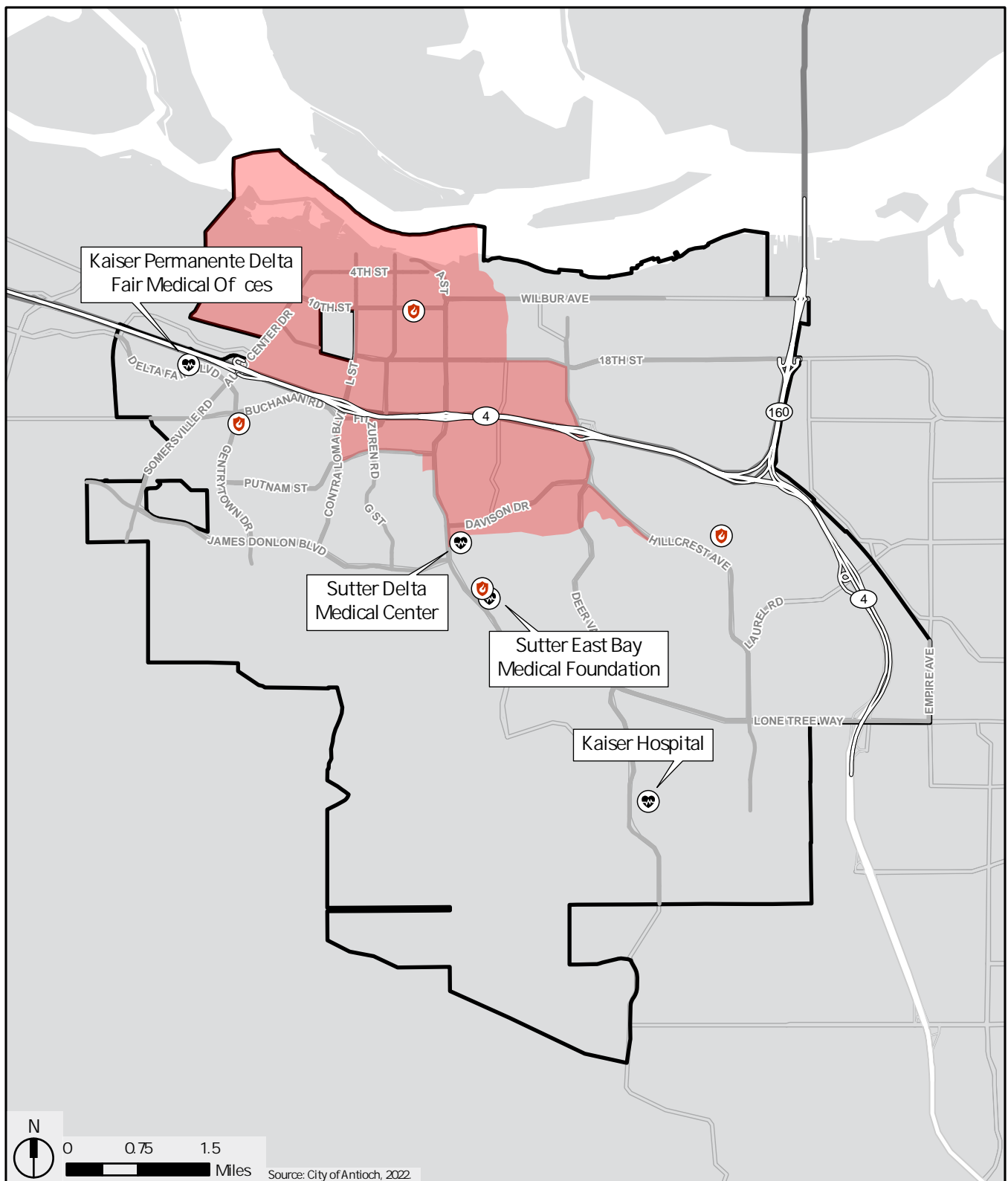


Figure 6-3  
Hospitals and Fire Stations

## 6. PUBLIC FACILITIES

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## 7. Healthy Food Access

Access to healthy foods is a critical determinant in community wellbeing that impacts both health outcomes and overall quality of life. Food security (i.e., a state where people have reliable access to affordable, nutritious foods) is among the most frequently accepted measures of healthy food access. Food security can be measured across three indicators:

- **Access.** Having sufficient resources to obtain food (e.g., affordability and distance).
- **Availability.** Having enough food available (e.g., production).
- **Utilization.** Having appropriate food resources (e.g., nutritious options, water, and sanitation).

Community members may have different food preferences or dietary restrictions. When considering an indicator such as access, it is critical to consider the availability of healthy culturally appropriate foods.

There are opportunities to improve access to healthy foods across the entire food system, from production to consumption. These opportunities can positively impact other EJ issues outside of the food sphere. For example, increasing access to locally produced foods can reduce truck/delivery traffic, and resources like farmers' markets or community gardens can contribute to active public spaces.

### 7.1 Existing Conditions

As depicted in Figure 7-1, several retail food stores exist within and in proximity to EJ Neighborhoods in the City of Antioch. For analysis purposes, retail food stores less than 10,000 square feet are distinguished from those greater than 10,000 square feet to better identify grocery stores offering a wider variety of food options. In the EJ Neighborhoods, there are four food retailers larger than 10,000 square feet: Costco Wholesale, Antioch Food Center, Cielo Supermarket, and Safeway, with additional stores near but not within EJ Neighborhoods as depicted by the figure. There are also 11 smaller food retailers in the EJ Neighborhoods, which typically sell culturally specific foods or convenience goods. As shown in the figure, there are several pockets of the EJ Neighborhoods that are outside of the 0.5-mile Service Area for the major food retailers and a residential pocket in the southeastern region of the EJ Neighborhood that is outside of the 0.5-mile Service area for both major and minor food retailers. In addition to food retail stores, Antioch is also served by the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, which administers a communitywide produce program at 12 locations in Antioch, partners with 15 food pantries, and provides a senior food program.

Feeding America conducts an annual study to estimate the number of food-insecure people and the percentage of the population that experienced food insecurity at some point during a given year. In 2019, Contra Costa County had a reported food insecurity rate of 7.6 percent, among the lowest for California counties. However, Feeding America also found that almost 40 percent of food-insecure individuals (or approximately 34,436 people) in Contra Costa County were ineligible for federal nutrition programs like CalFresh and the Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) because they made gross income above

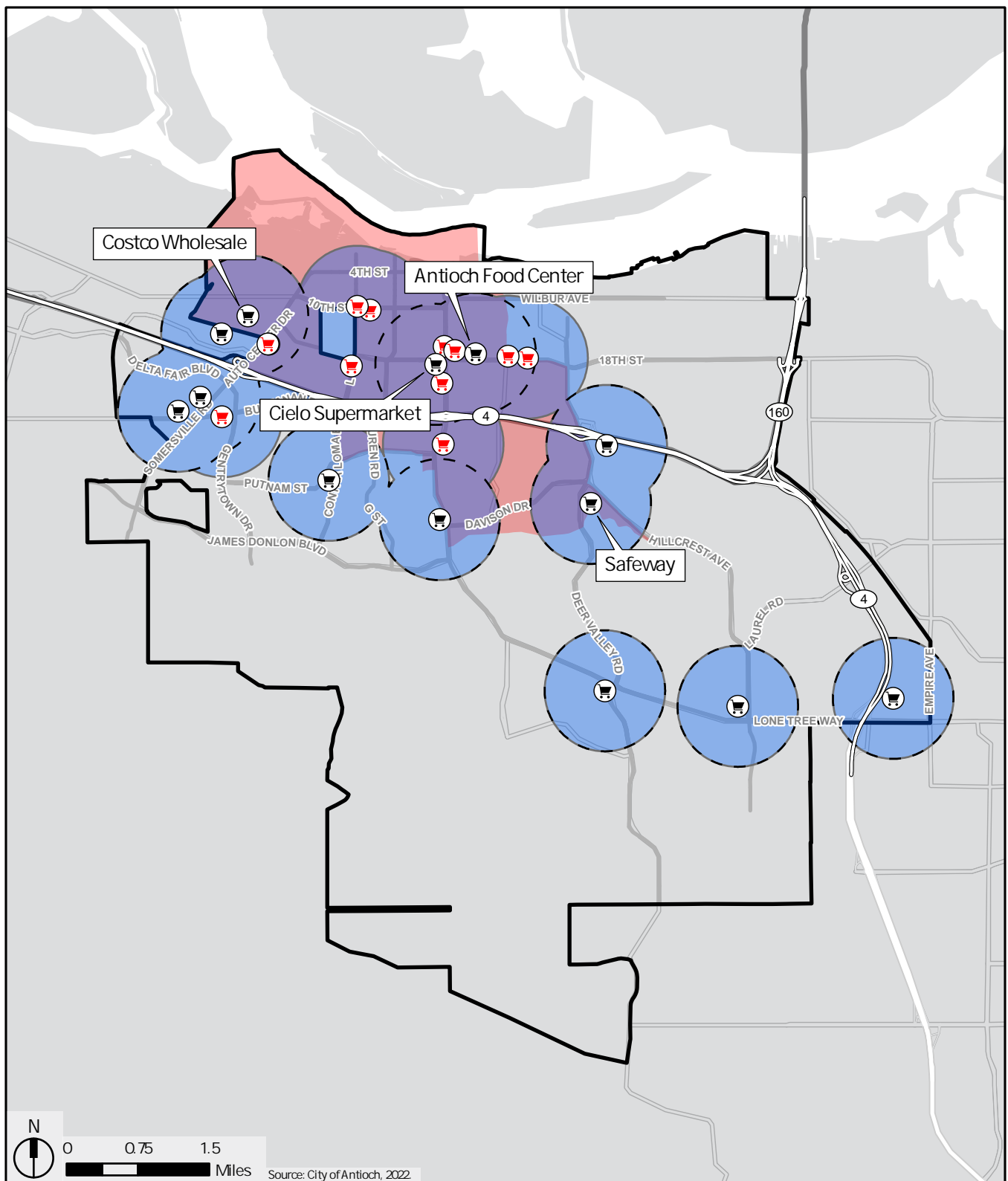
## 7. HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

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the required threshold. When households earn too much to qualify for these programs, they must choose between competing priorities such as housing, utilities, and medical expenses.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hake, M., Engelhard, E., and Dewey, A., 2022. Map the Meal Gap 2022: A Report on County and Congressional District Food Insecurity and County Food Cost in the United States in 2020. Feeding America. July. Available: [https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Map%20the%20Meal%20Gap%202022%20Report\\_0.pdf](https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Map%20the%20Meal%20Gap%202022%20Report_0.pdf). Accessed January 30, 2023.



- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| City Limit       | Retail Food Store Service Area (0.5mi.)                 |
| EJ Neighborhoods | Retail Food Stores >10,000sq. ft. Service Area (0.5mi.) |
| Highways         | Retail Food Stores >10,000sq. ft.                       |
| Major Roads      | Retail Food Stores <10,000sq. ft.                       |

Figure 7-1  
Retail Food Store Access Within 0.5 Miles

City of Antioch Environmental Justice Element

**A50**

## 7. HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

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## 8. Safe and Sanitary Homes

Access to affordable and safe housing was a common issue brought up by residents during the outreach effort. This section provides an overview this topic; however, for a comprehensive analysis of housing issues within the City of Antioch please see the most recent Housing Element.

### 8.1 Cost Burden

Access to affordable housing is a pressing issue for residents within Antioch, especially within the EJ Neighborhoods. Many of the residents being impacted by affordability within EJ Neighborhoods are people of color, specifically Black or Hispanic. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, as discussed previously in the *Chapter 3, Demographics*, Black and Hispanic residents make up between 49 and 70 percent of the population. Additionally, within the EJ Neighborhoods, most census tracts are predominately occupied by renters. Citywide, about 59 percent of renters are spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing, placing them within the cost-burden category.<sup>1</sup>

These trends were reflected in a housing assessment report prepared by local organizations in 2022 called Antioch CHANGE. Based off the report—prepared by First 5 Contra Costa, East County Regional Group, Health & Active Before 5, and Urban Habitat—49 percent of surveyed residents were primarily concerned about affordability, followed by habitability/safety (36 percent) of their living situation.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, 79 percent of residents are worried that their rent may increase, and 68 percent were worried about not being able to pay rent. This stress is due to the fact that surveyed residents spend at least 63 percent of their monthly income on rent, making them severely rent burdened. From the 1,032 surveyed residents, 84 percent reside in North Antioch.

Many severely rent burdened residents are concerned with losing their housing and concerned about experiencing homelessness. Although census tract specific data is not available regarding homelessness, rising housing costs across the bay area during the past couple years have resulted in an increase in homeless population.<sup>3</sup>

### 8.2 Habitability

Habitability was the second biggest concern for the surveyed residents from the Antioch Change report, especially for renters. Renters were three times more likely to identify habitability as a concern compared to homeowners. The most common habitability issues were illegal activity/theft, broken heating/air, plumbing issues, pests/rodents, broken appliances, and mold. There are more likely to occur in older homes, and within Antioch, older homes are primarily located within or near the EJ Neighborhoods.

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<sup>1</sup> City of Antioch, 2015. 2015-2023 Housing Element: Appendix B: Review of Housing Element Past Performance. April 14. Available: <https://www.antiochca.gov/fc/community-development/planning/2015-2023-housing-element.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Gordon, L., Laughlin, R.E., Schildt, C., and Uscilka, A., 2022. Antioch CHANGE: A Community Housing Assessment of Needs, Gaps, and Equity in Antioch, California. June 17. Available: <http://www.first5coco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Antioch-CHANGE-Report-DIGITAL-FINAL-Eng-6.17.22.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Bay Area Economic Institute, 2021. Bay Area Homelessness: New Urgency, New Solutions. June. Available: <http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/files/pdf/HomelessnessReportJune2021.pdf>. Accessed January 30, 2023.



## 8. SAFE AND SANITARY HOMES

Citywide, the median year structures were built 1985. Within EJ Neighborhoods, the median year ranges from 1955 to 1976. See Table 8-1 for more information relating to age of homes.

**TABLE 8-1 MEDIAN YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT BY TENURE**

Housing Tenure	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Total	1984	1956	1955	1958	1975	1976
Owner Occupied	1985	1945	1951	1952	1975	1975
Renter Occupied	1982	1964	1970	1964	1975	1982

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

Renter household sizes in EJ Neighborhoods, except census tract 3050, are denser than citywide trends. This may indicate that renters are more likely to experience overcrowding.

Many residents also face exposure to pollutants, as discussed in *Chapter 5, Pollution Exposure*. Residents face more air pollutants due to their proximity to major transportation networks such as State Route 4. They also are situated near more cleanup sites due to previous industrial uses in the area. Cleanup sites are places that contain harmful chemicals due to previous activity on the site, such as manufacturing, and need to be cleaned up by property owners or government.

Property management is another key component when considering the habitability of place. Based off discussion with residents and community feedback during City Council meetings, residents face rising rents, absent property management, or harassment from landlords at Delta Pine Apartments, Delta View Apartments, and Twin Creeks Apartments. Two of these sites are either within or near EJ Neighborhoods. Many of these residents are strongly supportive of tenant protections such as anti-harassment, just cause eviction, Tenant Opportunity to Purchase, Community Opportunity to Purchase Act, and rent stabilization.

## 9. Mobility

The method which a person moves through the city plays a large role in determining an individual's health. A built environment that offers limited opportunity for exercise and physical activity can result in health issues including obesity, cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and type 2 diabetes. This section briefly discusses issues related to mobility then identifies policies and program to improve active transportation in the city.

### 9.1 Modes of Transportation

As depicted below in Table 9-1, approximately 66 percent of residents citywide drive alone to work, with a mean travel time of 46 minutes. This reflects Antioch's label as a "commuter city" which refers to communities where residents often commute into other parts of the overall region for work. Within the EJ Neighborhoods, between 56 and 68 percent of residents drive alone to work, with the lowest end of that range being in census tract 3072.02. This census tract had the highest percentage of residents carpooling to work at 28 percent, compared to the citywide 17 percent. This census tract also had the highest percentage of residents who walk to work at 8 percent compared to the citywide 1 percent. In addition to these carpool statistics, this census tract also has the lowest per capita and median household income from the EJ Neighborhoods confirming that lower income residents in this area, many of which may live on fixed incomes, generally have lower access to vehicles. Conversely, the highest income census tract, 3080.01, also has the highest percent of owner-occupied units in EJ Neighborhoods. These homeowners are more likely to have access to vehicles and have the longest mean travel time at 53.4 minutes, likely indicating that they are driving to the San Francisco metropolitan area for work.

**TABLE 9-1 MODES OF TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation to Work (Workers 16 or Older)	City	Census Tract 3050	Census Tract 3060.03	Census Tract 3071.02	Census Tract 3072.02	Census Tract 3080.01
Mean Travel Time (minutes)	46.4	48.8	35.7	42.5	37.5	53.4
Drove Alone	65.8%	65.7%	66.6%	72.3%	56.1%	68%
Carpooled	16.9%	23.8%	22.9%	12.6%	27.5%	12%
Public Transit	7.8%	5.2%	1.7%	12%	3.9%	12%
Bicycle	0.2%	0%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%
Walked	1.3%	1.6%	3.9%	0%	7.6%	1%

Source: 2016-2020 ACS 5-Year.

The dependence on private automobiles indicates that the overall transit network does not adequately meet the needs of residents in terms of reliability, frequency, or accessibility. Antioch has an end-of-line BART station which connects the city to the greater San Francisco-Oakland area. The city also has an Amtrak station located within the EJ Neighborhoods at 100 I Street. This service provides a connection to Oakland to the west, Sacramento to the north, and Stockton to the east. While these systems offer commuter service to the larger region, access to and from these systems is difficult without a personal automobile. This is due to the location of the BART station along State Route 4 and the Hillcrest Avenue interchange, which act as barriers for pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as the frequency of bus headways throughout the city.

Tri Delta Transit is the local transit agency which provides bus service to Antioch and East Contra Costa. Many routes throughout the city and EJ Neighborhoods have headways between 30 and 60 minutes, which lack the frequency to encourage ridership. Continued coordination with Tri Delta Transit on potential ways to improve transit accessibility in EJ Neighborhoods and improve connectivity throughout the larger city may incentivize the use of transit instead of single-use vehicle trips. The Amtrak, BART, and Tri Delta Transit bus stations and their 0.25-mile Service Areas are shown on Figure 9-1.

High car usage in the city and EJ Neighborhoods presents additional safety challenges for encouraging the use of more active modes of transportation such as biking or walking. Future streetscape and transportation infrastructure improvements in EJ Neighborhoods that prioritize bicyclists and pedestrians may serve as effective strategies to encouraging active transportation choices by residents. In 2023, the City of Antioch was granted a \$17 million grant from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) to design and construct a suite of bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements based on safer streets initiatives and vision zero policies. Additionally, to improve equitability in mobility options, 76 percent of the anticipated funding will be prioritized in Equity Priority Communities like the City of Antioch L Street corridor between 9th and Sycamore Drive, which is in the EJ Neighborhoods. This includes up to \$13 million towards the planned "L" Street Pathway to Transit-Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements. Equity Priority Communities are defined by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) as census tracts that have a significant concentration of underserved populations. This definition takes into account indicators such as low-income or single-parent households, persons of color, English proficiency, rent burden, and persons with disabilities.<sup>1</sup> A significant portion of the City's Equity Priority Communities are in EJ Neighborhoods.

### 9.2 Health

Studies have shown that people with sedentary lives (spending a majority of the day sitting in a car or watching TV) have higher mortality rates than those that lead more active lifestyles. Exercise plays a crucial role in preventing heart disease and other related conditions associated with sedentary behaviors.<sup>2</sup>

Antioch's EJ Neighborhoods have high rates of cardiovascular disease compared to the rest of the city and the state. According to CalEnviroScreen 4.0, cardiovascular percentages range from 93 to 96 percent. This means that these areas have a higher occurrence of people visiting the emergency room than 93 to 96 percent of census tracts within the state. These existing high rates of cardiovascular disease combined with the city's car-dependency positions the city to continue to experience high rates of cardiovascular disease. Infrastructure improvements within EJ Neighborhoods that improve the safety of active transportation options and recreational opportunities may serve as an opportunity to improve the health and livelihood of many residents.

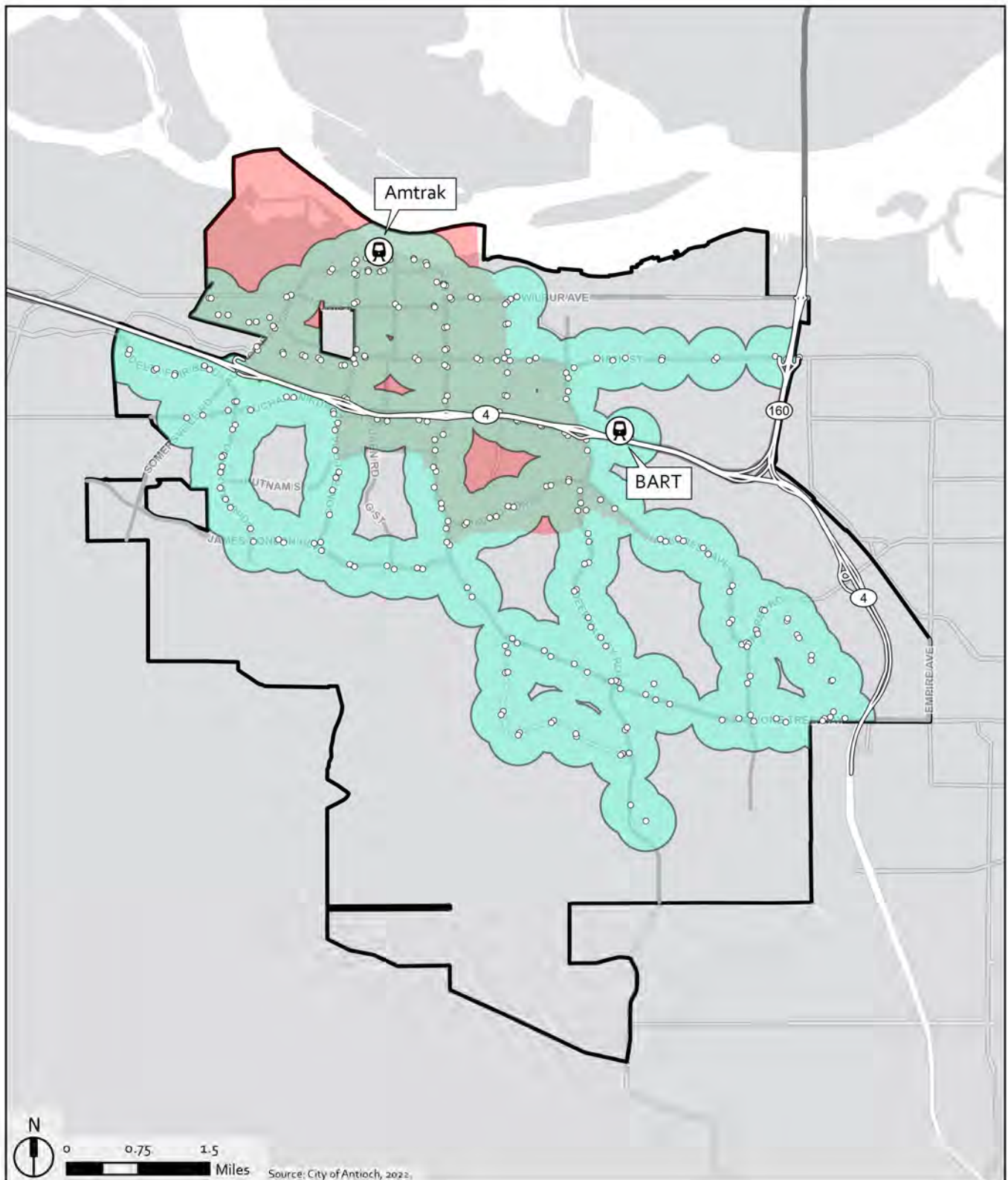
Recreational opportunities such as parks serve as opportunities for Antioch residents to be physically active. In addition to encouraging residents to exercise, parks can improve air quality and serve as community spaces for surrounding neighborhoods. The American Planning Association recommends a

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<sup>1</sup> Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). Equity Priority Communities, n.d. Available: <https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/equity-priority-communities>. Accessed March 3, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, n.d. Preventing Heart Disease. Available: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/disease-prevention/cardiovascular-disease/preventing-cvd/>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

0.5-mile walking distance as a maximum proximity to parks. Under this metric, many areas within the EJ Neighborhoods are lacking parks and require additional parkland. The City Growth Management 3.5.1.2 performance standard states that there should be 5 acres of improved public and/or private neighborhood parks and public community parkland per 1,000 residents. According to the City of Antioch Parks and Recreation Department, there are approximately 337 existing acres of parkland in the city. This falls below the ratio of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. To meet this standard for the existing population, 239 additional acres of parkland are needed.



- |                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| City Limit       | Rail Station                       |
| EJ Neighborhoods | Bus Stops                          |
| Highways         | Bus Stop Service Area (0.25 Miles) |
| Major Roads      |                                    |

Figure 9-1  
Bus Stop Access Within 0.25 Miles

## 10. Goals, Policies, and Programs

Consistent with SB 1000, the goals, policies, and programs included within the EJ Element should:

- A. Reduce the unique or compounded health risks in EJ Neighborhoods by means that include, but are not limited to, the reduction of pollution exposure, including the improvement of air quality, and the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity.
- B. Promote civic engagement in the public decision-making process.
- C. Prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of EJ Neighborhoods.

Accordingly, the following Goals are identified within this Element:

- A. Goal 1: Encourage Meaningful Civil Engagement
- B. Goal 2: Reduce Environmental Hazards
- C. Goal 3: Improve Access to Public Facilities
- D. Goal 4: Improve Access to Healthy Food
- E. Goal 5: Provide Fair, Safe, and Healthy Housing
- F. Goal 6: Mobility and Transit Options

The following programs are organized by goals. Each goal identifies unique policies to satisfy the goal, and each program identifies which policy is being implemented by the program.

### Goal 1: Encourage Meaningful Civil Engagement

Encourage the participation of EJ Neighborhood residents in the civic decision-making process.

**Policy 1.1:** Expand access to the civic decision-making process for lower-income and non-English speaking populations.

**Policy 1.2:** Engage and educate youth in the civic decision-making processes.

**Policy 1.3:** Encourage turnout for local elections and community meetings.

- I.1.1. **Multilingual Interpretation.** Continue to provide live multilingual interpretation services at community meetings and translate all meeting materials and invites to Spanish, Chinese and other languages spoken in the city

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 1.1, Policy 1.3

- I.1.2. **Encourage Public Participation.** Encourage public participation by residents of EJ Neighborhoods in the civic decision-making process.

- Partner with the Contra Costa County Elections Office, and civic organizations to program targeted voter outreach efforts in EJ Neighborhoods to encourage civic engagement in future local, State, and federal elections.

## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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- Ensure information and materials on voter registration and upcoming elections are translated into several languages and made available at community centers and public offices within EJ Neighborhoods.
- Ensure information and materials regarding upcoming public hearings and special meetings are made available at community centers and public offices within EJ Neighborhoods, and translated into Spanish, and Chinese.

Continue to advertise and provide multi-lingual translator services at all public hearings.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Hold first tabling event by 2024.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 1.1, Policy 1.3

- 1.1.3. **Accessible Meetings.** Continue to host regular community meetings and special outreach sessions on weekday nights after 5pm and provide multiple options for participation to maximize engagement.

- Continue to adequately notice hearings and special sessions, translating notice materials into Spanish, Chinese, and other languages as necessary.
- Work with community groups and organizations to advertise and notice hearings and community meetings in EJ Neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 1.1, Policy 1.3

- 1.1.4. **Youth Engagement.** Encourage youth participation in civic engagement activities to provide educational opportunities and foster civic responsibility within EJ Neighborhoods.

- Update the Youth Services page of the City's website to include links to youth services programs' websites and social media accounts.
- Continue to operate the Antioch Council of Teens program which engages youth grades 6 through 12 in community service, social, and civic activities, and target activities in EJ Neighborhoods.
- Continue to partner with Rubicon Programs to operate the Mayor's Apprenticeship Program (MAP) which engages young adults ages 18 to 26 in paid workforce development trainings and part-time work with the Public Works Department; and promote the program in EJ Neighborhoods.
- Continue to operate the Springboard Project, a paid job readiness training and internship program with various City departments for youth in grades 11 and 12.
- Continue the Parks Department's Junior Recreation Leader Program which provides volunteer work experience to youth ages 13 to 15.
- Actively promote the Antioch Council of Teens, Springboard Project, Junior Recreation Leader Program, and MAP to youth in EJ Neighborhoods to encourage participation by these neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy I.2

- 1.1.5. **Outreach Consortium.** Continue to collaborate with nonprofits and community-based organizations (CBOs) throughout the city to provide outreach and educational opportunities to EJ Neighborhoods regarding civic events, upcoming City meetings, and elections.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy I.4

### Goal 2: Improve Environmental Conditions

Improve environmental conditions for residents within EJ Neighborhoods to address the compounded health hazards related to environmental pollution in these areas.

**Policy 2.1:** Improve air and water quality within EJ Neighborhoods.

**Policy 2.2:** Provide public resources and information on environmental hazards.

**Policy 2.3:** Encourage redevelopment and planning activities which address health hazards in EJ Neighborhoods, such as the clean-up of contaminated sites.

**Policy 2.4:** Mitigate and prepare for the effects of climate change.

- 2.1.1. **Climate Action Resilience Plan.** Continue to implement and periodically update the City's Climate Action Resilience Plan (CARP) to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing implementation and periodic updates.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1, Policy 2.4

- 2.1.2. **Environmental Hazards Element.** Continue to implement and periodically update the City's Environmental Hazards Element to evaluate and plan for natural and human influenced environmental conditions which may pose health and safety risks to residents of the City, and disproportionately affect vulnerable populations within EJ Neighborhoods.

- Continue to review development proposals for consistency and compliance with the goals, objectives and policies of the Environmental Hazards Element.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division; Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing implementation and periodic updates.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1, Policy 2.3



## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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- 2.1.3. **Environmental Resources Webpage.** Continue to utilize the City's [Environmental Sustainability and Resilience](#) webpage to distribute information regarding the City's various programs intended to create a cleaner, healthier community.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Regular updates to webpage as necessary.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.2

- 2.1.4. **Environmental Mapping Data.** Post environmental hazard maps on the City of Antioch Geospatial Information Science (GIS) page for the following categories: Earthquakes, Severe Weather, Landslides, Floods, Droughts, Dam and Levee Failure, Wildfire, and Sea Level Rise. Provide the GIS data used to create the maps hosted on ArcGIS Online.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, GIS Division

Implementation Schedule: Provide the GIS maps and data layers by 2024.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.2

- 2.1.5. **Commercial and Municipal Compost.** Continue to promote compost activities within the city which are intended to reduce the amount of organic waste that ends up in landfills.

- Continue to advertise compost resources via the City's Environmental Sustainability and Resilience webpage, including free two-hour home composting workshops offered through Contra Costa County.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1

- 2.1.6. **Commercial Energy Efficiency.** Continue to encourage commercial energy efficiency as described by the City's CARP, by providing business owners within EJ Neighborhoods with information regarding energy efficiency; and advertising financial resources available to business owners including but limited to:

- The City's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, which provides property owners with to finance a variety of improvements such as solar installations, energy efficient windows, and on-demand water heaters, by attaching financing to their property tax bill.
- The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)'s Business FLEXmarket which offers incentives to small and medium businesses owners to fund energy improvements such as HVAC, refrigeration, LED lighting, and water heating, among others.
- East Bay Energy Watch's technical energy assessments and improvement guidance, available to residents and businesses throughout Alameda and Contra Costa County.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> East Bay Energy Watch. n.d. East Bay Energy Watch. Available: <https://www.ebew.org/>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

- California Green Business Network which helps businesses identify and implement energy saving solutions which can result in cost-saving, and market competitiveness.
- Contra Costa Water District's commercial and multi-family water efficiency programs which provide rebates and coupons to multi-family properties and businesses related to landscaping and irrigation, laundry facilities, and restroom facilities.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division; Economic Development Department

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.3

- 2.1.7. **Indoor Air Quality.** Continue to maintain and improve indoor air quality throughout the city to address pollution shocks and baseline air pollution as described by the CARP.

- Identify cooling centers within EJ Neighborhoods for expansion into clean air centers to provide locations for persons during periods of poor air quality due to wildfire or other incidents.
- Continue to seek grants and support current efforts to improve the air quality in older homes where mold, mildew, and other contaminants may be present.
- Continue to promote information in EJ neighborhoods related to safe housing resources available to residents, including but not limited to materials from Costa County's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, and the city's Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1

- 2.1.8. **Outdoor Air Quality Monitors.** Continue to work with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to provide street-level air quality monitors in EJ Neighborhoods to better understand the localized air pollution burdens as described by the City's Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP).

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Engineering Division

Implementation Schedule: Continue to work with BAAQMD on potential future air quality monitors.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.2

- 2.1.9. **Emergency Alert System.** Continue to provide electronic emergency notification systems which notify residents of significant emergency events impacting the city, including the City's [Emergency Internet Notification System \(EINS\)](#) and County's [Contra Costa County Community Warning System \(CWS\)](#) when hazardous conditions occur.

- Update the City website page to provide information on the CWS siren and provide a link to the CWS registration page.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.2

- 2.1.10. **Quiet Zones.** Identify potential quiet zones in Antioch for consideration of conversion into a quiet zone, as defined by the Federal Railroad Association, as outlined by the [Downtown Antioch Specific Plan](#). Quiet Zones are sections of rail lines at least 0.5 miles in length that contain one or more consecutive public highway-rail grade crossings in which locomotive horns are not sounded.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Capital Improvements Division

Implementation Schedule: Identify potential quiet zones as part of the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1

- 2.1.11. **Toxic Sites.** Continue to work with local, State, and federal agencies to identify sources of funding for the clean-up and reuse of contaminated sites in EJ Neighborhoods to protect human and environmental health. Identify and prioritize contaminated sites for remediation in consultation with the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) Cortese List.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Capital Improvements Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1, Policy 2.2

- 2.1.12. **Encourage Redevelopment and Planning Activities.** Continue to encourage redevelopment and planning activities in EJ Neighborhoods which are intended to address health hazards in EJ Neighborhoods as outlined by the [Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative Strategic Action Plan \(2019\)](#), the ["Reinvest Antioch" Economic Development Program, Action Plan, and Toolkit \(2022\)](#), and the [Downtown Specific Plan](#). Activities may include but are not limited to:
- Work directly with landowners in the clean-up of brownfield sites, particularly in areas with redevelopment potential.
  - Assume a leadership role in enhancing environmental quality in the City by coordinating the remediation of former industrial and commercial sites, with property owners and by facilitating site redevelopment.
  - Ensure that soil and groundwater pollution is addressed during redevelopment and reuse projects.
  - Encourage rehabilitation and revegetation of riparian corridors and wetlands throughout the City to contribute to bioremediation and improved water quality.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Capital Improvements Division; Community Development Department, Planning Division; Economic Development Department

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1, Policy 2.2, Policy 2.3

- 2.1.13. **Neighborhood Clean-up Initiatives.** Continue to collaborate with the City's Code Enforcement Division, Republic Waste Services, and other organizations to hold clean-up initiatives within EJ Neighborhoods, with residents to provide opportunities for responsible dispose of unwanted debris, and household items.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Code Enforcement Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1

- 2.1.14. **NPDES Compliance and Permit.** Continue to comply with the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit procedures and promote such procedures on the City's website.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Sewer Collection Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.1, Policy 2.2

### Goal 3: Improve Access to Public Facilities

Ensure that all communities have safe and reliable access to high quality public facilities such as schools, libraries, parks, and hospitals.

**Policy 3.1:** Ensure public facilities are accessible to all residents.

**Policy 3.2:** Maintain and improve the quality of existing public facilities and services.

**Policy 3.3:** Provide additional public facilities and services within EJ Neighborhoods.

- 3.1.1. **Park Safety.** Install additional lighting and design features to improve the safety and condition of parks in EJ Neighborhoods and encourage increased utilization by residents.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Parks Division, Capital Improvements Division

Implementation Schedule: Identify locations for safety improvements as part of the City's 5 Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 3.2

- 3.1.2. **Maintain Existing Public Facilities.** Similar to the [Antioch Parks Assessment Report \(2015\)](#), coordinate with CBOs, non-profits, and other organizations to survey residents of EJ Neighborhoods to identify potential safety and usability improvements to public facilities such as parks, community centers, and libraries. Work with City departments to program and prioritize identified improvements in EJ Neighborhoods as determined necessary and feasible.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Parks Division, Capital Improvements Division; Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Identify locations for facility improvements as part of the City's CIP.

## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 3.1, Policy 3.2

- 3.1.3. **Plan and Design Accessible Public Facilities and Services.** Continue to provide equitable access to public facilities and services to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities and special needs.
- Continue to implement the objectives and policies of the Public Services and Facilities Element of the City's General Plan to provide for the provision of public facilities throughout the city which are accessible to all residents.
  - Continue to implement the General Policies outlined by the City's Policy for Ensuring Equitable Access to Inclusive Play Environments in Parks and Public Spaces, including improvements to existing and the development of new recreational facilities within EJ Neighborhoods located in the northwestern portion of the city. This includes the planned construction of a fully inclusive playground at City of Antioch Park as described by the Policy, and the upgrading of an existing Tier 2 park in the northwestern portion of the City.
  - Continue to implement policies included within the City's Policy for Inclusion in Parks and Recreation Programs for People of all Abilities to reasonably accommodate people with disabilities in recreation programs.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Parks Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 3.3

- 3.1.4. **Utilize Vacant Buildings and Parcels.** Coordinate with CBOs, non-profits, and other organizations to identify public services and/or facilities desired by residents of EJ Neighborhoods, and identify potential vacant and underutilized parcels within EJ Neighborhoods for redevelopment into public facilities as identified by residents and stakeholders.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Parks Division, GIS Division; Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Coordinate alongside the City's upcoming Comprehensive General Plan Update.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 3.3

- 3.1.5. **Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity to Facilities.** Improve pedestrian connectivity around schools, libraries, parks, and hospitals within EJ Neighborhoods to ensure safe travel to and from public facilities.
- Survey existing sidewalk connections in EJ Neighborhoods to identify potential improvements to safety and connectivity with public facilities.
  - Prioritize implementation of improvements such as ADA compliant upgrades, lighting, and crosswalks, as determined necessary in EJ Neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Parks Division, Capital Improvements Division

Implementation Schedule: Coordinate alongside the City's upcoming Comprehensive General Plan Update.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 3.1, Policy 3.3

### Goal 4: Improve Access to Healthy Food

Ensure that all residents have access to a diverse supply of affordable, and healthy, food options.

**Policy 4.1:** Increase the number of grocery facilities within EJ Neighborhoods that provide fresh produce, meat, and other food essentials.

**Policy 4.2:** Improve resident access to healthy food options within EJ Neighborhoods.

4.1.1. **Farmers' Markets.** Collaborate with local organizations like Fresh Approach's Mobile Farmers' Market and the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association (PCFMA) to expand reoccurring farmers' markets in proximity to EJ Neighborhoods.

- Support Fresh Approach's Mobile Farmers' Market<sup>2</sup> weekly operations at Antioch Senior Center, or similar locations in proximity to EJ Neighborhoods.
- Coordinate with Fresh Approach, PCFMA and other organizations to ensure farmers' markets to accept the Women, Infants and Children Farmers Market Nutrition Program (WIC FMNP), the CalFresh Electronic Benefit (EBT), and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), and other forms of food assistance programs.
- Coordinate with local restaurants and businesses on participation in regular farmers' markets by providing a copy of market rules and regulations, including the stall fee schedule, and encouraging participation by a variety of vendors.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Continue Fresh Approach's weekly mobile farmers' market and initiate collaboration with the PCFMA to identify potential locations for additional markets in EJ Neighborhoods.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 4.1, Policy 4.2

4.1.2. **Urban Agriculture.** Continue to encourage and promote the development of urban farming operations within the City of Antioch, to provide for more sustainable, integrated agricultural production as identified by the City's CARP.

- Encourage the development of community urban agriculture programs within EJ Neighborhoods by assisting CBOs and developers in accessing available financial and technical incentives available through organizations like the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- Collaborate with the Antioch Unified School District and educational institutions in the city to provide educational curriculum and opportunities in urban and sustainable agriculture.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

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<sup>2</sup> Fresh Approach, n.d. Mobile Farmer's Market. Available: <https://www.freshapproach.org/mobilemarket/>. Accessed February 28, 2023.

## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Plan

Implements: Policy 4.1

- 4.1.3. **Promote Food Affordability Programs.** Continue to promote available food and grocery resources for lower-income families on the City's website such as [Meals on Wheels Diablo Region](#), [Loaves and Fishes Antioch](#), and [Food Bank of Contra Costa County](#).
- Provide on the City website a list of all grocery stores and farmers' markets within Antioch that accept vouchers such as CalFresh EBT cards, WIC cards, SFMNP, and financial assistance programs.

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Regular updates to City website.

Funding Source: General Plan

Implements: Policy 4.2

- 4.1.4. **Incentivize New Grocery Stores.** Coordinate with the City's Economic Development Department and partners to encourage the development of grocery stores in EJ Neighborhoods.
- Survey residents of EJ Neighborhoods to further identify the grocery needs and preferences of the community.
  - Identify potential opportunity sites within EJ Neighborhoods for siting of grocery uses.
  - Evaluate zoning regulations within EJ Neighborhoods for potential constraints to the development of grocery uses in the area.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Coordinate alongside the City's upcoming Comprehensive General Plan Update.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 4.1

### Goal 5: Provide Fair, Safe, and Healthy Housing

Ensure that residents have access to safe and healthy living conditions.

**Policy 5.1:** Preserve and improve the existing housing stock.

**Policy 5.2:** Educate tenants and landlords regarding fair and safe housing resources.

**Policy 5.3:** Enforce fair and safe housing practices.

- 5.1.1. **Residential Energy Efficiency.** Continue to encourage residential energy efficiency and home improvements as described by the City's CARP, by providing residents and landlords within EJ Neighborhoods with information regarding energy efficiency; and advertising financial resources available to landlords, renters, and homeowners to fund improvements including but limited to:

- The City's PACE program, which provides property owners with to finance a variety of improvements such as solar installations, energy efficient windows, and on-demand water heaters, by attaching financing to their property tax bill.<sup>3</sup>
- The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), which offers financial rebates to homeowners and multi-family property owners to fund energy improvements such as induction cooktops, heat pump water heaters, weather sealing, among others.
- Contra Costa County's Weatherization Program, a federal- and State-funded program that assists lower and fixed income persons, whether they rent or own, in making energy efficiency upgrades to their homes.<sup>4</sup>
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)'s California Alternate Rates for Energy Program (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA) which provide monthly discounts to income eligible residents to assist them in paying their energy bills.<sup>5</sup>
- Contra Costa Water District's residential water efficiency programs which provide rebates and coupons to residences related to the District's Smart Home Water Monitoring system, landscaping and irrigation, laundry to landscape services, pool covers, and car washes.<sup>6</sup>

Responsible Agency: Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Environmental Resources Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 2.3, 2.4

- 5.1.2. **Targeted Code Enforcement.** Continue routine Code Enforcement activities, as complaints are received throughout the city, as well as an annual survey of multifamily residential properties within EJ Neighborhoods as outlined by the Housing Element of the General Plan. Property surveys should evaluate external property conditions for evidence of life safety and public health violations, unpermitted construction, and deteriorated buildings. Code enforcement is performed on a survey and complaint basis, with staff responding to public inquiries as needed.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Code Enforcement Division

Implementation Schedule:

- Ongoing routine enforcement survey activities and complaint basis, with staff responding to public inquiries as needed.
- Annually survey multi-family developments in the EJ Neighborhoods for life safety and public health violations.

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<sup>3</sup> City of Antioch, n.d. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE). Available: <https://www.antiochca.gov/pscr/environmental-resources/pace/>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Contra Costa County, 2023. Weatherization. Available: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/4336/Weatherization>. Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> PG&E. n.d. CARE and FERA Enrollment. Available: [https://www.pge.com/en\\_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page](https://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page). Accessed January 30, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Contra Costa Water District. n.d. Rebates and Coupons. Available: <https://www.ccwater.com/157/Rebates-and-Coupons>. Accessed January 30, 2023.



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Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 5.3

- 5.1.3. **Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement.** Promote the distribution of information regarding available fair housing resources, to residents and landlords in EJ Neighborhoods, and target enforcement activities in these areas as necessary.

- Continue to update the City's Housing and Homelessness website with information regarding tenant and landlord rights within the city and state of California, including the recently adopted [Rent Stabilization Ordinance \(2022\)](#).
- Continue to partner with ECHO Housing, Bay Area Legal Aid, and other similar organizations to provide fair housing and tenant/landlord counseling services within EJ Neighborhoods.
- Continue to ensure electronic and print fair housing materials are translated and provided in multiple languages to increase accessibility of information.
- Continue to implement programs included within the Housing Element of the General Plan intended to address fair housing issues and housing needs within EJ Neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Code Enforcement Division; Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Housing Programs Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 5.2

- 5.1.4. **Safe Housing Resources and Outreach.** Continue to promote housing rehabilitation and repair resources which are available to renters, homeowners, and landlords in the city, such as the [City of Antioch Housing Rehabilitation program](#), and [Contra Costa County's Weatherization Program](#) to address housing concerns within EJ Neighborhoods.

- Work with CBOs and non-profits to target outreach and advertising of such resources in EJ Neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Code Enforcement Division; Public Safety and Community Resources Department, Housing Programs Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 5.2

- 5.1.5. **Tenant Protections.** Continue to implement programs included within the Housing Element of the General Plan related the development of citywide tenant protection policies for consideration and potential adoption by City Council, including but not limited to anti-harassment, just cause eviction, Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA), Community Opportunity to Purchase Act (COPA), and rent stabilization.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Code Enforcement Division; City Attorney's Office

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 5.3

### Goal 6: Mobility and Transit Options

Provide accessible multi-modal mobility options for residents of EJ Neighborhoods to achieve and maintain a balanced, safe transportation system that increases health, safety, and connectivity throughout Antioch.

**Policy 6.1:** Decrease transportation's impact on the environment.

**Policy 6.2:** Improve safety, connectivity, and reliability across multiple modes of transportation.

- 6.1.1. **Bike Racks and Lockers.** Construct covered bike racks and lockers at all public buildings such as City Hall and Antioch Library. Partner with Antioch Unified School District to identify facilities that need bike amenities.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division; Public Works Department, Capital Improvements Division

Implementation Schedule: Regularly identify locations for bike rack and locker improvements within public facilities as part of the City's CIP.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 6.1

- 6.1.2. **Bike Lanes.** Work with local and regional partners to identify roadways within EJ Neighborhoods for bike lane improvements. Select routes that connect residential areas to schools, libraries, and parks to create safe routes to these facilities.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Capital Improvements Division; Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Regularly identify locations for bike improvements as part of the City's CIP.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 6.1

- 6.1.3. **Transit Availability.** Continue to work with local, regional, and State transit agencies to provide and improve transit options and connectivity throughout EJ Neighborhoods and the entire city.

- Continue to collaborate with Tri Delta Transit to identify bus route concepts and system improvements which improve city-wide connectivity, especially to the Antioch BART station. Identify locations of new bus stops, possible re-routes, and other improvements.
- Continue to partner with Tri Delta Transit to continue applying for federal grants to expand the agency's zero-emission electric bus fleet.
- Continue to implement policies included within the Circulation Element of the General Plan which are intended to maintain a safe, reliable, inter-connected transit system.
- Promote the [Regional Transit Connection \(RTC\) Discount ID Card](#) which is available to persons with qualifying disabilities and provides discounted fares for fixed route, rail, and ferry systems throughout the Bay Area.

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division

Implementation Schedule: Continue coordination with Tri Delta Transit and other transit providers to

## 10. GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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identify necessary system improvements and funding opportunities when available.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 6.2, Policy 6.3

- 6.1.4. **Complete Streets.** Continue to encourage the design, construction, and maintenance of safe transportation facilities that accommodate a diversity of mobility types, including bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Complete an updated Citywide Engineering and Traffic Survey to identify unsafe facilities and intersections within EJ Neighborhoods. Prioritize improvements in EJ Neighborhoods to reduce the likelihood of accidents and fatalities.
  - Continue to implement policies included within the Circulation Element of the General Plan which are intended to maintain a safe, reliable, inter-connected system of multi-modal transportation options.
  - Continue to require public and private investments in EJ Neighborhoods to follow the Streetscape Design Guidelines included within the City's Design Guidelines.
  - Continue to implement the [City's Traffic Calming Policy](#) and prioritize applications for traffic calming measures in EJ Neighborhoods.
  - Proactively identify bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects within EJ Neighborhoods—which increase safety and connectivity to public facilities such as schools, parks, and libraries—for inclusion and prioritization within the City's CIP.
  - Continue to partner with local and regional organizations such as Contra Costa County Transportation Authority and Street Smarts Diablo Region to provide bicycle and pedestrian safety programs and improvements in EJ Neighborhoods, such as the planned "L" Street Pathway to Transit-Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements, and [Antioch Bicycle Garden](#).

Responsible Agency: Community Development Department, Planning Division; Public Works Department, Engineering Division

Implementation Schedule: Ongoing.

Funding Source: General Fund

Implements: Policy 6.3

URBAN  
PLANNING  
PARTNERS  
INC.

**CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION # 2023/15**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANTIOCH  
CERTIFYING THE HOUSING ELEMENT EIR AND ADOPTING CEQA FINDINGS, A  
STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS AND A MITIGATION  
MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), in conjunction with the State CEQA Guidelines, requires that certain projects be reviewed for environmental impacts;

**WHEREAS**, before the City Council may consider recommendations on approval of any or all of the Housing Element activities it must first consider that the EIR has been prepared in compliance with CEQA and pursuant to requirements of CEQA Guidelines section 15090;

**WHEREAS**, on November 8, 2021, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3 ("CEQA Guidelines"), the City prepared a Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the City of Antioch 6th Cycle Housing Element ("Housing Element" or "Project");

**WHEREAS**, the Notice of Preparation was circulated to and available for comment by local, state, and federal agencies and other interested parties between November 8, 2021 and December 8, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the City held a public scoping meeting on the Draft EIR on November 17, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2022, the city prepared and circulated for public comment the Draft EIR for the Housing Element;

**WHEREAS**, the public review period on the Draft EIR ran from September 2, 2022 to October 17, 2022, for a total of 45 days of review;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15088 and 15089, the city, as lead agency under CEQA, has completed the Final EIR for the Housing Element,

**WHEREAS**, the City prepared written responses to the comments received during the comment period, which together with revisions to the DEIR and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and the DEIR constitutes the Final EIR ("FEIR");

**WHEREAS**, this document contains the City's certification of the EIR, its CEQA findings, and its statement of overriding considerations supporting approval of the Project considered in the EIR. The Final EIR is State Clearinghouse No. 2021110146;

**WHEREAS**, all of the documents referenced in the recitals above are incorporated by reference and can be found on the City of Antioch's web site at <https://www.antiochca.gov/community-development-department/planning-division/housing-element-docs/>;

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on January 4, 2023, considered all public comments received, the presentation by City staff, the staff report, and all other pertinent documents regarding the proposed request and adopted Resolution 2023-01-recommending that the City Council certify the Housing Element EIR and adopt CEQA findings, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program;

**WHEREAS**, on January 12, 2023 a public hearing notice was published in the East County Times and posted in three public places pursuant to California Government Code Section 65090 for the City Council public hearing on January 24, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held a public hearing on January 24, 2023, considered all public comments received, the presentation by City staff, the staff report, and all other pertinent documents regarding the proposed request.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED** that the City Council of the City of Antioch finds as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and together with the staff report and the application materials, including without limitation the FEIR, and all other documents, reports, studies, memoranda, maps, oral and written testimony, and materials in the City's file for the applications and the Project, and all adopted City planning documents relating to the Project and all associated approved and certified environmental documents, have together served as an adequate and appropriate evidentiary basis for the findings and actions set forth in this Resolution.

2. The City of Antioch is the lead agency under CEQA for preparing the FEIR, and is the entity with final decision-making authority, as defined in Section 15356 of the CEQA Guidelines, with regard to approval of the Project

3. The FEIR for the project was presented to the City Council, that the FEIR was prepared, published, circulated, reviewed and completed in full compliance with State law and CEQA Guidelines, that there was adequate public review of the DEIR, that it has considered all comments on the DEIR and responses to comments, that the FEIR adequately discusses all significant environmental issues, and that the FEIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the City Council. The City Council further finds that

it has reviewed and considered the information in the FEIR prior to making the following findings.

4. The information added in the FEIR does not constitute significant new information requiring recirculation, but rather that additional information clarifies or amplifies an adequate EIR.

5. Pursuant to CEQA section 21081.6 and CEQA Guidelines section 15091, and in support of its recommendation of approval of the Project, the City Council has reviewed and considered the CEQA Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Project, attached hereto as Exhibit A incorporated herein by reference, finds that such Findings of Fact are supported by substantial evidence.

6. Pursuant to CEQA Section 21081.6 and CEQA Guidelines section 15091 and in support of its approval of the Project the City Council has reviewed and considered the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) that requires all mitigation measures described in the FEIR be implemented by means of Project conditions, agreements or other measures, as set forth in the MMRP, attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference.

7. The record of proceedings is available for review by responsible agencies and interested members of the public during normal business hours at 200 H St, Antioch, CA 94509. The custodian of these documents is the City of Antioch's City Clerk.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Housing Element Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is hereby CERTIFIED and the CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations (Exhibit A), and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (EXHIBIT B) are ADOPTED pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Antioch at a regular meeting thereof held on the 24th day of January 2023, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Council Members District 3 Ogorchock, District 4 Wilson, Mayor  
Pro Tem (District 1) Torres-Walker, and Mayor Thorpe  
**NOES:** Barbanica District 2  
**ABSENT:** None

  
**ELIZABETH HOUSEHOLDER**  
**CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF ANTIOCH**

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS**



## STATEMENT OF FINDINGS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) AND STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS

The following findings of fact and statement of overriding considerations have been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Res. Code section 21000 et seq; "CEQA") and the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs. title 14, section 15000 et seq.) by Urban Planning Partners for the City of Antioch in connection with the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the Housing, Environmental Hazards, and Environmental Justice Elements (the Project), SCH #2021110146. These CEQA findings are attached and incorporated by reference into each and every staff report, resolution and ordinance associated with approval the project. These findings are based on substantial evidence in the entire administrative record and references to specific reports and specific pages of documents are not intended to identify those sources as the exclusive basis for the findings.

### A. BACKGROUND

The Project is being proposed by the City of Antioch (City) to comply with California Government Code Section 65580-65589.8, which requires local jurisdictions to update the Housing Element of their General Plans every eight years to adequately plan for the regional housing needs of residents of all income groups. The Project includes the following components:

- **Housing Element.** Adoption and implementation of the City's 6th Cycle Housing Element Update (2023-2031), including the adoption and implementation of rezoning and General Plan amendments to accommodate the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).
- **Environmental Hazards Element.** Adoption and implementation of related updates to the City's Environmental Hazards Element.
- **Environmental Justice (EJ) Element.** Adoption and implementation of associated EJ General Plan policies per Senate Bill (SB) 1000.

These three actions are together considered a "Project" under CEQA regulations.

The Draft EIR analyzed the development of up to 4,575 housing units, a scenario slightly different from what is currently proposed. As a result of comments received on the DEIR during the public comment review period, as well as the city's ongoing planning efforts which necessitate project

updates, the revised project numbers increase the maximum housing units by 306 units to 4,881 units.

The revisions to the Project were considered in this Final EIR and found that none of the proposed revisions have the potential to modify the Draft EIR findings relative to significant impacts and mitigation measures for any of the topics considered in the Draft EIR. Additionally, none of the proposed revisions would trigger the need for new or different mitigation. As such, the project revisions are not "significant new information" triggering recirculation under CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

Pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, the city circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) that briefly described the Project and the environmental topics that would be evaluated in the EIR. The NOP was published on November 8, 2021, and the public comment period for the scope of the EIR lasted from November 8, 2021, to December 8, 2021. The NOP was also sent to responsible and trustee agencies, organizations, and interested individuals. Additionally, the NOP was sent to the State Clearinghouse. One public scoping session was held for the project in conjunction with the Planning Commission meeting on November 17, 2021. Comments received by the city on the NOP at the public scoping meeting were taken into account during the preparation of the EIR. Comments received included comments encouraging infill development in Antioch and to use applicable state regulations related to transportation and tribal consultation. The NOP and the written public review comments are included in Appendix A of the Draft EIR.

The Final EIR analyzes the project's potential environmental impacts to land use and planning; transportation; air quality; greenhouse gas emissions; energy; cultural and tribal resources; aesthetics; biological resources; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise; population and housing; public services and recreation; utilities and service systems; wildfire; and agricultural and forestry resources. The environmental topics not warranting detailed evaluation included mineral resources and is considered under Effects Found Not to be Significant in the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR was made available for public review on September 2, 2022 and distributed to applicable local and State agencies. Copies of the Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR (NOA) were mailed to all individuals previously requesting to be notified of the Draft EIR, in addition to those agencies and individuals who received a copy of the NOP. Copies of the Draft EIR were also distributed to appropriate state and local agencies and made available for public review at City Hall and on the City's website.

The public comment period for the Draft EIR ended on October 17, 2022. Only three local/State agencies provided comments on the Draft EIR during the public review period.

With this background in mind, the City Council of the City of Antioch (Council) makes the following findings concerning the environmental impacts of the project, the feasibility of the project alternatives, and the benefits of the project that override the significant and unavoidable impacts of the project.

## **B. FINDINGS CONCERNING SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

The Final EIR identifies certain potentially significant effects that could result from the Project. The Final EIR analyzes the Project's potential environmental impacts to land use and planning; transportation; air quality; greenhouse gas emissions; energy; cultural and tribal resources; aesthetics; biological resources; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise; population and housing; public services and recreation; utilities and service systems; wildfire; and agricultural and forestry resources. The Final EIR identified significant environmental effects in the areas of air quality and transportation.

These topics are discussed below. The mitigation measures described below will be imposed as conditions of approval on the Project. The City finds that the inclusion of these mitigation measures as part of project approval could reduce impacts on air quality to levels that are less than significant, but not transportation impacts.

As described in greater detail below, after implementation of all feasible mitigation measures, the Project could result in the following significant and unavoidable impacts, which will be overridden by the specific considerations that are described in this document's conclusion in Section D of this document:

- **Impact TRANS-1:** Implementation of the Project would generate home-based VMT per resident that is greater than 85 percent of the citywide average home-based VMT per resident. (S)Construction-generated noise would create a substantial temporary increase in the noise environments at surrounding uses including public and residential uses (Impact TRANS-1).

While **Impact TRANS-1** could be reduced to a less-than-significant level, the effectiveness of the above associated mitigation measures in reducing an individual project's VMT impact to a less-than-significant level cannot be determined in this analysis. Therefore, the impact for projects which do not screen out from VMT impact analysis would conservatively remain significant and unavoidable with mitigation.

## 1. Air Quality

### a. Project-Level Construction Emissions

**Impact AIR-1:** Construction of residential projects with more than 114 single-family units or 240 multi-family units has the potential to result in criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions above the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD's) recommended thresholds of significance for construction. (S)

**Mitigation Measure AIR-1: Residential Construction Controls for Criteria Air Pollutants.**

For construction of residential projects with more than 114 single-family units or 240 multi-family units, the project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce the project's criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions below the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD's) recommended thresholds of significance. Emission reduction measures may include, but are not limited to, the use of off-road equipment with engines that meet the Environmental Protection Agency's Tier 4 emission standards or engines retrofitted with the most effective Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS) certified by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Quantified emissions and identified reduction measures shall be submitted to the City (and the Air District if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits and the approved criteria air pollutant reduction measures shall be implemented during construction. (LTS)

### b. Project-Level Operation Emissions

**Impact AIR-2:** Operation of residential projects with more than 325 single-family units or 451 multi-family units has the potential to result in criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions above the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD's) recommended thresholds of significance for operations. (S)

**Mitigation Measure AIR-2: Residential Operation Controls for Criteria Air Pollutants.** For operation of residential projects with more than 325 single-family units or 451 multi-family units, the project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce the project's criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions below the BAAQMD's recommended thresholds of significance. Emission reduction measures may include, but are not limited to, implementation of a transportation design management plan, compliance with electric vehicle requirements in the most recently adopted version of CALGreen Tier 2, or excluding natural gas appliances or natural gas plumbing in the building design. Quantified emissions and identified reduction measures shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits. (LTS)

### **c. Exposure to Sensitive Receptors to Toxic Air Contaminants during Construction**

**Impact AIR-3:** Future residential development within the city has the potential to generate TACs and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from vehicle trips and emergency generators (if required), which could substantially contribute to the existing poor air quality in the city and expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. (S)

**Mitigation Measure AIR-3a: Residential Construction Controls for Diesel Particulate Matter.** For construction of residential projects with a construction duration greater than 6 months that are located in an area defined as needing “Best Practices” or “Further Study” on the BAAQMD’s Planning Healthy Places Map (<https://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/planning-healthy-places>), the project applicant shall apply one of the following two measures:

The project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to prepare a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) in accordance with current guidance from the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to determine the health risks to sensitive receptors exposed to diesel particulate matter (DPM) from project construction emissions. The HRA shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval. If the HRA concludes that the health risks are at or below acceptable levels, then DPM reduction measures are not required. If the HRA concludes that the health risks exceed acceptable levels, DPM reduction measures shall be identified to reduce the health risks to acceptable levels. Identified DPM reduction measures shall be submitted to the City for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits and the approved DPM reduction measures shall be implemented during construction.

OR

All off-road diesel equipment shall be equipped with the most effective VDECS available for the engine type (Tier 4 engines automatically meet this requirement) as certified by CARB. The equipment shall be properly maintained and tuned in accordance with manufacturer specifications.

**Mitigation Measure AIR-3b: Residential Emergency Generators.** Require all emergency generators for new residential development projects (if required) to use best available control technology for air pollutant emissions, such as using engines that meet the Environmental Protection Agency’s Tier 4 Final emission standards or are battery powered. (LTS)

## 2. Transportation

### a. VMT Analysis

**Impact TRANS-1:** Implementation of the Project would generate home-based VMT per resident that is greater than 85 percent of the citywide average home-based VMT per resident. (S)

**Mitigation Measure TRANS-1: Implement VMT Reduction Measures.** Individual housing project development proposals that do not screen out from VMT impact analysis shall provide a quantitative VMT analysis using the methods applied in this EIR, with modifications if appropriate based on future changes to City of Antioch practices and CCTA VMT analysis methodology guidelines. Projects which result in a significant impact shall include travel demand management measures and physical measures to reduce VMT to a less-than-significant level. Measures may include, but are not limited to, those described below, which have been identified as potentially VMT reducing in the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) Handbook for Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions, Assessing Climate Vulnerabilities, and Advancing Health and Equity.<sup>17</sup> Potential VMT reduction estimates are included below, but detailed requirements, calculation steps, and limitations are described in the CAPCOA Handbook. In addition, application of one or more measures is generally expected to result in a net VMT reduction of 10 percent or less for development projects in suburban settings such as Antioch.

- Unbundle parking costs (i.e., sell or lease parking separately from the housing unit). Effectiveness: up to 15.7 percent reduction in GHG from VMT per the CAPCOA Handbook.
- Provide car-sharing, bike sharing, or scooter sharing programs. Effectiveness: 0.15 to 0.18 percent reduction in GHG from VMT for car share, 0.02 to– 0.06 percent for bike share, and 0.07 percent for scooter share, per the CAPCOA Handbook. The higher car share and bike share values are for electric car and bike share programs.
- Subsidize transit passes for residents of affordable housing. Effectiveness: up to 5.5 percent reduction in GHG from VMT per the CAPCOA Handbook.

In addition to the on-site measures noted above, individual housing projects that are above the VMT threshold could potentially contribute to future VMT mitigation fee programs, banks, or exchanges. No regional VMT mitigation programs currently exist; however, the CCTA is currently evaluating different mitigation program frameworks which may lead to a Countywide or sub-regional VMT mitigation program. Should such a program be implemented, development projects could potentially pay into a fee program or purchase mitigation credits to achieve needed VMT mitigation instead of, or in addition to, on-site TDM measures. (LTS)

## C. ALTERNATIVES TO THIS PROJECT

For purposes of this EIR, these three actions are together considered a “Project” under CEQA regulations.

The three Project alternatives analyzed in the EIR include:

- The No Project/No Build Alternative, which assumes the continuation of existing conditions within the City;
- The Reduced VMT Alternative, which would eliminate moderate and above moderate sites with home-based vehicle miles traveled (VMT) above the significance threshold from the Housing Sites Inventory (Sites Inventory). All sites located in TAZs with home-based VMT below the significance threshold would be retained; and
- The Reduced RHNA Buffer Alternative, which would reduce the buffer to 25.0 percent, which is within the 15- to 30-percent buffer recommended by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to ensure that jurisdictions remain in compliance with the State Housing Law and the No Net Loss Requirements Law (Government Code Section 65863).

While both the Reduced VMT Alternative and Reduced RHNA Buffer Alternative would reduce the impacts under most environmental resources, there is substantial evidence that the alternatives identified in the EIR would not avoid or substantially lessen the significant unavoidable impacts of the Project and/or would not meet the Project objectives. The EIR includes detailed analysis on the potential impacts of each alternative by environmental topic. After reviewing the EIR and other relevant information in the administrative record, the Council determines that the three alternatives are infeasible. The reasons for rejecting each alternative are discussed in this section. The reasons for rejecting each alternative are independent and each reason alone is sufficient to support a determination that the alternative is infeasible.

### 1. Alternative 1: No Project/No Build Alternative

#### a. Description

Under this alternative, the city would continue to implement the adopted 2015-2023 Housing Element and Environmental Hazards Element adopted with the 2003 General Plan, and the proposed 2023-2031 Housing Element and Environmental Hazards Element would not be adopted. In addition, the proposed Environmental Justice Policies would not be adopted.

## **b. Comparison to Project**

This alternative would partially achieve the other goals of the Project, but not to the same degree, including the following:

- Conserve and improve the existing housing supply to provide adequate, safe, and decent housing for existing Antioch residents.
- Facilitate the development of special purpose housing to meet the needs of the elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, and the unhoused.
- Remove governmental constraints inhibiting the development of housing required to meet identified needs in Antioch.
- Provide equal housing opportunities for all existing and future Antioch residents.

## **c. Findings**

Implementation of the No Project alternative would require that future housing development would be developed in accordance with the 2015-2023 Housing Element and would continue to have a development potential of 1,448 units. This alternative would result in a total net reduction in development potential by 3,433 units when compared to the Project and a 1,568-unit shortfall of the City's RHNA obligation.

Based on the foregoing findings, and even though the No Project/No Build alternative is the environmentally superior alternative, the Council rejects Alternative 1.

## **2. Alternative 2: Reduced VMT Alternative**

### **a. Description**

Under this alternative, housing sites which are not targeted for very-low or low-income housing and located in Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) with home-based vehicle miles traveled (VMT) above the significance threshold would be eliminated from the Housing Sites Inventory (Sites Inventory). All sites located in TAZs with home-based VMT below the significance threshold would be retained.

### **b. Comparison to Project**

The Reduced VMT Alternative would achieve many of the Project objectives, including those related to:



- Facilitate the development of a broad array of housing types to meet the City's fair share of regional housing needs and accommodate new and current Antioch residents of diverse ages and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Conserve and improve the existing housing supply to provide adequate, safe, and decent housing for existing Antioch residents.
- Facilitate the development of special purpose housing to meet the needs of the elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, and the unhoused.
- Remove governmental constraints inhibiting the development of housing required to meet identified needs in Antioch.
- Provide equal housing opportunities for all existing and future Antioch residents.

Most importantly, this alternative would allow the city to meet its 6th-cycle RHNA obligations, though with less margin for development of some sites at lower than maximum densities.

### **c. Findings**

Based on the Sites Inventory, this alternative would result in a total net reduction in development potential by 774 units when compared to the Project and would continue to exceed the City's RHNA obligation by 1,091 units.

Based on the foregoing findings, and even though the Reduced VMT alternative would reduce Project impacts associated with transportation, the Council rejects Alternative 2.

## **3. Alternative 3: Reduced RHNA Buffer Alternative**

### **a. Description**

This alternative would reduce the buffer above the City's RHNA obligation in comparison with the Project, which provides a buffer of 1,865 units beyond the City's RHNA obligation of 3,016 units, providing an overall buffer of 62.0 percent. Under this alternative, the overall RHNA buffer would be reduced to 25.0 percent, which is within the 15- to 30-percent buffer recommended by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to ensure that jurisdictions remain in compliance with the State Housing Law and the No Net Loss Requirements Law (Government Code Section 65863). A 25-percent buffer was applied to the number of the City's RHNA unit obligation in each income category, as well as to the total unit count.

## **b. Comparison to Project**

The Reduced RHNA Buffer Alternative would achieve many of the Project objectives, including those related to:

- Facilitate the development of a broad array of housing types to meet the City's fair share of regional housing needs and accommodate new and current Antioch residents of diverse ages and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Conserve and improve the existing housing supply to provide adequate, safe, and decent housing for existing Antioch residents.
- Facilitate the development of special purpose housing to meet the needs of the elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, and the unhoused.
- Remove governmental constraints inhibiting the development of housing required to meet identified needs in Antioch.
- Provide equal housing opportunities for all existing and future Antioch residents.

Most importantly, this alternative would allow the city to meet its 6th-cycle RHNA obligations, though with less margin for development of some sites at lower than maximum densities.

## **c. Findings**

This alternative would result in 3,770 developable units in total, which would be a total net reduction in 1,111 units when compared to the Project but would continue to exceed the City's RHNA obligation by 754 units.

Based on the foregoing findings, and even though the Reduced VMT alternative would allow the city to meet its 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle RHNA obligations, the Council rejects Alternative 3.

## **D. STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS**

### **1. Overriding Considerations**

The Council has considered the Project's significant and unavoidable impacts set forth above and measured the benefits of the Project against the unavoidable environmental impacts identified in the EIR. The Council finds that the Project's benefits and economic, social, environmental, legal and other considerations outweigh and make acceptable the potentially unavoidable impact. Therefore, the Council adopts this statement of overriding considerations.

The Council also finds that the Project's significant unavoidable impacts would occur from any significant increase in the amount of residential development across the city. An increase in residential VMT would inevitably occur because of residential development. The Council finds that the benefits of the Project outweigh the benefits of other examined alternatives, including those deemed infeasible in Section D above.

## **2. Benefits of the Project**

*The expected benefits of the Project are:*

### **a. The Project will improve and conserve existing housing stock.**

The Project will provide adequate, safe, and decent housing for existing Antioch residents. Through the implementation of Housing Element programs, existing affordable housing stock will be retained, involvement in local housing assistance programs will become more accessible, displacement will be prevented, and infrastructure improvements will be made.

### **b. The Project will facilitate housing production and provide Antioch Residents with a variety of housing options.**

The Project would provide a variety of housing options for Antioch residents across all income groups. The Project accommodates for the potential future development of up to 4,881 residential units, including 882 units affordable for very low-income households, 760 for low-income, 845 for moderate-income, and 2,394 for above moderate-income.

### **c. The Project will redevelop under-utilized and vacant sites.**

Buildout of the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element would occur on underutilized sites. Currently, underutilized sites disrupt the area's land use pattern and is not providing any benefit to the community or region. Rezoning underutilized sites to allow for higher density residential development will generate more variety in housing typologies throughout the City and enable small infill and missing-middle projects.

### **d. The Project will mitigate natural and human-caused hazards, thereby improving public safety and resiliency.**

Implementation of Environmental Hazards Element project objectives will the potential for loss of life, injury, property damage, and economic and social disruption resulting from natural and human-caused hazards in the community. The City will be more equipped to deal with issues

brought on by climate change and other hazards such as fires, floods, droughts, earthquakes, and landslides.

**e. The Project will ensure that all residents have equal protection from environmental hazards.**

The goals, policies, and programs advanced under the Environmental Justice Element will reduce pollution exposure and other compounding health risks; promote public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, physical activity, and civic engagement; and prioritize the needs of disadvantaged communities in Antioch.

**E. CUSTODIAN OF DOCUMENTS**

The City Clerk is designated as the custodian of the documents and record of proceedings on which this decision is based. The City Clerk's office is located at City Hall. The address of City Hall is 200 H St, Antioch, CA 94509.

**EXHIBIT B**

**MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

## MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) (see Table IV-1 below) has been prepared to comply with the requirements of State law (Public Resources Code Section 21081.6). State law requires the adoption of a mitigation monitoring program when mitigation measures are required to avoid significant impacts. The monitoring program is intended to ensure compliance during implementation of the project.

This MMRP has been formulated based upon the findings of the Project's Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and the comments received on this document and addressed herein. This MMRP identifies mitigation measures recommended in the Project's Draft EIR to avoid or reduce identified impacts and specifies the agencies/parties responsible for implementation and monitoring of the measure.

The first column identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled "Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation," refers to the person(s) who will undertake the mitigation measures. The third column, entitled "Party Responsible for Monitoring," refers to the person/agency responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure has been implemented and recorded. The fourth column, entitled "Monitoring Timing," identifies when and/or for how long the monitoring shall occur.

TABLE IV-1 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure	Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Timing	Compliance Verification	
				Initial	Date
B. Transportation					
<b>TRANS-1: Implement VMT Reduction Measures.</b> Individual housing project development proposals that do not screen out from VMT impact analysis shall provide a quantitative VMT analysis using the methods applied in this EIR, with modifications if appropriate based on future changes to City of Antioch practices and CCTA VMT analysis methodology guidelines. Projects which result in a significant impact shall include travel demand management measures and physical measures to reduce VMT to a less-than-significant level. Measures may include, but are not limited to, those described below, which have been identified as potentially VMT reducing in the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) Handbook for Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions, Assessing Climate Vulnerabilities, and Advancing Health and Equity. Potential VMT reduction estimates are included below, but detailed requirements, calculation steps, and limitations are described in the CAPCOA Handbook. In addition, application of one or more measures is generally expected to result in a net VMT reduction of 10 percent or less for development projects in suburban settings such as Antioch.	Project Applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Select a qualified transportation consultant to prepare and provide a VMT analysis per guidelines.</li><li>If necessary, based on the VMT assessment, prepare, and provide a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan for the project which demonstrates a VMT reduction in accordance with requirements and threshold.</li><li>Conduct on-going monitoring of development VMT in accordance with TDM plan requirements to verify trip reduction goals are achieved.</li></ul>	City of Antioch Community and Development Department, Planning Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review and approve VMT analysis.</li><li>Review and approve TDM plan.</li><li>Review and approve TDM plan monitoring and achievement of trip reduction goals.</li></ul>	Prior to Construction		
C. Air Quality					
<b>AIR-1: Residential Construction Controls for Criteria Air Pollutants.</b> For construction of residential projects with more than 114 single-	Project Applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide car-sharing, bike sharing, or scooter sharing programs. Effectiveness: 0.15 to 0.18 percent reduction in GHG from VMT for car share, 0.02 to 0.06 percent for bike share, and 0.07 percent for scooter share, per the CAPCOA Handbook. The higher car share and bike share values are for electric car and bike share programs.</li><li>Subsidize transit passes for residents of affordable housing. Effectiveness: up to 5.5 percent reduction in GHG from VMT per the CAPCOA Handbook.</li></ul>	City of Antioch Community and	Prior to issuance of building permit		

Mitigation Measure	Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Compliance Verification		
			Monitoring Timing	Initial	Date
<p>family units or 240 multi-family units, the project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce the project's criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions below the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD's) recommended thresholds of significance. Emission reduction measures may include, but are not limited to, the use of off-road equipment with engines that meet the Environmental Protection Agency's Tier 4 emission standards or engines retrofitted with the most effective Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS) certified by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Quantified emissions and identified reduction measures shall be submitted to the City (and the Air District if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits and the approved criteria air pollutant reduction measures shall be implemented during construction.</p> <p>In addition, the project applicant shall prepare a Construction Emissions Minimization Plan (Emissions Plan) for all identified criteria air pollutant reduction measures (if any). The Emissions Plan shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits. The Emissions Plan shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An equipment inventory summarizing the type of off-road equipment required for each phase of construction, including the equipment manufacturer, equipment identification number, engine model year, engine certification (tier rating), horsepower, and engine serial number. For all VDECS, the equipment inventory shall also include the technology type, serial number, make, model, manufacturer, CARB verification number level, and installation date.</li> <li>A Certification Statement that the Contractor agrees to comply fully with the Emissions Plan and acknowledges that a significant violation of the Emissions Plan shall constitute a material breach of contract.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce emissions.</li> <li>Prepare a Construction Emissions Minimization Plan (Emissions Plan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve air quality analysis and associated reduction measures.</li> <li>Review and approve Emissions Plan.</li> </ul> <p>(if necessary) Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve air quality analysis and associated reduction measures.</li> <li>Review and approve Emissions Plan.</li> </ul>			
<b>AIR-2: Residential Operation Controls for Criteria Air Pollutants.</b> For operation of residential projects with more than 325 single-family					
	Project Applicant:	City of Antioch Community and	Prior to issuance of building permit		



Mitigation Measure	Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Compliance Verification		
			Monitoring Timing	Initial	Project/ Comments
units or 451 multi-family units, the project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce the project's criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions below the BAAQMD's recommended thresholds of significance. Emission reduction measures may include, but are not limited to, implementation of a transportation design management plan, compliance with electric vehicle requirements in the most recently adopted version of CALGreen Tier 2, or excluding natural gas appliances or natural gas plumbing in the building design. Quantified emissions and identified reduction measures shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain a qualified air quality consultant to identify measures to reduce emissions.</li> </ul>	Development Department, Planning Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve air quality analysis and associated reduction measures.</li> </ul> (if necessary) Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve air quality analysis and associated reduction measures.</li> </ul>			
<b>AIR-3a: Residential Construction Controls for Diesel Particulate Matter.</b> For construction of residential projects with a construction duration greater than 6 months that are located in an area defined as needing "Best Practices" or "Further Study" on the BAAQMD's Planning Healthy Places Map ( <a href="https://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/planning-healthy-places">https://www.baaqmd.gov/plans-and-climate/planning-healthy-places</a> ), the project applicant shall apply <u>one</u> of the following two measures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project applicant shall retain a qualified air quality consultant to prepare a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) in accordance with current guidance from the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to determine the health risks to sensitive receptors exposed to diesel particulate matter (DPM) from project construction emissions. The HRA shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval. If the HRA concludes that the health risks are at or below acceptable levels, then DPM reduction measures are not required. If the HRA concludes that the health risks exceed acceptable levels, DPM reduction measures shall be identified to reduce the health risks to acceptable levels. Identified DPM reduction measures shall be submitted to the City for review and</li> </ol>	Project Applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain a qualified air quality consultant to prepare HRA.</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure all construction-related equipment is equipped with the most effective VDECS available as certified by CARB.</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare an Emissions Plan.</li> </ul>	City of Antioch Community and Development Department, Planning Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve HRA.</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve construction equipment list for most effective VDECS.</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve Emissions Plan.</li> </ul> (if necessary) Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD):	Prior to issuance of building permit		

Mitigation Measure	Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Compliance Verification		
			Monitoring Timing	Initial	Date
approval prior to the issuance of building permits and the approved DPM reduction measures shall be implemented during construction.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve HRA.</li> </ul>			
OR					
2. All off-road diesel equipment shall be equipped with the most effective VDECS available for the engine type (Tier 4 engines automatically meet this requirement) as certified by CARB. The equipment shall be properly maintained and tuned in accordance with manufacturer specifications.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve construction equipment list for most effective VDECS.</li> </ul>			
		AND			
In addition, the project applicant shall prepare a Construction Emissions Minimization Plan (Emissions Plan) for all identified DPM reduction measures (if any). The Emissions Plan shall be submitted to the City (and BAAQMD if specifically requested) for review and approval prior to the issuance of building permits. The Emissions Plan shall include the following:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve Emissions Plan.</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An equipment inventory summarizing the type of off-road equipment required for each phase of construction, including the equipment manufacturer, equipment identification number, engine model year, engine certification (tier rating), horsepower, and engine serial number. For all VDECS, the equipment inventory shall also include the technology type, serial number, make, model, manufacturer, CARB verification number level, and installation date.</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Certification Statement that the Contractor agrees to comply fully with the Emissions Plan and acknowledges that a significant violation of the Emissions Plan shall constitute a material breach of contract.</li> </ul>					
<b>AIR-3b: Residential Emergency Generators.</b> Require all emergency generators for new residential development projects (if required) to use best available control technology for air pollutant emissions, such as using engines that meet the Environmental Protection Agency's Tier 4 Final emission standards or are battery powered.	Project Applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide list of emergency generators planned for usage.</li> </ul>	City of Antioch Community and Development Department, Planning Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve list of emergency</li> </ul>	Prior to issuance of building permit		

Mitigation Measure	Party Responsible for Ensuring Implementation	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Monitoring Timing	Compliance Verification		
				Initial	Date	Project/ Comments
		generators to ensure that engines meet EPA Tier 4 Final emissions standards or are battery powered.				

