



City of Carson General Plan Update

Environmental Justice Outreach Virtual Community Meeting
September 23, 2021

A photograph of a nursery field. In the foreground and middle ground, numerous young trees are planted in black fabric pots. The trees have thin, light-colored trunks and some have small green leaves. The pots are arranged in rows on a grassy area. In the background, a paved road is visible with several cars parked or driving. The lighting suggests it's daytime, possibly late afternoon or early morning, as the shadows are soft.

EJ Requirements Overview

State Requirements

- Senate Bill (SB) 1000 requires general plans to include an environmental justice (EJ) element with goals, policies, and objectives that:



Reduce
pollution
exposure



Reduce unique or
compounded
health risks



Promote public
facilities



Promote
physical
activity



Promote food
access



Promote safe
& sanitary
homes



Promote civic
engagement



Prioritize the
needs of
disadvantaged
communities

- **Disadvantaged Communities (DACs):**

- An area identified by CalEPA, or an area that is a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.

- **Low-income area:**

- (1) An area with household income at or below 80% of the statewide median income, or
- (2) An area with household incomes at/below the threshold designated as low income by HCD's list of state income limits.

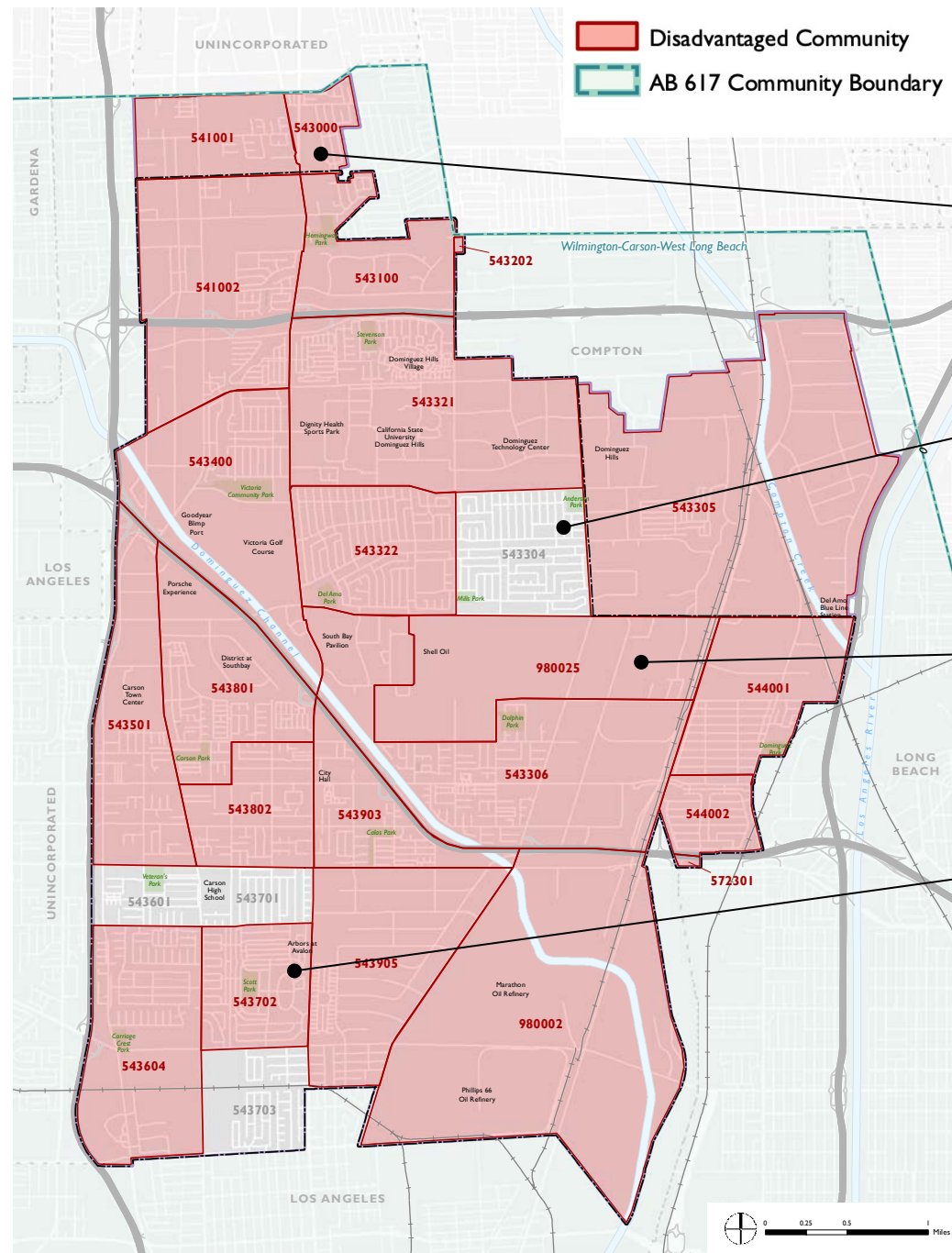
Statewide DAC Mapping

- SB 535 gave CalEPA responsibility for identifying DACs
- **CalEnviroScreen** is a mapping tool that identifies census tracts most vulnerable to pollution and its effects
 - 20 indicators, scored and ranked all census tracts in California
 - Census tracts with cumulative scores in the **top 25%** statewide are designated DACs

CALENVIROSCREEN 3.0 INDICATORS			
POLLUTION BURDEN		POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	
EXPOSURES	ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	SENSITIVE POPULATIONS	SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS
 Ozone Concentrations	 Cleanup Sites	 Asthma ER Visits	 Educational Attainment
 PM2.5 Concentrations	 Groundwater Threats	 Cardiovascular Disease (ER visits for heart attacks)	 Housing Burdened Low Income Households
 Diesel PM Emissions	 Hazardous Waste	 Low Birth Weight Infants	 Linguistic Isolation
 Drinking Water Contaminants	 Impaired Water Bodies	 Poverty	
 Pesticide Use	 Solid Waste Sites and Facilities	 Unemployment	
 Toxic Releases from Facilities			
 Traffic Density			

DACs in Carson

- Carson has **22 DACs** (out of 26* census tracts)
 - SB 535 DACs are the standard used by State agencies and must be considered in the GPU
 - DACs are a powerful lever to access Cap-and-Trade funding to benefit DACs
 - *3 overlap the SOI but are outside city limits. 2 intersect with the city but are almost entirely outside.



Overall Score: 97
 Pollution Burden Score: 93
 Population Characteristics Score: 91
 Total 2019 population: 4,531

Overall Score: 72
 Pollution Burden Score: 72
 Population Characteristics Score: 62
 Total 2019 population: 5,872

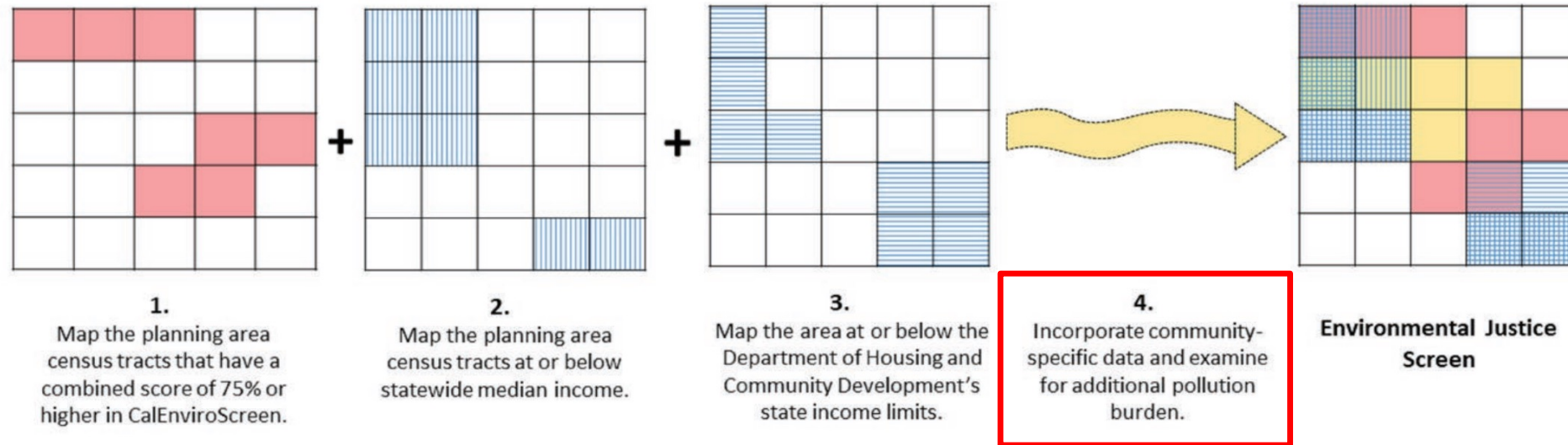
Overall Score: N/A
 Pollution Burden Score: 97
 Population Characteristics Score: N/A
 Total 2019 population: 0

Overall Score: 76
 Pollution Burden Score: 64
 Population Characteristics Score: 75
 Total 2019 population: 6,637

Sources:
 CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0,
 ACS 2015-2019

OPR Recommended Process

- Screening for EJ communities using local data not captured in statewide analysis

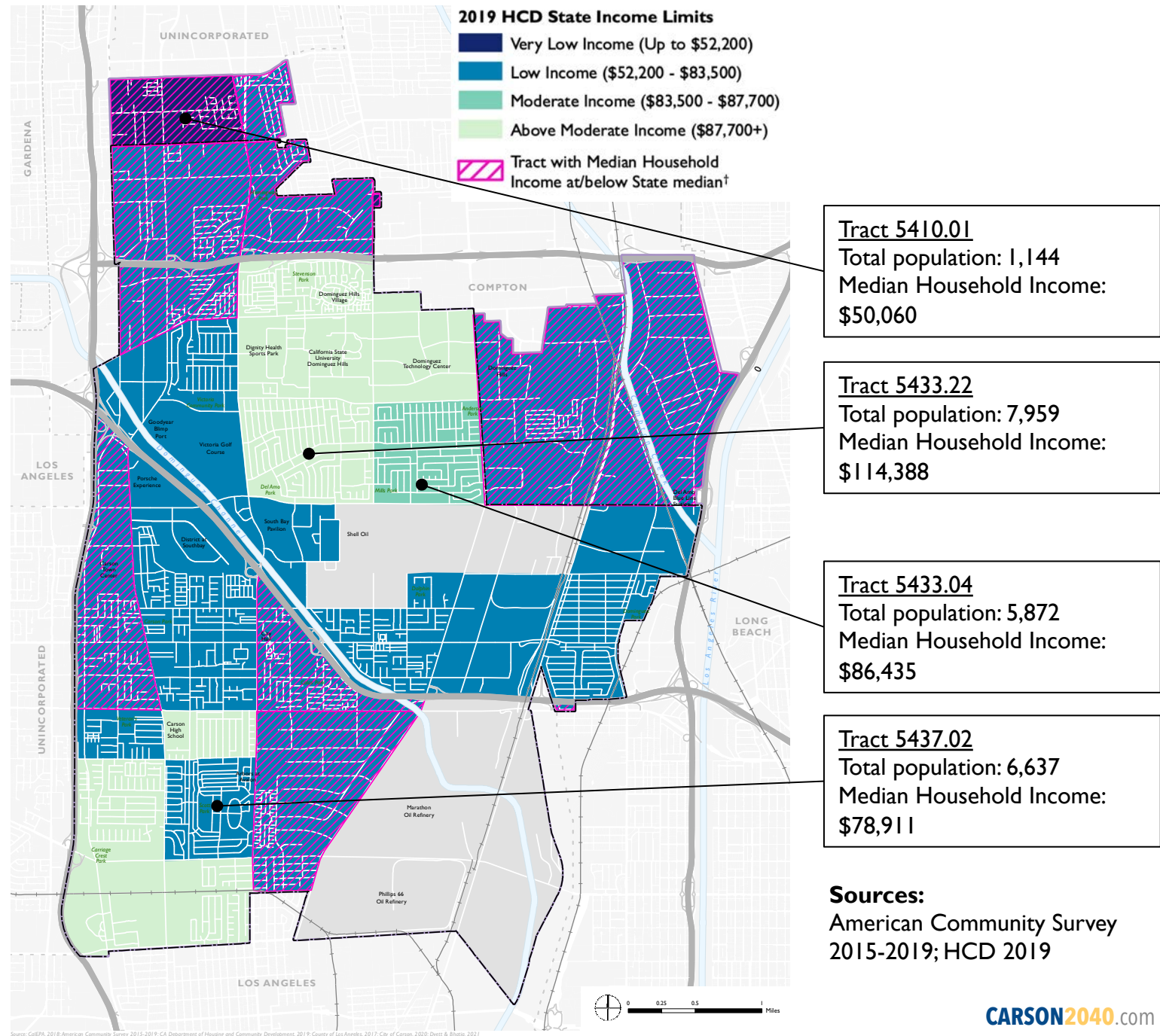




EJ Screening and Prospective Goals & Policies

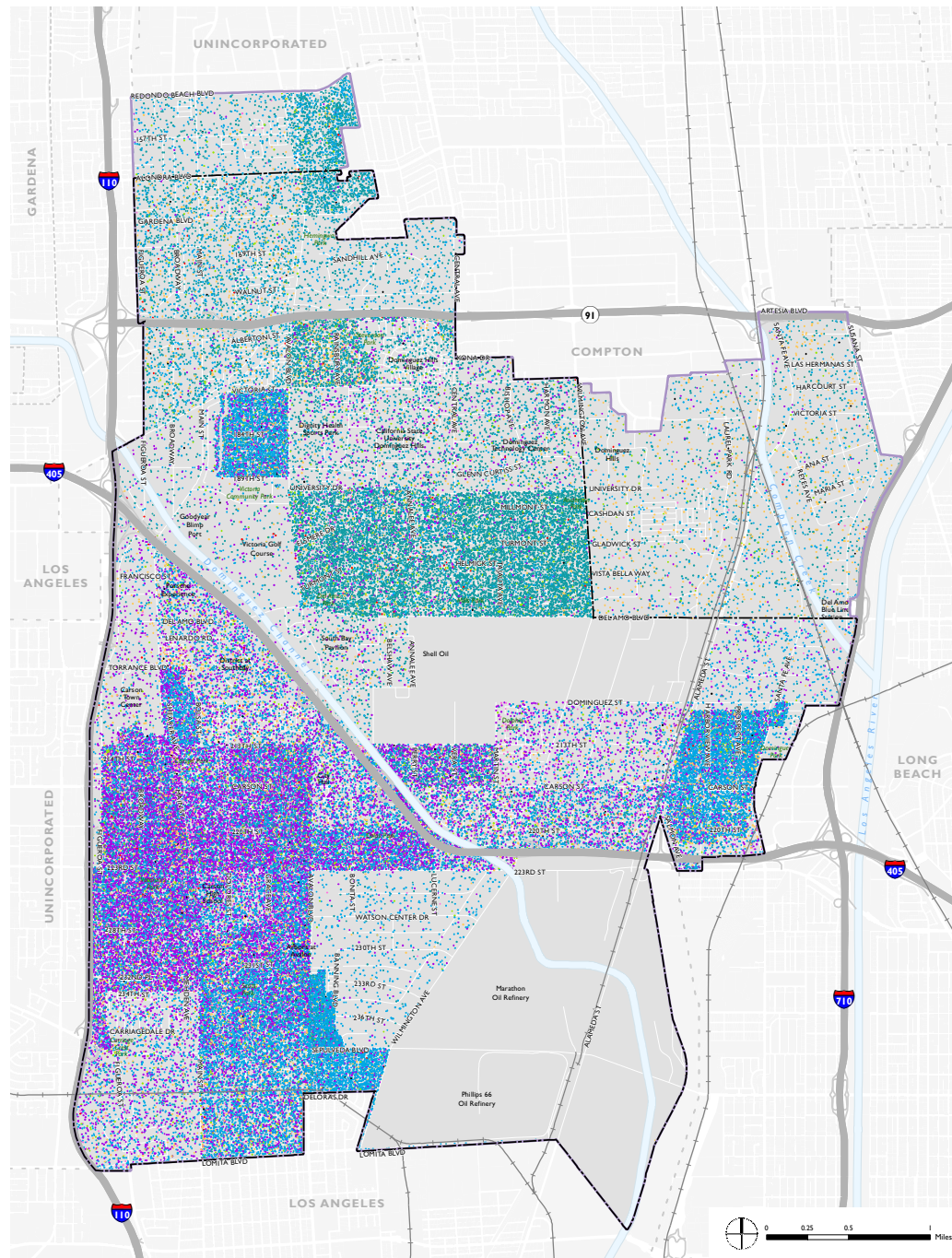
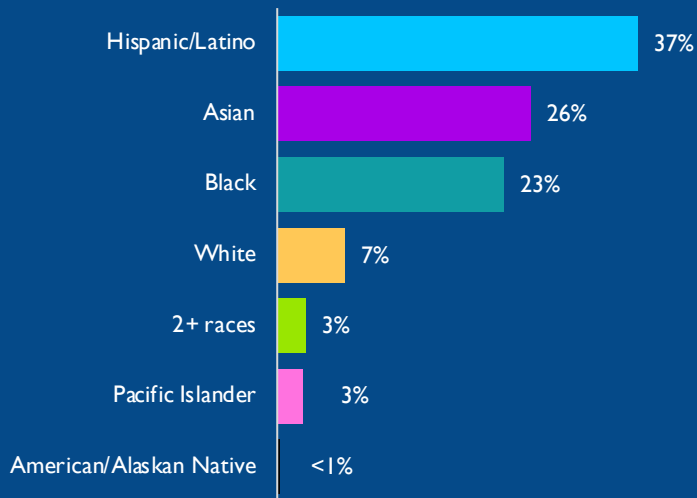
Community Profile

- 2 Definitions of Low Income Areas:
 - State Median (ACS 2019 inflation adjusted): \$75,235
 - Los Angeles County Area Median (HCD 2019): \$73,100
- Racial/Ethnic Makeup & Segregation Patterns



Community Profile

- Low Income
- Racial/Ethnic Makeup & Segregation Patterns



2018 Population by Census Block Group

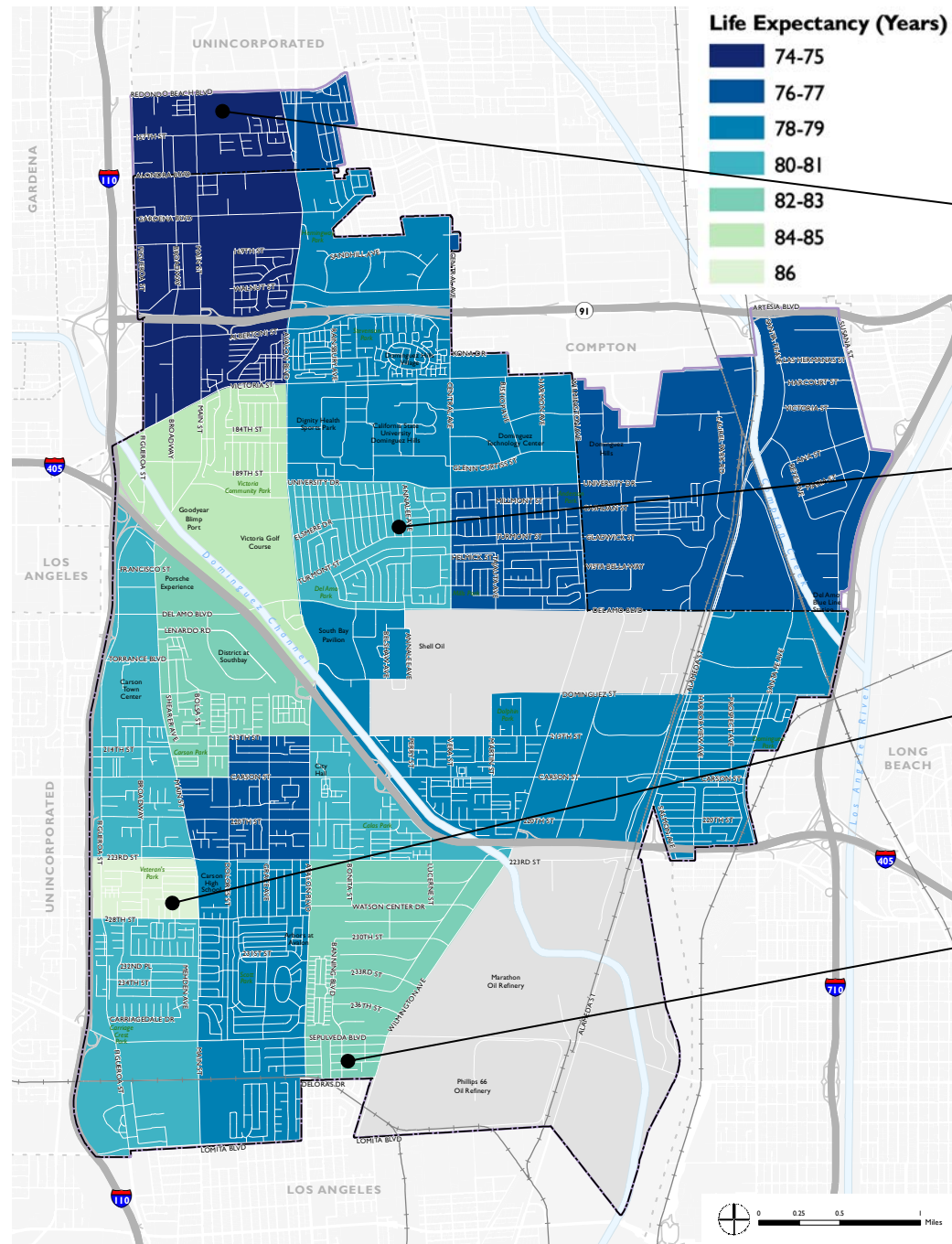
1 Dot per Person

- White, Non-Hispanic
- Black/African American, Non-Hispanic
- Hispanic
- Asian, Non-Hispanic
- Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic
- American Indian/Alaskan Native, Non-Hispanic
- Other Race, Non-Hispanic
- Multi-Racial, Non-Hispanic

Sources:
HCD 2021 (AFFH Database),
American Community Survey 2014-2018

Health Outcomes

- Life Expectancy at Birth, 2010-2015
 - Statewide: 81.3
 - Los Angeles County: 81.3
 - Carson: 79.4
- Negative Health Outcomes



Tract 5410.01
 Life Expectancy: 75 years
 Median Household Income: \$50,060
 Percent Non-White: 97%

Tract 5433.22
 Life Expectancy: 81.4 years
 Median Household Income: \$114,388
 Percent Non-White: 97%

Tract 5436.01
 Life Expectancy: 86.2 years
 Median Household Income: \$79,500
 Percent Non-White: 91%

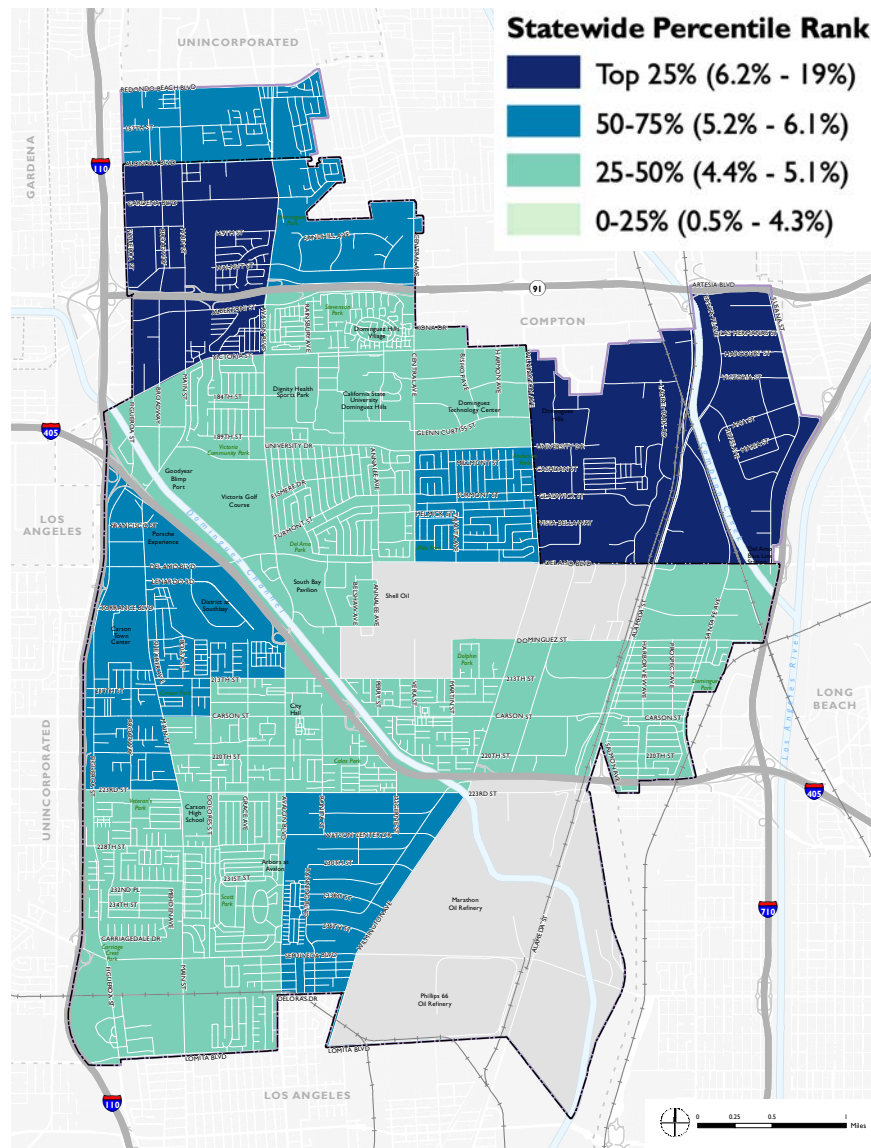
Tract 5439.01
 Life Expectancy: 83.5 years
 Median Household Income: \$66,250
 Percent Non-White: 97%

Sources:
 American Community Survey 2015-2019, CDC National Center for Health Statistics 2018

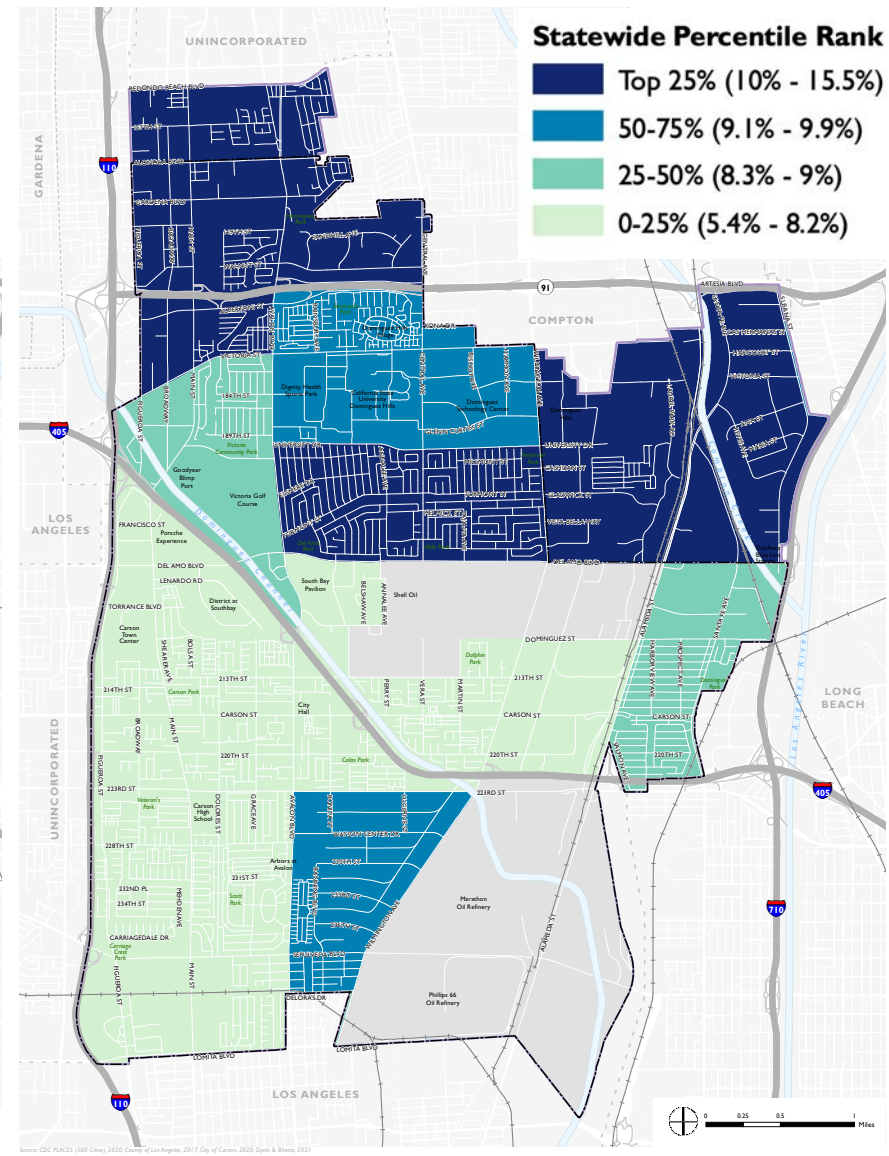
Health Outcomes

- Life Expectancy at Birth
- Negative Health Outcomes
 - Crude prevalence among adults ages 18 and older

Coronary Heart Disease



Current Asthma



Sources: CDC PLACES Local Data for Better Health, 2020 – Based on Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 2018 data and ACS 2014-2018

Prospective Goal and Policies

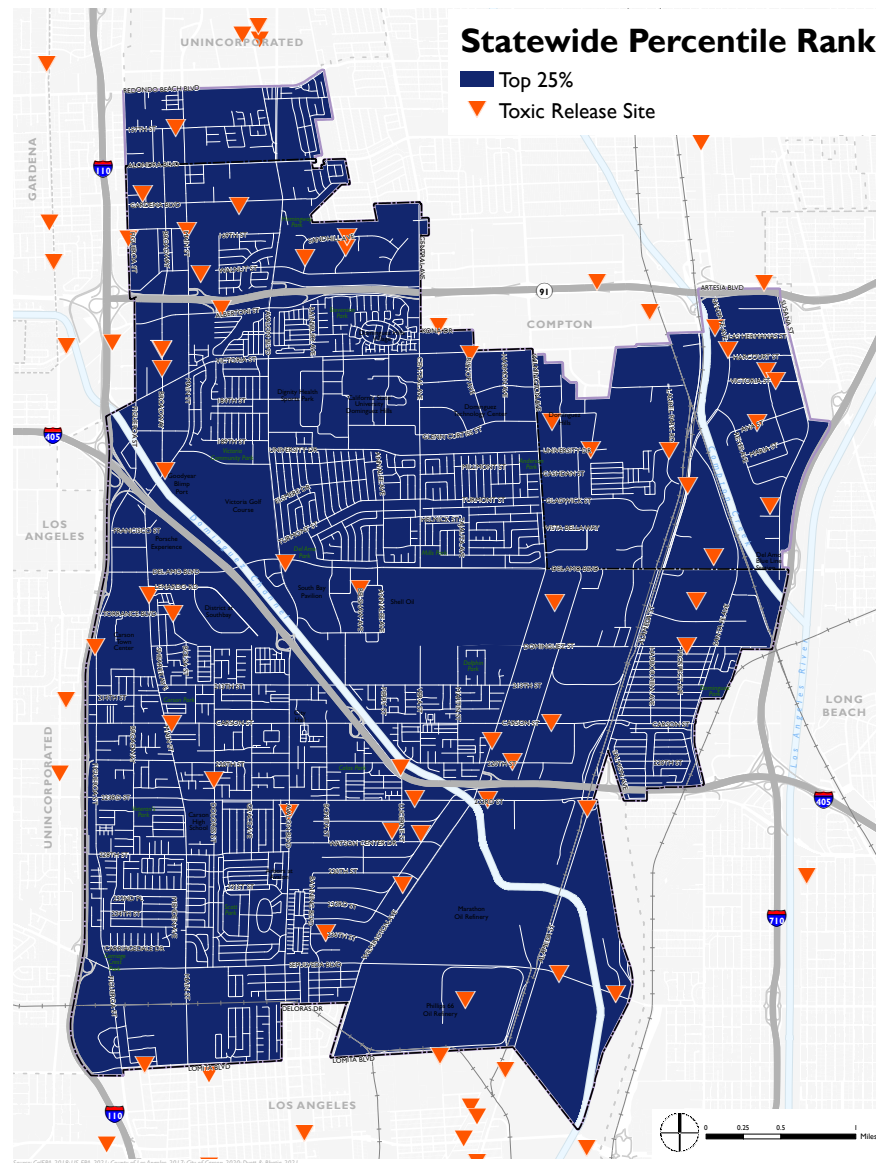


- Seek to improve citywide life expectancy and reduce the disparity between census tracts with the highest and lowest life expectancy by focusing on prevention, interventions, and by addressing the root causes of health disparities and inequities in Carson.
 - Regularly map the CDC National Center for Health Statistics Life Expectancy indicator to track changes in the city.
 - Develop intentional strategic partnerships with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and other public, private, and nonprofit entities to improve health outcomes by leveraging capacity, resources, and programs centered on health, equity, and sustainability.
 - Collaborate with the County and neighboring public agencies to share data and increase communication on overlapping demographics that are mutually served.
 - Work with the City Human Services Department and other public, private, and nonprofit partners to educate the public about health and wellness by supporting information and interventions that are readily available, culturally relevant, and linguistically accessible.

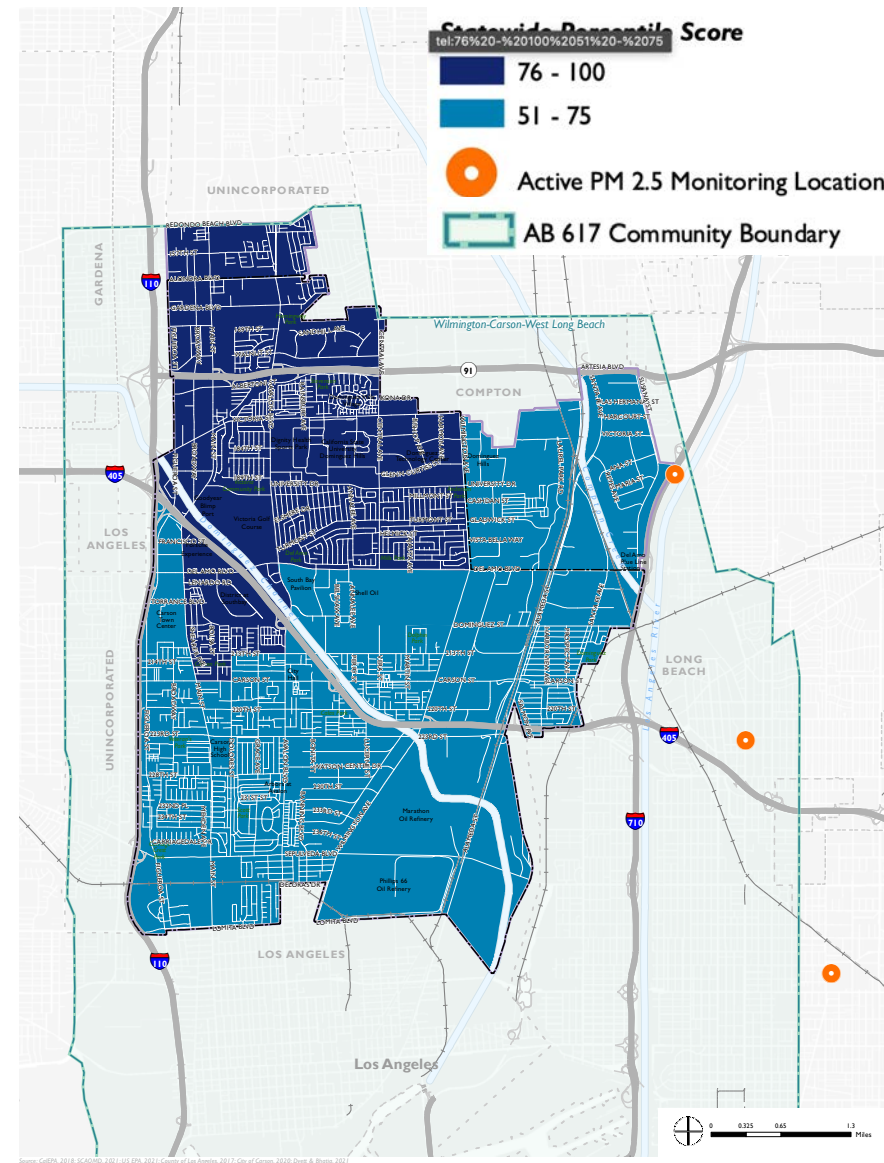
Air Pollution

- Toxic Releases, Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5
- Diesel, Traffic Density

Toxic Releases from Facilities



PM 2.5 Concentration

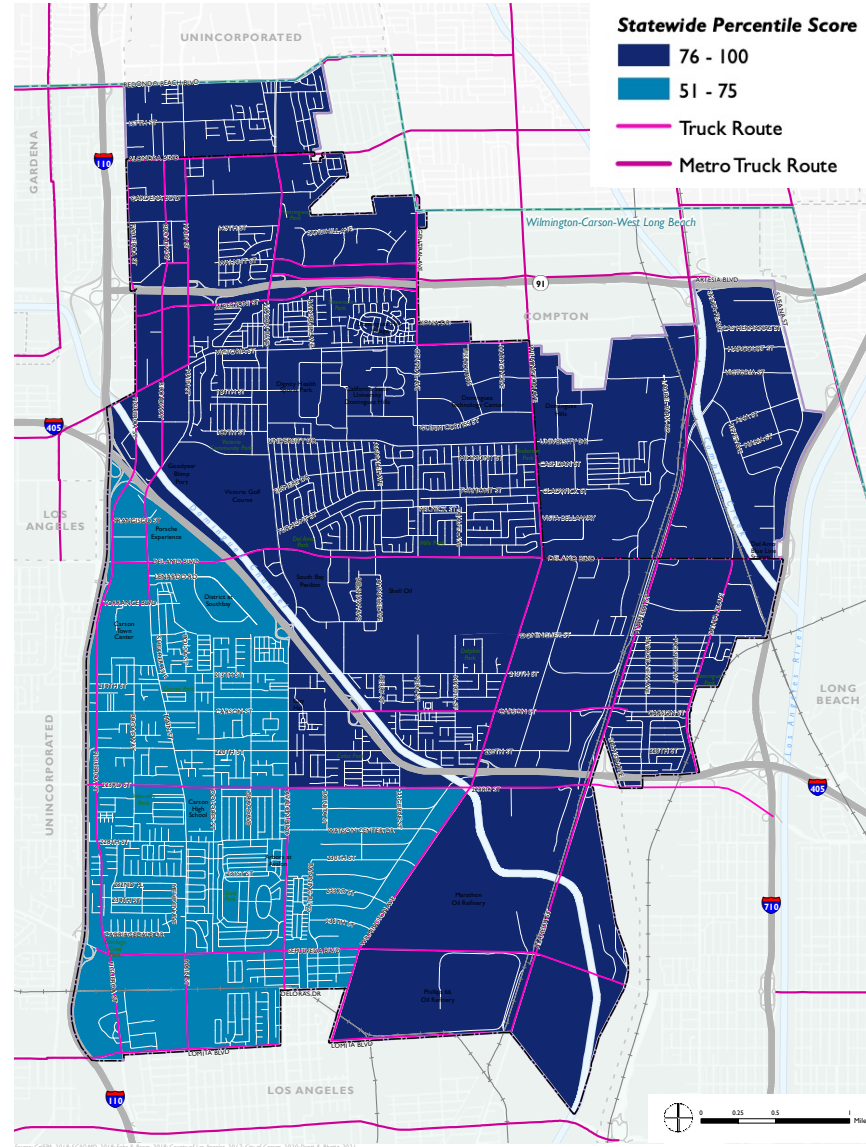


Source: CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0, US EPA 2018-2021, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) 2021

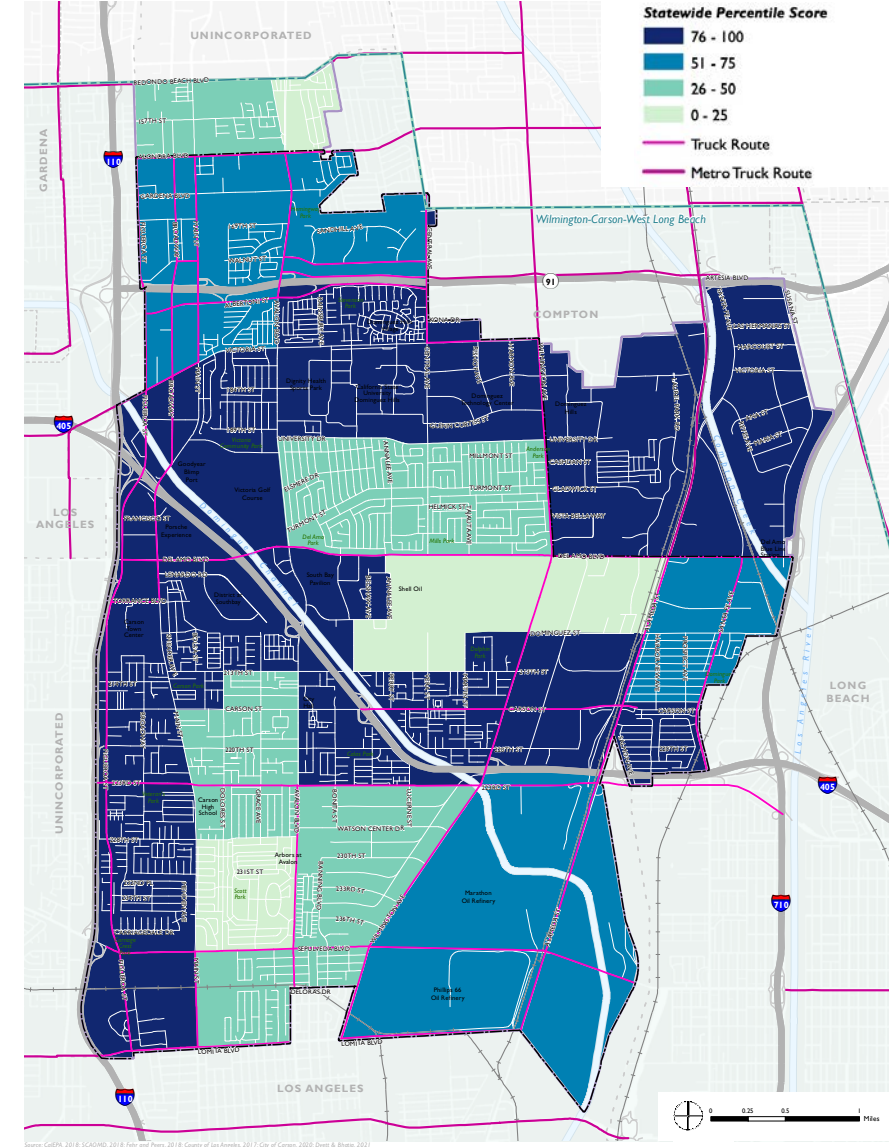
Air Pollution

- Toxic Releases, PM 2.5
- Diesel, Traffic Density

Diesel Particulate Matter



Traffic Density



Source: CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0

Assembly Bill 617

- Addresses disproportionate impacts of air pollution by investing resources and enforcing focused actions in EJ communities as a step toward environmental equity.
 - Regulated by CARB and SCAQMD
- Wilmington-Carson-West Long Beach (WCWLB), designated in 2018
 - One of first 10 “Year 1” Communities in CA
- Implementation of the Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) supports and tracks air quality actions from the Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP)
 - 2 monitoring locations in areas of concern, near Carson
- 2019 Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP)
 - Priorities identified by Community Steering Committee (CSC):
 - Refineries
 - Ports
 - Neighborhood Truck Traffic
 - Oil Drilling and Production
 - Railyards
 - Schools, Childcare Centers, and Homes
 - 18 Actions and 43 Goals related to priorities
 - Emissions Reductions Targets by 2029
 - Nitrogen oxides (NO_x): 3,207 tons/year
 - Sulfur oxides (SO_x): 11 tons/year
 - Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC): 64 tons/year
 - Diesel particulate matter: 20 tons/year
 - Exposure Reductions
 - Such as funding for air filtration systems at schools

Prospective Goals and Policies

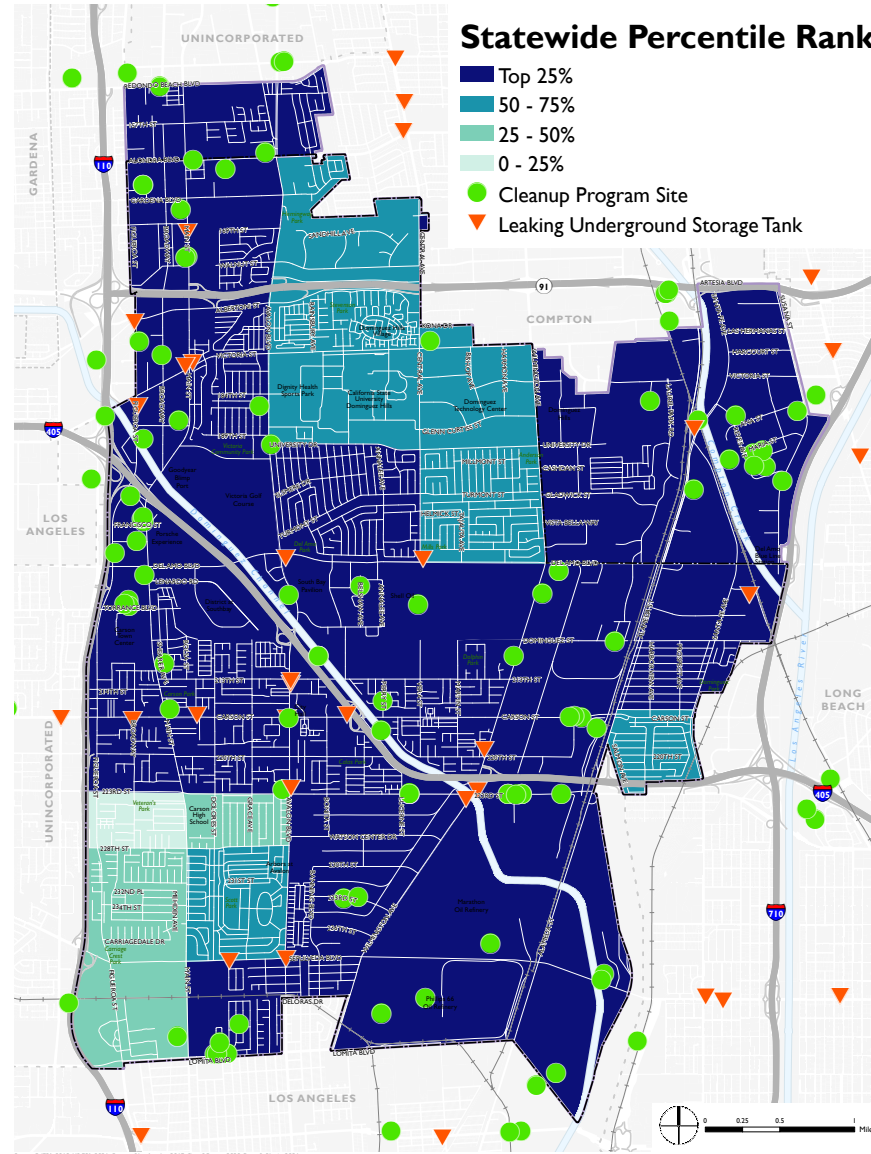


- Reduce air pollution and the incidence of respiratory illness through the land use planning process.
 - Continue to enforce zoning and design standards that protect sensitive uses from the encroachment of land uses that would result in impacts from noxious fumes or toxins.
 - Recognize and actively promote policies to create a multimodal transportation system that reduces solo driving.
- Proactively coordinate City air quality improvement activities with County and regional programs and those of neighboring communities.
 - Collaborate with SCAQMD to coordinate policies that reduce air pollution from local sources and implement programs that leverage funding from SB 535/AB 1550, AB 617, and other sources to improve air quality and public health.

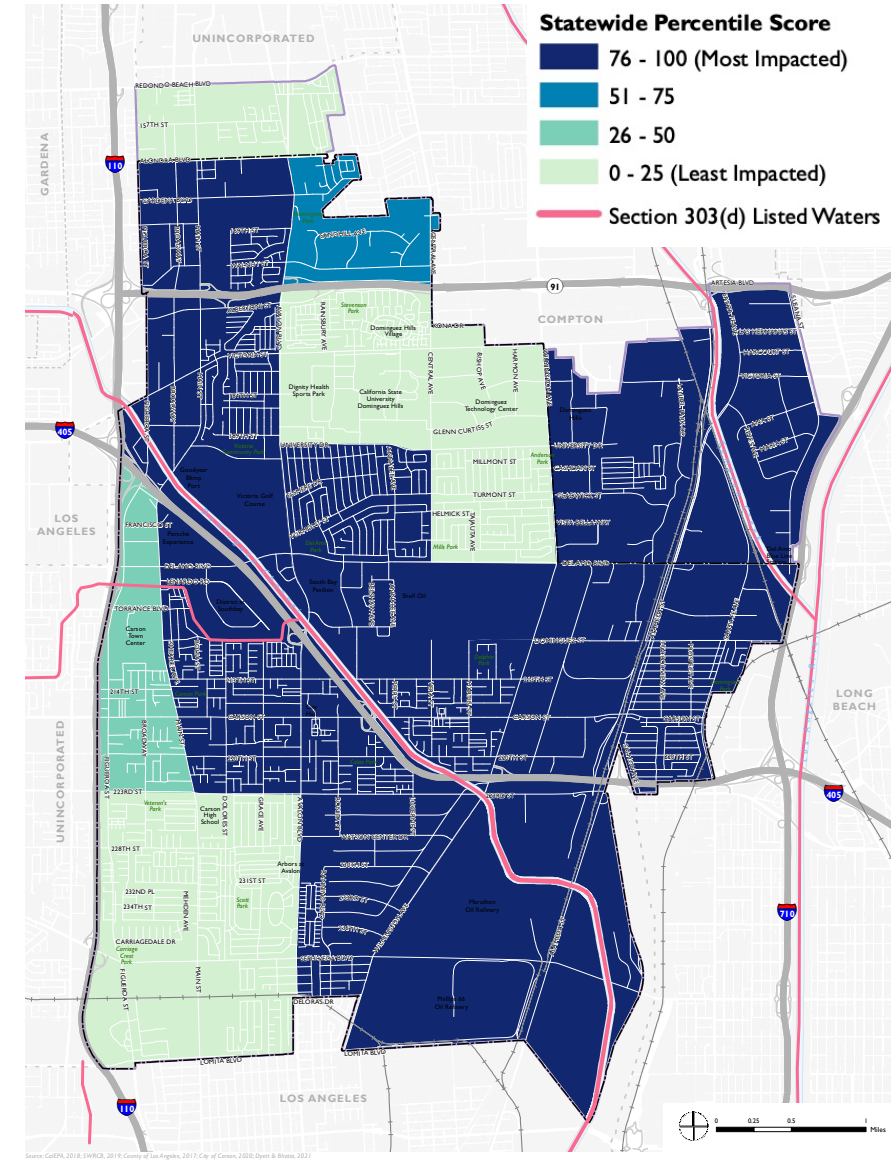
Water Pollution

- Groundwater Threats
- Impaired Water Bodies

Groundwater Threats



Impaired Water Bodies



Source: CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0, State Water Resources Control Board 2019

Prospective Goal and Policy



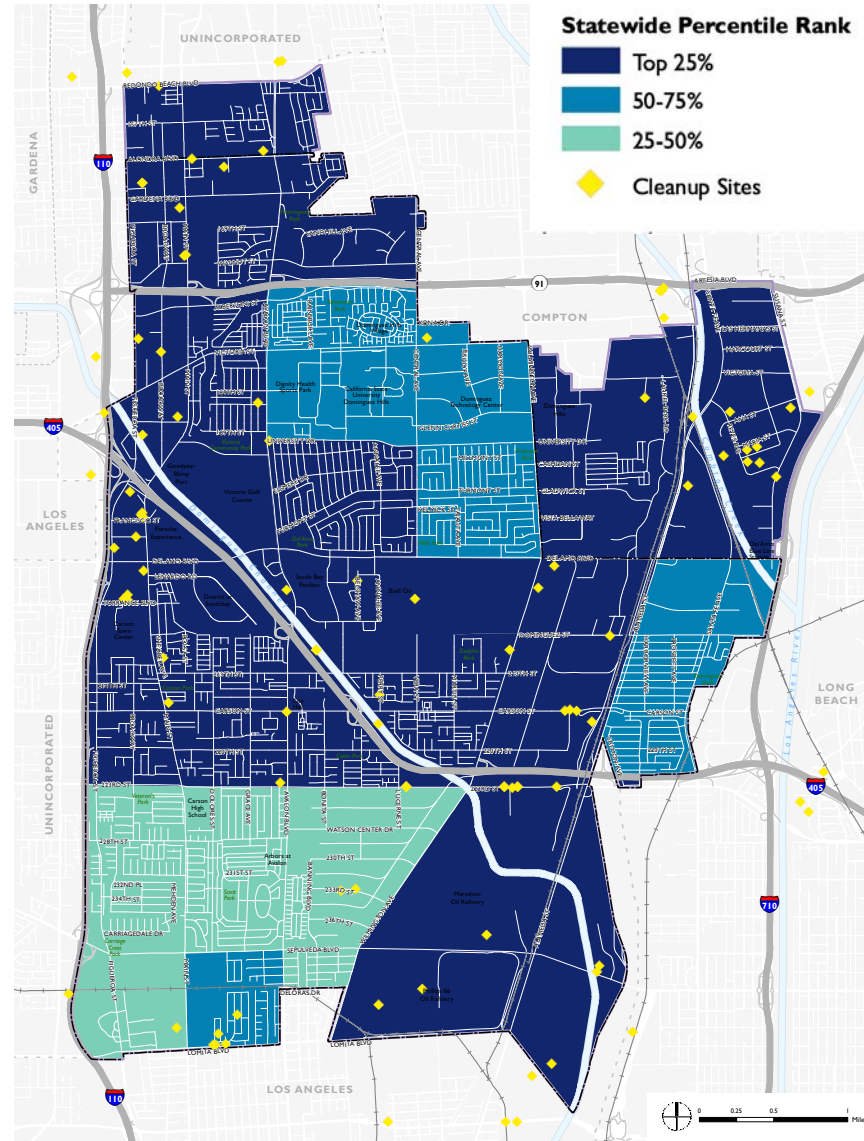
Note: Policies on water supply/resources are found in the Open Space and Environmental Conservation element.

- Protect, restore, and enhance the quality of surface and groundwater resources to ensure healthy water quality for all residents.
 - Seek and secure funding for regular groundwater quality assessment, monitoring, management, and education regarding groundwater quality issues, particularly around known locations of groundwater threats and potential pollution sources located in disadvantaged communities.

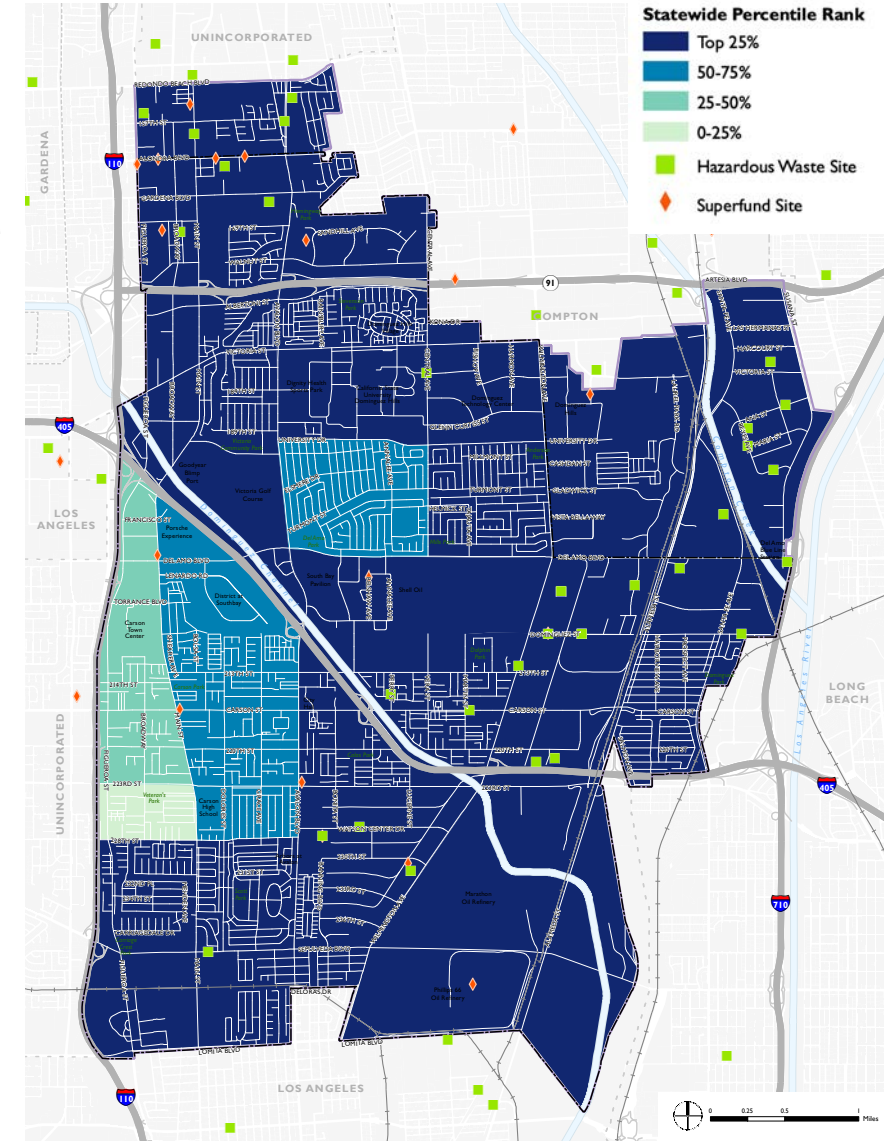
Soil Pollution

- Hazardous Materials & Toxics
 - Cleanup Sites
 - Hazardous Waste

Cleanup Sites



Hazardous Waste



Source: CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0, US EPA 2021, SWRCB 2021

Prospective Goals and Policies



- Protect community health from pollution by toxics and hazardous materials, especially in areas with vulnerable or sensitive populations.
 - Avoid new toxin sources by stringently evaluating the siting of facilities that might significantly increase pollution, especially near already disproportionately impacted communities.
- Explore opportunities and seek funding to remediate and redevelop brownfields as sites to spur economic development, expand natural open spaces and parks, community gardens, and other similar health-promoting community revitalization activities, particularly in underserved neighborhoods.

Public Facilities & Physical Activity

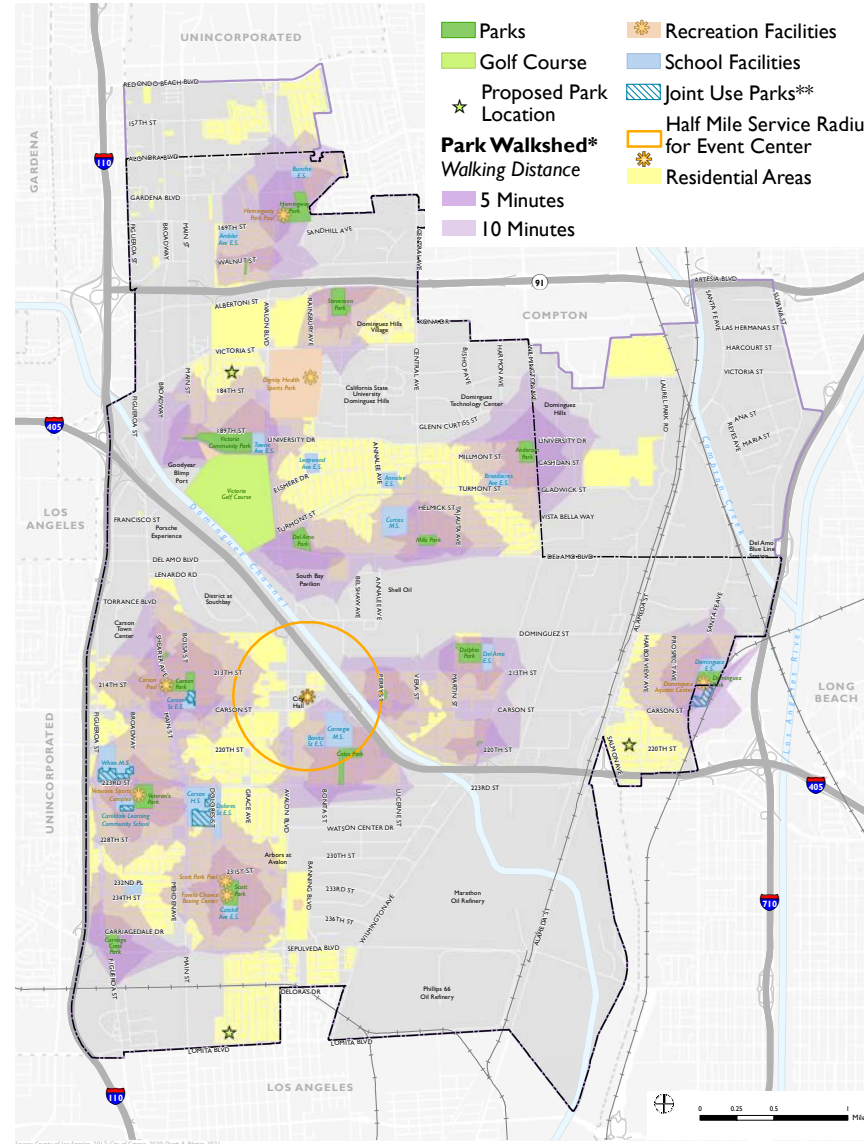
■ Parks & Recreation, Community Facilities

* Park walksheds are calculated only for mini, community and county parks, and Victoria Golf Course in Carson. For special use parks and recreational facilities, the service is citywide.

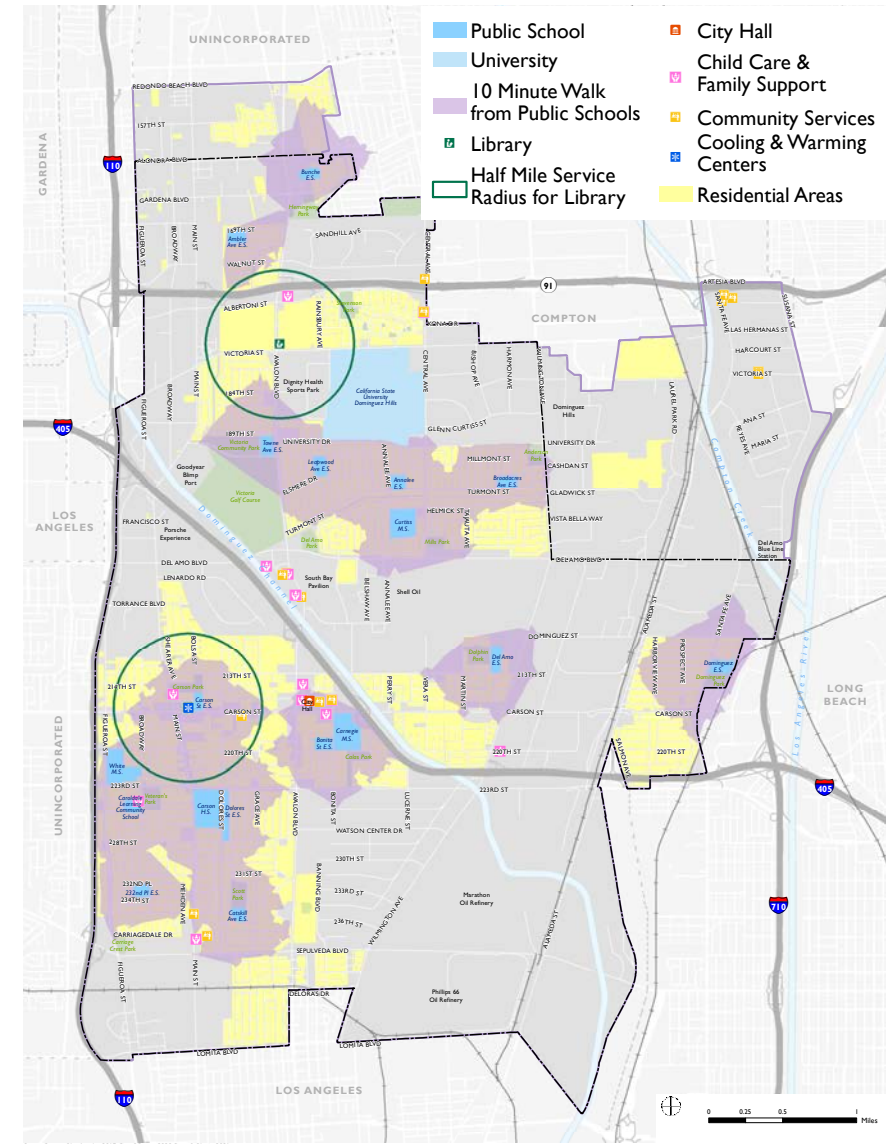
** Joint Use Agreements between the City and Schools for public use of their recreation facilities.

- Health Care Access
- Mobility

Parks & Recreation Access



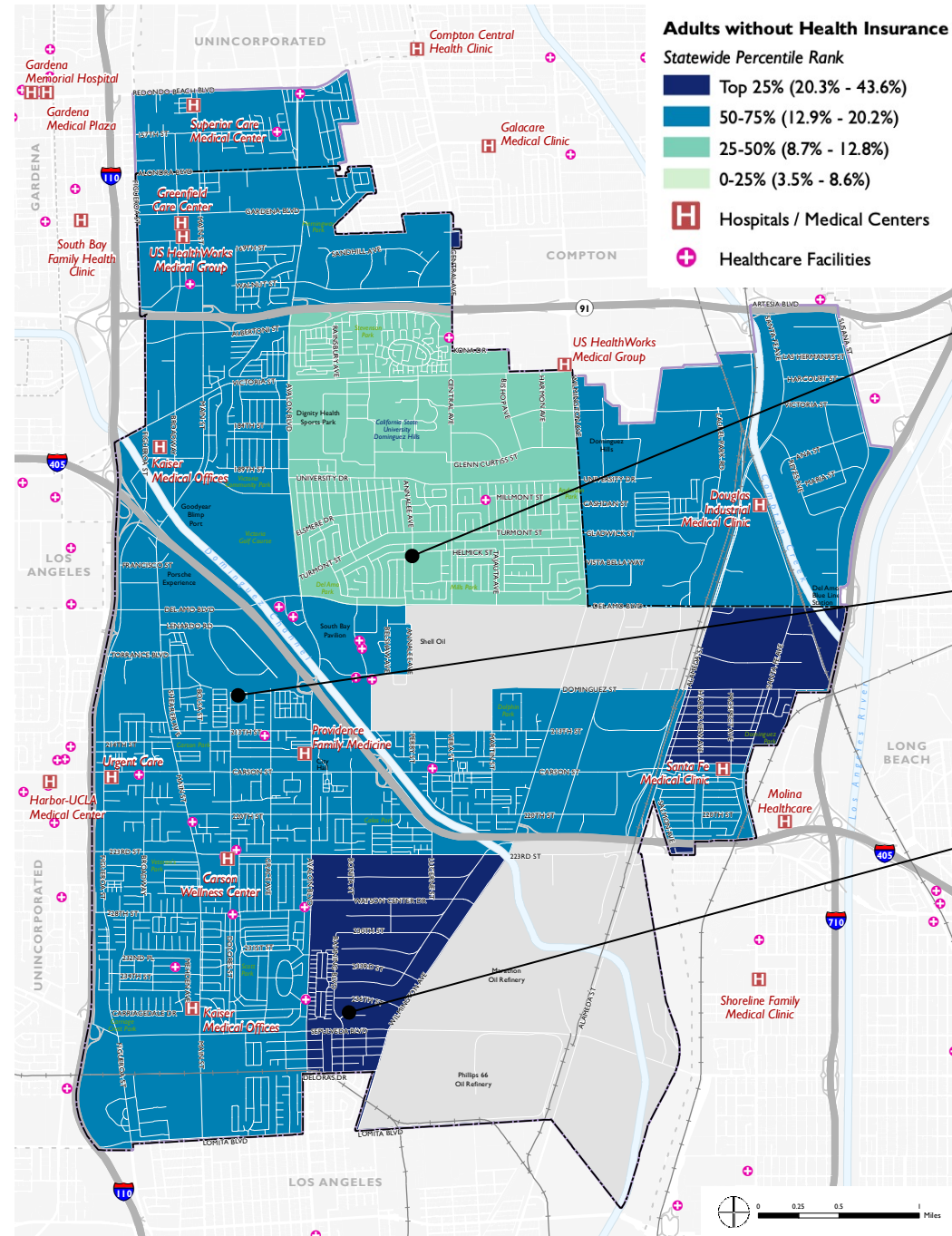
Community Facilities Access



Source: City of Carson 2017, Dyett & Bhatia 2018

Public Facilities & Physical Activity

- Parks & Recreation, Community Facilities
- Health Care Access
- Mobility



*Adults ages 18-64. Adults ages 65 and over are eligible for Medicare.

Tract 5433.22
Lack of Health Insurance: 9.4%
Life Expectancy: 81.4 years
Median Household Income: \$114,388

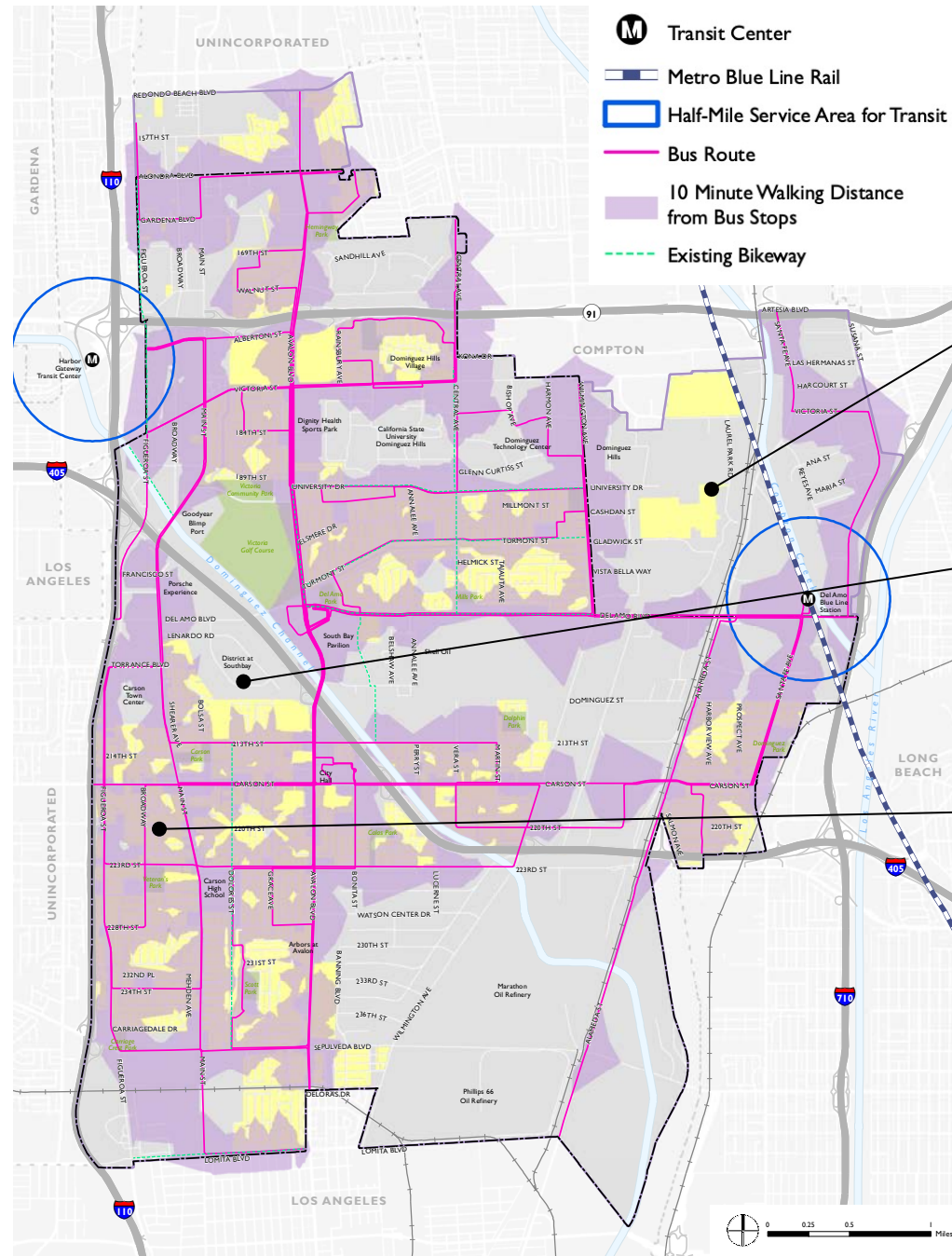
Tract 5438.01
Lack of Health Insurance: 15.6%
Life Expectancy: 82.5 years
Median Household Income: \$81,190

Tract 5439.05
Lack of Health Insurance: 27%
Life Expectancy: 83.5 years
Median Household Income: \$66,250

Sources:
CDC PLACES 2020, Los Angeles County 2017, US Dept. Health & Human Services 2021, ACS 2015-2019

Public Facilities & Physical Activity

- Parks & Recreation, Community Facilities
- Health Care Access
- Mobility (Walking, Biking, Transit)



Source: County of Los Angeles, 2017; City of Compton, 2020; Dyett & Bhatia, 2021

Sources:
 Los Angeles County 2017, Dyett & Bhatia 2018, ACS 2015-2019

Prospective Goals and Policies



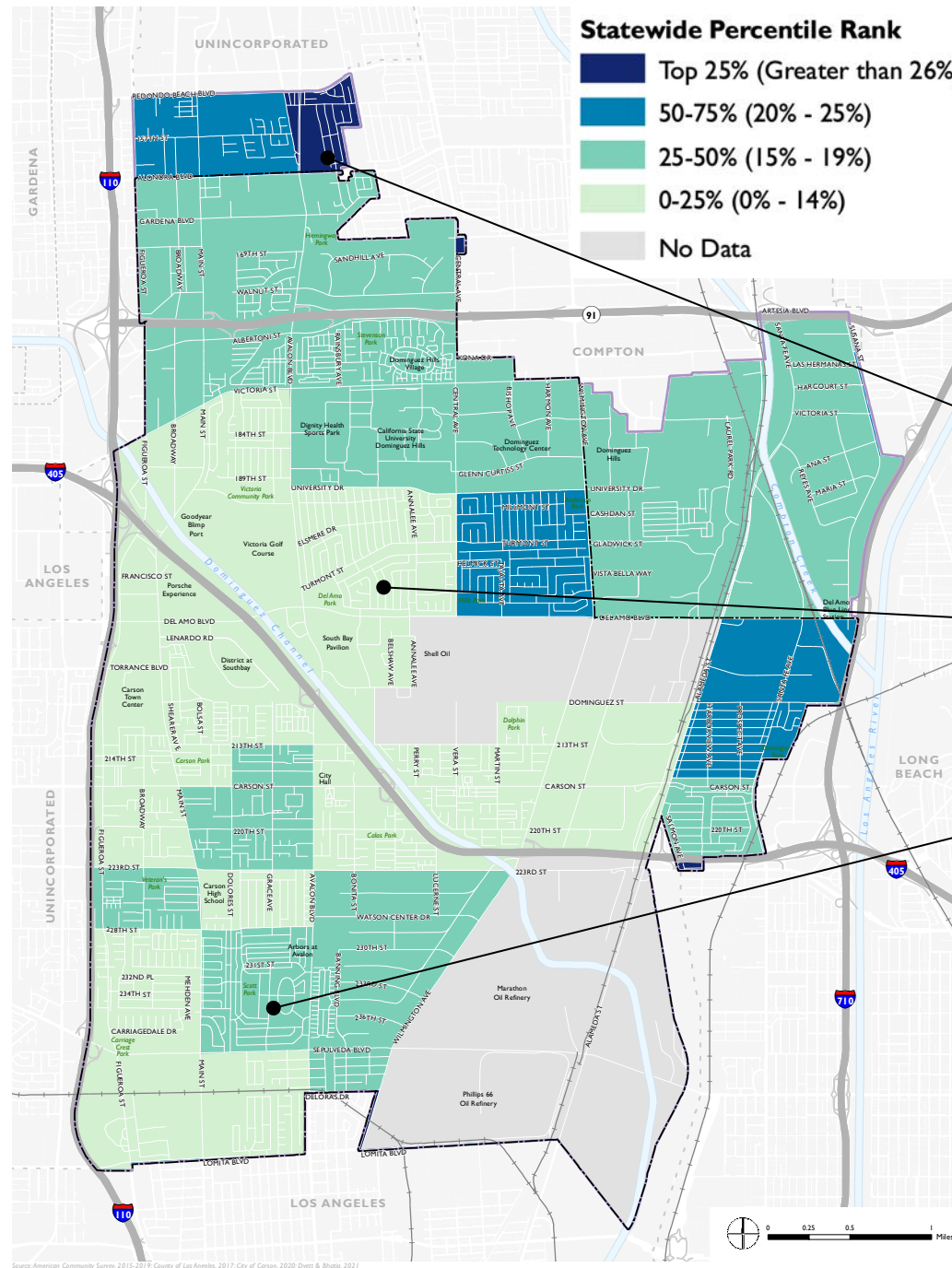
- Provide residents of all ages and income levels with convenient and safe opportunities for recreation and physical activities.
 - Assess service provision using a 10-minute walkshed (1/4-mile) from parks and recreational opportunities to residential areas and identify areas that are underserved to locate new parks.
 - Facilitate the location of additional transportation routes, including new bikeways, to existing recreational facilities.
 - Encourage the location of parks near other community facilities such as schools, senior centers, and recreation centers. Explore opportunities to co-locate compatible facilities when possible and continue to provide access to existing recreational resources through joint-use agreements.
- Improve bike, pedestrian, and transit connectivity to community facilities and services, especially in underserved areas.
 - Identify locations to install diagonal crosswalks that support pedestrian movement.
- Work with the County, non-profits, and other public and private organizations to encourage local employers to adopt healthy employee programs such as health challenges (e.g., bike-to-work days, lunchtime/worktime sponsored events), healthy food choices, and healthy work environments, as well as to provide adequate health coverage and benefits to employees.

Safe & Sanitary Housing

■ Housing Burden

- A household is “housing burdened” if 30%+ of household income is spent on housing costs.
- Significant housing burden is 50%+.

■ Housing Quality



Tract 5430
 Total population: 4,531
 Significantly housing burdened: 27%

Tract 5433.22
 Total population: 7,959
 Significantly housing burdened: 7%

Tract 5437.02
 Total population: 6,637
 Significantly housing burdened: 18%

Source:
 American Community
 Survey 2015-2019

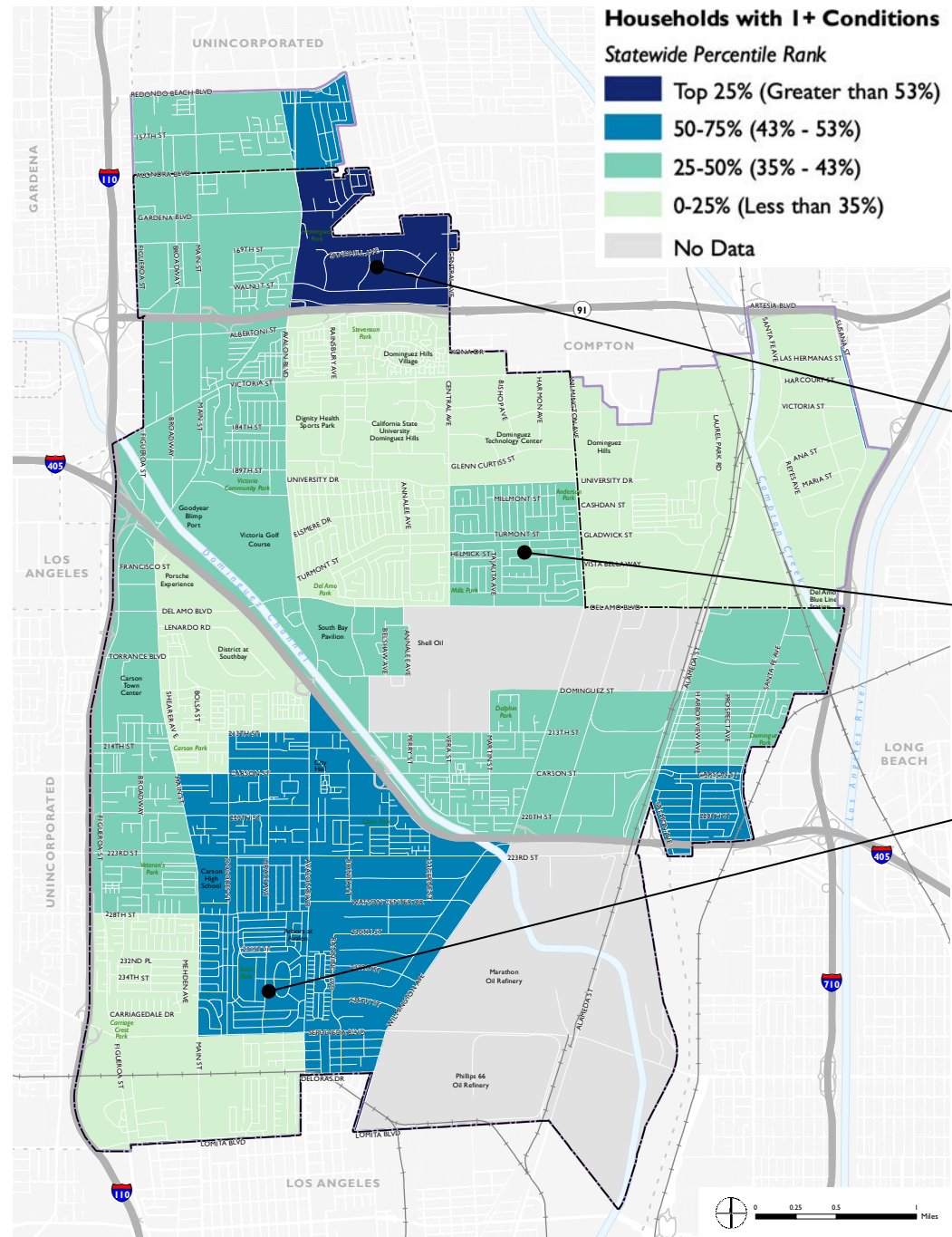
Source: American Community Survey, 2015-2019; County of Los Angeles, 2017; City of Carson, 2020; Dyce & Shott, 2021

Safe & Sanitary Housing

■ Housing Burden

■ Housing Quality

- Overcrowding (More than 1 person/room)
- Incomplete Kitchen
- Incomplete Plumbing
- Housing burdened (30% or more)



Source:
American Community
Survey 2015-2019

Prospective Goals and Policies



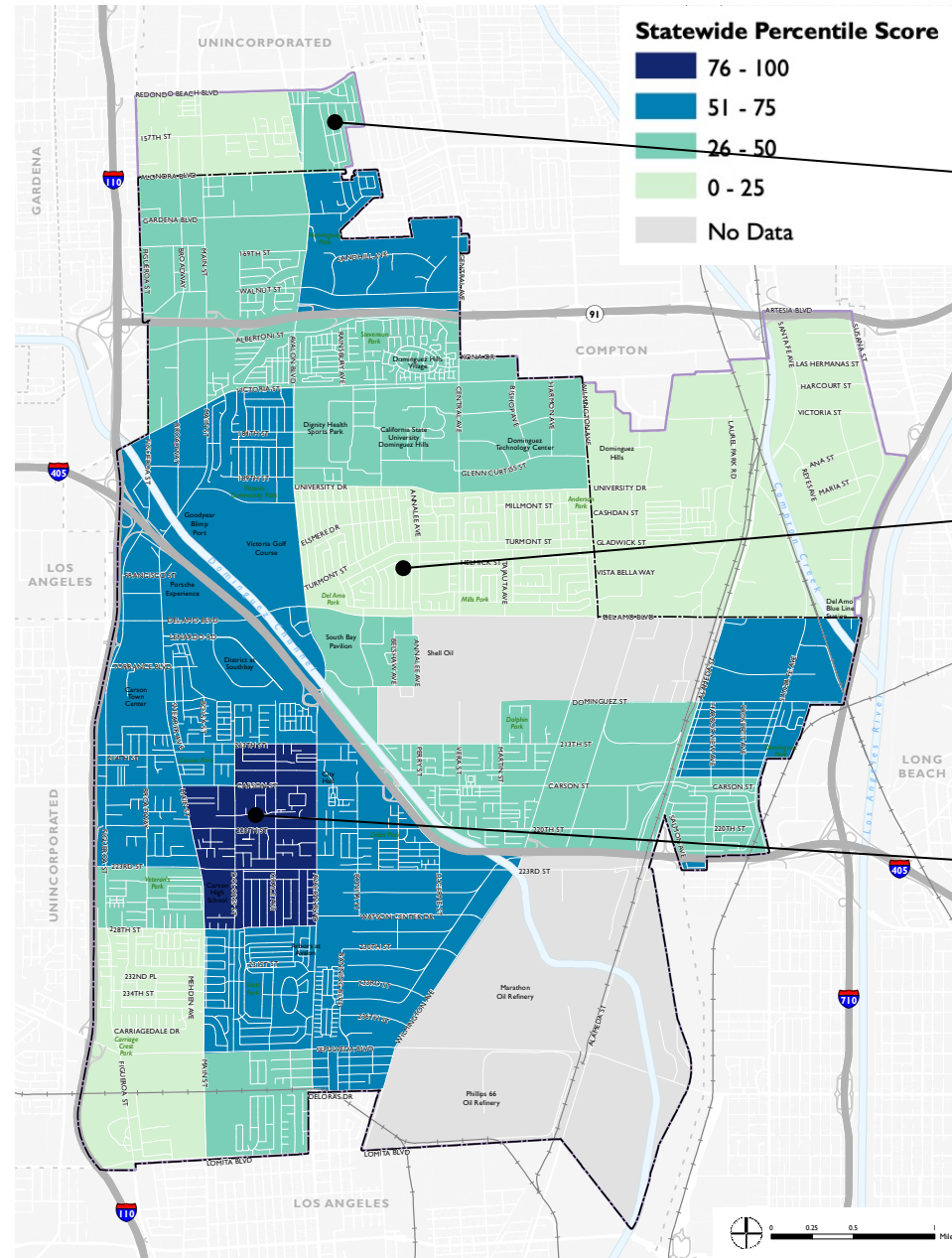
Note: Policies on this topic will need to coordinate with the Housing Element.

- Foster healthy, diverse neighborhoods with a robust supply of safe, sanitary, affordable, and stable housing available to residents of all ages and abilities, especially disadvantaged communities.
 - Work with the Carson Housing Authority (CHA) to identify funding sources or incentives to rehabilitate or upgrade housing occupied by low-income renters and homeowners to incorporate sustainable and green building practices that support a healthier living environment such as the highest energy efficiency standards and air filtration and ventilation systems.
 - Coordinate with CHA and other housing agencies to ensure implementation of the Housing Element addresses environmental justice, including sanitary housing and maintenance, pollution and environmental hazards, affordability, and other community concerns.

Civic Engagement & Investment Prioritization

- Barriers to Access or Meaningful Involvement
 - Linguistic Isolation
 - Single-Parent Household
 - Internet Access
 - Vehicle Access
 - Disability Status

Linguistic Isolation



Tract 5430
 Total population: 4,531
 Linguistic Isolation: 7.4%
 Single-Parent Household: 18.2%
 No Internet Access: 27%
 No Vehicle Access: 7.8%
 Adults w/I+ Disability: 13.5%

Tract 5433.22
 Total population: 7,959
 Linguistic Isolation: 1.3%
 Single-Parent Household: 9.2%
 No Internet Access: 12%
 No Vehicle Access: 1.9%
 Adults w/I+ Disability: 18.8%

Tract 5438.02
 Total population: 6,637
 Linguistic Isolation: 5.8%
 Single-Parent Household: 1.4%
 No Internet Access: 18%
 No Vehicle Access: 3.2%
 Adults w/I+ Disability: 8.5%

Sources:
 CalEPA CalEnviroScreen 3.0,
 ACS 2015-2019

Prospective Goals and Policies

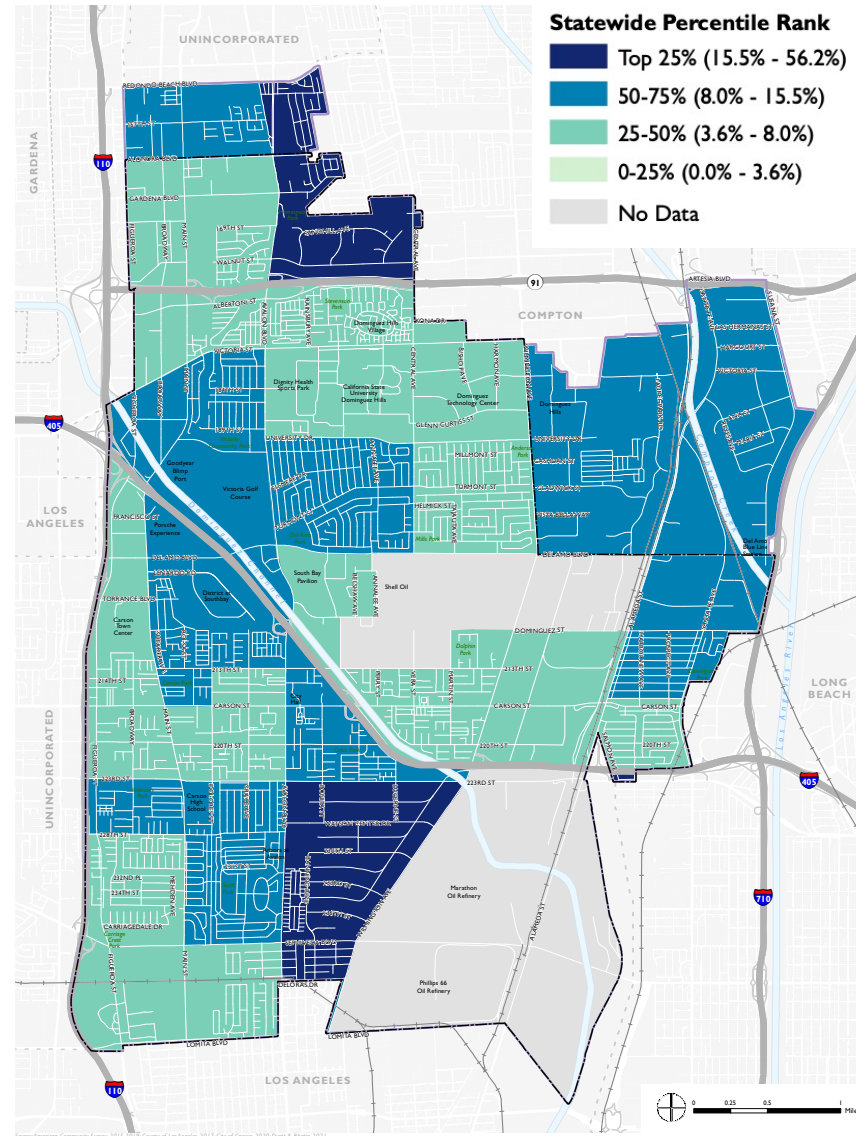


- Strengthen community capacity to actively participate in civic life and in development and implementation of solutions for neighborhood priorities, particularly historically underrepresented groups.
 - Support community-based organizations and other community partners that increase opportunities for community involvement in civic processes by providing technical assistance, data, meeting spaces, and other support services as feasible.
- Utilize diverse methods of outreach that promote public participation and ensure City events are communicated to all communities, especially to linguistically isolated households, households without internet access, and low-income residents.
 - Seek to incorporate culturally competent policies and practices that enable effective outreach to underrepresented communities.
 - Employ a wide range of outreach methods and activities, including pop-up events, focus groups, community workshops, and online surveys that are tailored to best reach target audiences.
 - Identify barriers to participation and provide methods to remove these barriers such as transportation vouchers, translation services, childcare, food, or monetary compensation.

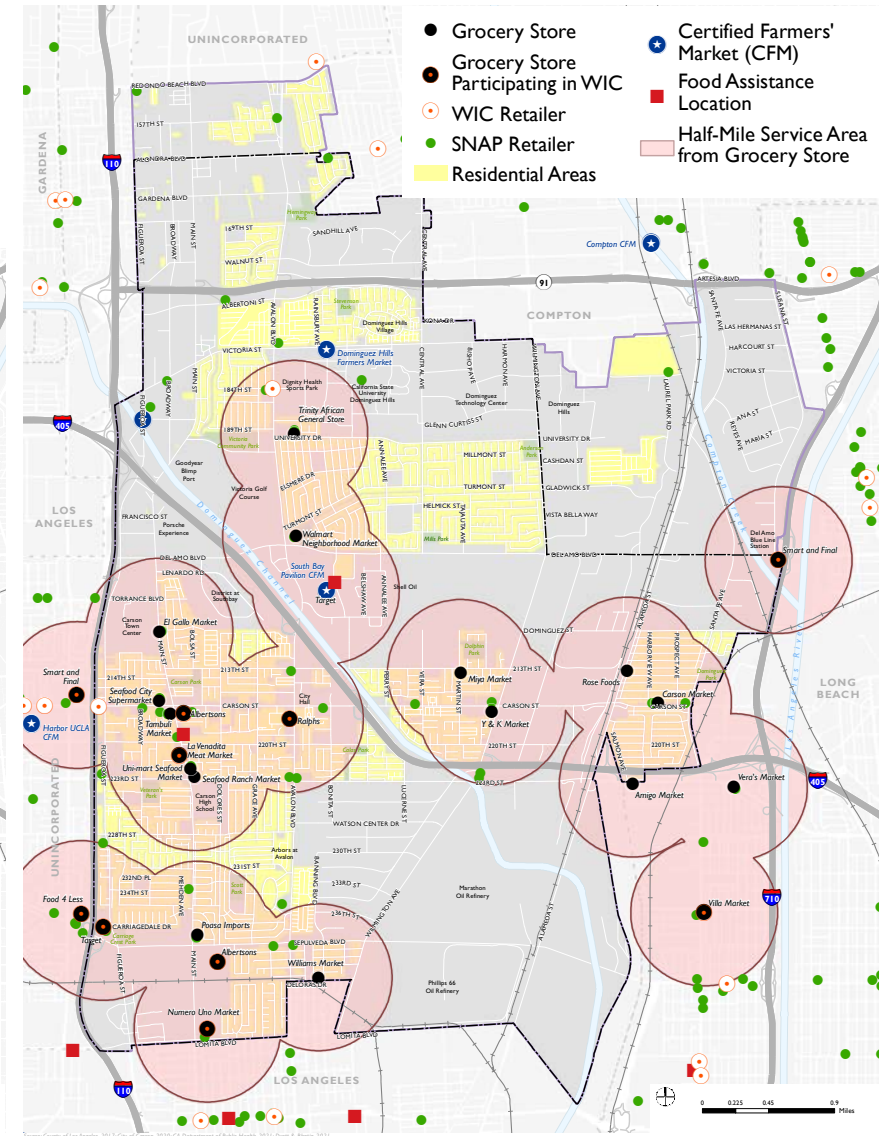
Food Access

- Food Insecurity
 - SNAP (Food Stamps), WIC, Food Assistance
- Healthy Food
 - Grocery Stores, Farmers Markets

SNAP/Public Assistance



Access to Food



Source: Los Angeles County 2017, Dyett & Bhatia 2018, CA Dept. of Public Health 2021, ACS 2015-2019

Example Goals and Policies

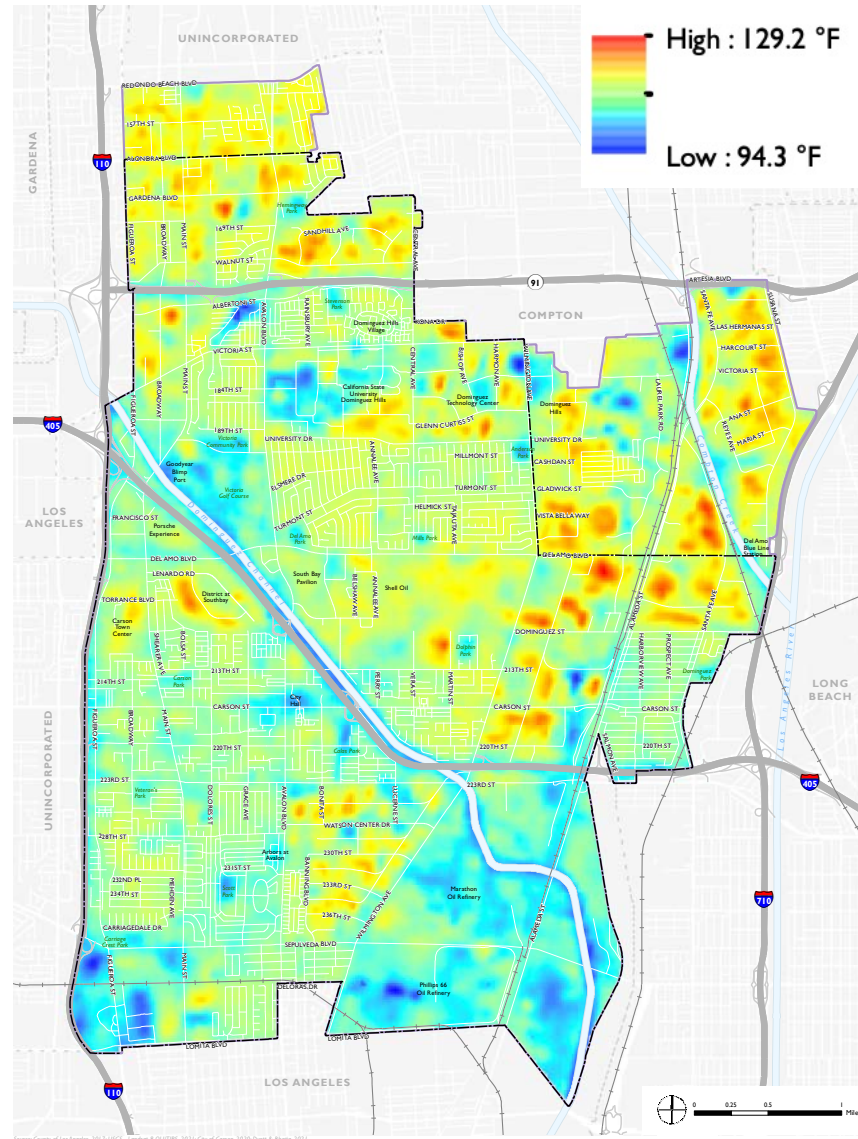


- Support development of new retail venues that sell healthy food options such as fresh produce, including farmers' markets and grocery stores.
 - Leverage financial incentives, zoning, technical assistance, and other similar programs to attract grocery store retailers in underserved areas. Programs could include grants or loans to purchase updated equipment (such as refrigerators), publicity, and directories of healthy food outlets.
 - Discourage oversaturation of unhealthy food retailers such as fast food restaurants and liquor stores, especially in low-income communities.
 - Identify appropriate sites such as public or institutional lands and parking lots for farmers' markets and urban agriculture, and review existing ordinances to remove barriers to establishing new farmers' markets, community gardens, and home gardens.
 - Explore opportunities for expanding urban agriculture such as converting underutilized industrial warehouses and factories for vertical farming, hydroponic and aeroponic growing.
- Promote nutrition education and access to healthy foods. Provide affordable healthy foods, and fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables in schools and other public places.
 - Compile a list of existing resources—such as cooking classes, gardening classes, and financial support—that residents can use to gain greater access to and learn more about healthy food.
 - Partner with CSU Dominguez Hills to promote and expand access to the Campus Urban Farm and nutrition education activities.

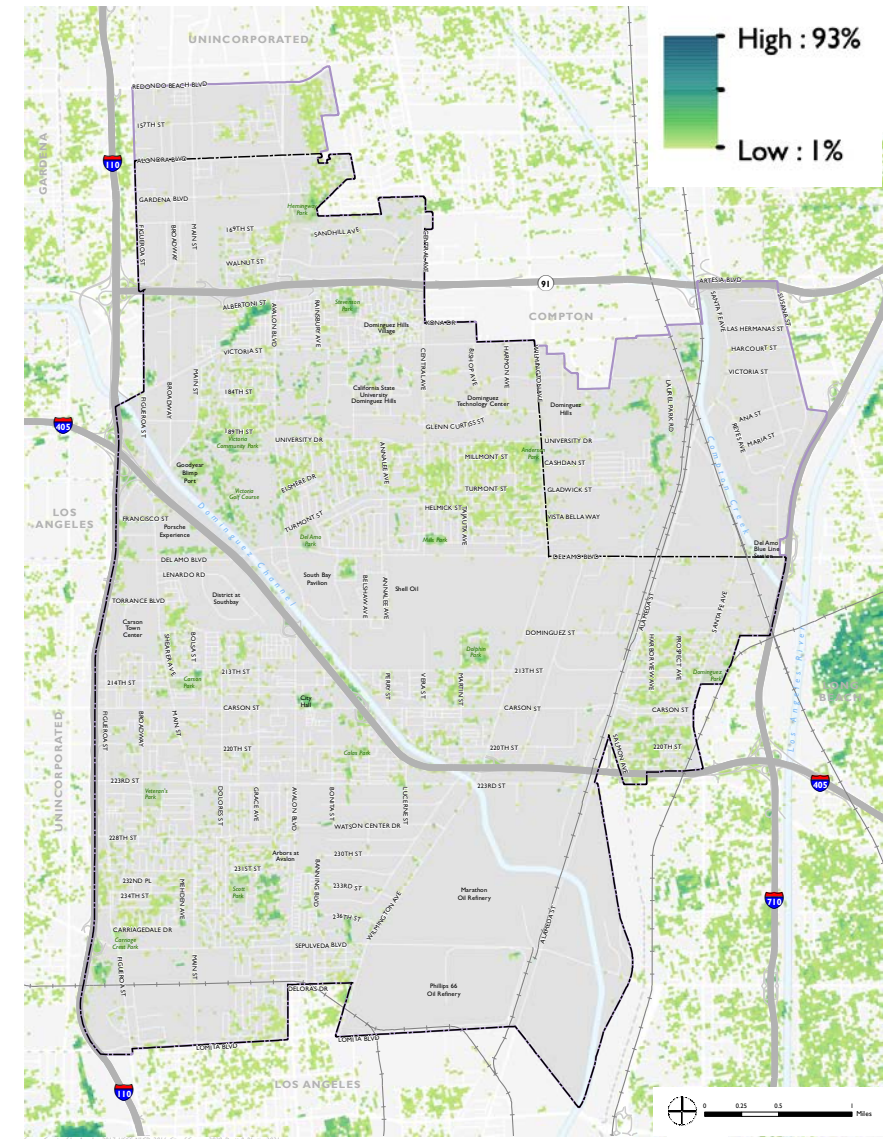
Other

- Climate Resilience
- Urban Heat Mitigation
 - Urban Forest Resources

Land Surface Temperature



Tree Canopy Cover



Sources: USGS - Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS 2021, National Land Cover Dataset 2016

Prospective Goals and Policies



- Focus planning and intervention in and with communities with the highest need by ensuring that policies, services, and programs are responsive to community members who are most vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate change.
 - Work with community-based organizations to expand access to and awareness of cooling centers and resilience hubs that provide safe spaces during wildfires and extreme heat events, especially for outdoor workers, seniors, homeless individuals, and other vulnerable populations.
- Increase investment in tree planting, incentives for green buildings and cool paving, and actively pursue the creation of new green spaces in areas with the highest heat-related vulnerability and/or highest ambient temperatures.
 - Work with the City Parks and Recreation Department to establish partnerships with nonprofits and identify funding sources to conduct an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment and establish a citywide tree canopy goal.
 - Seek to plant tree species that balance sustainability and heat mitigation potential such as those that are drought-tolerant, pest-resistant, and maximize shade.
 - Target heat mitigation strategies such as installation of shade structures at bus stops and in public spaces to benefit those that are most impacted.

A photograph of a smiling female teacher with her hair in a bun, wearing a grey cardigan over a white collared shirt, sitting on the floor and interacting with a group of diverse young children. The children are also sitting on the floor, some with their hands raised as if participating in an activity. The background shows a classroom setting with white bookshelves filled with colorful books and a green floor.

Community Health & EJ Element Outline

Community Health and EJ Element

- EJ inevitably overlaps with many other elements
 - Other elements and documents also include policies or programs that support EJ focus areas
- Element to include citywide policies that address needs of DACs

Relationship of other Element Policies to EJ Topic Areas

Element / SB 1000 Topic Area	Safe & Sanitary Housing	Public Facilities & Physical Activity	Healthy Food Access	Air/Water Quality & Pollution Exposure	Civic Engagement, Investment Prioritization, and Improved Health Outcomes
Housing	●			○	
Land Use & Revitalization	○	○	●	●	○
Community Character, Identity, Design	○	○			●
Economy			●		○
Transportation & Connectivity		●		○	●
Community Services, Education, Safety					●
Recreation & Active Lifestyle		●			○
Open Space & Environmental Conservation		○		●	○

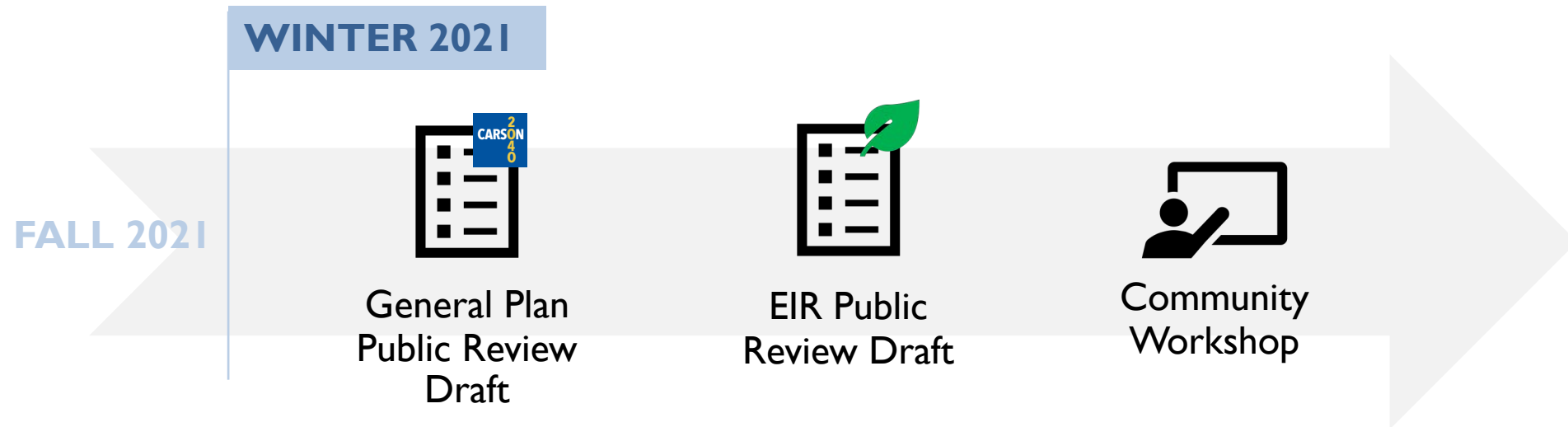
○ : Some Overlap ● : Significant Overlap

Prospective Goals & Policies



Improved Health Outcomes	Pollution: Air, Water, Soil	Public Facilities & Physical Activity	Safe & Sanitary Housing	Civic Engagement & Investment Prioritization	Access to Healthy Food	Climate Resilience
Reduce health disparities & inequities.	Reduce risk of respiratory illness through zoning/design standards & by coordinating efforts with SCAQMD.	Assess park service levels using 10-minute walkshed.	Rehab/upgrade low-income housing for healthier living environment & sustainability.	Increase involvement and build community capacity by supporting community partners.	Support healthy food sources and attract new ones in underserved areas.	Identify vulnerable & at-risk communities.
Track Life Expectancy.	Explore use of brownfields for health-promoting community revitalization.	Improve connectivity to existing parks & facilities.	Coordinate with Carson Housing Authority & Housing Element policies to include EJ issues.	Improve cultural competency for effective outreach that meet needs of all segments of the community.	Discourage oversaturation of unhealthy food sources.	Increase awareness of existing resources.
Partner with County & other organizations.	Monitor/manage & educate about water quality.	Co-locate & leverage joint-use agreements.		Identify and reduce barriers to involvement.	Facilitate/explore opportunities for additional healthy food sources.	Invest in heat mitigation strategies such as tree-planting & shading to reduce impacts of increased urban heat.
Increase education about health and wellness.	Avoid new toxin sources, especially near sensitive populations.	Encourage local employers to adopt healthy employee programs & benefits.			Increase health & nutrition education.	

Upcoming Project Milestones



Opportunities for Public Comment

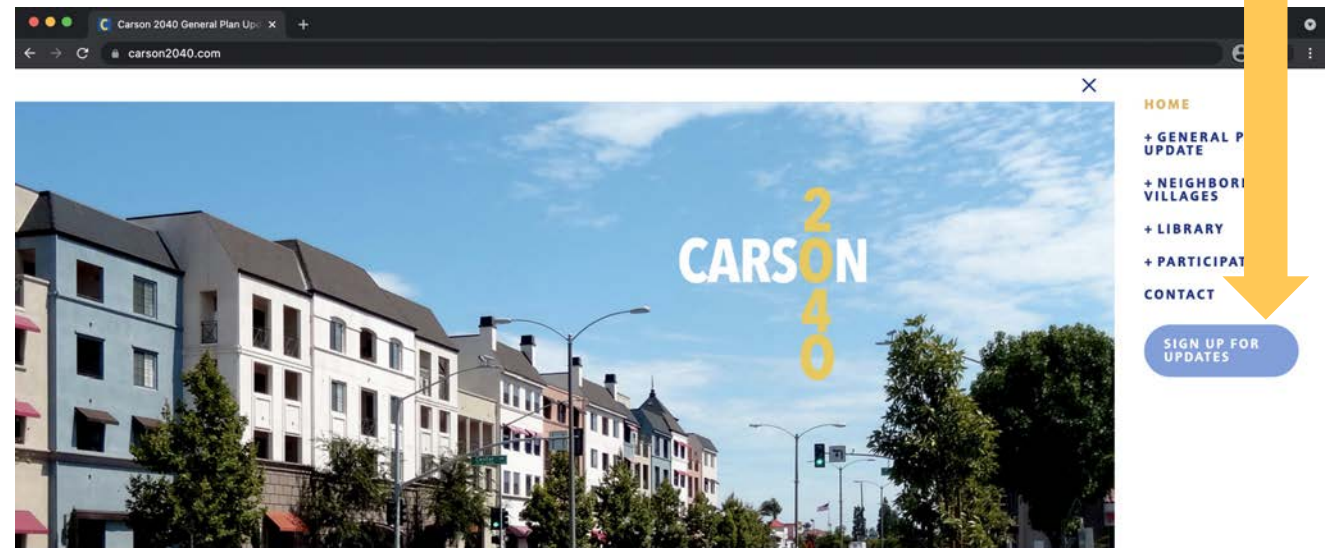
- Provide written comments via email or regular mail:

Alvie Betancourt, Planning Manager
City of Carson
701 East Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745

abetancourt@carsonca.gov

- Check out the website and Sign Up for Updates:

www.CARSON2040.com



Welcome! This website will serve as your one-stop shop for information about the General Plan Update for the City of Carson. This site provides up-to-date information, including a description of the project, schedule, documents, public participation opportunities, and contact information.

WHAT'S NEW

***UPDATED DOCUMENTS:**

Check in the link below