

Sustainability Department

Climate Equity Index & The Climate Action Plan Update

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Park and Recreation Board Meeting • Thursday, July 15, 2021



Overview

- What is Equity?
- Background and Objectives
- Methodology & Update
- Closer look at Communities of Concern
- Implementing Climate Equity



Equality and Equity



Climate Equity

Climate Equity: *addressing historical inequities suffered by people of color, allowing everyone to fairly share the same benefits and burdens from climate solutions and attain full and equal access to opportunities regardless of one's background and identity.*

Why is equity important?

- Disparities exist and effect the health and safety of our Communities of Concern.
- If not addressed, disparities continue, leaving hundreds of thousands of San Diegans vulnerable.
- Focusing on our most vulnerable helps every community thrive.



How do we advance equity?

- Focus on community-driven engagement & empowerment
- Understand the historical inequities & barriers faced by Communities of Concern
- Prioritize resources to areas with the greatest need



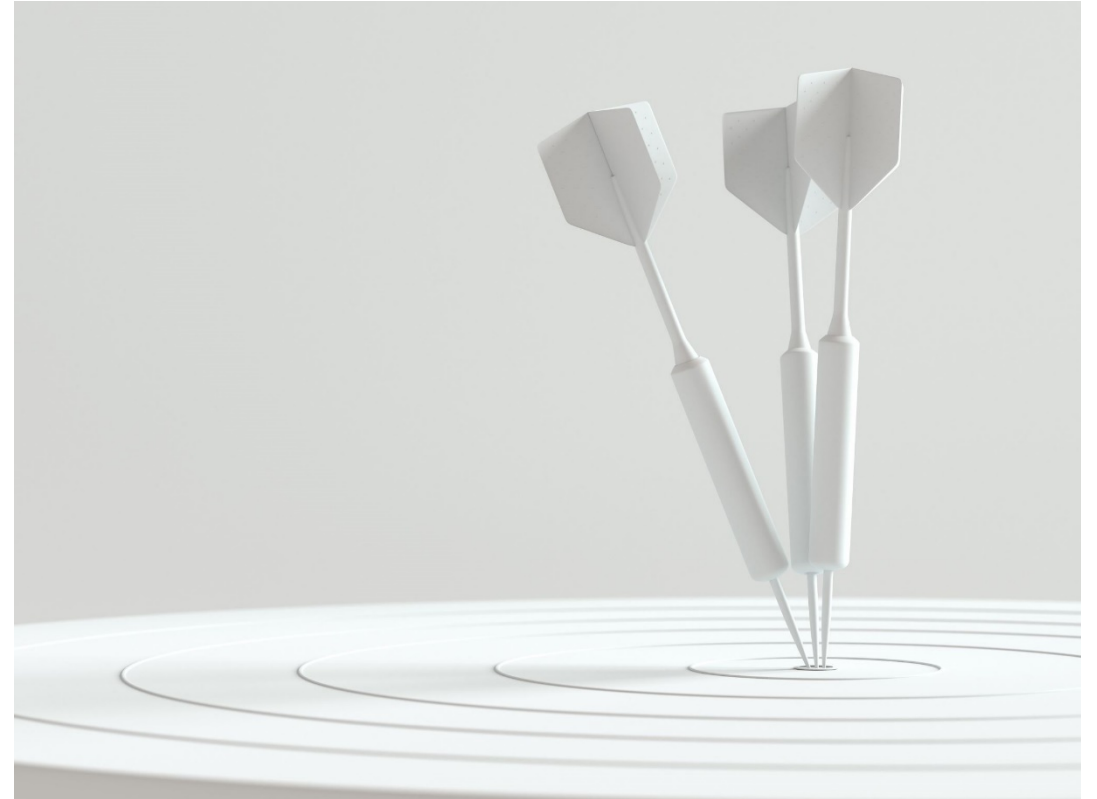
Benefits of the CEI

- ✓ Community Driven,
Local control
- ✓ Identifies areas with
greatest need
- ✓ Helps informs local
decisions



Objectives

- Addressing Social Equity and Environmental Justice
- Citywide Equity Assessment
- Community Driven



Process

- Established the Equity Stakeholder Working Group
 - 23 organizations participated
- Worked with University of San Diego, Energy Policy Initiative Center (EPIC)
 - Developed methodology for scoring
- Gathered data, calculated relative scores, and produced a report with map to showcase results
- Revised CEI to incorporate further stakeholder input and align with CalEnviroScreen 3.0

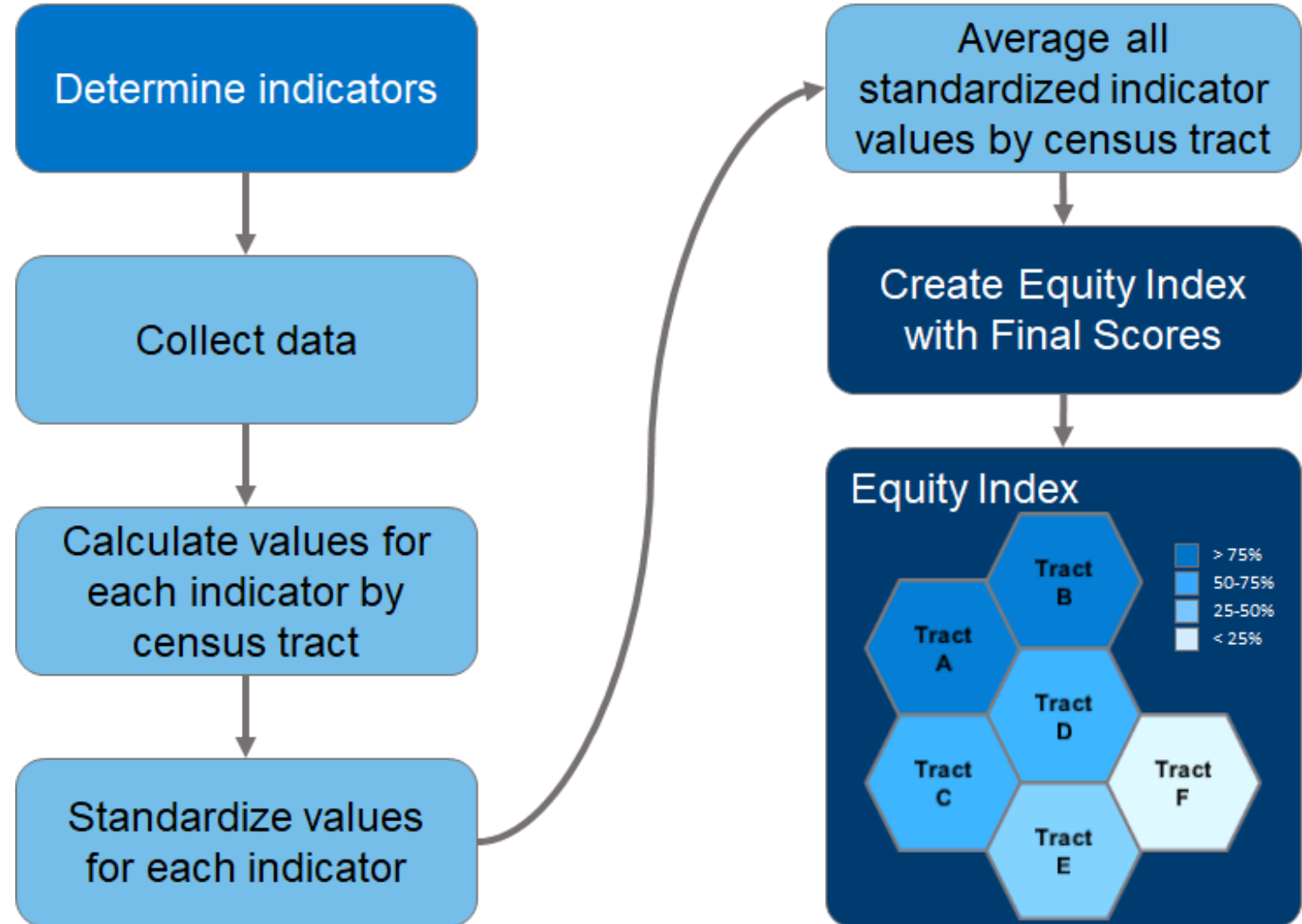


Equity Stakeholder Working Group

- Alliance San Diego
- Bayside Community Center
- Business For Good
- Casa Familiar
- Center for Sustainable Energy
- Circulate San Diego
- City Heights CDC
- Climate Action Campaign
- Environmental Health Coalition
- GRID Alternatives
- Groundworks San Diego
- I Am My Brother's Keeper CDC
- Mid-City CAN
- Nile Sisters Development Initiative
- Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans (PANA)
- Project New Village
- RISE San Diego
- San Diego 350
- San Diego EDC
- San Diego Housing Federation
- The Greenlining Institute
- The San Diego Foundation
- Urban Collaborative Project



Methodology



Indicators



Environmental

- Flood Risk
- Fire Risk
- Tree Coverage
- Urban Heat Island Index
- **Toxic Release from Facilities***
- **Clean Up Sites***
- **Hazardous Waste Generators and Facilities***
- **Solid Waste Sites and Facilities***
- **Ozone***
- **PM2.5***
- **Diesel PM***
- Pesticide Use*
- Drinking Water Contaminants*
- Groundwater Threats*
- Impaired Water Bodies*
- Proximity to Community Recreation Areas



Health

- Asthma Rates*
- Cancer Fatalities
- Healthy Food Access
- Low Infant Birth Weights*
- **Cardiovascular Disease***



Housing

- Housing Cost Burden
- Overcrowdedness



Mobility

- Traffic Density*
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
- Pedestrian Access
- Commute Burden
- Transportation Cost Burden
- Disability
- Street Conditions
- Bikeability
- Access to Public Transit



Socioeconomic

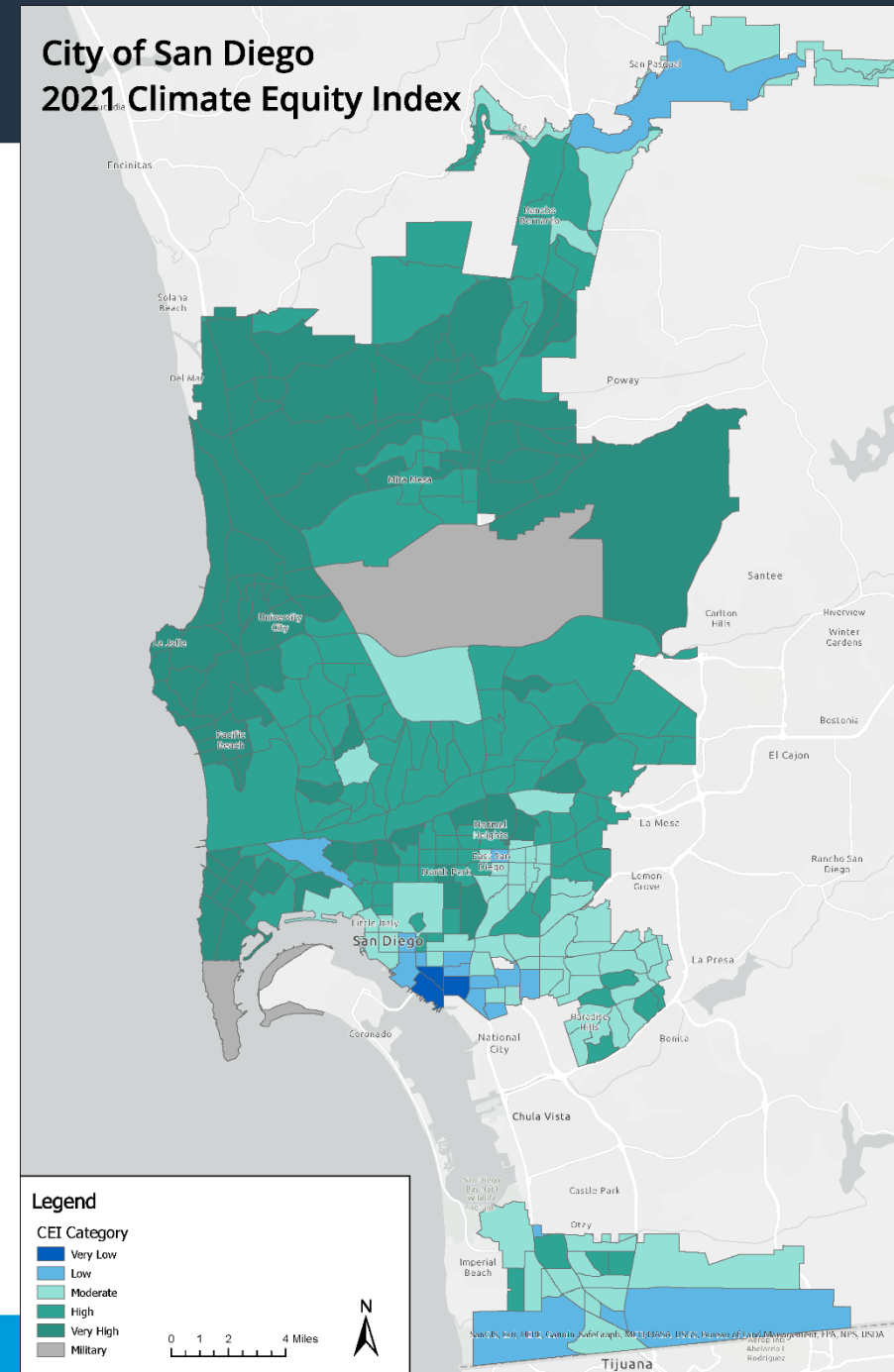
- Unemployment*
- Educational Attainment*
- Linguistic Isolation*
- Digital Access
- Median Income
- Poverty Rate*
- Change in Income
- Energy Cost Burden
- Solar Photovoltaic Systems

* CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Indicators

Climate Equity Index

- Five categories of access to opportunity:
 - 0-20, **Very Low Access**
 - 20-40, **Low Access**
 - 40-60, **Moderate Access**
 - 60-80, **High Access**
 - 80-100, **Very High Access**

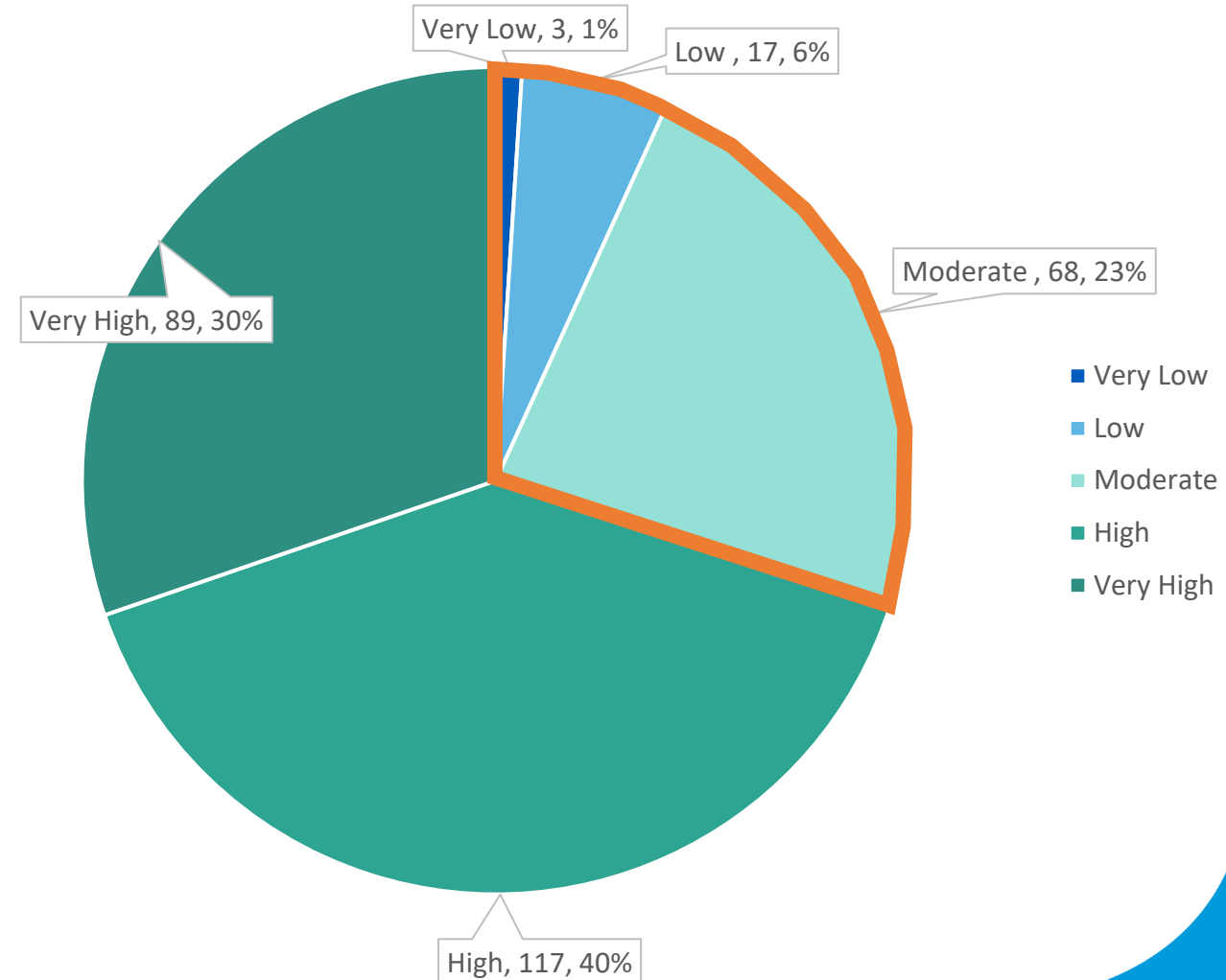
City of San Diego 2021 Climate Equity Index



2021 CEI Results

- 206 tracts with **High** to **Very High** access to opportunity
- 88 tracts with **Very Low**, **Low**, and **Moderate** access to opportunity
 - **Communities of Concern**
(~ 30% of population)

Census Tracts' Level of Access to Opportunity



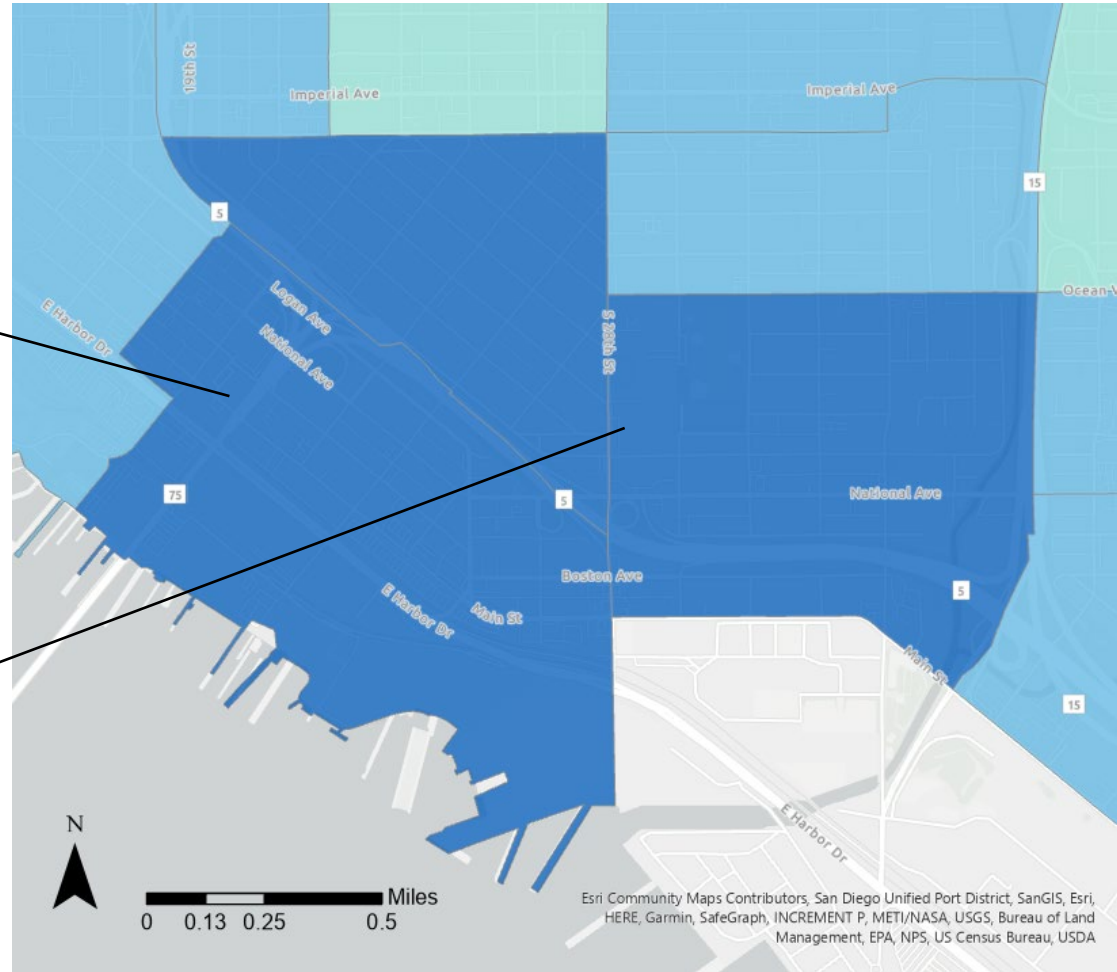
Communities of Concern

Tracts with *Very Low Access:*

Barrio Logan (D8)



Logan Heights (D8)



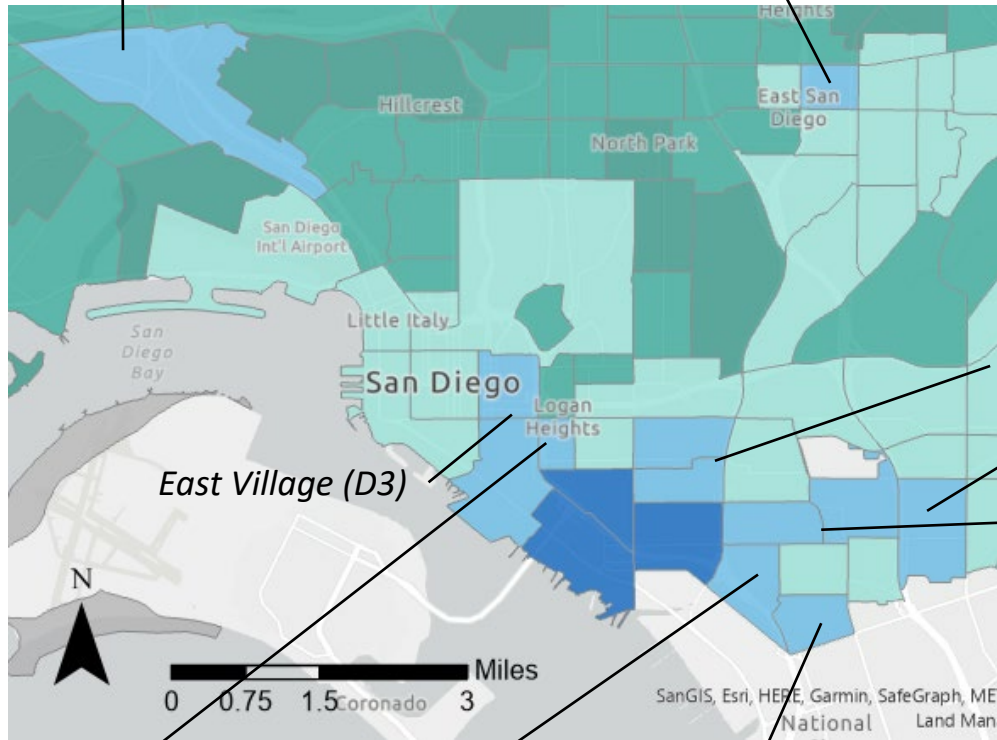
Esri Community Maps Contributors, San Diego Unified Port District, SanGIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, INCREMENT P, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

Communities of Concern

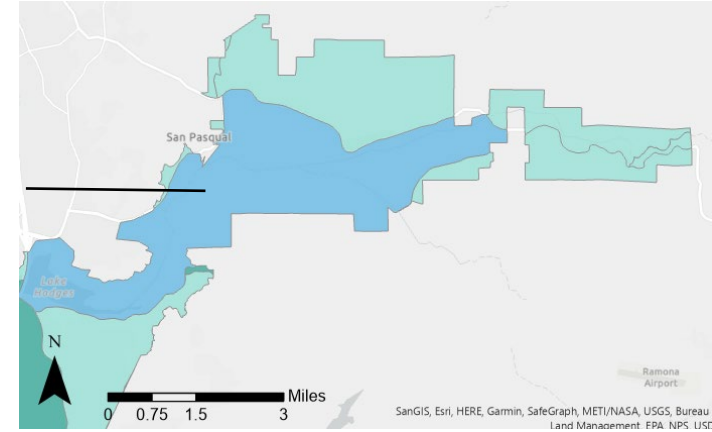
Tracts with *Low Access*:

Midway District (D2)

City Heights – Teralta East (D9)



San Pasqual (D5)



Grant Hill/Stockton (D8)

Lincoln Park (D4)

Mountain View (D9)

Sherman Heights (D8)

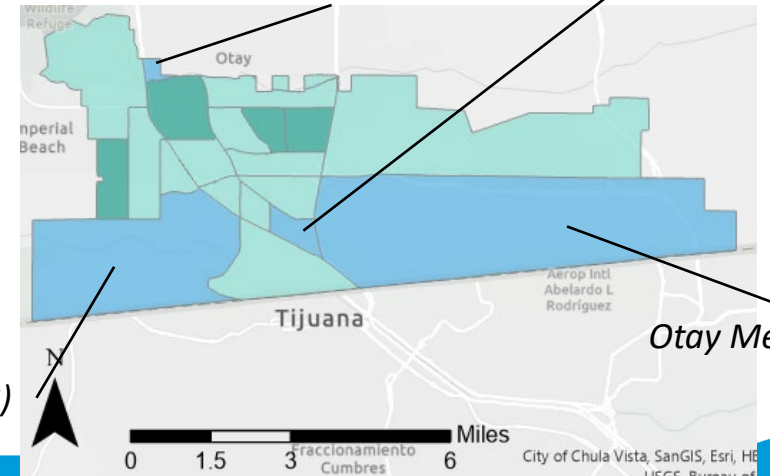
Southcrest (D9)

Shelltown (D8)

Tijuana River Valley/Nestor (D8)

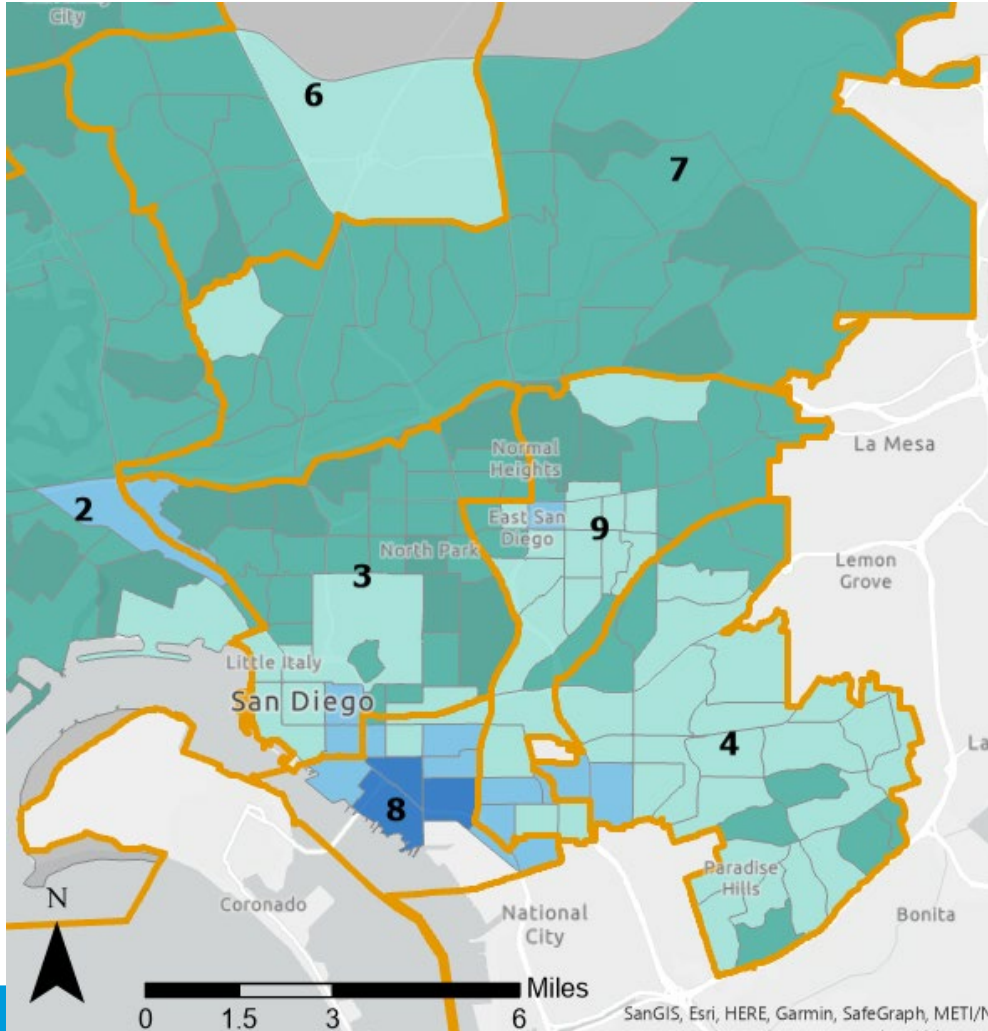
Palm City (D8)

San Ysidro (D8)

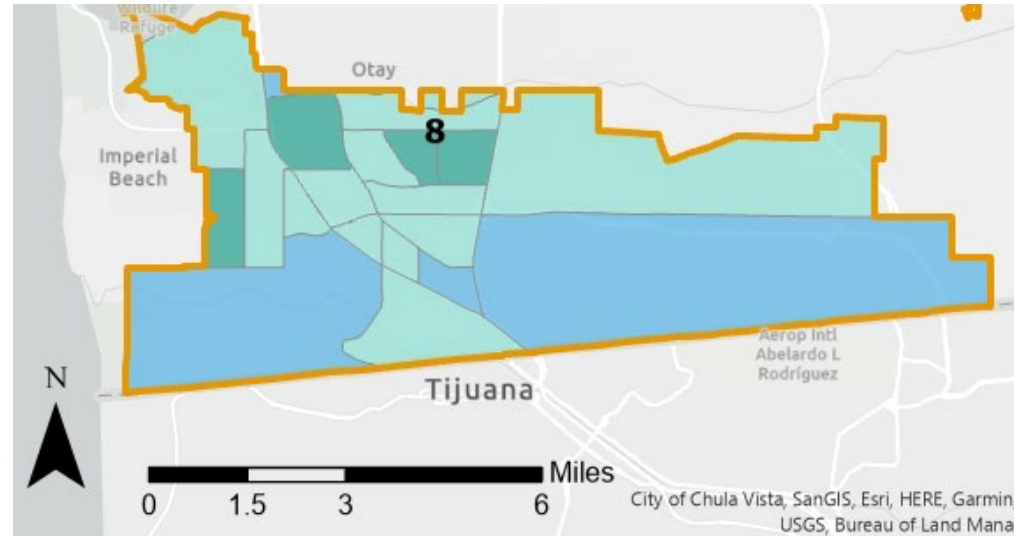
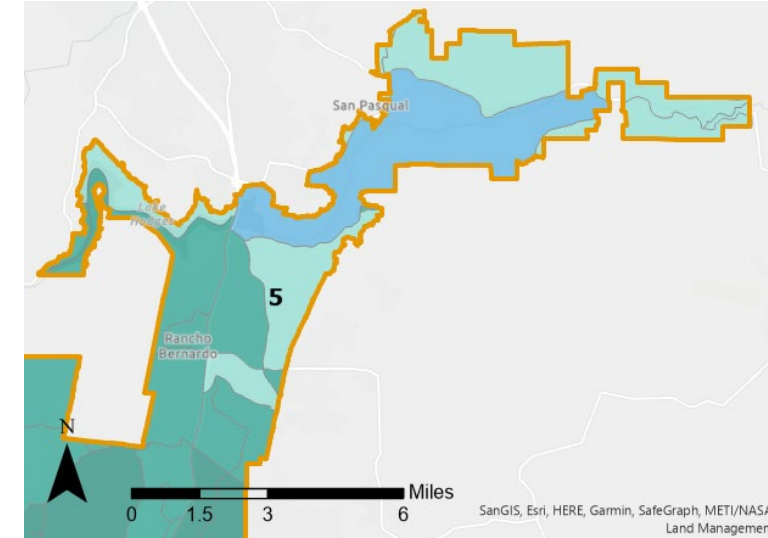


Tracts with *Moderate Access*:

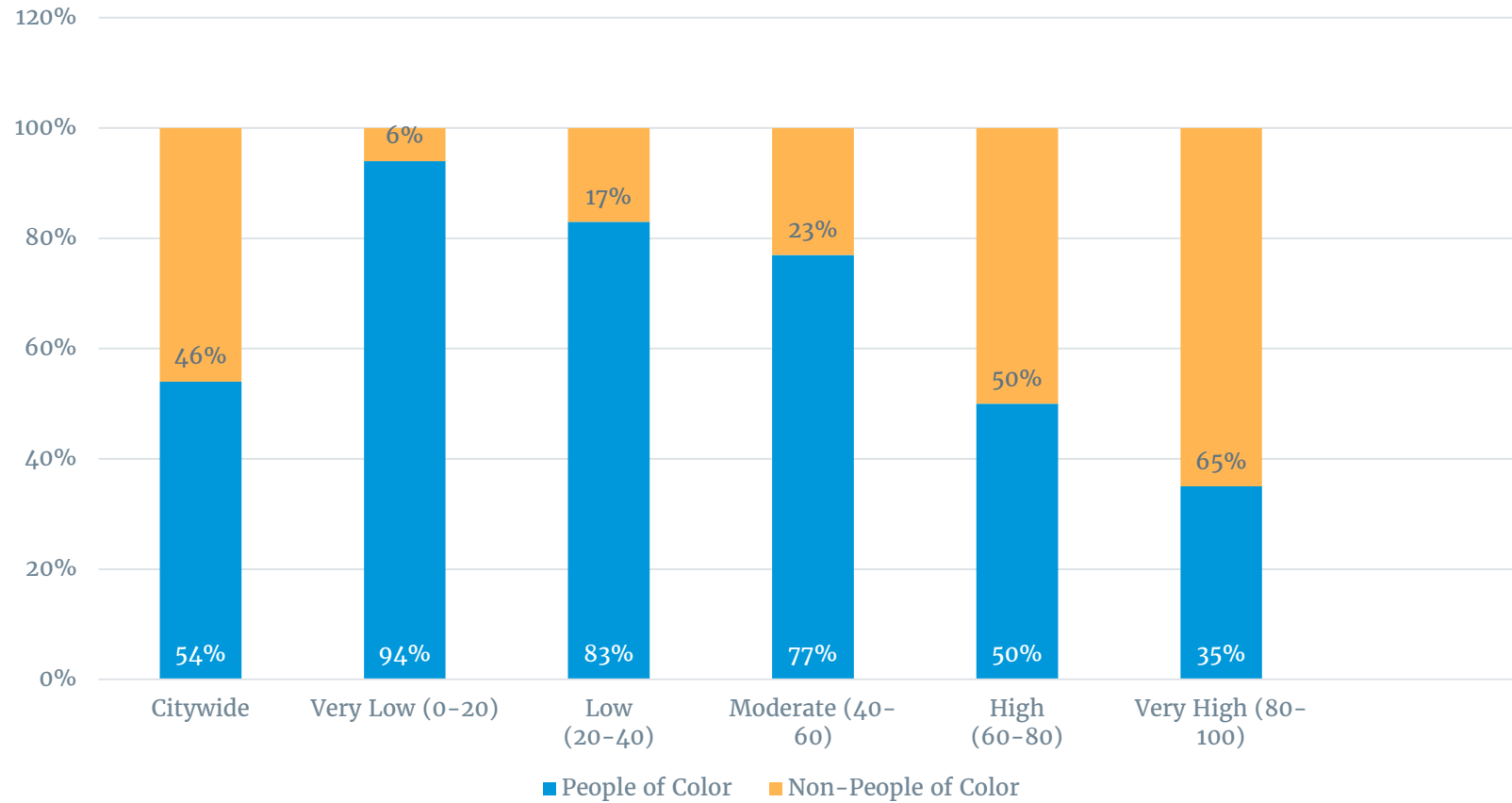
- Predominantly in Council Districts 4, 8, and 9



- Council District 2 – one census tract
- Council District 3 – six census tracts
- Council District 5 – five census tracts
- Council District 6 – one census tract
- Council District 7 – one census tract



A disproportionate percent of people of color are concentrated in certain census tracts



Climate Equity Implementation

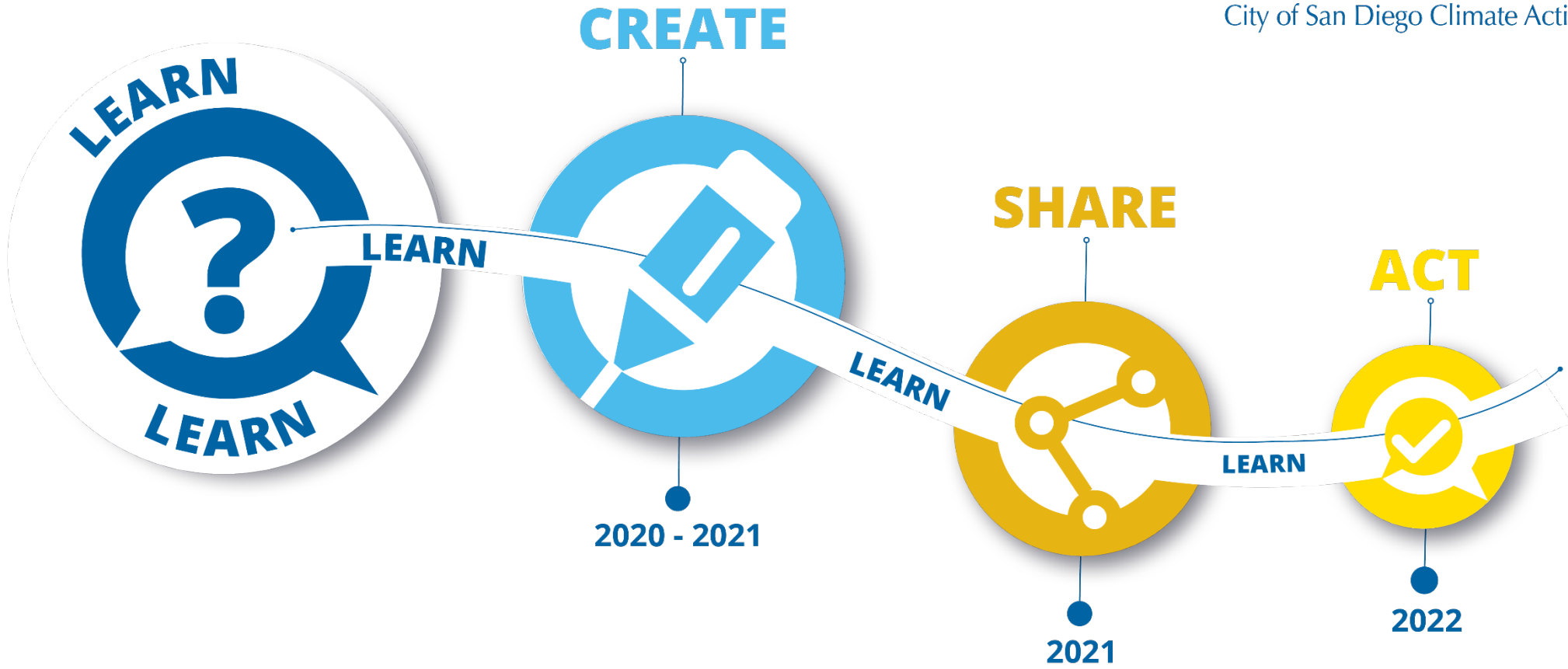
- ❑ Successfully secured Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Planning Grant in partnership with Environmental Health Coalition ([Recommendation 1](#))
- ❑ Climate Action Plan Update with focus on engagement in Communities of Concern ([Recommendation 2](#))
- ❑ Continue exploring feasibility of establishing Ambassador Program in the future ([Recommendation 3](#))
- ❑ CEI incorporated into Complete Communities Initiative, Climate Equity Fund, and CIP Prioritization ([Recommendation 4](#))
- ❑ Committed to refresh CEI when there are major data updates, like CalEnviroScreen or Census data.



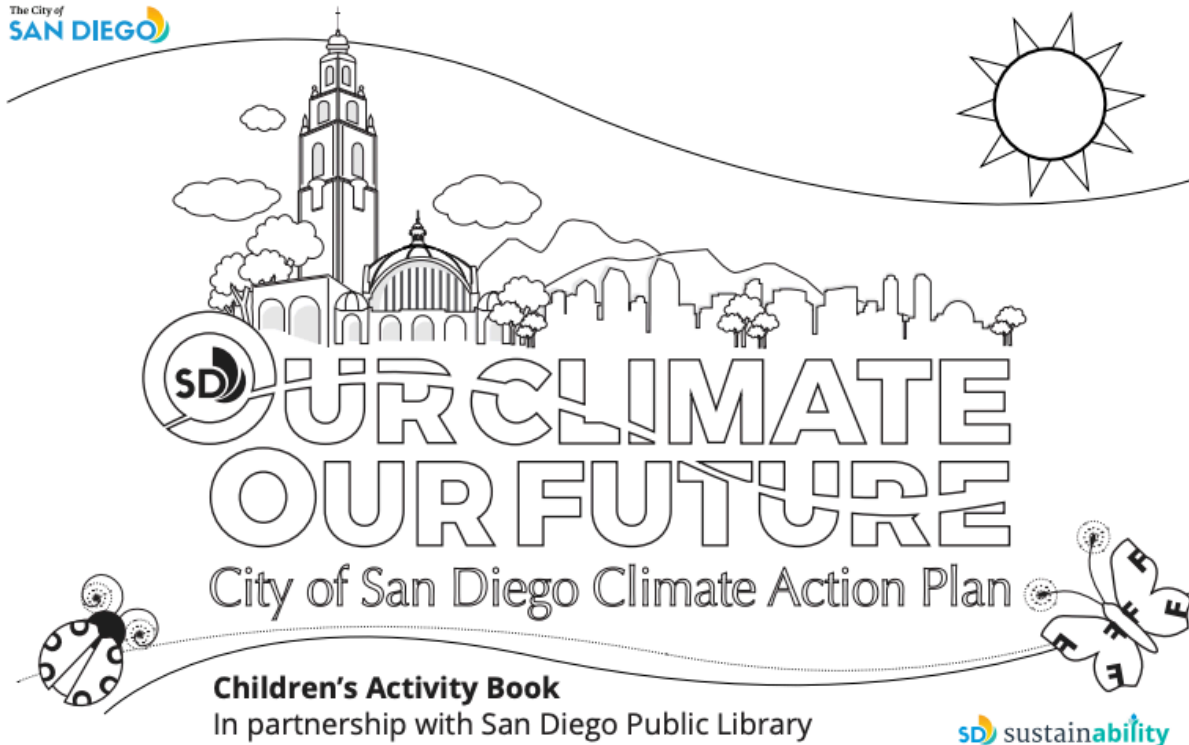
Our Climate, Our Future



- Setting more ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals over a longer time horizon
- Centering Climate Equity
- Quantifying and connecting additional benefits of climate actions (e.g. air quality improvements, technological advancement, cost savings, etc.)



Engagement & Outreach



- Digital survey
- Our Climate, Our Future newsletter
- Public forums
- Partnership with library for youth activity book
- Climate equity engagement

Climate Equity Engagement

Partnership with community-based organizations

- Casa Familiar
- Climate Action Campaign
- Environmental Health Coalition
- Mid-City CAN
- San Diego Urban Sustainability Coalition
- Greenlining & Institute for Local Government





Thank you!

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