

Attachment A

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County of Monterey
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 1, 2026

To: South County Land Use Advisory Committee

From: Edgar Sanchez, Associate Planner and Sarah Wikle, Principal Planner

Subject: REF220017 – General Plan Environmental Justice Element

cc: Project File No. RE220017

For Meeting Date: July 15, 2026

The County of Monterey has developed a draft Environmental Justice Element (EJE), pursuant to California Senate Bill (SB) 1000, in which the County seeks to recognize the communities in unincorporated Monterey County disproportionately affected by degraded environmental conditions that may lead to disparate impacts and adverse health outcomes, with the ultimate goal of ensuring a more just and improved quality of life for all residents.

The **draft Environmental Justice Element is available for public review and comment starting March 11, 2026 through July 31, 2026** and can be accessed at the County's website at [webpage link](#). The EJE provides descriptions of key baseline conditions in unincorporated Monterey County related to:

- Civic Engagement.
- Pollution Exposure.
- Access to Public Facilities and Services.
- Access to Healthy Food.
- Access to Physical Activity and Recreation.
- Access to Safe, Sanitary, and Affordable Homes.
- Exposure to Unique or Compounded Health Risks.

In preparation of this draft Environmental Justice Element, the County prepared an *Environmental Justice Existing Conditions Assessment* to identify areas with greater pollution and hazard exposure and reduced access to public goods and services that improve the quality of life for residents (**Appendix A to Exhibit A**). Additionally, the baseline conditions of this Environmental Justice Element include discussions of *Community Survey Results* (**Appendix B to Exhibit A**). Following the baseline conditions for each of these topic areas, the draft Environmental Justice Element establishes goals and policies intended to mitigate inequities for people who are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and health impacts.

Staff will provide an overview of the draft Environmental Justice Element, information on outreach conducted to date, and solicit input from the LUAC on proposed goals and policies. Documents on the project webpage available for review include the draft Environmental Justice Element, and memos in English and Spanish for each disadvantaged community identified as part of the project.

To view documents related the project, please visit:

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/departments-a-h/housing-community-development/planning-services/advance-planning/ordinances-plans-under-development/general-plan-elements-update-environmental-justice-element-ref220017-lrpwp-task-no-21-10>

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me at (831) 783-7058 or sancheze8@countyofmonterey.gov.