

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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## MEMORANDUM

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair  
Land Use and Transportation Committee

FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk

DATE: April 7, 2026

SUBJECT **COMMITTEE REPORT, BOARD MEETING**  
Tuesday, April 7, 2026

The following file should be presented as COMMITTEE REPORT during the Board meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026. This ordinance was acted upon during the Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., by the votes indicated.

**BOS Item No. 35**

**File No. 260177**

**[Environment Code - Climate Action Plan]**

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

**RECOMMENDED AS A COMMITTEE REPORT**

Vote: Supervisor Myrna Melgar – Aye  
Supervisor Chyanne Chen – Aye  
Supervisor Bilal Mahmood – Aye

Cc: Board of Supervisors  
Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board  
Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy  
Brad Russi, Deputy City Attorney

File No. 260177

Committee Item No. 16

Board Item No. 35

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation

Date: April 6, 2026

Board of Supervisors Meeting:

Date: April 7, 2026

#### Cmte Board

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| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Motion                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Resolution                                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ordinance                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Legislative Digest                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Youth Commission Report                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Introduction Form                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | MOU  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Grant Information Form                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Grant Budget                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Subcontract Budget                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Contract / DRAFT Mills Act Agreement         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Form 126 – Ethics Commission                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Award Letter                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Application                                  |
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#### OTHER

- |                                     |                                     |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ENV Presentation – April 6, 2026</u>                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>COE Reso No 2026-03-COE - March 23, 2026</u>          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Youth Commission Response – March 18, 2026</u>        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>CEQA Determination – April 2, 2026</u>                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Referrals CEQA, FYI, YC – March 4, 5, and 6, 2026</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Committee Report Request Memo – April 1, 2026</u>     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Mayor’s Introduction Memo – February 24, 2026</u>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>_____</u>   |
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Prepared by: John Carroll

Date: April 2, 2026

Prepared by: John Carroll

Date: April 6, 2026

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1 [Environment Code - Climate Action Plan]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City’s climate action goals**  
4 **and planning process, and to update City Departments’ roles and responsibilities**  
5 **regarding the City’s climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department’s**  
6 **determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

7 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
8 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
9 **Deletions to Codes** are in ~~*Times New Roman font*~~.  
10 **Board amendment additions** are in Arial font.  
11 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~Arial font~~.  
12 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
13 subsections or parts of tables.

11

12 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

13

14 Section 1. Environmental Findings.

15 The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
16 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
17 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
18 Supervisors in File No. 260177 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms  
19 this determination.

20

21 Section 2. Chapter 9 of the Environment Code is hereby amended by revising  
22 Sections 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 907, 908, and 909, and deleting Section 906, to read  
23 as follows:

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**CHAPTER 9:**

**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS TARGETS AND DEPARTMENTAL ACTION PLANS**

**SEC. 900. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

The Board of Supervisors finds that:

(a) In 2016, the Paris Climate Agreement committed national governments to pursue efforts to limit temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius. In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a special report on the impacts of global warming and the need to significantly reduce global ~~g~~Greenhouse ~~g~~Gas emissions well before 2030 to reduce the most detrimental impacts to ecosystems and to human health.

(b) In 2018, the United States’ Fourth National Climate Assessment made clear that climate change will wreak havoc across the United States, and that the current pace and scale of national climate action are not sufficient to avert substantial damage to the environment, human health, and economy. According to the San Francisco Department of Public Health’s Climate and Health Adaptation Framework (2017), the direct and indirect impacts of climate change will disproportionately affect San Francisco communities least able to prepare for, cope with, and recover from those impacts. Those communities include communities of color, low income communities, and other vulnerable populations.

(c) San Francisco, the Bay Area, and the State of California are already suffering the effects of climate change, and those effects will worsen in the form of droughts, air pollution, extreme heat, frequent wildfires, flooding, and much more. According to the 2023 San Francisco Extreme Heat Vulnerability Assessment, beginning in 2035, San Francisco will experience between two and eight times more days of extreme heat compared to 1960-1990 conditions. The State’s most recent Climate Change Assessment (2019), projects that sea levels in San Francisco may rise by as much as 66 inches by 2100 and that the Bay Area faces heightened wildfire risk and increasing water stress.

1 both of which compound existing social and environmental vulnerabilities. Statewide, the Assessment  
2 concludes that more frequent and severe droughts, extreme heat events, and ecosystem disruptions are  
3 collectively endangering agriculture, biodiversity, and public health.

4 (d) At the 2018 Global Climate Action Summit, San Francisco committed to meet  
5 the Paris Agreement by achieving a net zero city by 2050. The City joined in a Climate Equity  
6 Pledge to ensure that the City’s 2020 Climate Action Strategy update achieves the dual goals  
7 of advancing racial equity and decreasing carbon emissions.

8 ~~—(e) San Francisco’s climate commitments and climate action strategy are framed by the~~  
9 ~~City’s “0-80-100-Roots” framework, which defines climate and sustainability goals in four key areas:~~  
10 ~~zero waste (“0% zero waste”), transportation (“80% low-carbon trips”), energy (“100% renewable~~  
11 ~~energy”), and carbon sequestration (“Roots”).~~

12 ~~—(f) One of the City’s fundamental goals in implementing the 0-80-100-Roots Climate Action~~  
13 ~~Framework is to promote equity by ensuring that implementation reflects and responds to the~~  
14 ~~economic, political, and social needs of different San Francisco vulnerable communities.~~

15 ~~—(g) Achieving the “0-80-100-Roots” goals in the City will mean cleaner air, fewer vehicles~~  
16 ~~on the road, more reliable transit systems, more bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly networks, highly~~  
17 ~~efficient homes and businesses powered by 100% clean electricity, a robust urban tree canopy, plentiful~~  
18 ~~green spaces, improved soil health, and a regenerative ecosystem.~~

19 (eh) Meaningful climate solutions ~~will~~ require increasing supplies of high-quality,  
20 affordable housing for affordable to households individuals at all income levels and located near  
21 local and regional transit service. These solutions ~~will~~ also require well-coordinated land use  
22 and transportation planning and investments to support ~~low-carbon trips using~~ efficient travel  
23 modes such as transit, walking, and biking, ~~in order~~ to reduce vehicle miles traveled and  
24 associated emissions.

25 ~~(i) The City’s success of the City in achieving its climate goals thus far has been clear: in~~

1 ~~2019, San Francisco achieved a 41% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels,~~  
2 ~~surpassing the target reduction of 25% established by the Board of Supervisors. This success has been~~  
3 ~~driven by the continued replacement of fossil fuel power generation with renewable sources, a cleaner~~  
4 ~~electric grid, increased building energy efficiency, a transition to low-carbon transportation fuels, and~~  
5 ~~a leading zero-waste system.~~

6 (f) In 2019, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 160-19,  
7 declaring a climate emergency in San Francisco and requesting immediate action to address  
8 the climate crisis, limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and eliminate gGreenhouse  
9 gGas emissions.

10 (g) In 2021, the Board of Supervisors updated this Chapter 9 of the Environment Code,  
11 setting a goal for San Francisco to reach net-zero emissions by 2040.

12 (h) In 2022, the IPCC published the Sixth Assessment Report containing the best available  
13 climate science. The report found that Greenhouse Gas emissions from human activities have caused  
14 global warming, that global temperatures have reached 1.1 degree Celsius above those of pre-  
15 industrial times, and that emissions continue to increase and pose multiple hazards.

16 (i) In 2024, the Department of the Environment published its latest Sector-Based Greenhouse  
17 Gas Emissions inventory, based on data from 2022, which found that San Francisco’s two largest  
18 emissions sources are the transportation (45%) and building (44%) sectors, indicating that prioritizing  
19 these two sectors for policy action and investment will have the greatest impact on reducing emissions.

20 ~~(k) The Department of the Environment’s 2019 report titled “Focus 2030: A Pathway to Net~~  
21 ~~Zero Emissions” shows that achieving accelerated emissions reductions by 2050 will require an~~  
22 ~~ongoing commitment that builds upon and surpasses San Francisco’s past successes and increases~~  
23 ~~resources accordingly to continue to reduce emissions all the way to net zero.~~

1           **SEC. 901. DEFINITIONS.**

2           For the purpose of this Chapter 9, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

3           ~~“0-80-100-Roots” means the City’s climate action framework, where “0” refers to a goal of~~  
4 ~~zero waste, “80” refers to a goal of 80% low-carbon trips, “100” refers to a goal of 100% renewable~~  
5 ~~energy, and “Roots” refers to sequestering carbon through natural systems.~~

6           “Carbon Removal” means the process of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere  
7 through either nature-based approaches or technological methods to safely and securely store the  
8 carbon dioxide over the long term.

9           “Circular Economy” means improving how goods, food, services, and materials are  
10 designed, used, and reused to end waste and conserve natural resources in a regenerative manner that  
11 strengthens the environment, communities, and the economy. A Circular Economy ensures that benefits  
12 are distributed equitably; basic human needs are met with dignity; and residents, businesses, and  
13 government are more resilient to climate and economic shocks.

14           “Climate Action Plan” means the document required under Section 904 of this Chapter  
15 9 outlining the specific actions the City will endeavor to take to reduce Greenhouse Gas  
16 emissions and offset negative climate impacts.

17           “Climate Budgeting” means the process to systematically integrate climate considerations  
18 into the City’s financial planning and align City resources with the Climate Action Plan to ensure  
19 sustainability and climate resiliency are embedded across all levels of City government.

20           “Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means all the Greenhouse Gas  
21 emissions associated with producing, transporting, using, and disposing of products and  
22 services consumed by a particular community or entity in a given time period, including  
23 emissions generated outside the boundaries of the community or the geographic area where  
24 the entity is located.

25           “Greenhouse Ggas” means any ~~and all~~ of the following gases: carbon dioxide,

1 methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

2 “Hazards and Climate Resilience Plan” means the plan prepared by the Office of  
3 Resilience and Capital Planning (~~ORCP~~) to increase the resilience of all components that keep  
4 the City functioning: buildings, infrastructure, utilities, transportation, communication systems,  
5 and the people who live and work in San Francisco.

6 ~~—“Low Carbon Trips” mean trips into, out of, and within the City’s boundaries which generate  
7 zero or low greenhouse gas emissions.~~

8 “Net Zero Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means Sector-Based  
9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions after first eliminating emissions from fossil fuels and other  
10 sources, and then, for each ton of emissions that cannot be eliminated, removing a ton of  
11 carbon dioxide equivalent from the atmosphere.

12 ~~—“Renewable Energy” means energy qualifying as renewable pursuant to California Public  
13 Resources Code Chapter 8.6, Section 25741(a), and California Public Utilities Code Chapter 2.3,  
14 Article 16, Section 399.16(b)(1) or (2), as amended from time to time, or provided by a local publicly  
15 owned electric utility subject to California Public Utilities Code Chapter 2.3, Article 16, Section  
16 399.30(j), as amended from time to time.~~

17 ~~—“Responsible Production and Consumption” means improving how materials and products  
18 are extracted, manufactured, delivered, acquired, used, reused, recycled, and disposed of to ensure that  
19 the production and consumption of materials and products promote basic human needs, are distributed  
20 in a socially equitable manner, and carried out in a way that minimizes environmental impacts over the  
21 lifecycle of those materials and products while matching the carrying capacity of the earth’s resources  
22 and adding value so as not to jeopardize present and future generations. (See United Nations’  
23 Sustainable Development Goal 12.) “Lifecycle” means the complete material life of a product, good, or  
24 service, including resource extraction, manufacture, assembly, construction, maintenance,  
25 transportation, operations or use, and end of life (reuse, recycling/composting, and disposal).~~

1 ~~“Carrying capacity” means the number or amount of people, plants, and other living organisms that an~~  
2 ~~ecosystem can support indefinitely without causing environmental degradation.~~

3 “Residual Emissions” means any carbon dioxide or other Greenhouse Gas emissions  
4 remaining after all technically and economically feasible mitigation measures have been implemented.

5 “Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means all of the Greenhouse Gas  
6 emissions generated within the geographic boundaries of the City in a given time period.

7 “Sequestering” means removing Residual Emissions from the atmosphere.

8  
9 **SEC. 902. CLIMATE ACTION GOALS.**

10 (a) The City adopts the following targets for reducing San Francisco Greenhouse  
11 Gas emissions:

12 (1) By 2030, a reduction in Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions of at least  
13 61% compared to 1990 levels;

14 ~~— (2) By 2030, a reduction in Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions to 30 mtCO<sub>2</sub>e~~  
15 ~~per household or less, equivalent to a 40% reduction compared to 1990 levels;~~

16 (3) By 2040, achievement of Net Zero Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
17 by reducing such emissions ~~by at least 90%~~ compared to 1990 levels and ~~s~~Sequestering any  
18 ~~#~~Residual ~~e~~Emissions; and

19 (3) By 2050, a reduction in Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions to  
20 10 mtCO<sub>2</sub>e per household or less, equivalent to an 80% reduction compared to 1990 levels.

21 ~~For purposes of this Section 902, “residual emissions” means any carbon dioxide or other~~  
22 ~~Greenhouse Gas emissions remaining after all technically and economically feasible mitigation~~  
23 ~~measures have been implemented, and “sequestering” means removing those residual emissions from~~  
24 ~~the atmosphere and storing them in natural systems that support soil fertility or through other carbon~~  
25 ~~farming practices.~~

1 (b) In order to meet the emissions reduction targets set out in subsection (a), the  
2 City shall pursue the ~~sustainability following climate action goals of the 0-80-100-Roots Climate~~  
3 ~~Action Framework, as follows:~~

4 ~~(1) Zero Waste. By 2030, a reduction in the generation of solid waste of at least 15%~~  
5 ~~below 2015 levels and a reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of by incineration or deposit~~  
6 ~~in landfill of at least 50% below 2015 levels;~~

7 ~~—(2) Transportation. By 2030, an increase in low-carbon trips to at least 80% of all trips~~  
8 ~~measured and an increase in the level of electrification of vehicles to at least 25% of all private~~  
9 ~~vehicles registered, and by 2040, an increase in the level of electrification of vehicles to 100% of all~~  
10 ~~private vehicles registered;~~

11 ~~—(3) Energy. By 2025, supplying 100% renewable electricity, and by 2040, supplying 100%~~  
12 ~~renewable energy;~~

13 ~~—(4) Housing. Building at least 5,000 new housing units per year with maximum~~  
14 ~~affordability, including not less than 30% affordable units, and with an emphasis on retaining and~~  
15 ~~rehabilitating existing housing;~~

16 ~~—(5) Buildings. By 2021, requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all new buildings,~~  
17 ~~and by 2035, requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all large existing commercial buildings;~~  
18 ~~and~~

19 ~~—(6) Roots. Sequestering carbon through ecosystem restoration, including increased urban~~  
20 ~~tree canopy, green infrastructure, and compost application.~~

21 (1) Energy Supply. Continue to offer 100% renewable electricity and/or Greenhouse Gas-  
22 free electricity to all; by 2030, ensure all residents and businesses use 100% renewable and/or  
23 Greenhouse Gas-free electricity; and, by 2040, transition all energy uses Citywide to 100% renewable  
24 and/or Greenhouse Gas-free sources;

25 (2) Buildings Operations. By 2030, reduce building emissions by 20% from 2020 levels by

1 decarbonizing the equivalent of 18,000 buildings, and by 2040, reduce building emissions completely  
2 so that all buildings are zero emission;

3 (3) **Transportation.** By 2030, achieve a 25% reduction in per-capita vehicle miles traveled  
4 and by 2040, achieve a 30% reduction relative to 2019 levels by supporting policies that enable new  
5 housing in locations close to schools, jobs, and other essential goods and services, reducing the need  
6 for longer trips, and by implementing strategies that increase the use of transit, walking, and biking; by  
7 2030, ensure that at least 25% of cars and small trucks registered in San Francisco are zero emission,  
8 and by 2035, ensure at least 25% of large trucks and other heavier duty vehicles are zero emission;  
9 and, by 2040, ensure all cars and small trucks are zero emission;

10 (4) **Housing and Land Use.** By 2030, plan for 82,000 new housing units, including at least  
11 36,000 in well-resourced neighborhoods, prioritizing affordability, transit-oriented development, and  
12 increased density along major transit corridors;

13 (5) **Circular Economy.** By 2030, attain a reduction in the generation of solid waste of at  
14 least 15% below 2015 levels and a reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of by incineration  
15 or deposit in landfill of at least 50% below 2015 levels; and by 2035, reach a 40% net reduction in  
16 Greenhouse Gas emissions from building materials compared to the 2026 industry average baseline  
17 established by the State;

18 (6) **Healthy Ecosystems.** By 2030, ensure that 30-40% of San Francisco's land area is  
19 permeable, with at least 30% of the land area being biodiverse greenspace; by 2040, ensure every San  
20 Franciscan lives within a 10-minute walk from nature; and, by 2040, plant enough trees to achieve a  
21 net increase of 30,000 trees for a total of 155,000 street trees, thereby completing the street tree  
22 network and enhancing a healthy urban forest; and

23 (7) **Water Supply.** Maximize water use efficiency to keep indoor and outdoor residential  
24 water use under the State's 2030 standard for indoor residential water use of 42 gallons per capita per  
25 day; and enhance the resilience of San Francisco's water supply by 2045 by increasing local water

1 sources to include 2.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of recycled water, and 4 mgd of groundwater, and  
2 by exploring additional new water supplies, while maintaining the Hetch Hetchy gravity-driven water  
3 delivery system.

4 (c) All climate action goals set out in subsection (b) shall also include the  
5 complementary goals of advancing racial and social equity, protecting public health (including  
6 the health needs of vulnerable populations), increasing community resilience, and fostering a  
7 more just economy.

8  
9 **SEC. 903. FUTURE CLIMATE ACTION GOALS.**

10 The City shall pursue the following future climate action goals:

11 (a) ~~The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with relevant City~~  
12 ~~departments, community stakeholders, and technical experts, shall identify water conservation targets~~  
13 ~~that include sustainable use practices, water recycling, and water reuse.~~ Research, explore, and identify  
14 best practices for Carbon Removal that could allow the City to remove atmospheric carbon dioxide  
15 equivalent to San Francisco's residual Greenhouse Gas emissions; and

16 (b) ~~The Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, in consultation with the San Francisco~~  
17 ~~Public Utilities Commission, the Department of the Environment, relevant City departments,~~  
18 ~~community stakeholders, and technical experts, shall identify energy resilience targets that will help the~~  
19 ~~City prepare for and recover from energy disruptions with the minimum use of additional fossil fuels.~~  
20 Research, establish, and implement Climate Budgeting that integrates the City's climate goals,  
21 specified in Section 902 of this Chapter 9, with budgeting, policy, and decision-making processes.

22  
23 **SEC. 904. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN.**

24 (a) By December 31, 2026~~7~~, the Department of the Environment shall prepare and  
25 submit for the Mayor's approval ~~an updated~~ Climate Action Plan (CAP) which shall do all of

1 the following:

2 (1) Align with the Paris Climate Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees  
3 Celsius, and with the emissions reduction targets established in Section 902 of this Chapter 9.

4 (2) Incorporate an equity framework that addresses historic racial and social  
5 inequities; prioritizes social, economic, and environmental benefits derived from implementing  
6 the CAP; and ensures an equitable distribution of those benefits. This framework shall  
7 consider:

8 (A) The engagement and prioritization of those who are most impacted by  
9 climate change and have historically had the least influence in decision-making processes,  
10 including low-income communities of color and other impacted populations;

11 (B) Climate and health benefits, especially targeted to populations and communities  
12 disproportionately impacted by climate changes;

13 (CB) Burdens and/or unintended consequences of related actions, especially for  
14 low-income communities of color and other vulnerable populations; and

15 (DC) Social interventions needed to secure workers' rights and livelihoods when  
16 economies are shifting to ~~responsible production and consumption~~ Circular Economy, collectively  
17 referred to as a "just transition" framework, and other impacts on workforce and job  
18 opportunities.

19 (3) Identify and leverage synergies, where feasible, with the City's existing or  
20 proposed climate adaptation and mitigation measures set out in the Hazards and Climate  
21 Resilience Plan.

22 ~~—(4) Incorporate a health and vulnerable populations framework that shall consider:~~

23 ~~—(A) Climate and health co-benefits, especially targeted to populations and communities~~  
24 ~~disproportionately impacted by climate change; and~~

25 ~~—(B) Potential negative health impacts to individual and communities, especially~~

1 ~~vulnerable populations.~~

2 (45) Include, but not be limited to, the following elements: energy supply;  
3 ~~transportation and land use;~~ building operations; transportation; housing and land use; Circular  
4 Economy; healthy ecosystems; and water supply. ~~housing; responsible production and consumption;~~  
5 ~~and carbon sequestration. No later than one year after the adoption of the ordinance in Board File No.~~  
6 ~~210563 enacting this Section 904, the Department of the Environment in coordination with the Public~~  
7 ~~Utilities Commission shall prepare a water element for the CAP.~~

8 (56) Identify strategies and/or make recommendations to achieve emissions  
9 reduction targets for all elements and identify parties responsible for implementation. ~~If targets~~  
10 ~~have not been established in Section 902, the CAP shall recommend approaches on goals and~~  
11 ~~principles. Each strategy or recommendation shall:~~

12 — (A) ~~Identify parties responsible for implementation;~~

13 — (B) ~~Incorporate an estimated cost; and~~

14 — (C) ~~Contain key performance indicators and explicit equity metrics to measure progress.~~

15 (b) The Department of the Environment shall update the Climate Action Plan every  
16 five years.

## 18 **SEC. 905. CITY DEPARTMENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

19 (a) The Department of the Environment shall be the lead agency for developing and  
20 publicizing the Climate Action Plan, including updates. The Department ~~shall:~~

21 (1) Shall, in coordination with implementing departments, lead the development of  
22 strategies, key performance indicators, and equity metrics ~~to be included in the CAP;~~

23 (2) Shall maintain a publicly accessible dashboard updated at least once a year, reporting  
24 on Greenhouse Gas emissions, indicators, and climate action progress;

25 (32) Shall ~~Coordinate~~ an interagency effort with the ~~Planning Department, Municipal~~

1 ~~Transportation Agency, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Department of~~  
2 ~~Building Inspection, City Administrator's Office, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, San~~  
3 ~~Francisco Public Utilities Commission, City Administrator's Office, Department of Building~~  
4 ~~Inspection, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Works, Mayor's Office of Housing and~~  
5 ~~Community Development, Municipal Transportation Agency, Office of Economic and Workforce~~  
6 ~~Development, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, Planning Department, Port of San Francisco,~~  
7 ~~San Francisco International Airport, Public Utilities Commission, Recreation and Park Department,~~  
8 and other relevant City agencies, as well as the County Transportation Authority, to develop and  
9 adopt updates to the CAP; and

10 (4) May adopt rules and regulations related to the administration of this Chapter 9.

11 (b) All City departments shall:

12 (1) Ensure all department-level decisions and commitments are consistent with the CAP  
13 and this Chapter 9;

14 (2) Attend convenings hosted by the Mayor's Office at least twice a year to review  
15 progress towards the goals outlined in the CAP, identify barriers, identify potential solutions, and  
16 advance cross-departmental collaboration;

17 (3) Provide data, information, and feedback requested by the Department of the  
18 Environment to develop, implement, report about, and evaluate the CAP;

19 (4) Report to the Department of the Environment on key performance indicators related to  
20 climate and equity outcomes, including equity metrics designed to measure progress towards the CAP's  
21 climate and environmental justice objectives; and,

22 (5) Support community engagement efforts for the CAP.

23 ~~—(3) Work with relevant agencies, key stakeholders, and community members to develop,~~  
24 ~~adopt, and monitor the implementation of the CAP.~~

25 ~~—(b) The Planning Department shall:~~

1           —(1)— Review the City’s Planning Code to ensure that Area Plans and development projects  
2 are consistent with the targets and aims set out in the CAP and this Chapter 9;

3           —(2)— Review the City’s General Plan for consistency and support of the City’s Greenhouse  
4 Gas emissions targets and climate action goals, with guidance from the State’s Office of Planning and  
5 Research on incorporating climate change and resilience into land use planning, and, as needed,  
6 update and amend relevant elements through the support of the Planning Commission and Board of  
7 Supervisors;

8           —(3)— Continue to implement State, regional, and/or local requirements to consider a  
9 project’s Greenhouse Gas impacts as part of its review under the California Environmental Quality Act  
10 (CEQA) regarding San Francisco’s emissions targets in this Chapter 9; and

11           —(4)— Advance plans, policies, and projects that support increased affordable housing  
12 production, especially in proximity to public transit, and that preserve affordable housing at low and  
13 moderate-income levels.

14           —(e)— The Department of Public Health shall:

15           —(1)— In consultation with the Department of the Environment, develop an element of the  
16 CAP addressing climate impacts on health and vulnerable populations, including:

17           —(A)— Analyzing climate change as a public health threat;

18           —(B)— Identifying inequalities in the distribution of public health impacts; and

19           —(C)— Connecting climate action strategies to associated health and equity co-benefits.

20           —(2)— Develop a health and vulnerable populations framework for evaluating proposed  
21 climate action strategies to inform the implementation of those strategies; and

22           —(3)— Monitor and evaluate climate, health, and equity metrics in cooperation with public  
23 agencies and key stakeholders, including the San Francisco Health Improvement Partnership; share  
24 data with City departments and the public; and use the data to continually improve strategic actions  
25 and address emerging issues, gaps, and unintended consequences impacting health and vulnerable

1 *populations.*

2 ~~—(d) The Department of Building Inspection shall:~~

3 ~~—(1) Support the development and implementation of high-performance green building~~  
4 ~~codes to achieve higher levels of energy efficiency and the eventual elimination of the use of fossil fuels~~  
5 ~~in buildings to achieve San Francisco’s emissions targets set forth in Section 902; and~~

6 ~~—(2) Work with the Department of the Environment on the development of strategies,~~  
7 ~~actions, key performance indicators, and equity metrics to be included in the buildings element of the~~  
8 ~~CAP.~~

9 ~~—(e) The Department of Public Works shall:~~

10 ~~—(1) Consider San Francisco’s emissions targets set forth in Section 902 in updates related~~  
11 ~~to the Department’s Standard Plans and Specifications and in the design, construction, maintenance~~  
12 ~~and management of public buildings and infrastructure projects;~~

13 ~~—(2) Work with City departments and stakeholders to ensure that the public right-of-way~~  
14 ~~allows for electrification of buildings and transportation; and~~

15 ~~—(3) Work with the Department of the Environment on the carbon sequestration element of~~  
16 ~~the CAP, including consideration of the climate and resilience benefits of planting and maintaining~~  
17 ~~street trees, median landscaping, and pocket parks.~~

18 ~~—(f) The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency shall:~~

19 ~~—(1) Work with the Department of the Environment, the Planning Department, the San~~  
20 ~~Francisco County Transportation Authority and the Department of Public Health to develop and~~  
21 ~~implement projects, strategies, actions, key performance indicators, and equity metrics to be included~~  
22 ~~in the transportation and land use element of the CAP, with an emphasis on advancing projects that~~  
23 ~~shift single-occupant automobile trips to other modes of transportation (“mode shift”) by prioritizing~~  
24 ~~the right-of-way for low-carbon and efficient modes through efforts such as improved parking~~  
25 ~~management, utilization of pricing, development of local and regional transit and active mobility~~

1 ~~networks, and electrifying gas-powered vehicles.~~

2 ~~—(2) Act as the lead agency on coordinating with other relevant departments and other key~~  
3 ~~stakeholders to ensure that the transportation and land use element reflects the City’s policy and~~  
4 ~~programmatic priorities in this area, including the integration of existing Citywide transportation~~  
5 ~~planning efforts, goals, data sources, and other considerations into the CAP.~~

6 ~~—(g) The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission shall:~~

7 ~~—(1) Lead the development of strategies, actions, key performance indicators, and equity~~  
8 ~~metrics to be included in the energy element of the CAP, including proposals for meeting the City’s~~  
9 ~~Renewable Energy goals and for developing community programming that reduces Greenhouse Gas~~  
10 ~~emissions and incentivizes electrification.~~

11 ~~—(2) Maintain energy supply portfolios for its energy providing programs that align with the~~  
12 ~~Greenhouse Gas emission targets set forth in Section 902.~~

13 ~~—(h) The Office of Resilience and Capital Planning under the City Administrator shall:~~

14 ~~—(1) Collaborate with the Department of the Environment and other City departments to~~  
15 ~~align long-term funding needs with climate adaptation or mitigation strategies and to reflect those~~  
16 ~~priorities in the 10-year capital plan and in agency capital plans; and~~

17 ~~—(2) Work with the Department of the Environment and other departments to coordinate and~~  
18 ~~prioritize climate adaptation and mitigation strategies articulated in the Office’s Hazards and Climate~~  
19 ~~Resilience Plan and the CAP.~~

20 ~~—(i) The Purchasing Department under the City Administrator shall work with the Department~~  
21 ~~of the Environment and other departments to review, and, as appropriate, recommend amendments to~~  
22 ~~City procurement laws and practices, including but not limited to Chapter 2 of this Code~~  
23 ~~(Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Ordinance), to include the impact of City procurement~~  
24 ~~decisions on achieving City emissions reduction targets and achieving other environmental and health~~  
25 ~~benefits.~~

1           ~~—(j) All City agencies shall, as needed:~~

2           ~~—(1) Provide data, information, and feedback to the Department of the Environment in~~  
3 ~~developing the CAP;~~

4           ~~—(2) Consider the effect of decisions and activities under their jurisdiction on the goals of~~  
5 ~~reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions and at the same time promoting racial and social equity,~~  
6 ~~consistent with the CAP and the goals set forth in Section 902;~~

7           ~~—(3) Coordinate with other City departments on the development and implementation of~~  
8 ~~climate-related regulations;~~

9           ~~—(4) Improve interagency coordination and communication, and coordinate funding where~~  
10 ~~feasible, to advance ongoing City initiatives with co-benefits for climate change, health and equity,~~  
11 ~~including Vision Zero, Transit First, and City targets for affordable housing development; and~~

12           ~~—(5) Support community engagement efforts for the CAP.~~

13  
14           **~~SEC. 906. MARKET-BASED COMPLIANCE MECHANISMS.~~**

15           ~~—(a) The Department of the Environment, utilizing the expertise of relevant City Departments~~  
16 ~~and Agencies, shall research and, as appropriate, recommend legislation to the Board of Supervisors,~~  
17 ~~concerning whether and how to develop or utilize available market-based compliance mechanisms,~~  
18 ~~such as greenhouse gas emissions exchanges, banking, credits, and other similar transactions governed~~  
19 ~~by rules and protocols established by the City, CARB or other recognized governmental or non-profit~~  
20 ~~entity as credit toward City greenhouse gas emission reductions.~~

21           ~~—(b) The Department of the Environment shall provide technical assistance, and coordinate~~  
22 ~~City applications for, any approved market-based mechanisms that the City intends to use in~~  
23 ~~furtherance of achieving the San Francisco greenhouse gas emissions limit.~~

24  
25           **~~SEC. 9067. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING.~~**

1 (a) The City shall demonstrate its long-term commitment to reducing Greenhouse  
2 Gas emissions and advancing racial and social equity by measuring and reporting emissions,  
3 tracking key performance indicators and equity metrics, and monitoring the City's progress on  
4 meeting its climate action goals and commitments.

5 (b) The Department of the Environment shall, with ~~the~~ assistance from relevant City  
6 agencies:

7 (1) Measure and monitor Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions, including  
8 municipal emissions, using best available global protocols for preparing Citywide Greenhouse  
9 Gas emission inventories.

10 (2) Measure production and consumption emissions using best available global  
11 methodologies for preparing consumption-based emission inventories.

12 (3) Evaluate Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions against set targets,  
13 document production and consumption emissions, and produce a Greenhouse Gas emissions  
14 report.

15 (4) ~~Establish a~~ Continue the monitoring and reporting process for the  
16 implementation of the CAP that:

17 (A) Tracks key performance indicators and equity metrics for strategies to help  
18 monitor their progress and implementation;

19 (B) Reports progress against the Paris Agreement and its goal of limiting global  
20 warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

21 (5) Request and receive data from City departments starting August of every year  
22 to support:

23 (A) The ~~annual~~ Greenhouse Gas emissions inventory. City departments may be  
24 asked to provide data ~~on, but not limited to, the following: their energy use; types of fuels used for~~  
25 ~~their operations; fuel volume; vehicle miles travelled (if applicable) within their jurisdictions; and~~

1 ~~private sector Greenhouse Gas emission sources regulated by the department. Departments may also~~  
2 ~~and be requested to~~ verify emission estimates and assumptions and review resulting reports;

3 (B) Monitoring and reporting of CAP implementation. City departments may be  
4 asked to provide data on key performance indicators on climate and equity ~~metrics~~-related to  
5 adopted strategies and actions; and

6 ~~(C) The development and delivery of annual municipal building energy benchmarking~~  
7 ~~reports.~~

8 (6) Coordinate with other City agencies to monitor, track, and report on climate  
9 action progress to local, state, national, and global partners.

10 (7) ~~Report its findings in a progress report to the public every two years~~ Issue an annual  
11 progress report and provide formal presentations to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors at the  
12 midpoint and conclusion of each five-year Climate Action Plan period.

13  
14 **SEC. 9078. MISCELLANEOUS.**

15 (a) **Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this  
16 Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of  
17 competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of  
18 the Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this  
19 Ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared  
20 invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of this Ordinance would be  
21 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

22 (b) **No Conflict With Federal Or State Law.** Nothing in this Ordinance shall be  
23 interpreted or applied so as to create any requirement, power or duty in conflict with any  
24 Federal or State law. Any ~~and all~~ Greenhouse Gas reduction activities adopted and  
25 implemented under this Ordinance are intended to be complementary and nonduplicative of

1 measures required or to be adopted by any State or Federal agency under State or Federal  
2 law. Nothing in this Ordinance shall relieve any person, entity, including any City Department  
3 or City Official of compliance with other applicable Federal, State, or local laws or regulations,  
4 including Federal or State air and water quality requirements, and other requirements for  
5 protecting public health or the environment.

6 (c) **Undertaking For The General Welfare.** In undertaking the implementation of  
7 this Ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is  
8 not assuming, nor is it imposing on its officer and employees, an obligation for breach of  
9 which it is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately  
10 caused injury.

11  
12 **SEC. 9089. IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARD.**

13 (a) The Department of Environment (“Department”) shall coordinate with the  
14 Department of Building Inspection in implementation of the All-Electric building requirement in  
15 Section 106A.1.17 of the Building Code, and shall provide technical assistance to support San  
16 Francisco residents, workers, and businesses through the transition to building electrification.

17 (b) The Department shall hold at least one public meeting annually to discuss the  
18 annual report from the Department of Building Inspection detailing the status of applications  
19 for permits to construct new Mixed-Fuel Buildings pursuant to an exception to Building Code  
20 Section 106A.1.17.

21 ~~—(c) Concurrent with implementation of the All-Electric building requirement, the San~~  
22 ~~Francisco Public Utilities Commission will evaluate opportunities for the expansion of non-potable~~  
23 ~~onsite water treatment systems, graywater heat recovery systems, and solar thermal water heating, and~~  
24 ~~shall present findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors by no later than March 1,~~  
25 ~~2021~~

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Section 3. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under the official title of the ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective at 12:00 a.m. on the 31st day after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

By: /s/ Christina Fletes-Romo \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA FLETES-ROMO  
Deputy City Attorney

4918-3561-3583, v. 1

## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Environment Code - Climate Action Plan]

**Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

### Existing Law

Chapter 9 of the Environment Code sets the City's goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and related sustainability goals. Some of the goals include, for example, reducing greenhouse gas emissions generated within the geographic boundaries of the City by at least 61% below 1990 levels and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with producing, transporting, using, and disposing of products and services consumed by a particular community or entity by at least 40% below 1990 levels. Sustainability goals include, for example, reducing solid waste generation, increasing low-carbon trips, supplying 100% renewable energy, and requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all new buildings.

Chapter 9 requires the Department of the Environment to prepare and submit a Climate Action Plan every five years that incorporates the goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and related sustainability goals, strategies and recommendations to achieve those goals, and an equity framework as well as a health and vulnerable populations framework to the plan, among other requirements.

Chapter 9 also outlines topics for future climate action goals. Chapter 9 further requires the Department of the Environment to research and possibly recommend legislation related to the development or utilization of available market-based compliance mechanisms, such as greenhouse gas emission exchanges. Chapter 9 also sets out City departments' roles and responsibilities related to the Climate Action Plan and related goals, as well as monitoring, evaluation, and reporting requirements.

### Background and Amendments to Current Law

The current Climate Action Plan was prepared by the Department of the Environment in 2021. The Department of the Environment is required to prepare an updated Climate Action Plan every five years. This ordinance would update the requirements for the 2026 Climate Action Plan, as well as current and future climate action goals. New climate action goals would include, for example, transitioning all energy uses Citywide to 100% renewable and/or greenhouse gas-free sources by 2040, reducing building emissions by 20% from 2020 levels by 2030, and achieving a 25% reduction in per-capita vehicle miles traveled by 2030. Future climate action goals would include, for example, exploring and identifying best practices for

carbon removal that could allow the City to remove atmospheric carbon dioxide equivalent to San Francisco's residual greenhouse gas emissions.

The ordinance would also update City departments' roles and responsibilities with respect to the Climate Action Plan and goals. The ordinance would require the Department of the Environment to coordinate an interagency effort related to the updated Climate Action Plan with the City Administrator's Office, Department of Building Inspection, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Works, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, Municipal Transportation Agency, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, Planning Department, Port of San Francisco, San Francisco International Airport, Public Utilities Commission, Recreation and Park Department, and other City departments. Further, the ordinance would also require all City departments to ensure all department-level decisions and commitments are consistent with the Climate Action Plan. The ordinance would also authorize the Department of the Environment to adopt rules and regulations related to the administration of Chapter 9.

The ordinance would remove the section focused on market-based compliance mechanisms, and update the findings and purpose section, as well as the definitions sections by removing some definitions and adding others.



# Strengthening San Francisco's Climate Action Planning: Update to Chapter 9 of the Environment Code

Land Use and Transportation Committee  
April 2026

Cyndy Comerford, Climate Program Manager

SAN FRANCISCO  
**ENVIRONMENT**  
DEPARTMENT



# Agenda

- 1 Overview
- 2 Climate Action Framework
- 3 Key Components to Chapter 9
- 4 Important Updates to Legislation
- 5 Next Steps

**The San Francisco Environment  
Department provides solutions that  
advance climate protection and enhance  
quality of life for all San Franciscans.**

**Mission Statement**



SAN FRANCISCO'S

# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2021

## Strong Foundation: Our Climate Action Plan

Ambitious, credible roadmap

Sustaining climate leadership

Data-driven & equity-centered

Strong foundation for the future

100% Renewable Electricity



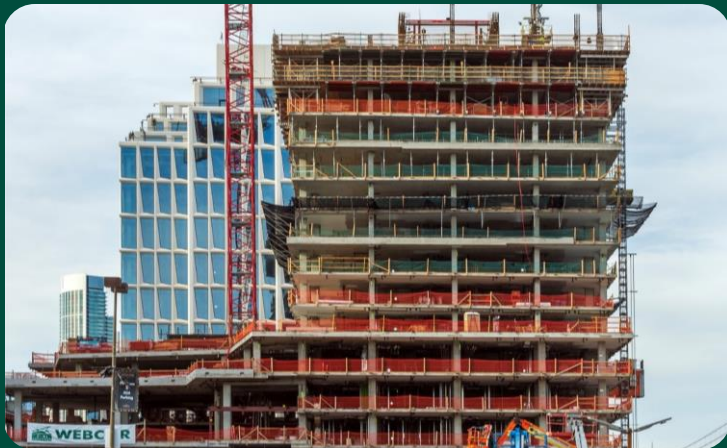
Expand EV Charging Across the City



City Managed Tree Nursery



All-Electric Major Renovations



Edible Food Recovery Ordinance

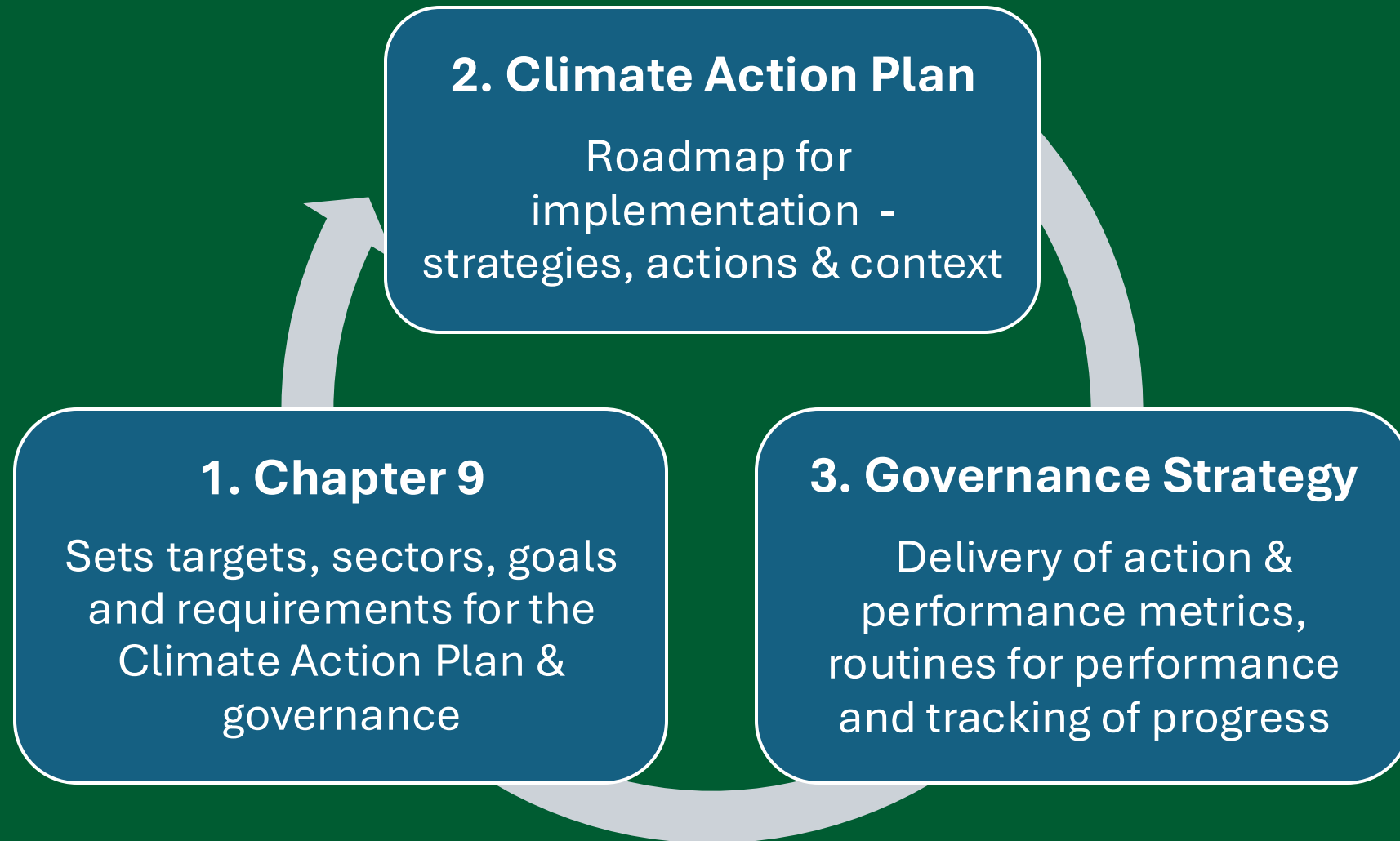


Climate Equity Hub



# Select Accomplishments from 2021 CAP

# Our Climate Action Framework



# Chapter 9 Overview: Key Components of the Legislation

## 1. Purpose & Findings

Why SF must act on climate change

Global science & local risks

Equity for vulnerable communities

## 2. Targets & Goals

2030 and Net Zero GHG sector emission targets

Consumption-based emission targets

Sector specific goals

## 3. Climate Action Plan

Requires a plan with clear strategies and actions

Specifies implementation requirements

## 4. Performance Tracking & Accountability (Governance)

Department roles and responsibilities

Monitor, evaluate, and reporting



# What are the Key Changes?

Minor updates to targets and sector definitions

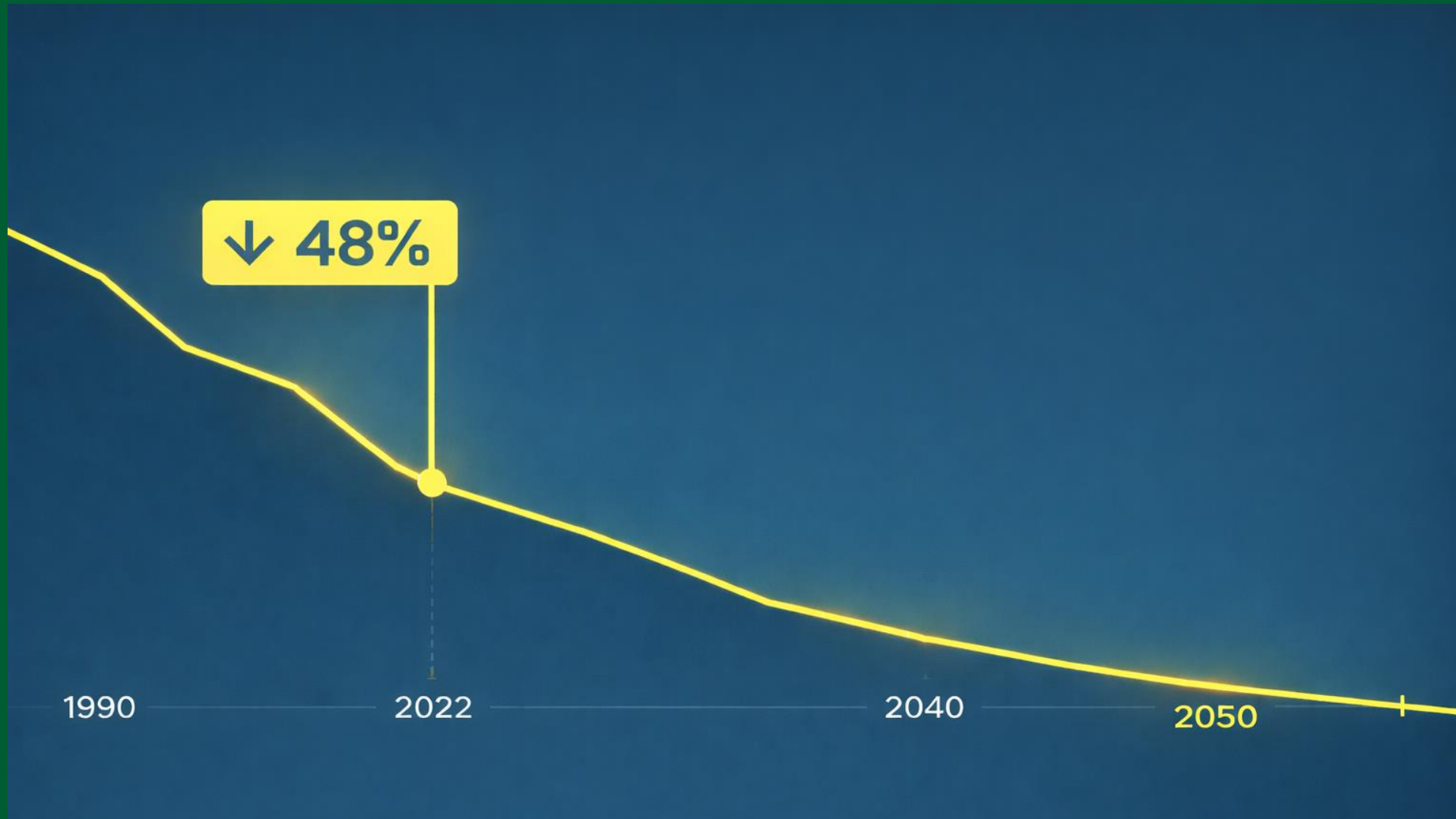
Sector goals revised (most significant change)

Department roles and coordination streamlined

Monitoring and reporting strengthened

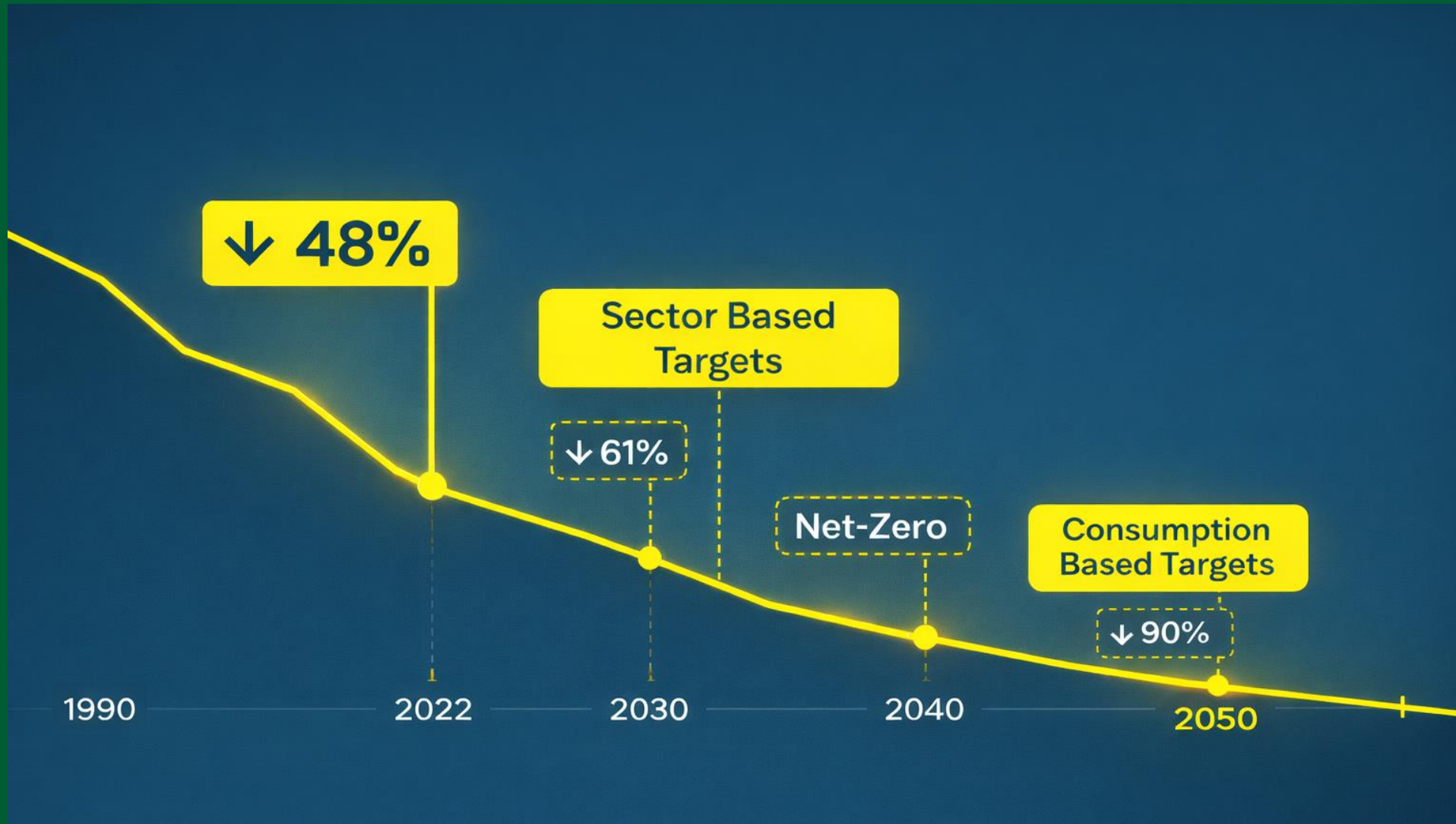
Future requirements development updated

# Where are Emissions Today?



San Francisco has reduced GHG emissions by 48% since 1990

# What the City is Trying to Achieve?



No change in sector based GHG reduction targets

2030, 61% reduction

2040, Net-Zero

Removed Consumption based GHG 2030 Goal

# Update to Climate Action Plan Sectors



ENERGY  
SUPPLY



TRANSPORTATION



HOUSING &  
LAND USE



BUILDING  
OPERATIONS



HEALTHY  
ECOSYSTEMS



WATER  
SUPPLY



CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY

# Key Changes for Climate Action Goals

<b>ENERGY SUPPLY</b>	Clarifies commitment to 100% renewable/GHG-free electricity and universal use by 2030.
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	Replaces mode share target with vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction and expands EV adoption to heavy-duty vehicles.
<b>HOUSING AND LAND USE</b>	Shifts from annual production target to planning for 82,000 new homes by 2030, including in well-resourced neighborhoods.
<b>BUILDING OPERATIONS</b>	Replaces accomplished new construction goal with measurable building decarbonization targets through 2040.
<b>HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS</b>	Refocuses from carbon sequestration to biodiversity, nature access, and urban tree canopy.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Adds specific water efficiency targets and expanded local water sources for long-term resilience.
<b>CIRCULAR ECONOMY</b>	Maintains waste reduction goals and adds a new embodied carbon reduction target.



# Governance

## Key Tenets

- Impact-driven
- Equity-centered
- Data & transparency
- Coordination & collaboration

## Executive Accountability

- Mayor convenes departments twice annually to review progress

## Ongoing Reporting & Metrics

- Departments meet regularly
- Establish and track climate & equity metrics



# Future Requirements

## Climate Budgeting

Integrating climate goals into the City's financial planning to align investments with citywide climate goals and support sustainability and resilience.

## Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Strategies

Ways to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to offset San Francisco's remaining greenhouse gas emissions.

# Recognizing the Scale of Our Efforts

Significant progress achieved  
and strong foundation

Next phase priorities

Challenges ahead



San Francisco's

# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2026



# Thank you!

**Cyndy Comerford**  
Climate Program Manager



**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT**

**2026** Cisco Environment Department, All Rights Reserved

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1 [Support for Ordinance amending Chapter 9 of the City’s Environment Code]

2

3 **Resolution Urging the Adoption of San Francisco Board of Supervisors File No. 260177 -**  
4 **Ordinance to Amend Chapter 9 of the City’s Environment Code with Updated Climate Action**  
5 **Goals, Planning Processes, and City Department Roles and Responsibilities.**

6

7 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously declared a climate  
8 emergency in 2019, urging immediate and accelerated action to address the climate crisis; and

9 WHEREAS, The concerns that led to the declaration of the climate emergency have only grown  
10 more urgent in recent years, with greater prevalence of droughts, intense storms, sea level rise, poor air  
11 quality, and high heat days impacting the City; and

12 WHEREAS, Local and state assessments project these impacts will continue worsening in the  
13 future, endangering agriculture, biodiversity, and public health; and

14 WHEREAS, Chapter 9 of the San Francisco Environment Code, originally adopted by the  
15 Board of Supervisors in 2008 and revised in 2021, outlines San Francisco’s climate action goals and  
16 responsibilities of City Departments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of  
17 climate change citywide; and

18 WHEREAS, Chapter 9 tasks the Department of the Environment with updating the Climate  
19 Action Plan every five years, and the new Climate Action Plan will be issued in the first half of  
20 calendar year 2026; and

21 WHEREAS, In February 2026, Mayor Daniel Lurie, along with co-sponsor Board President  
22 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, introduced Board of Supervisors File No. 260177, which amends  
23 Chapter 9 with revised sector goals, clearer, more streamlined governance and accountability  
24 mechanisms, and adjusted department roles and responsibilities; and

1 WHEREAS, The revised sector goals for Energy Supply, Building Operations, Transportation,  
2 Housing and Land Use, Circular Economy, Healthy Ecosystems, and Water Supply reflect the latest  
3 climate science and current social and economic conditions; and

4 WHEREAS, To effectively reduce emissions and remain a climate leader, San Francisco must  
5 continuously reassess its emissions targets, strategies, and oversight mechanisms for feasibility and  
6 effectiveness; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Commission on the Environment urges the Mayor and Board of  
8 Supervisors to adopt San Francisco Board of Supervisors File No. 260177 amending Chapter 9 of the  
9 City’s Environment Code; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission on the Environment urges the Mayor and Board  
11 of Supervisors to continue driving investment, citywide resources, and policies that support the targets  
12 in this Chapter 9 legislative update.

13

14 I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Commission on the Environment at its  
15 meeting on March 23, 2026.

16

17 *Alice Hur*

18 Alice Hur, Commission Affairs Officer

19

20 Vote: 7-0 Approved

21 Ayes: Commissioners Ahn, Bermejo, Hunter, Riles, Sullivan, Tompkins, Yuen

22 Noes: None

23 Absent: None

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Youth Commission
FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk,
Land Use and Transportation Committee
DATE: March 6, 2026
SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following, which at the request of the Youth Commission is referred as per Charter Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 260177

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee at john.carroll@sfgov.org.

\*\*\*\*\*

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: 03/18/2026

No Comment
[checked] Recommendation Attached

Gabrielle Listana
Chairperson, Youth Commission



## YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board of Supervisors - Land Use and Transportation Committee

**CC:** John Carroll, Assistant Clerk  
Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board  
Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director

**FROM:** 2025-2026 Youth Commission

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 18, 2026

**RE:** SUBJECT: YOUTH COMMISSION LEGISLATION REFERRED 03/06/26

---

At the Youth Commission's in-person meeting on Monday, March 16, 2026, the Commission discussed and took action on BOS File No. 260177:

1. The Youth Commission positively recommends this legislation to the full Board of Supervisors and the Mayor's Office.
2. Cyndy Comerford, Climate Program Manager from the San Francisco Environment Department, presented to the Youth Commission and engaged in a Q&A with the Commission.
3. The Youth Commission inquired about the following to Ms. Comerford:
  - What cuts could affect the City's ability to meet the goals outlined in the Climate Action Plan?
  - What potential alternative cuts could be made instead of those to the Climate Action Plan?
  - How is environmental justice implemented in the current plan?
4. The Youth Commission is eager to see the equity metrics of the updated Climate Action Plan as it gets implemented. However, the Commission has expressed concern about the staffing cut proposals and how they will impact the implementation and goals of the Plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact Youth Commissioners or Youth Commission staff at (415) 554-7112 with any questions. Thank you.

1 [Environment Code - Climate Action Plan]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City’s climate action goals**  
4 **and planning process, and to update City Departments’ roles and responsibilities**  
5 **regarding the City’s climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department’s**  
6 **determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

7 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
8 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
9 **Deletions to Codes** are in ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*~~.  
10 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
11 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
12 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
13 subsections or parts of tables.

11

12 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

13

14 Section 1. Environmental Findings.

15 The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
16 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
17 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
18 Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this  
19 determination.

20

21 Section 2. Chapter 9 of the Environment Code is hereby amended by revising  
22 Sections 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 907, 908, and 909, and deleting Section 906, to read  
23 as follows:

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**CHAPTER 9:**

**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS TARGETS AND DEPARTMENTAL ACTION PLANS**

**SEC. 900. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

The Board of Supervisors finds that:

(a) In 2016, the Paris Climate Agreement committed national governments to pursue efforts to limit temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius. In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a special report on the impacts of global warming and the need to significantly reduce global ~~g~~Greenhouse ~~g~~Gas emissions well before 2030 to reduce the most detrimental impacts to ecosystems and to human health.

(b) In 2018, the United States’ Fourth National Climate Assessment made clear that climate change will wreak havoc across the United States, and that the current pace and scale of national climate action are not sufficient to avert substantial damage to the environment, human health, and economy. According to the San Francisco Department of Public Health’s Climate and Health Adaptation Framework (2017), the direct and indirect impacts of climate change will disproportionately affect San Francisco communities least able to prepare for, cope with, and recover from those impacts. Those communities include communities of color, low income communities, and other vulnerable populations.

(c) San Francisco, the Bay Area, and the State of California are already suffering the effects of climate change, and those effects will worsen in the form of droughts, air pollution, extreme heat, frequent wildfires, flooding, and much more. According to the 2023 San Francisco Extreme Heat Vulnerability Assessment, beginning in 2035, San Francisco will experience between two and eight times more days of extreme heat compared to 1960-1990 conditions. The State’s most recent Climate Change Assessment (2019), projects that sea levels in San Francisco may rise by as much as 66 inches by 2100 and that the Bay Area faces heightened wildfire risk and increasing water stress.

1 both of which compound existing social and environmental vulnerabilities. Statewide, the Assessment  
2 concludes that more frequent and severe droughts, extreme heat events, and ecosystem disruptions are  
3 collectively endangering agriculture, biodiversity, and public health.

4 (d) At the 2018 Global Climate Action Summit, San Francisco committed to meet  
5 the Paris Agreement by achieving a net zero city by 2050. The City joined in a Climate Equity  
6 Pledge to ensure that the City’s 2020 Climate Action Strategy update achieves the dual goals  
7 of advancing racial equity and decreasing carbon emissions.

8 ~~—(e) San Francisco’s climate commitments and climate action strategy are framed by the~~  
9 ~~City’s “0-80-100-Roots” framework, which defines climate and sustainability goals in four key areas:~~  
10 ~~zero waste (“0% zero waste”), transportation (“80% low-carbon trips”), energy (“100% renewable~~  
11 ~~energy”), and carbon sequestration (“Roots”).~~

12 ~~—(f) One of the City’s fundamental goals in implementing the 0-80-100-Roots Climate Action~~  
13 ~~Framework is to promote equity by ensuring that implementation reflects and responds to the~~  
14 ~~economic, political, and social needs of different San Francisco vulnerable communities.~~

15 ~~—(g) Achieving the “0-80-100-Roots” goals in the City will mean cleaner air, fewer vehicles~~  
16 ~~on the road, more reliable transit systems, more bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly networks, highly~~  
17 ~~efficient homes and businesses powered by 100% clean electricity, a robust urban tree canopy, plentiful~~  
18 ~~green spaces, improved soil health, and a regenerative ecosystem.~~

19 (eh) Meaningful climate solutions ~~will~~ require increasing supplies of high-quality,  
20 affordable housing for affordable to households individuals at all income levels and located near  
21 local and regional transit service. These solutions ~~will~~ also require well-coordinated land use  
22 and transportation planning and investments to support ~~low-carbon trips using~~ efficient travel  
23 modes such as transit, walking, and biking, ~~in order~~ to reduce vehicle miles traveled and  
24 associated emissions.

25 ~~(i) The City’s success of the City in achieving its climate goals thus far has been clear: in~~

1 ~~2019, San Francisco achieved a 41% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels,~~  
2 ~~surpassing the target reduction of 25% established by the Board of Supervisors. This success has been~~  
3 ~~driven by the continued replacement of fossil fuel power generation with renewable sources, a cleaner~~  
4 ~~electric grid, increased building energy efficiency, a transition to low-carbon transportation fuels, and~~  
5 ~~a leading zero-waste system.~~

6 (f) In 2019, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 160-19,  
7 declaring a climate emergency in San Francisco and requesting immediate action to address  
8 the climate crisis, limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and eliminate ~~g~~Greenhouse  
9 ~~g~~Gas emissions.

10 (g) In 2021, the Board of Supervisors updated this Chapter 9 of the Environment Code,  
11 setting a goal for San Francisco to reach net-zero emissions by 2040.

12 (h) In 2022, the IPCC published the Sixth Assessment Report containing the best available  
13 climate science. The report found that Greenhouse Gas emissions from human activities have caused  
14 global warming, that global temperatures have reached 1.1 degree Celsius above those of pre-  
15 industrial times, and that emissions continue to increase and pose multiple hazards.

16 (i) In 2024, the Department of the Environment published its latest Sector-Based Greenhouse  
17 Gas Emissions inventory, based on data from 2022, which found that San Francisco’s two largest  
18 emissions sources are the transportation (45%) and building (44%) sectors, indicating that prioritizing  
19 these two sectors for policy action and investment will have the greatest impact on reducing emissions.

20 ~~(k) The Department of the Environment’s 2019 report titled “Focus 2030: A Pathway to Net~~  
21 ~~Zero Emissions” shows that achieving accelerated emissions reductions by 2050 will require an~~  
22 ~~ongoing commitment that builds upon and surpasses San Francisco’s past successes and increases~~  
23 ~~resources accordingly to continue to reduce emissions all the way to net zero.~~

1           **SEC. 901. DEFINITIONS.**

2           For the purpose of this Chapter 9, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

3           “0-80-100-Roots” means the City’s climate action framework, where “0” refers to a goal of  
4 zero waste, “80” refers to a goal of 80% low-carbon trips, “100” refers to a goal of 100% renewable  
5 energy, and “Roots” refers to sequestering carbon through natural systems.

6           “Carbon Removal” means the process of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere  
7 through either nature-based approaches or technological methods to safely and securely store the  
8 carbon dioxide over the long term.

9           “Circular Economy” means improving how goods, food, services, and materials are  
10 designed, used, and reused to end waste and conserve natural resources in a regenerative manner that  
11 strengthens the environment, communities, and the economy. A Circular Economy ensures that benefits  
12 are distributed equitably; basic human needs are met with dignity; and residents, businesses, and  
13 government are more resilient to climate and economic shocks.

14           “Climate Action Plan” means the document required under Section 904 of this Chapter  
15 9 outlining the specific actions the City will endeavor to take to reduce Greenhouse Gas  
16 emissions and offset negative climate impacts.

17           “Climate Budgeting” means the process to systematically integrate climate considerations  
18 into the City’s financial planning and align City resources with the Climate Action Plan to ensure  
19 sustainability and climate resiliency are embedded across all levels of City government.

20           “Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means all the Greenhouse Gas  
21 emissions associated with producing, transporting, using, and disposing of products and  
22 services consumed by a particular community or entity in a given time period, including  
23 emissions generated outside the boundaries of the community or the geographic area where  
24 the entity is located.

25           “Greenhouse Gas” means any ~~and all~~ of the following gases: carbon dioxide,

1 methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

2 “Hazards and Climate Resilience Plan” means the plan prepared by the Office of  
3 Resilience and Capital Planning (~~ORCP~~) to increase the resilience of all components that keep  
4 the City functioning: buildings, infrastructure, utilities, transportation, communication systems,  
5 and the people who live and work in San Francisco.

6 ~~—“Low Carbon Trips” mean trips into, out of, and within the City’s boundaries which generate  
7 zero or low greenhouse gas emissions.~~

8 “Net Zero Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means Sector-Based  
9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions after first eliminating emissions from fossil fuels and other  
10 sources, and then, for each ton of emissions that cannot be eliminated, removing a ton of  
11 carbon dioxide equivalent from the atmosphere.

12 ~~—“Renewable Energy” means energy qualifying as renewable pursuant to California Public  
13 Resources Code Chapter 8.6, Section 25741(a), and California Public Utilities Code Chapter 2.3,  
14 Article 16, Section 399.16(b)(1) or (2), as amended from time to time, or provided by a local publicly  
15 owned electric utility subject to California Public Utilities Code Chapter 2.3, Article 16, Section  
16 399.30(j), as amended from time to time.~~

17 ~~—“Responsible Production and Consumption” means improving how materials and products  
18 are extracted, manufactured, delivered, acquired, used, reused, recycled, and disposed of to ensure that  
19 the production and consumption of materials and products promote basic human needs, are distributed  
20 in a socially equitable manner, and carried out in a way that minimizes environmental impacts over the  
21 lifecycle of those materials and products while matching the carrying capacity of the earth’s resources  
22 and adding value so as not to jeopardize present and future generations. (See United Nations’  
23 Sustainable Development Goal 12.) “Lifecycle” means the complete material life of a product, good, or  
24 service, including resource extraction, manufacture, assembly, construction, maintenance,  
25 transportation, operations or use, and end of life (reuse, recycling/composting, and disposal).~~

1 ~~“Carrying capacity” means the number or amount of people, plants, and other living organisms that an~~  
2 ~~ecosystem can support indefinitely without causing environmental degradation.~~

3 “Residual Emissions” means any carbon dioxide or other Greenhouse Gas emissions  
4 remaining after all technically and economically feasible mitigation measures have been implemented.

5 “Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions” means all of the Greenhouse Gas  
6 emissions generated within the geographic boundaries of the City in a given time period.

7 “Sequestering” means removing Residual Emissions from the atmosphere.

8  
9 **SEC. 902. CLIMATE ACTION GOALS.**

10 (a) The City adopts the following targets for reducing San Francisco Greenhouse  
11 Gas emissions:

12 (1) By 2030, a reduction in Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions of at least  
13 61% compared to 1990 levels;

14 ~~— (2) By 2030, a reduction in Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions to 30 mtCO<sub>2</sub>e~~  
15 ~~per household or less, equivalent to a 40% reduction compared to 1990 levels;~~

16 (3) By 2040, achievement of Net Zero Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
17 by reducing such emissions ~~by at least 90%~~ compared to 1990 levels and ~~s~~Sequestering any  
18 ~~#~~Residual ~~e~~Emissions; and

19 (3) By 2050, a reduction in Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions to  
20 10 mtCO<sub>2</sub>e per household or less, equivalent to an 80% reduction compared to 1990 levels.

21 ~~For purposes of this Section 902, “residual emissions” means any carbon dioxide or other~~  
22 ~~Greenhouse Gas emissions remaining after all technically and economically feasible mitigation~~  
23 ~~measures have been implemented, and “sequestering” means removing those residual emissions from~~  
24 ~~the atmosphere and storing them in natural systems that support soil fertility or through other carbon~~  
25 ~~farming practices.~~

1 (b) In order to meet the emissions reduction targets set out in subsection (a), the  
2 City shall pursue the ~~sustainability following climate action goals of the 0-80-100-Roots Climate~~  
3 ~~Action Framework, as follows:~~

4 (1) ~~Zero Waste. By 2030, a reduction in the generation of solid waste of at least 15%~~  
5 ~~below 2015 levels and a reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of by incineration or deposit~~  
6 ~~in landfill of at least 50% below 2015 levels;~~

7 — (2) ~~Transportation. By 2030, an increase in low-carbon trips to at least 80% of all trips~~  
8 ~~measured and an increase in the level of electrification of vehicles to at least 25% of all private~~  
9 ~~vehicles registered, and by 2040, an increase in the level of electrification of vehicles to 100% of all~~  
10 ~~private vehicles registered;~~

11 — (3) ~~Energy. By 2025, supplying 100% renewable electricity, and by 2040, supplying 100%~~  
12 ~~renewable energy;~~

13 — (4) ~~Housing. Building at least 5,000 new housing units per year with maximum~~  
14 ~~affordability, including not less than 30% affordable units, and with an emphasis on retaining and~~  
15 ~~rehabilitating existing housing;~~

16 — (5) ~~Buildings. By 2021, requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all new buildings,~~  
17 ~~and by 2035, requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all large existing commercial buildings;~~  
18 ~~and~~

19 — (6) ~~Roots. Sequestering carbon through ecosystem restoration, including increased urban~~  
20 ~~tree canopy, green infrastructure, and compost application.~~

21 (1) **Energy Supply.** Continue to offer 100% renewable electricity and/or Greenhouse Gas-  
22 free electricity to all; by 2030, ensure all residents and businesses use 100% renewable and/or  
23 Greenhouse Gas-free electricity; and, by 2040, transition all energy uses Citywide to 100% renewable  
24 and/or Greenhouse Gas-free sources;

25 (2) **Buildings Operations.** By 2030, reduce building emissions by 20% from 2020 levels by

1 decarbonizing the equivalent of 18,000 buildings, and by 2040, reduce building emissions completely  
2 so that all buildings are zero emission;

3 (3) **Transportation.** By 2030, achieve a 25% reduction in per-capita vehicle miles traveled  
4 and by 2040, achieve a 30% reduction relative to 2019 levels by supporting policies that enable new  
5 housing in locations close to schools, jobs, and other essential goods and services, reducing the need  
6 for longer trips, and by implementing strategies that increase the use of transit, walking, and biking; by  
7 2030, ensure that at least 25% of cars and small trucks registered in San Francisco are zero emission,  
8 and by 2035, ensure at least 25% of large trucks and other heavier duty vehicles are zero emission;  
9 and, by 2040, ensure all cars and small trucks are zero emission;

10 (4) **Housing and Land Use.** By 2030, plan for 82,000 new housing units, including at least  
11 36,000 in well-resourced neighborhoods, prioritizing affordability, transit-oriented development, and  
12 increased density along major transit corridors;

13 (5) **Circular Economy.** By 2030, attain a reduction in the generation of solid waste of at  
14 least 15% below 2015 levels and a reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of by incineration  
15 or deposit in landfill of at least 50% below 2015 levels; and by 2035, reach a 40% net reduction in  
16 Greenhouse Gas emissions from building materials compared to the 2026 industry average baseline  
17 established by the State;

18 (6) **Healthy Ecosystems.** By 2030, ensure that 30-40% of San Francisco's land area is  
19 permeable, with at least 30% of the land area being biodiverse greenspace; by 2040, ensure every San  
20 Franciscan lives within a 10-minute walk from nature; and, by 2040, plant enough trees to achieve a  
21 net increase of 30,000 trees for a total of 155,000 street trees, thereby completing the street tree  
22 network and enhancing a healthy urban forest; and

23 (7) **Water Supply.** Maximize water use efficiency to keep indoor and outdoor residential  
24 water use under the State's 2030 standard for indoor residential water use of 42 gallons per capita per  
25 day; and enhance the resilience of San Francisco's water supply by 2045 by increasing local water

1 sources to include 2.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of recycled water, and 4 mgd of groundwater, and  
2 by exploring additional new water supplies, while maintaining the Hetch Hetchy gravity-driven water  
3 delivery system.

4 (c) All climate action goals set out in subsection (b) shall also include the  
5 complementary goals of advancing racial and social equity, protecting public health (including  
6 the health needs of vulnerable populations), increasing community resilience, and fostering a  
7 more just economy.

### 8 9 **SEC. 903. FUTURE CLIMATE ACTION GOALS.**

10 The City shall pursue the following future climate action goals:

11 (a) ~~The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with relevant City~~  
12 ~~departments, community stakeholders, and technical experts, shall identify water conservation targets~~  
13 ~~that include sustainable use practices, water recycling, and water reuse.~~ Research, explore, and identify  
14 best practices for Carbon Removal that could allow the City to remove atmospheric carbon dioxide  
15 equivalent to San Francisco's residual Greenhouse Gas emissions; and

16 (b) ~~The Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, in consultation with the San Francisco~~  
17 ~~Public Utilities Commission, the Department of the Environment, relevant City departments,~~  
18 ~~community stakeholders, and technical experts, shall identify energy resilience targets that will help the~~  
19 ~~City prepare for and recover from energy disruptions with the minimum use of additional fossil fuels.~~  
20 Research, establish, and implement Climate Budgeting that integrates the City's climate goals,  
21 specified in Section 902 of this Chapter 9, with budgeting, policy, and decision-making processes.

### 22 23 **SEC. 904. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN.**

24 (a) By December 31, 2026~~7~~, the Department of the Environment shall prepare and  
25 submit for the Mayor's approval ~~an updated~~ an updated Climate Action Plan (CAP) which shall do all of

1 the following:

2 (1) Align with the Paris Climate Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees  
3 Celsius, and with the emissions reduction targets established in Section 902 of this Chapter 9.

4 (2) Incorporate an equity framework that addresses historic racial and social  
5 inequities; prioritizes social, economic, and environmental benefits derived from implementing  
6 the CAP; and ensures an equitable distribution of those benefits. This framework shall  
7 consider:

8 (A) The engagement and prioritization of those who are most impacted by  
9 climate change and have historically had the least influence in decision-making processes,  
10 including low-income communities of color and other impacted populations;

11 (B) Climate and health benefits, especially targeted to populations and communities  
12 disproportionately impacted by climate changes;

13 (CB) Burdens and/or unintended consequences of related actions, especially for  
14 low-income communities of color and other vulnerable populations; and

15 (DC) Social interventions needed to secure workers' rights and livelihoods when  
16 economies are shifting to ~~responsible production and consumption~~ a Circular Economy, collectively  
17 referred to as a "just transition" framework, and other impacts on workforce and job  
18 opportunities.

19 (3) Identify and leverage synergies, where feasible, with the City's existing or  
20 proposed climate adaptation and mitigation measures set out in the Hazards and Climate  
21 Resilience Plan.

22 ~~—(4) Incorporate a health and vulnerable populations framework that shall consider:~~

23 ~~—(A) Climate and health co-benefits, especially targeted to populations and communities~~  
24 ~~disproportionately impacted by climate change; and~~

25 ~~—(B) Potential negative health impacts to individual and communities, especially~~

1 ~~vulnerable populations.~~

2 (45) Include, but not be limited to, the following elements: energy supply;  
3 ~~transportation and land use;~~ building operations; transportation; housing and land use; Circular  
4 Economy; healthy ecosystems; and water supply. ~~housing; responsible production and consumption;~~  
5 ~~and carbon sequestration. No later than one year after the adoption of the ordinance in Board File No.~~  
6 ~~210563 enacting this Section 904, the Department of the Environment in coordination with the Public~~  
7 ~~Utilities Commission shall prepare a water element for the CAP.~~

8 (56) Identify strategies and/or make recommendations to achieve emissions  
9 reduction targets for all elements and identify parties responsible for implementation. ~~If targets~~  
10 ~~have not been established in Section 902, the CAP shall recommend approaches on goals and~~  
11 ~~principles. Each strategy or recommendation shall:~~

12 — (A) ~~Identify parties responsible for implementation;~~

13 — (B) ~~Incorporate an estimated cost; and~~

14 — (C) ~~Contain key performance indicators and explicit equity metrics to measure progress.~~

15 (b) The Department of the Environment shall update the Climate Action Plan every  
16 five years.

## 18 **SEC. 905. CITY DEPARTMENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

19 (a) The Department of the Environment shall be the lead agency for developing and  
20 publicizing the Climate Action Plan, including updates. The Department ~~shall:~~

21 (1) Shall, in coordination with implementing departments, lLead the development of  
22 strategies, key performance indicators, and equity metrics ~~to be included in the CAP;~~

23 (2) Shall maintain a publicly accessible dashboard updated at least once a year, reporting  
24 on Greenhouse Gas emissions, indicators, and climate action progress;

25 (32) Shall ~~C~~oordinate an interagency effort with the ~~Planning Department, Municipal~~

1 ~~Transportation Agency, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Department of~~  
2 ~~Building Inspection, City Administrator's Office, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, San~~  
3 ~~Francisco Public Utilities Commission, City Administrator's Office, Department of Building~~  
4 ~~Inspection, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Works, Mayor's Office of Housing and~~  
5 ~~Community Development, Municipal Transportation Agency, Office of Economic and Workforce~~  
6 ~~Development, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, Planning Department, Port of San Francisco,~~  
7 ~~San Francisco International Airport, Public Utilities Commission, Recreation and Park Department,~~  
8 and other relevant City agencies, as well as the County Transportation Authority, to develop and  
9 adopt updates to the CAP; and

10 (4) May adopt rules and regulations related to the administration of this Chapter 9.

11 (b) All City departments shall:

12 (1) Ensure all department-level decisions and commitments are consistent with the CAP  
13 and this Chapter 9;

14 (2) Attend convenings hosted by the Mayor's Office at least twice a year to review  
15 progress towards the goals outlined in the CAP, identify barriers, identify potential solutions, and  
16 advance cross-departmental collaboration;

17 (3) Provide data, information, and feedback requested by the Department of the  
18 Environment to develop, implement, report about, and evaluate the CAP;

19 (4) Report to the Department of the Environment on key performance indicators related to  
20 climate and equity outcomes, including equity metrics designed to measure progress towards the CAP's  
21 climate and environmental justice objectives; and,

22 (5) Support community engagement efforts for the CAP.

23 ~~—(3) Work with relevant agencies, key stakeholders, and community members to develop,~~  
24 ~~adopt, and monitor the implementation of the CAP.~~

25 ~~—(b) The Planning Department shall:~~

1           —(1)— ~~Review the City’s Planning Code to ensure that Area Plans and development projects~~  
2 ~~are consistent with the targets and aims set out in the CAP and this Chapter 9;~~

3           —(2)— ~~Review the City’s General Plan for consistency and support of the City’s Greenhouse~~  
4 ~~Gas emissions targets and climate action goals, with guidance from the State’s Office of Planning and~~  
5 ~~Research on incorporating climate change and resilience into land use planning, and, as needed,~~  
6 ~~update and amend relevant elements through the support of the Planning Commission and Board of~~  
7 ~~Supervisors;~~

8           —(3)— ~~Continue to implement State, regional, and/or local requirements to consider a~~  
9 ~~project’s Greenhouse Gas impacts as part of its review under the California Environmental Quality Act~~  
10 ~~(CEQA) regarding San Francisco’s emissions targets in this Chapter 9; and~~

11           —(4)— ~~Advance plans, policies, and projects that support increased affordable housing~~  
12 ~~production, especially in proximity to public transit, and that preserve affordable housing at low and~~  
13 ~~moderate-income levels.~~

14           —(c)— ~~The Department of Public Health shall:~~

15           —(1)— ~~In consultation with the Department of the Environment, develop an element of the~~  
16 ~~CAP addressing climate impacts on health and vulnerable populations, including:~~

17           —(A)— ~~Analyzing climate change as a public health threat;~~

18           —(B)— ~~Identifying inequalities in the distribution of public health impacts; and~~

19           —(C)— ~~Connecting climate action strategies to associated health and equity co-benefits.~~

20           —(2)— ~~Develop a health and vulnerable populations framework for evaluating proposed~~  
21 ~~climate action strategies to inform the implementation of those strategies; and~~

22           —(3)— ~~Monitor and evaluate climate, health, and equity metrics in cooperation with public~~  
23 ~~agencies and key stakeholders, including the San Francisco Health Improvement Partnership; share~~  
24 ~~data with City departments and the public; and use the data to continually improve strategic actions~~  
25 ~~and address emerging issues, gaps, and unintended consequences impacting health and vulnerable~~

1 *populations.*

2 ~~—(d) The Department of Building Inspection shall:~~

3 ~~—(1) Support the development and implementation of high-performance green building~~  
4 ~~codes to achieve higher levels of energy efficiency and the eventual elimination of the use of fossil fuels~~  
5 ~~in buildings to achieve San Francisco’s emissions targets set forth in Section 902; and~~

6 ~~—(2) Work with the Department of the Environment on the development of strategies,~~  
7 ~~actions, key performance indicators, and equity metrics to be included in the buildings element of the~~  
8 ~~CAP.~~

9 ~~—(e) The Department of Public Works shall:~~

10 ~~—(1) Consider San Francisco’s emissions targets set forth in Section 902 in updates related~~  
11 ~~to the Department’s Standard Plans and Specifications and in the design, construction, maintenance~~  
12 ~~and management of public buildings and infrastructure projects;~~

13 ~~—(2) Work with City departments and stakeholders to ensure that the public right-of-way~~  
14 ~~allows for electrification of buildings and transportation; and~~

15 ~~—(3) Work with the Department of the Environment on the carbon sequestration element of~~  
16 ~~the CAP, including consideration of the climate and resilience benefits of planting and maintaining~~  
17 ~~street trees, median landscaping, and pocket parks.~~

18 ~~—(f) The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency shall:~~

19 ~~—(1) Work with the Department of the Environment, the Planning Department, the San~~  
20 ~~Francisco County Transportation Authority and the Department of Public Health to develop and~~  
21 ~~implement projects, strategies, actions, key performance indicators, and equity metrics to be included~~  
22 ~~in the transportation and land use element of the CAP, with an emphasis on advancing projects that~~  
23 ~~shift single-occupant automobile trips to other modes of transportation (“mode shift”) by prioritizing~~  
24 ~~the right-of-way for low-carbon and efficient modes through efforts such as improved parking~~  
25 ~~management, utilization of pricing, development of local and regional transit and active mobility~~

1 ~~networks, and electrifying gas-powered vehicles.~~

2 ~~—(2) Act as the lead agency on coordinating with other relevant departments and other key~~  
3 ~~stakeholders to ensure that the transportation and land use element reflects the City’s policy and~~  
4 ~~programmatic priorities in this area, including the integration of existing Citywide transportation~~  
5 ~~planning efforts, goals, data sources, and other considerations into the CAP.~~

6 ~~—(g) The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission shall:~~

7 ~~—(1) Lead the development of strategies, actions, key performance indicators, and equity~~  
8 ~~metrics to be included in the energy element of the CAP, including proposals for meeting the City’s~~  
9 ~~Renewable Energy goals and for developing community programming that reduces Greenhouse Gas~~  
10 ~~emissions and incentivizes electrification.~~

11 ~~—(2) Maintain energy supply portfolios for its energy-providing programs that align with the~~  
12 ~~Greenhouse Gas emission targets set forth in Section 902.~~

13 ~~—(h) The Office of Resilience and Capital Planning under the City Administrator shall:~~

14 ~~—(1) Collaborate with the Department of the Environment and other City departments to~~  
15 ~~align long-term funding needs with climate adaptation or mitigation strategies and to reflect those~~  
16 ~~priorities in the 10-year capital plan and in agency capital plans; and~~

17 ~~—(2) Work with the Department of the Environment and other departments to coordinate and~~  
18 ~~prioritize climate adaptation and mitigation strategies articulated in the Office’s Hazards and Climate~~  
19 ~~Resilience Plan and the CAP.~~

20 ~~—(i) The Purchasing Department under the City Administrator shall work with the Department~~  
21 ~~of the Environment and other departments to review, and, as appropriate, recommend amendments to~~  
22 ~~City procurement laws and practices, including but not limited to Chapter 2 of this Code~~  
23 ~~(Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Ordinance), to include the impact of City procurement~~  
24 ~~decisions on achieving City emissions reduction targets and achieving other environmental and health~~  
25 ~~benefits.~~

1           ~~—(j) All City agencies shall, as needed:~~

2           ~~—(1) Provide data, information, and feedback to the Department of the Environment in~~  
3 ~~developing the CAP;~~

4           ~~—(2) Consider the effect of decisions and activities under their jurisdiction on the goals of~~  
5 ~~reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions and at the same time promoting racial and social equity,~~  
6 ~~consistent with the CAP and the goals set forth in Section 902;~~

7           ~~—(3) Coordinate with other City departments on the development and implementation of~~  
8 ~~climate-related regulations;~~

9           ~~—(4) Improve interagency coordination and communication, and coordinate funding where~~  
10 ~~feasible, to advance ongoing City initiatives with co-benefits for climate change, health and equity,~~  
11 ~~including Vision Zero, Transit First, and City targets for affordable housing development; and~~

12           ~~—(5) Support community engagement efforts for the CAP.~~

13  
14           **~~SEC. 906. MARKET-BASED COMPLIANCE MECHANISMS.~~**

15           ~~—(a) The Department of the Environment, utilizing the expertise of relevant City Departments~~  
16 ~~and Agencies, shall research and, as appropriate, recommend legislation to the Board of Supervisors,~~  
17 ~~concerning whether and how to develop or utilize available market-based compliance mechanisms,~~  
18 ~~such as greenhouse gas emissions exchanges, banking, credits, and other similar transactions governed~~  
19 ~~by rules and protocols established by the City, CARB or other recognized governmental or non-profit~~  
20 ~~entity as credit toward City greenhouse gas emission reductions.~~

21           ~~—(b) The Department of the Environment shall provide technical assistance, and coordinate~~  
22 ~~City applications for, any approved market-based mechanisms that the City intends to use in~~  
23 ~~furtherance of achieving the San Francisco greenhouse gas emissions limit.~~

24  
25           **~~SEC. 9067. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING.~~**

1 (a) The City shall demonstrate its long-term commitment to reducing Greenhouse  
2 Gas emissions and advancing racial and social equity by measuring and reporting emissions,  
3 tracking key performance indicators and equity metrics, and monitoring the City's progress on  
4 meeting its climate action goals and commitments.

5 (b) The Department of the Environment shall, with ~~the~~ assistance from relevant City  
6 agencies:

7 (1) Measure and monitor Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions, including  
8 municipal emissions, using best available global protocols for preparing Citywide Greenhouse  
9 Gas emission inventories.

10 (2) Measure production and consumption emissions using best available global  
11 methodologies for preparing consumption-based emission inventories.

12 (3) Evaluate Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions against set targets,  
13 document production and consumption emissions, and produce a Greenhouse Gas emissions  
14 report.

15 (4) ~~Establish a~~ Continue the monitoring and reporting process for the  
16 implementation of the CAP that:

17 (A) Tracks key performance indicators and equity metrics for strategies to help  
18 monitor their progress and implementation;

19 (B) Reports progress against the Paris Agreement and its goal of limiting global  
20 warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

21 (5) Request and receive data from City departments starting August of every year  
22 to support:

23 (A) The ~~annual~~ Greenhouse Gas emissions inventory. City departments may be  
24 asked to provide data ~~on, but not limited to, the following: their energy use; types of fuels used for~~  
25 ~~their operations; fuel volume; vehicle miles travelled (if applicable) within their jurisdictions; and~~

1 ~~private sector Greenhouse Gas emission sources regulated by the department. Departments may also~~  
2 ~~and be requested to~~ verify emission estimates and assumptions and review resulting reports;

3 (B) Monitoring and reporting of CAP implementation. City departments may be  
4 asked to provide data on key performance indicators on climate and equity ~~metries~~-related to  
5 adopted strategies and actions; and

6 ~~(C) The development and delivery of annual municipal building energy benchmarking~~  
7 ~~reports.~~

8 (6) Coordinate with other City agencies to monitor, track, and report on climate  
9 action progress to local, state, national, and global partners.

10 (7) ~~Report its findings in a progress report to the public every two years~~ Issue an annual  
11 progress report and provide formal presentations to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors at the  
12 midpoint and conclusion of each five-year Climate Action Plan period.

13  
14 **SEC. 9078. MISCELLANEOUS.**

15 (a) **Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this  
16 Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of  
17 competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of  
18 the Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this  
19 Ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared  
20 invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of this Ordinance would be  
21 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

22 (b) **No Conflict With Federal Or State Law.** Nothing in this Ordinance shall be  
23 interpreted or applied so as to create any requirement, power or duty in conflict with any  
24 Federal or State law. Any ~~and all~~ Greenhouse Gas reduction activities adopted and  
25 implemented under this Ordinance are intended to be complementary and nonduplicative of

1 measures required or to be adopted by any State or Federal agency under State or Federal  
2 law. Nothing in this Ordinance shall relieve any person, entity, including any City Department  
3 or City Official of compliance with other applicable Federal, State, or local laws or regulations,  
4 including Federal or State air and water quality requirements, and other requirements for  
5 protecting public health or the environment.

6 (c) **Undertaking For The General Welfare.** In undertaking the implementation of  
7 this Ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is  
8 not assuming, nor is it imposing on its officer and employees, an obligation for breach of  
9 which it is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately  
10 caused injury.

11  
12 **SEC. 9089. IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARD.**

13 (a) The Department of Environment (“Department”) shall coordinate with the  
14 Department of Building Inspection in implementation of the All-Electric building requirement in  
15 Section 106A.1.17 of the Building Code, and shall provide technical assistance to support San  
16 Francisco residents, workers, and businesses through the transition to building electrification.

17 (b) The Department shall hold at least one public meeting annually to discuss the  
18 annual report from the Department of Building Inspection detailing the status of applications  
19 for permits to construct new Mixed-Fuel Buildings pursuant to an exception to Building Code  
20 Section 106A.1.17.

21 ~~—(c) Concurrent with implementation of the All-Electric building requirement, the San~~  
22 ~~Francisco Public Utilities Commission will evaluate opportunities for the expansion of non-potable~~  
23 ~~onsite water treatment systems, graywater heat recovery systems, and solar thermal water heating, and~~  
24 ~~shall present findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors by no later than March 1,~~  
25 ~~2021~~

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Section 3. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under the official title of the ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective at 12:00 a.m. on the 31st day after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

By: /s/ Christina Fletes-Romo \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA FLETES-ROMO  
Deputy City Attorney

4918-3561-3583, v. 1

## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Environment Code - Climate Action Plan]

**Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

### Existing Law

Chapter 9 of the Environment Code sets the City's goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and related sustainability goals. Some of the goals include, for example, reducing greenhouse gas emissions generated within the geographic boundaries of the City by at least 61% below 1990 levels and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with producing, transporting, using, and disposing of products and services consumed by a particular community or entity by at least 40% below 1990 levels. Sustainability goals include, for example, reducing solid waste generation, increasing low-carbon trips, supplying 100% renewable energy, and requiring zero onsite fossil fuel emissions from all new buildings.

Chapter 9 requires the Department of the Environment to prepare and submit a Climate Action Plan every five years that incorporates the goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and related sustainability goals, strategies and recommendations to achieve those goals, and an equity framework as well as a health and vulnerable populations framework to the plan, among other requirements.

Chapter 9 also outlines topics for future climate action goals. Chapter 9 further requires the Department of the Environment to research and possibly recommend legislation related to the development or utilization of available market-based compliance mechanisms, such as greenhouse gas emission exchanges. Chapter 9 also sets out City departments' roles and responsibilities related to the Climate Action Plan and related goals, as well as monitoring, evaluation, and reporting requirements.

### Background and Amendments to Current Law

The current Climate Action Plan was prepared by the Department of the Environment in 2021. The Department of the Environment is required to prepare an updated Climate Action Plan every five years. This ordinance would update the requirements for the 2026 Climate Action Plan, as well as current and future climate action goals. New climate action goals would include, for example, transitioning all energy uses Citywide to 100% renewable and/or greenhouse gas-free sources by 2040, reducing building emissions by 20% from 2020 levels by 2030, and achieving a 25% reduction in per-capita vehicle miles traveled by 2030. Future climate action goals would include, for example, exploring and identifying best practices for

carbon removal that could allow the City to remove atmospheric carbon dioxide equivalent to San Francisco's residual greenhouse gas emissions.

The ordinance would also update City departments' roles and responsibilities with respect to the Climate Action Plan and goals. The ordinance would require the Department of the Environment to coordinate an interagency effort related to the updated Climate Action Plan with the City Administrator's Office, Department of Building Inspection, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Works, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, Municipal Transportation Agency, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, Planning Department, Port of San Francisco, San Francisco International Airport, Public Utilities Commission, Recreation and Park Department, and other City departments. Further, the ordinance would also require all City departments to ensure all department-level decisions and commitments are consistent with the Climate Action Plan. The ordinance would also authorize the Department of the Environment to adopt rules and regulations related to the administration of Chapter 9.

The ordinance would remove the section focused on market-based compliance mechanisms, and update the findings and purpose section, as well as the definitions sections by removing some definitions and adding others.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184  
Fax No. (415) 554-5163  
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

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## MEMORANDUM

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Date: March 4, 2026  
To: Planning Department/Planning Commission  
From: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee  
Subject: Board of Supervisors Legislation Referral - File No. 260177  
Environment Code - Climate Action Plan

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- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination *(California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq.)*
  - Ordinance / Resolution
  - Ballot Measure

Not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because it would not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

4/2/2026 *Joy Navarrete*
- Amendment to the Planning Code, including the following Findings:  
*(Planning Code, Section 302(b): 90 days for Planning Commission review)*
  - General Plan
  - Planning Code, Section 101.1
  - Planning Code, Section 302
- Amendment to the Administrative Code, involving Land Use/Planning  
*(Board Rule 3.23: 30 days for possible Planning Department review)*
- General Plan Referral for Non-Planning Code Amendments  
*(Charter, Section 4.105, and Administrative Code, Section 2A.53)*  
(Required for legislation concerning the acquisition, vacation, sale, or change in use of City property; subdivision of land; construction, improvement, extension, widening, narrowing, removal, or relocation of public ways, transportation routes, ground, open space, buildings, or structures; plans for public housing and publicly-assisted private housing; redevelopment plans; development agreements; the annual capital expenditure plan and six-year capital improvement program; and any capital improvement project or long-term financing proposal such as general obligation or revenue bonds.)
- Historic Preservation Commission
  - Landmark *(Planning Code, Section 1004.3)*
  - Cultural Districts *(Charter, Section 4.135 & Board Rule 3.23)*
  - Mills Act Contract *(Government Code, Section 50280)*
  - Designation for Significant/Contributory Buildings *(Planning Code, Article 11)*

Please send the Planning Department/Commission recommendation/determination to John Carroll at [john.carroll@sfgov.org](mailto:john.carroll@sfgov.org).

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Tyrone Jue, Director, Environment Department  
Carmen Chu, City Administrator  
Patrick O'Riordan, Director, Department of Building Inspection  
Daniel Tsai, Director, Department of Public Health  
Carla Short, Director, Public Works  
Daniel Adams, Director, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development  
Julie Kirschbaum, Director of Transportation  
Anne Taupier, Executive Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development  
Brian Strong, Office of Resilience and Capital Planning  
Sarah Dennis Phillips, Director, Planning Department  
Michael Martin, Acting Executive Director, Port of San Francisco  
Mike Nakornkhet, Airport Director, San Francisco International Airport  
Dennis Herrera, General Manager, Public Utilities Commission  
Sarah Madland, Interim General Manager, Recreation and Park Department  
Tilly Chang, Executive Director, County Transportation Authority

FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: March 5, 2026

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Mayor Lurie on February 24, 2026.

**File No. 260177**

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: [john.carroll@sfgov.org](mailto:john.carroll@sfgov.org).

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Youth Commission
FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk,
Land Use and Transportation Committee
DATE: March 6, 2026
SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following, which at the request of the Youth Commission is referred as per Charter Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 260177

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee at john.carroll@sfgov.org.

\*\*\*\*\*

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- No Comment
Recommendation Attached

Chairperson, Youth Commission



**MYRNA MELGAR**

---

DATE: April 1, 2026

TO: Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee

RE: Land Use and Transportation Committee  
COMMITTEE REPORT

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*mm*

Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee, I have deemed the following matter is of an urgent nature and request it be considered by the full Board on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, as a Committee Report:

**File No. 260177**

**Environment Code - Climate Action Plan**

Sponsors: Mayor; Mandelman

This matter will be heard in the Land Use and Transportation Committee at a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 6, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

**From:** [Nancy Haber](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** File #260177, Land Use Committee April 6  
**Date:** Friday, April 3, 2026 4:52:47 PM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I am writing to express my support of the updated Climate Action Plan, and to thank Mayor Lurie and President Mandelman for sponsoring the ordinance to amend Chapter 9 of the Environment Code with this update. I urge the approval of the Land Use Committee and then the full Board of the 2026 Climate Action Plan (CAP), which has been carefully put together by the Environment Department with extensive stakeholder input considered.

The 2026 update to the Climate Action Plan is our roadmap to a healthier, cleaner, and more resilient city. This Plan aligns climate goals with the latest science, lays out specific strategies assigned to specific City departments to implement, and provides targets and accountability mechanisms to move the City towards its climate goals.

But implementing Chapter 9 and the Climate Action Plan won't be possible without the ongoing work and guidance of the Environment Department and the oversight of the Commission on the Environment. The City must adequately fund the Environment in the upcoming budget cycle to maintain the necessary staff to enact the updated Plan, must keep the Commission on the Environment in the Charter, and beyond that must look ahead for sources of the much greater funding needed to meet our climate goals.

San Francisco has been a leader in meeting our climate emergency. We must continue to lead now at this crucial time and into the future.

Thank you,

Nancy Haber  
District 7 resident  
SF Climate Emergency Coalition

**From:** [Susan Green](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** File #260177\_Chpt 9 amendments to Enviro Code and funding the Climate Action Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 4:29:52 PM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Chair Melgar and members of the Land Use & Transportation Committee,

I live in District 8 and I am a member of the SF Climate Emergency Coalition. I'm writing to strongly urge the Land Use & Transportation Committee to move the proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 9 of the City's Environment Code forward to the full Board of Supervisors with a positive recommendation.

The revised Climate Action Plan (CAP) and amendments to Chapter 9 represent our guide to a healthier and more resilient city with cleaner air, no fossil fuel pollution, and a better quality of life for everyone. I appreciate that Mayor Lurie and Board President Mandelman have respectively sponsored and co-sponsored this ordinance. Now more than ever, with our federal government gutting climate and environmental protections, we need to take action locally to avoid exacerbating the already dangerous climate crisis we face.

That said, the revised CAP and amended Chapter 9 will remain just a vision of what we need to do, if we don't also **fund** the work that needs to get done to meet their goals.

In addition to supporting this legislation, please advocate for (1) adequate funding from the City's General Fund for the Environment Department so their climate staff can advance the CAP and coordinate that work across City departments, (2) keeping the Environment Commission in the Charter to maintain a citywide forum in which to discuss Chapter 9 issues, engage the public, and hold City departments accountable, and (3) creating and implementing a financial plan to dramatically scale up the funding needed to reach the City's 2040 net zero emissions goal.

Thank you for your support for meeting San Francisco's climate action goals.

Susan Green  
920 Diamond St, SF 94114

**From:** [Joni Eisen](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** File #260177, Land Use Committee April 6  
**Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 12:33:44 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Land Use Committee and Mayor Lurie,

Thank you, Mayor Lurie, for sponsoring this legislation to incorporate the newly-updated Climate Action Plan into Chapter 9 of the City's Environment Code. It's the right thing to do.

As a longtime artist and Potrero Hill resident, as well as a concerned grandparent, I am writing in awe of the incredible leadership and hard work that SF Environment Department (SFE) has demonstrated for years. Specifically, I urge the Committee's approval of the updated Climate Action Plan (CAP).

I must add, however, that adopting such a detailed and comprehensive Plan into the Environment Code will mean nothing without the means to implement it. If, as the current budget proposes, General Fund allocations to SFE are reduced to the point that the very staff positions uniquely equipped to do the work implementing the CAP (and overseeing that work across other departments) are eliminated, what is the point of a Climate Action Plan at all?

Our City must lead, not fall behind at this crucial time. Please, Mayor Lurie and Supervisors, be the leaders we need: advocate funding climate action now and into the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joni Eisen  
District 10 resident

**From:** [Margaret Chen](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Writing you about File #260177  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2026 7:00:55 PM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mr Carroll and members of the SF Land Use & Transportation Committee,

I am a long time SF resident, retired physician and Clinical Professor, emeritus at UCSF in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences. I am spending my retirement advocating for climate health, because the future health of my grandchildren, your children and all children hinges on changing the devastating trajectory of climate chaos.

I am writing to support of the proposed legislation to update and amend Chapter 9.  
I want to thank you and Board President Mandelman for sponsoring and co-sponsoring this ordinance.

This Chapter 9 update is the roadmap that San Francisco needs to continue moving towards a **healthier** and more resilient city with cleaner air, lower fossil fuel pollution, and a better quality of life for all its residents. With the rollback of environmental regulations across the country, now more than ever San Francisco needs to lead.

I appreciate the detailed work that the SF Environment Department has done to update the CAP as mandated, including the extensive stakeholder input solicited and considered. The 2026 update to the Climate Action Plan aligns climate goals with the latest science and lays out specific strategies assigned to specific City Departments to implement, providing targets and accountability mechanisms to move the City towards our climate goals.

But implementing Chapter 9 and the Climate Action Plan won't be possible without the ongoing work and guidance of the Environment Department and the oversight of the Commission on the Environment.

**To that end, the City must:**

1. Adequately fund the Environment Department to enact the Climate Action Plan. SFE's Climate staff only do this specific work; they are the employees who have the experience and the expertise to guide the implementation of the CAP
2. Keep the Commission in the Charter and do not eliminate it. The Commission is the only citywide forum in which to discuss Chapter 9 issues, engage the public, and hold everyone accountable.
3. Solve these funding issues for the long-term. We need to support implementation of Chapter 9 by finding the funding not only for the ongoing work of the Environment Department staff but also the strategies and solutions outlined in the Plan to meet our climate goals.

With that, I strongly urge the members of the Land Use & Transportation Committee to move this ordinance to the full board with a positive recommendation because the health of all San Franciscans, now and in the future depends on it.

Thank you,  
Margie Chen MD  
Clinical Professor, emeritus  
UCSF, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences  
Climate Health Now, Statewide Leadership Team  
Climate Health • Civic Health, Co lead

**From:** [Julie Lindow](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comments re File #260177: Support of the proposed legislation to update and amend Chapter 9  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2026 10:06:10 AM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Chair Melgar and members of the SF Land Use & Transportation Committee,

My name is Julie Lindow, and I live in District 5. I am the Associate Director of SF Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility.

I am writing to support of the proposed legislation to update and amend Chapter 9.

I want to thank Mayor Lurie and Board President Mandelman for sponsoring and co-sponsoring this ordinance.

This Chapter 9 update is the roadmap that San Francisco needs to continue moving toward a **healthier** and more resilient city with cleaner air, lower fossil fuel pollution, and a better quality of life for all its residents. With the rollback of environmental regulations across the country, now more than ever San Francisco needs to lead.

I appreciate the detailed work that the SF Environment Department has done to update the CAP as mandated, including the extensive stakeholder input solicited and considered. The 2026 update to the Climate Action Plan aligns climate goals with the latest science and lays out specific strategies assigned to specific City Departments to implement, providing targets and accountability mechanisms to move the City towards our climate goals.

But implementing Chapter 9 and the Climate Action Plan won't be possible without the ongoing work and guidance of the Environment Department and the oversight of the Commission on the Environment.

**To that end, the City must:**

1. Adequately fund the Environment Department to enact the Climate Action Plan. SFE's Climate staff only do this specific work; they are the employees who have the experience and the expertise to guide the implementation of the CAP
2. Keep the Commission in the Charter and do not eliminate it. The Commission is the only citywide forum in which to discuss Chapter 9 issues, engage the public, and hold everyone accountable.
3. Solve these funding issues for the long-term. We need to support implementation of Chapter 9 by finding the funding not only for the ongoing work of the Environment Department staff but also the strategies and solutions outlined in the Plan to meet our climate goals.

With that, I strongly urge the members of the Land Use & Transportation Committee to move this ordinance to the full board with a positive recommendation. Thank you.

Julie Lindow

[SF Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility.org](http://SF Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility.org)

Associate Director

[JulieLindow.com](http://JulieLindow.com)

415-710-4991

**From:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS-Operations](#); [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Entezari, Mehran \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 2 Letters Regarding File No. 260177  
**Date:** Thursday, March 19, 2026 9:49:29 AM  
**Attachments:** [2 Letters Regarding File No. 260177.pdf](#)

---

Hello,

Please see attached 2 letters regarding **File No. 260177:**

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Regards,

John Bullock  
Office of the Clerk of the Board  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 554-5184  
[BOS@sfgov.org](mailto:BOS@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

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**From:** [Tenderloin Tree Campaign 2004](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Response to Climate Action Plan Update file 260177  
**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2026 2:28:58 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The San Francisco Climate Action Plan (CAP) was originally released in 2021, setting ambitious targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 61% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2040. Since then, the city has made progress, including reducing emissions by 48% from 1990 levels by 2020 and achieving 100% renewable electricity supply by 2023. An update to the plan—referred to as the 2025 CAP Update—is in the works to guide actions through 2030, building on the 2021 version with a streamlined approach, enhanced transparency, and greater emphasis on racial and social equity, funding mechanisms, governance, and innovation. The update process incorporates public feedback and equity assessments, with the final version slated for publication in April 2026 (as of March 2026, a draft is available). Key emissions targets remain consistent with the 2021 plan, but the update adds more measurable, time-bound actions (e.g., specific deadlines like "by 2026" for policies and pilots) and reports on accomplishments since 2021.

## Structural Changes

- Sectors Expanded:** The 2021 CAP covered six sectors; the 2025 draft expands to seven, renaming some for clarity and adding Water Supply (previously a 2023 addendum to the 2021 plan). Transportation and Land Use is split into separate Transportation and Housing & Land Use focuses. Responsible Production & Consumption is rebranded as Circular Economy with an emphasis on waste reduction and embodied carbon.
- Equity and Implementation Focus:** Greater integration of racial/social equity reviews, public engagement, and funding strategies (e.g., forming interdepartmental groups for climate finance). The update includes a dashboard for tracking progress and stresses co-benefits like job creation, health improvements, and resilience.
- Timeline and Process:** The 2025 draft outlines a phased rollout: action proposals in late 2024–early 2025, equity/public reviews in spring–summer 2025, revisions in summer 2025, approvals in fall 2025, and full implementation/reporting from 2026–2030.

## Sector-Specific Changes

The table below compares key goals, strategies, and actions between the 2021 CAP and the 2025 draft update, highlighting additions, refinements, or shifts. Changes emphasize post-2021 accomplishments (e.g., all-electric ordinances, EV expansions) and new near-term deadlines for 2026–2030.

Sector (2021 Name → 2025 Name)	2021 Key Goals & Strategies	2025 Draft Changes/Additions	Notable Accomplishments & New Timelines
<b>Energy Supply</b> (unchanged)	100% renewable electricity by 2025; 100% renewable energy by 2040; invest in local renewables, grid flexibility, workforce; plan gas decommissioning. Focus on affordability and equity.	Expands requirements for large buildings (>250,000 sq ft by 2026, >50,000 sq ft by 2030); adds pilots for gas decommissioning by 2026; emphasizes district steam transition by 2040 and \$1.1B grid investments by 2034.	100% renewable electricity achieved by 2023; new actions like increasing SuperGreen enrollment to 20% by 2027 and 150 MW solar/battery by 2035.
<b>Building Operations</b> → <b>Buildings</b>	Zero emissions in new buildings by 2021, large commercial by 2035, all by 2040; electrify existing buildings; workforce training; low-GWP refrigerants.	Adds building performance policies for zero GHG by 2040 (adopt by 2026); streamlines permits (e.g., heat pumps by 2026); launches campaigns and bill credits by 2025–2027; expands refrigerant replacement programs.	All-electric new construction ordinance since 2021; new expansions like All-Electric Multifamily Program and assistance for large/affordable buildings by 2027. Reduce emissions 40% from 2022 by 2035. 100 miles of transit improvements; doubled EV
	80% low-carbon trips by		

<b>Transportation &amp; Land Use → Transportation</b>	2030; 25% EVs by 2030, 100% by 2040; build reliable transit, active networks; use pricing; reduce VMT.	Strategies still in development but emphasize equity in pricing/access; fund transit and shift from cars.	ownership/chargers since 2021; Caltrain/BART electrification. New focus on sustainable aviation fuels (100M gallons at SFO by 2030).
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<b>Responsible Production &amp; Consumption → Circular Economy</b>	Reduce waste generation 15% and disposal 50% below 2015 by 2030; halve food waste; reduce embodied carbon 40% by 2030; sustainable procurement.	Adds circular construction (amend codes by 2028, require deconstruction by 2028); food waste compliance (90% by 2026); reuse/repair events (20 by 2027, pilot services by 2030); aviation fuels (40% intrastate by 2030).	Kitchen Zero pilot; 18 repair clinics (20 more in 2025). New roadmap for net-zero embodied carbon by 2050 and Resource Center by 2030.
<b>N/A → Water Supply (new sector)</b>	Not in core 2021 plan (added as 2023 addendum: 3 strategies, 15 actions for resilience).	Residential use <42 gallons/capita/day by 2030; diversify supplies (2.5 mgd recycled, 4.4 mgd groundwater by 2045); maintain zero-emission system; atmospheric water pilots by 2030; onsite reuse for large projects.	Atmospheric water pilot completed in 2023; new designs for purified water facilities by 2027.
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These updates reflect evolving priorities, such as integrating water resilience more fully and adding granular deadlines to accelerate implementation by 2026–2030

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2029-30	(1,168.5)	Base case; could reach ~ (1,170) per trends; cumulative four-year shortfall ~ (3,014.4).

Executive Committee

Tenderloin Tree Campaign

**From:** [Michael Nulty](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Response to Climate Action Plan Update file 260177  
**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2026 6:18:49 PM

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The Alliance for a Better District 6 appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update (referenced as file 260177 in our tracking). As an organization dedicated to improving the quality of urban life in San Francisco's District 6—encompassing the downtown core, Tenderloin, South of Market, and Civic Center areas—we strongly support the City's ongoing commitment to ambitious climate goals, including the reaffirmed targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 61% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieving net-zero by 2040.

We commend the progress highlighted in the draft, such as the 48% emissions reduction by 2020 and the achievement of 100% renewable electricity supply by 2023 through efforts like CleanPowerSF. The update's streamlined approach, with more measurable, time-bound actions (e.g., specific deadlines for policies, pilots, and implementation by 2026 and beyond), enhanced transparency, and emphasis on governance, innovation, and funding mechanisms, represents a positive evolution from the 2021 plan.

District 6 faces unique urban challenges that intersect with climate action priorities. Our dense, built-out neighborhood—with high concentrations of commercial buildings, multi-unit housing, limited green space, and vulnerable populations in areas like the Tenderloin—experiences disproportionate impacts from emissions sources in the buildings (44% of citywide emissions) and transportation (45%) sectors. We particularly value the draft's continued focus on:

- Electrifying buildings and transitioning away from natural gas, including equitable decommissioning plans and incentives for upgrades (e.g., expanding programs like E-ELEC and All-Electric Multifamily).
- Promoting low-carbon transportation modes, such as walking, biking, and transit, which align well with District 6's walkable/transit-rich character but require sustained investment in safe infrastructure amid ongoing recovery from pandemic-era shifts.
- Advancing racial and social equity through targeted assessments, ensuring that benefits like cleaner air, health improvements, job creation in clean energy, and resilience reach overburdened communities in our district.

To strengthen implementation in District 6 and downtown, we recommend the following additions or clarifications in the final April 2026 publication:

1. **Prioritize downtown-specific pilots and funding:** Include dedicated timelines

and resources for accelerating building electrification and energy efficiency retrofits in commercial high-rises and older multifamily stock common in District 6. This could build on existing accomplishments while addressing post-pandemic office vacancy and return-to-office dynamics to avoid penalizing early adopters.

2. **Enhance equity integration for vulnerable populations:** Expand actions to support resilience and access in high-density, low-income areas, such as improved cooling centers, energy burden relief for residents, and community-based workforce training for clean energy jobs that prioritize local hiring in District 6.
3. **Boost innovation and governance accountability:** Strengthen monitoring and reporting mechanisms with district-level progress dashboards (building on the existing public dashboard) to ensure transparency and allow residents/businesses in District 6 to track local impacts.
4. **Secure sustainable funding:** Given the plan's new emphasis on financing, advocate for stable, dedicated revenue streams to support these actions without overburdening ratepayers or small businesses in our commercial core.

Overall, the Alliance for a Better District 6 endorses the 2025 CAP Update draft as a robust framework for continued progress. We stand ready to collaborate with the San Francisco Environment Department and other stakeholders to ensure equitable, effective implementation that makes our downtown greener, healthier, and more resilient for all who live, work, and visit here.

Thank you for considering these comments. We look forward to the final plan in April 2026 and ongoing engagement.

Sincerely,

Michael Nulty  
Executive Director  
Alliance for a Better District 6

***Michael Nulty***

P.O. Box 420782  
San Francisco, CA 94142-0782  
(415) 339-8327 - Direct  
(415) 339-8779 - Alliance for a Better District 6  
(415) 339-8683 - Central City Democrats  
(415) 937-1289 - North of Market Business Association  
(415) 820-1412 - Tenderloin Futures Collaborative  
<http://abd6.cfsites.org/>

**From:** [Michael Nulty](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Response to Climate Action Plan Update file 260177  
**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2026 6:18:54 PM

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The Alliance for a Better District 6 appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update (referenced as file 260177 in our tracking). As an organization dedicated to improving the quality of urban life in San Francisco's District 6—encompassing the downtown core, Tenderloin, South of Market, and Civic Center areas—we strongly support the City's ongoing commitment to ambitious climate goals, including the reaffirmed targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 61% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieving net-zero by 2040.

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Thank you for considering these comments. We look forward to the final plan in April 2026 and ongoing engagement.

Sincerely,

Michael Nulty  
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**From:** [Tenderloin Tree Campaign 2004](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Response to Climate Action Plan Update file 260177  
**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2026 2:29:10 PM

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The San Francisco Climate Action Plan (CAP) was originally released in 2021, setting ambitious targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 61% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2040. Since then, the city has made progress, including reducing emissions by 48% from 1990 levels by 2020 and achieving 100% renewable electricity supply by 2023. An update to the plan—referred to as the 2025 CAP Update—is in the works to guide actions through 2030, building on the 2021 version with a streamlined approach, enhanced transparency, and greater emphasis on racial and social equity, funding mechanisms, governance, and innovation. The update process incorporates public feedback and equity assessments, with the final version slated for publication in April 2026 (as of March 2026, a draft is available). Key emissions targets remain consistent with the 2021 plan, but the update adds more measurable, time-bound actions (e.g., specific deadlines like "by 2026" for policies and pilots) and reports on accomplishments since 2021.

## Structural Changes

- Sectors Expanded:** The 2021 CAP covered six sectors; the 2025 draft expands to seven, renaming some for clarity and adding Water Supply (previously a 2023 addendum to the 2021 plan). Transportation and Land Use is split into separate Transportation and Housing & Land Use focuses. Responsible Production & Consumption is rebranded as Circular Economy with an emphasis on waste reduction and embodied carbon.
- Equity and Implementation Focus:** Greater integration of racial/social equity reviews, public engagement, and funding strategies (e.g., forming interdepartmental groups for climate finance). The update includes a dashboard for tracking progress and stresses co-benefits like job creation, health improvements, and resilience.
- Timeline and Process:** The 2025 draft outlines a phased rollout: action proposals in late 2024–early 2025, equity/public reviews in spring–summer 2025, revisions in summer 2025, approvals in fall 2025, and full implementation/reporting from 2026–2030.

## Sector-Specific Changes

The table below compares key goals, strategies, and actions between the 2021 CAP and the 2025 draft update, highlighting additions, refinements, or shifts. Changes emphasize post-2021 accomplishments (e.g., all-electric ordinances, EV expansions) and new near-term deadlines for 2026–2030.

Sector (2021 Name → 2025 Name)	2021 Key Goals & Strategies	2025 Draft Changes/Additions	Notable Accomplishments & New Timelines
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Executive Committee

Tenderloin Tree Campaign

**From:** [Shaun Aukland](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Chen, Chyanne \(BOS\)](#); [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** File 260177 (Climate Action Plan) - Close the Equity Loophole with an Amendment  
**Date:** Friday, March 6, 2026 9:07:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[Planning and DPW Response to AG Bonta and Assemblymember Haney.pdf](#)  
[Follow Up with DPW Director Carla Short.pdf](#)  
[Bernal Cut Project.pdf](#)  
[Visitacion Valley Engage Green.pdf](#)  
[South Beach Rincon Mission Bay Letter.pdf](#)  
[Acterra Support.pdf](#)  
[SOMCAN Urgent Concerns.pdf](#)  
[University of California System - Urgent Need To Address Disparity.pdf](#)  
[Hayes Valley Letter.pdf](#)

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Dear Land Use Committee and Mayor Lurie,

As a South of Market resident and founder of [FairTrees.org](#), I am writing to request an urgent amendment to [File 260177](#) regarding the updated Climate Action Plan.

Currently, Section 904(a)(2) on Page 11 mandates that the plan incorporate "an equity framework." This vague language is a dangerous loophole that must be amended to explicitly require compliance with "the San Francisco [Environmental Justice Framework](#)" adopted in the General Plan, or a combination of the Environmental Justice Framework and existing canopy data.

Leaving this language ambiguous gives implementing departments the legal cover to treat environmental justice as an unenforceable suggestion. We have documented proof that this is exactly how the Department of Public Works currently operates:

**1. Open Refusal to be Bound by the EJ Framework:** In a February 5, 2026 response to an inquiry from Attorney General Rob Bonta and Assemblymember Matt Haney, the Planning Department and Public Works explicitly argued that the state "*does not require environmental justice policies to be regulatory or independently enforceable*". They view the existing framework as a non-binding guide, which is exactly why this new ordinance must legally compel them to follow it. See attached for this letter.

**2. Subjective Criteria Used to Withhold Infrastructure:** Supervisor Matt Dorsey recently issued a formal Letter of Inquiry exposing how Public Works uses subjective criteria and strict spatial rules to withhold green infrastructure from marginalized

communities. Rather than adopting a tiered equity model that budgets for necessary infrastructure changes, such as sidewalk cuts, the department uses these hurdles as an excuse to deny plantings. This administrative neglect has resulted in over 500 empty tree wells in SOMA alone. In [this document](#), they state "The Bureau of Urban Forestry estimates approximately 500 vacant tree planting sites in Eastern, Western and Central SoMa."

**3. Ignored Community Engagement:** In September 2025, FairTrees.org met with Public Works Director Carla Short and BUF Superintendent David Moore. During that meeting, Director Short acknowledged that the department currently lacks an operational equity framework. Despite her verbal commitment to collaborate with us on developing a tiered, data-driven prioritization tool modeled after the [Los Angeles Urban Forest Equity Collective](#), our subsequent follow-up communications were completely ignored (attached).

The results of this unchecked bureaucratic avoidance are stark. While the citywide canopy average sits at 12.8%, this extreme inequity is mirrored across the Environmental Justice communities, many of which are represented by this very committee:

- **The Tenderloin:** 2.6%
- **South of Market:** 2.7%
- **Bayview Hunters Point:** 4.2%
- **Outer Mission:** 5.5%
- **Excelsior:** 6.2%
- **Oceanview/Merced/Ingleside:** 6.7%
- **Japantown:** 7.6%

If this committee passes File 260177 without explicitly binding city departments to the San Francisco Environmental Justice Framework, you will codify the very loophole that allows Public Works to continually neglect our most vulnerable neighborhoods.

I urge you to amend Page 11 to explicitly name the San Francisco Environmental Justice Framework and to amend Page 13 to require implementing departments to use operationalized, tiered equity metrics for all infrastructure deployments.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to true environmental justice.

Sincerely,

Shaun Aukland  
FairTrees.org  
Resident of SOMA Environmental Justice Community

attached:

1. Planning Department & Public Works Response to Attorney General Rob Bonta and Assemblymember Matt Haney, disclaiming responsibility for following the EJ Framework
2. Email with Public Works regarding lack of an existing equity framework
3. Letters of Support from Neighborhoods and Organizations



Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet  
3921 East Bayshore Rd. #210  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

September 30, 2025

Honorable Mayor Lurie,

I am writing to you from the nonprofit [Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet](#). Our organization has a 55-year history supporting Bay Area communities and carrying out our mission: Bringing people together to create local solutions for a healthy planet. Resourcing, educating, and empowering communities to confront the urgent climate crisis is our central focus. We accomplish our work via our strong connections with residents, local governments, small businesses, community organizations, and educational institutions.

[HomeGrown Bay Area](#) is an Acterra initiative which focuses on increasing access to locally grown food through the model of [community-led urban food forests](#). Acterra's community food forest projects are being planned to offer critical benefits in urban areas that lack existing green space, and where communities are already disproportionately suffering environmental harm. Specifically, food forests:

- Follow permaculture principles and use a diverse array of densely planted, longer-lived species to mimic the complexity of natural systems;
- Benefit human health by encouraging time spent outdoors in physical activity, providing a source of nutrition, reducing air pollution, helping to contain flooding, mitigating the "urban heat island" effect, building strong community fabric, and supporting mental health through exposure to greenery.
- Represent an innovative tool for cities to promote public health gains, particularly as climate-fueled risks and damages are ever on the rise.

It is extremely important to try to fix the inequitable distribution of urban tree canopy to promote more equitable health outcomes. Acterra is proud to join a broader coalition that includes the UC Center for Climate, Health, and Equity and the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods in calling for a San Francisco Tree Equity Ordinance to prioritize investments in under-resourced neighborhoods. This ordinance is a vital step toward greater climate resilience and a higher quality of life for all.

Thank you for your consideration and your dedication to furthering the wellbeing of residents in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Lauren Weston  
Executive Director  
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

Cc:  
Staci Slaughter, [Staci.Slaughter@sfgov.org](mailto:Staci.Slaughter@sfgov.org)  
Alicia John-Baptiste, [A.John-Baptiste@sfgov.org](mailto:A.John-Baptiste@sfgov.org)  
Carla Short, [Carla.Short@sfdpw.org](mailto:Carla.Short@sfdpw.org)  
David Moore, [David.Moore@sfdpw.org](mailto:David.Moore@sfdpw.org)

# Subject: Repeal of Public Works Order 187246



**Carol Hansen** <cookooducky@gmail.com>  
to daniel.lurie, staci.slaughter, a.john-baptiste ▾

Thu, Oct 9, 8:15 PM (8 days ago)

Greetings, Mayor Lurie,

We're writing today to voice our concern about the 2018 Public Works order 187246, which says if a street tree is removed, it can't be re-planted if the sidewalk is less than 7.5 feet wide. This would cover a very large portion of the smaller streets in our Glen Park neighborhood.

We are stewards on the Bernal Cut Project. We need to plant more, not fewer street trees. We ought to choose Calif Native shrubs and trees that can be grown in smaller spaces.

We're in a climate catastrophe. The last thing we should be doing is filling in empty tree wells with concrete.

We must expand habitat in all our open spaces, which includes tree wells. ADA compliance and street trees-shrubs can work hand-in-hand if the right plants are chosen.

Though Glen Park is not designated an Environmental Justice Community, it does have a large number of narrow sidewalks.

Please, please make it easier for the community to expand habitat in our San Francisco concrete jungle.

It's essential to see the beauty of nature where we navigate every day.

Street trees/shrubs are a vital link to the natural world. We need to choose the right ones in the right place. ADA compliance and habitat expansion are goals that can be accomplished together.

Best Regards,

-Carol Hansen and Paul Muldown  
Stewards, Bernal Cut Project

[www.bernalcut.org](http://www.bernalcut.org)



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## Follow-up: DPW Sidewalk Pilot & Equity Plan Meeting

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Shaun Aukland <shaun.aukland@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 9, 2025 at 4:28 PM

To: "Short, Carla (DPW)" <Carla.Short@sfdpw.org>

Cc: "Swae, Jon (DPW)" <jon.swae@sfdpw.org>, "Moore, David (DPW)" <david.moore@sfdpw.org>, "alex@swcbd.org" <alex@swcbd.org>, "Buck, Chris (DPW)" <Chris.Buck@sfdpw.org>, "Lozano, Jesus (ENV)" <jesus.lozano@sfgov.org>, "ian.schneider@sfdpw.org" <ian.schneider@sfdpw.org>, Leah Edwards <leah.e.edwards@gmail.com>, Stuart Collins <collins.stu@gmail.com>, "Dahl, Bryan (BOS)" <bryan.dahl@sfgov.org>, reese.isbell@gmail.com

Dear Carla, David, and the Public Works Team,

Thank you again for your time and for the candid discussion last week. Carla, I agree with your observation that we may have entered the meeting with different expectations, and I am grateful for your commitment to begin working together on an equity plan for San Francisco's urban forest. We are very much looking forward to our next meeting and collaborating on this critical work.

As a productive next step, I wanted to share the specific examples of successful urban forest equity frameworks I mentioned. Seeing how other California cities have codified this work can provide a valuable foundation for our own efforts.

- **Los Angeles – Urban Forest Equity Collective:** This is a powerful model for its collaborative process. It successfully brought together city departments (LADWP, Public Works), community organizations, and academic partners from the UC system who provided essential GIS and data analysis. Their public-facing, data-driven prioritization tool is a benchmark for transparency and community engagement.
  - Some resources from it: [Website](#) | [Final Report](#) | [Public Census Tract Selection](#) (which became Public Works planting strategy | [Design Guidebook](#) (this is the paper copy I gave Carla)
- **Oakland – Prioritizing EJ Communities EJ-7.15:** Oakland's plan explicitly says "Prioritize tree canopy in EJ Communities with the least amount of canopy, making it a guiding principle for all urban forestry operations and partnerships."
  - Resources: [Website](#) | [Specific 7 pages from their plan](#)
- **Sacramento County – EJ-23-25:** "The County will achieve equitable tree canopy in EJ Communities. "Increase tree canopy coverage to at least 35 percent in all unincorporated County neighborhoods by 2040, especially those that are in Environmental Justice Communities.... Continue to support Sacramento's Tree Foundation's NeighborWoods program in order to help achieve 35% tree canopy coverage in Sacramento County Neighborhoods."
  - Resources: [screenshot](#), [full PDF page 51](#)

Reflecting on our conversation, I believe it would be helpful to clarify a key concept that may have caused a disconnect. We heard the policy goal of "planting every available space" mentioned several times. While we support maximizing our city's canopy, this approach highlights the crucial distinction between equality (providing the same to all) and equity (adjusting for imbalances).

The framework used by the Los Angeles Urban Forest Equity Collective is particularly useful here. It defines urban forest equity ([screenshot](#)) using three core principles:

- **Distributional Equity:** The fair distribution of trees and their benefits, targeted specifically to marginalized or disinvested communities.
- **Recognitional Equity:** The meaningful involvement of these communities, recognizing historical context in all planning and stewardship.
- **Procedural Equity:** Ensuring underserved communities have access to information and decision-making processes, with full transparency.

This framework makes it clear that when we begin with a landscape as inequitably distributed as ours -- where a neighborhood like SOMA has a 2.7% canopy compared to the citywide average of 12.8% -- an equal planting strategy unintentionally perpetuates that same inequity. True environmental justice, as defined by this model and in state grant-making, requires allocating resources disproportionately based on measured need.

This is precisely why the Los Angeles model is so compelling. By segmenting plantable spaces into Tiers (Tier 1: readily plantable, Tier 2: requires sidewalk cuts, Tier 3: requires infrastructure changes), it provides a clear, operational framework for investing the necessary resources in the communities that need them most, even when they may be more difficult and costly places to plant.

We are excited to build on the progress from our first meeting and develop a plan for San Francisco that is both ambitious and actionable. We look forward to scheduling our next discussion.

Best regards,

Shaun Aukland

On Wed, Aug 27, 2025 at 8:26 AM Short, Carla (DPW) <[Carla.Short@sfdpw.org](mailto:Carla.Short@sfdpw.org)> wrote:

Hello Shaun and Alex,

I will add you to our visitor log to check-in a security and then will badge you up to the 16<sup>th</sup> floor.

Thank you,

Myisha



September 3, 2025

Honorable Daniel Lurie, Mayor  
Honorable Bilal Mahmood, District 5 Supervisor  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlet Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Lurie and Supervisor Mahmood,

On behalf of the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association (HVNA), we are writing to express our urgent concern regarding a city policy that is actively undermining our community's green spaces and long-standing efforts to beautify our neighborhood.

The Hayes Valley neighborhood has long been a leader in advocating for innovative urban greening, including the celebrated "[living alleys](#)" program that transformed our streets into vibrant public spaces. It is with great dismay that we have learned that a current city policy, Public Works Order 187246, is now working directly against these efforts.

This policy establishes a rule of non-replacement for trees on many of our historic, narrow sidewalks. As trees reach the end of their lives, they cannot be replaced, guaranteeing a net loss of our tree canopy. This is especially concerning given that Hayes Valley already has a below-average canopy of only 9.0%. Our analysis indicates that this single policy will result in the elimination of 10% of our neighborhood's trees over time.

This policy of managed decline is in direct conflict with the city's own goals, as outlined in the Urban Forest Plan and the legally binding Environmental Justice Framework. The benefits of a healthy tree canopy are essential to the quality of life for our residents, providing shade, cleaning our air, and enhancing the unique character of Hayes Valley.

To reverse this decline and align city policy with the needs of our community, we urge your offices to take the following immediate actions:

1. **Repeal or amend Public Works Order 187246** to eliminate the policy of non-replacement and commit to a 1-for-1 replacement standard for all neighborhood street trees.
2. **Fulfill the General Plan's Mandate** by developing and funding a proactive, data-driven plan to close the canopy gap in Hayes Valley, with transparent, neighborhood-specific targets for planting new trees and filling every empty tree well.

We have been learning about these city-wide impacts from SoMa resident Shaun Aukland, author of the "Concrete over Canopy" report, and would welcome a joint meeting to partner with your office on a path forward. Our community is ready to help.

Please feel free to reach out to me for further discussion.

Sincerely,

The Board of the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Robinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Robinson  
President  
[President@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:President@hayesvalleysf.org)

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San Francisco, CA 94102



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www.sfplanning.org

February 5, 2026

Rob Bonta, Attorney General of California  
1300 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Matt Haney  
District Office, 455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Inquiry into City and County of San Francisco's compliance with Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000) and related environmental justice protections.

Dear Attorney General Bonta and Assemblymember Haney,

The City and County of San Francisco respectfully submits this response to Assemblymember Matt Haney's December 16, 2025, letter requesting that the Bureau of Environmental Justice investigate the City and County of San Francisco's compliance with Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000) and related environmental justice protections.

This memorandum is intended to directly address the assertions and questions raised in the Assemblymember's correspondence.

### **1. Does San Francisco's Environmental Justice Framework comply with SB 1000?**

Yes. San Francisco's Environmental Justice Framework ("EJ Framework") meets the statutory requirements of SB 1000 and Government Code section 65302(h).

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted the EJ Framework on May 9, 2023, and then Mayor London Breed signed the ordinance on May 19, 2023. As a result, the EJ Framework is incorporated by reference into the General Plan Introduction and constitutes a state-mandated environmental justice component of the General Plan.

SB 1000 explicitly allows jurisdictions to satisfy its requirements either through a standalone environmental justice element or through environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives integrated into other General Plan elements. San Francisco's approach reflects this flexibility and ensures that environmental justice considerations are embedded throughout citywide planning rather than siloed in a single General Plan element.

The EJ Framework represents over two and a half years of work and extensive collaboration among City agencies, including the San Francisco Department of Public Health, the San

Francisco Department of the Environment, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and community stakeholders. It includes an Environmental Justice Communities Map informed by state and local data and establishes citywide vision and priority statements across six policy areas adapted directly from SB 1000:

- Healthy and Resilient Environments
- Physical Activity and Healthy Public Facilities
- Healthy Food Access
- Safe, Healthy, and Affordable Homes
- Equitable and Green Jobs
- Empowered Neighborhoods

Compliance with SB 1000 has been reported to the State Office of Planning and Research through San Francisco's Annual Progress Reports beginning with the 2024 APR (covering calendar year 2023) and referenced in earlier reports during framework development.

## **2. Is the Environmental Justice Framework a non-binding or ineffective policy document?**

No. The characterization of the EJ Framework as “non-binding” in a manner that undermines SB 1000 is inaccurate.

As a General Plan policy framework adopted by the Board of Supervisors' ordinance, the EJ Framework serves as a guiding policy for City decision-making and prioritization across departments. SB 1000 does not require environmental justice policies to be regulatory or independently enforceable, nor does it mandate that jurisdictions abandon service delivery in non-environmental justice areas.

Rather, SB 1000 requires jurisdictions to identify objectives and policies to reduce compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, promote civic engagement, and prioritize improvements and programs addressing the needs of those communities. San Francisco's EJ Framework satisfies these requirements and represents the City's first citywide policy focused on advancing environmental justice across all City agencies.

## **3. Are street trees or green infrastructure being withheld from Environmental Justice Communities based on subjective criteria such as “survivability” or vandalism?**

No. San Francisco Public Works' Bureau of Urban Forestry (BUF) does not withhold street trees from Environmental Justice Communities based on subjective or arbitrary criteria.

Tree planting feasibility is evaluated using objective, site-specific factors that apply citywide, including but not limited to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, proximity to

underground utilities, overhead obstructions, or surrounding infrastructure, available soil volume, and other environmental factors. These considerations are essential to ensuring public safety, accessibility, long-term tree survival, and responsible use of public funds.

Successful tree planting campaigns require not only viable site conditions, but also sufficient funding for establishment and maintenance, as well as meaningful community engagement and community buy-in. These best practices are consistent with peer-reviewed scientific research and guidance from the U.S. Forest Service, including recommendations outlined in “Beyond the Golden Shovel: Recommendations for a Successful Urban Tree Planting Initiative.”

BUF directly plants trees and supports partner-led planting efforts in disadvantaged communities throughout San Francisco, including within Assembly District 17.

#### **4. Is equity-focused funding being diverted away from Environmental Justice Communities or District 17?**

No. In fact, San Francisco Public Works has secured substantial equity-focused funding for projects located within District 17 as it contains many of San Francisco’s highest-rated equity priority communities. While San Francisco adopted the EJ Community Map in 2023 (see attachment titled “Environmental Justice Communities Map,” equity priorities may also be defined by grant funders according to their specific equity measurement mapping tools (examples: CalEnviroscreen 4.0 used for California State grants, Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool used for Federal grants). By nature of the grant application and scoping process, equity-focused grant project areas typically align with the equity measuring tool preferred by the funding agency.

For the period between 2022 and 2029, approximately **\$18.5 million** has been secured in urban forestry-related grants, which largely fall in District 17—more than any other area of San Francisco (See attachment titled “Urban Forestry Grant Funding in District 17 (2022-2029)”). These funds include:

- **U.S. Forest Service Inflation Reduction Act Grant:** \$12,000,000
- **California Natural Resources Agency Grant:** \$456,000
- **SFCTA Proposition L Grant:** \$1,100,000
- **CAL FIRE Workforce Development Grant:** \$1,193,594
- **Caltrans Clean California Grant:** \$3,825,000

**Example:** On June 1, 2023, San Francisco Public Works applied for, and was subsequently awarded, a \$12 million Inflation Reduction Act grant from the U.S. Forest Service to support the planting and establishment of approximately 3,500 street trees in disadvantaged communities. Per federal grant guidelines, the City used the Federal Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) 1.0 to define project boundaries, consistent with the Justice40 Initiative, and

further prioritized neighborhoods using a Heat Vulnerability Index developed by the San Francisco Department of Public Health (see attachment titled “Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping 2023”).

While the Planning Department’s EJ Communities Map and the federal CEJST boundaries do not perfectly align, the IRA grant project area remains fixed per the executed grant agreement, even after subsequent changes to federal equity tools.

**5. Are residents in disadvantaged communities required to pay out-of-pocket for street trees due to City inaction?**

No. This assertion is not accurate.

The City continues to provide publicly funded street tree planting in eligible locations, particularly in disadvantaged communities, and actively seeks grant funding to expand these efforts. While residents may voluntarily sponsor or request trees outside of publicly funded programs, this does not reflect a failure by the City to provide environmental health protections or a redirection of equity funds away from Environmental Justice Communities.

**6. Are Environmental Justice Communities being treated as “containment zones” for environmental and social burdens?**

No. The suggestion that Environmental Justice Communities are treated as “containment zones” is not supported by City policy or investment patterns.

San Francisco’s Environmental Justice Framework, General Plan policies, and capital investments are explicitly designed and laser focused to reduce cumulative health burdens, address historic inequities, and prioritize improvements and programs in communities facing disproportionate environmental health challenges.

**Conclusion**

San Francisco remains fully committed to compliance with SB 1000 and to advancing environmental justice through coordinated planning, investment, and community engagement. The City has adopted a legally compliant Environmental Justice Framework, secured significant equity-focused funding for disadvantaged communities, and continues to refine implementation practices using data-driven tools and interagency collaboration.

We respectfully submit this response to clarify the factual record and welcome any further dialogue with the Bureau of Environmental Justice.

Sincerely,



Carla Short  
Director, San Francisco Public Works  
[carla.short@sfdpw.org](mailto:carla.short@sfdpw.org)



Sarah Dennis Phillips  
Director, San Francisco Planning Department  
[sarah.dennis-phillips@sfgov.org](mailto:sarah.dennis-phillips@sfgov.org)

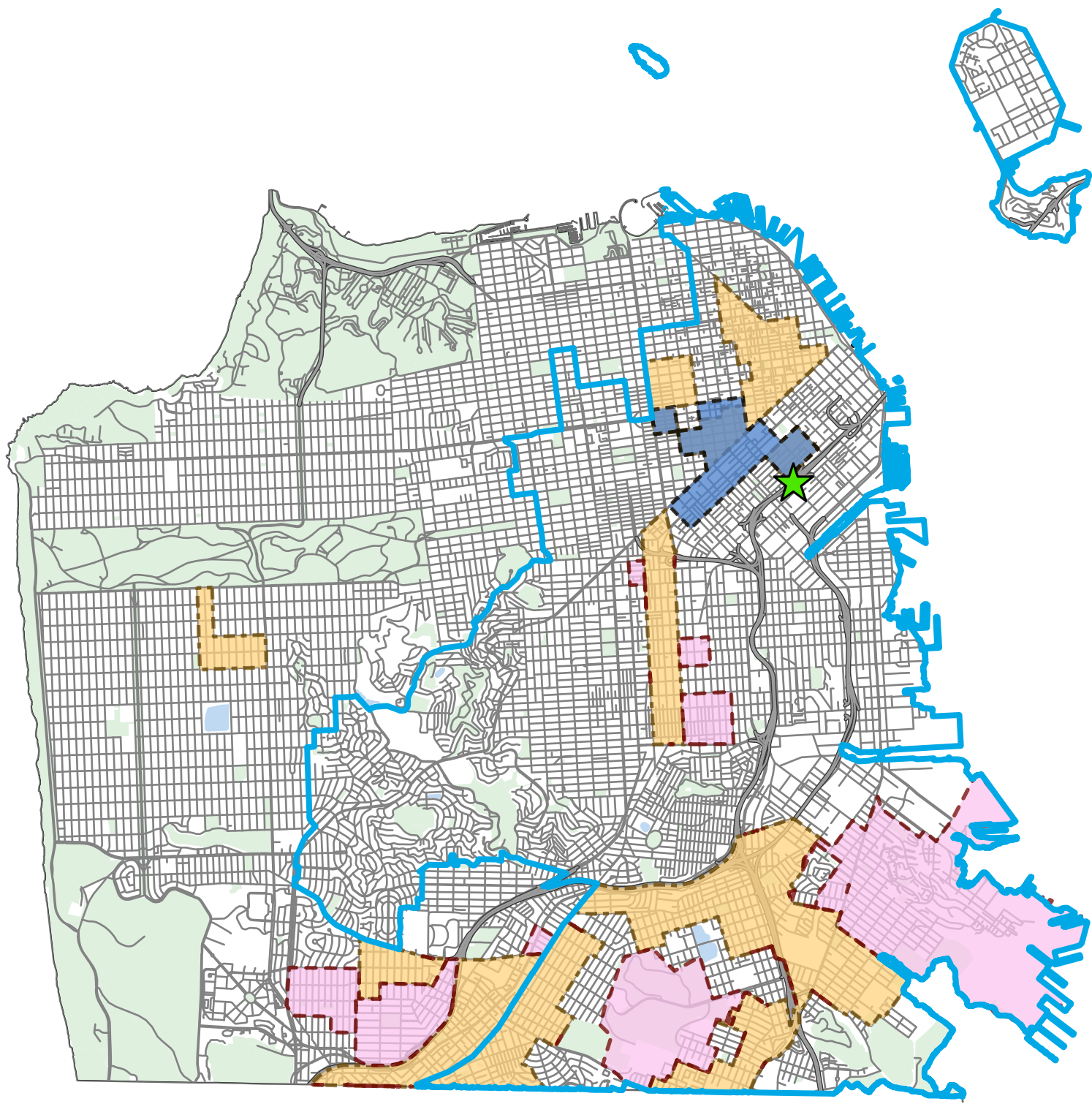
CC:






Mayor Daniel Lurie  
Supervisor Matt Dorsey  
City Attorney David Chiu

Attachments:

Urban Forestry Grant Funding in District 17 (2022-2029) Map  
Environmental Justice Communities Map  
Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping 2023

# Urban Forestry Grant Funding in District 17 (2022-2029)

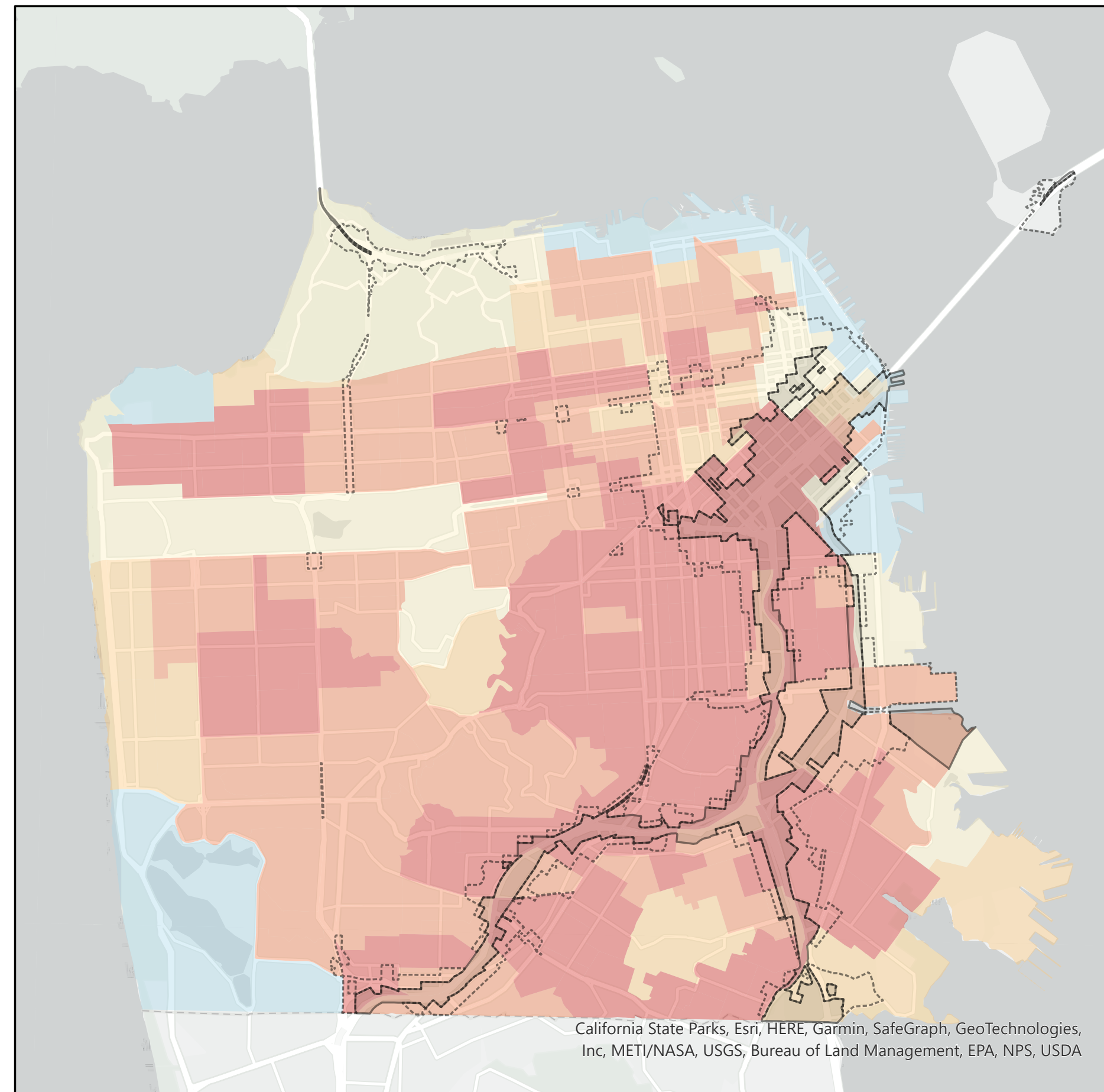


-  CA Assembly District 17
-  US Forest Service Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Grant: \$12,000,000
-  California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Grant: \$456,000
-  San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) Proposition L Grant: \$1,100,000
-  Street Tree Nursery:
  - CAL FIRE Urban & Community Forestry Grant: \$1,193,594
  - Caltrans Clean California Grant: \$3,825,000

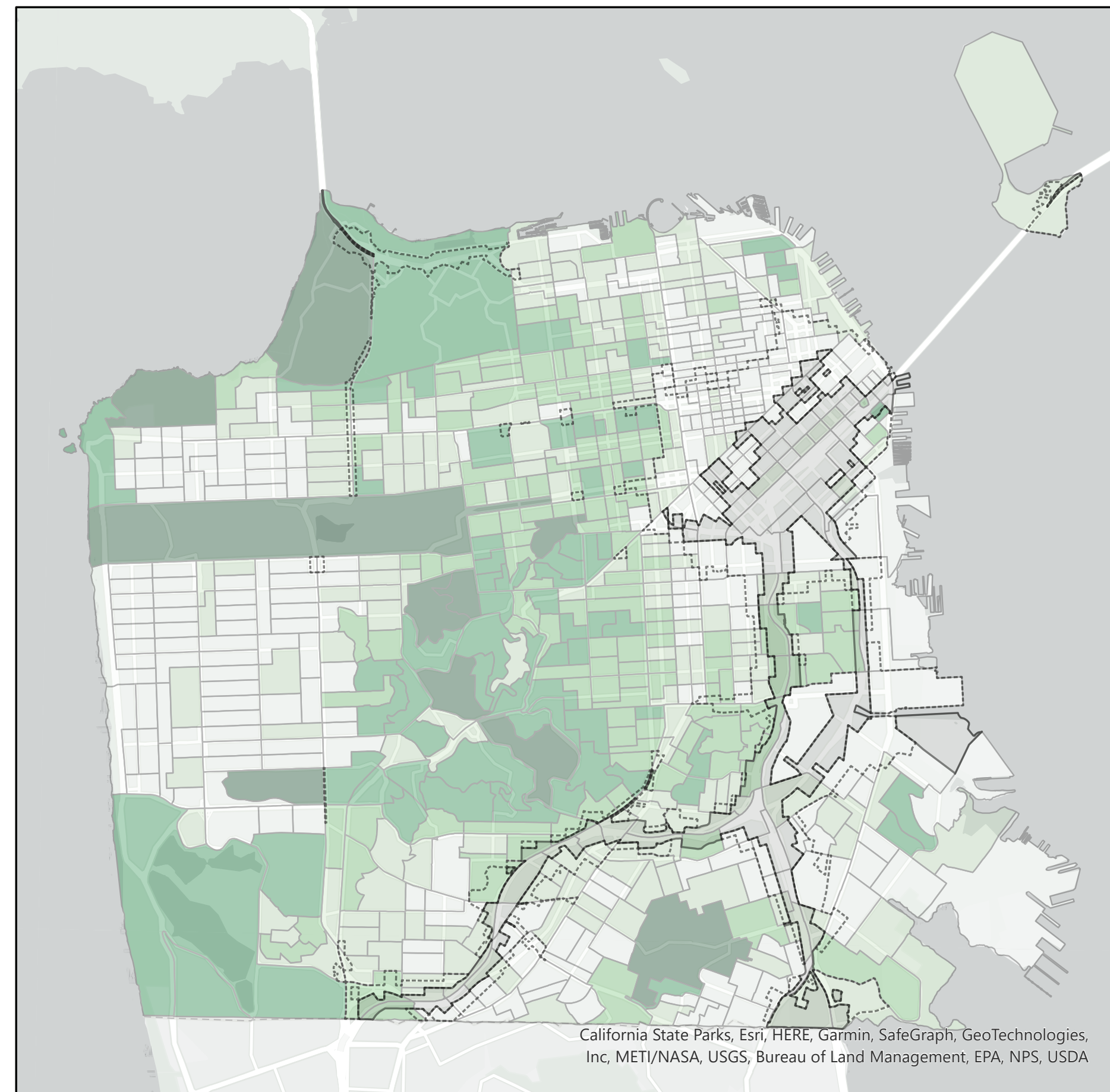
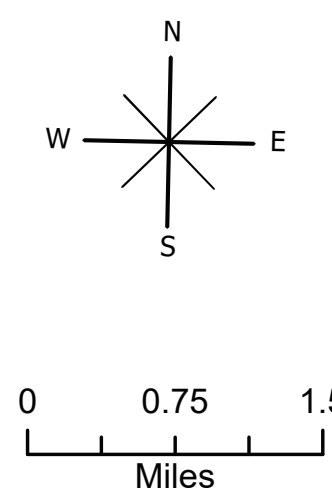
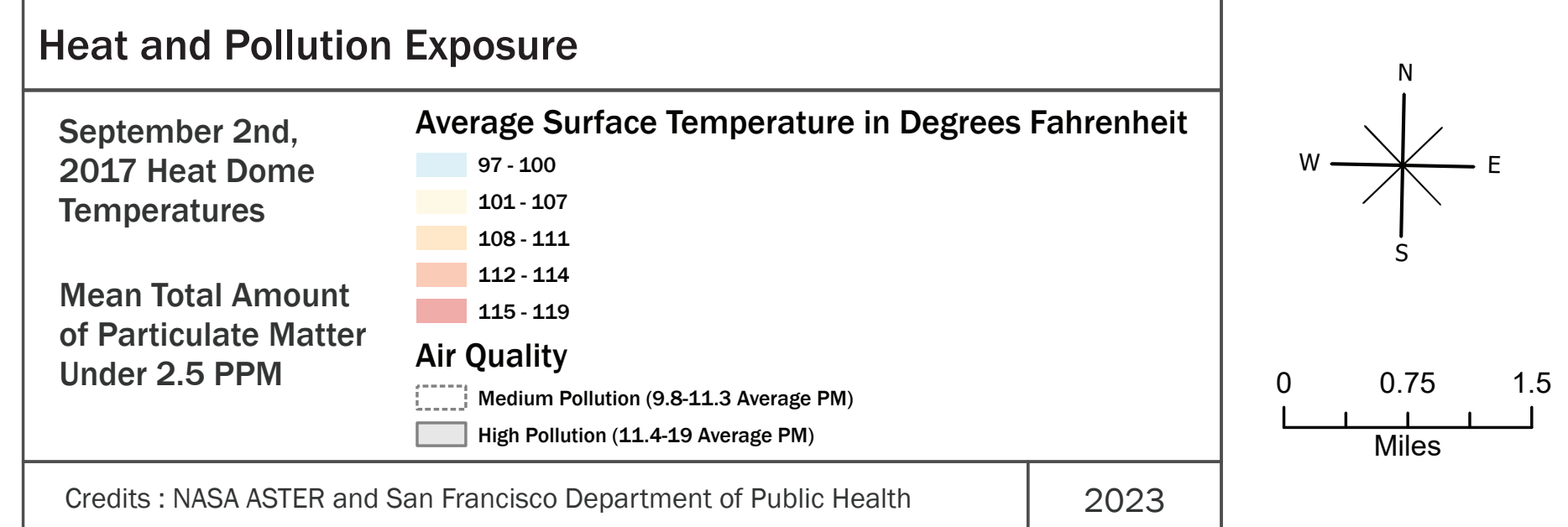
# Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping 2023

# Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping

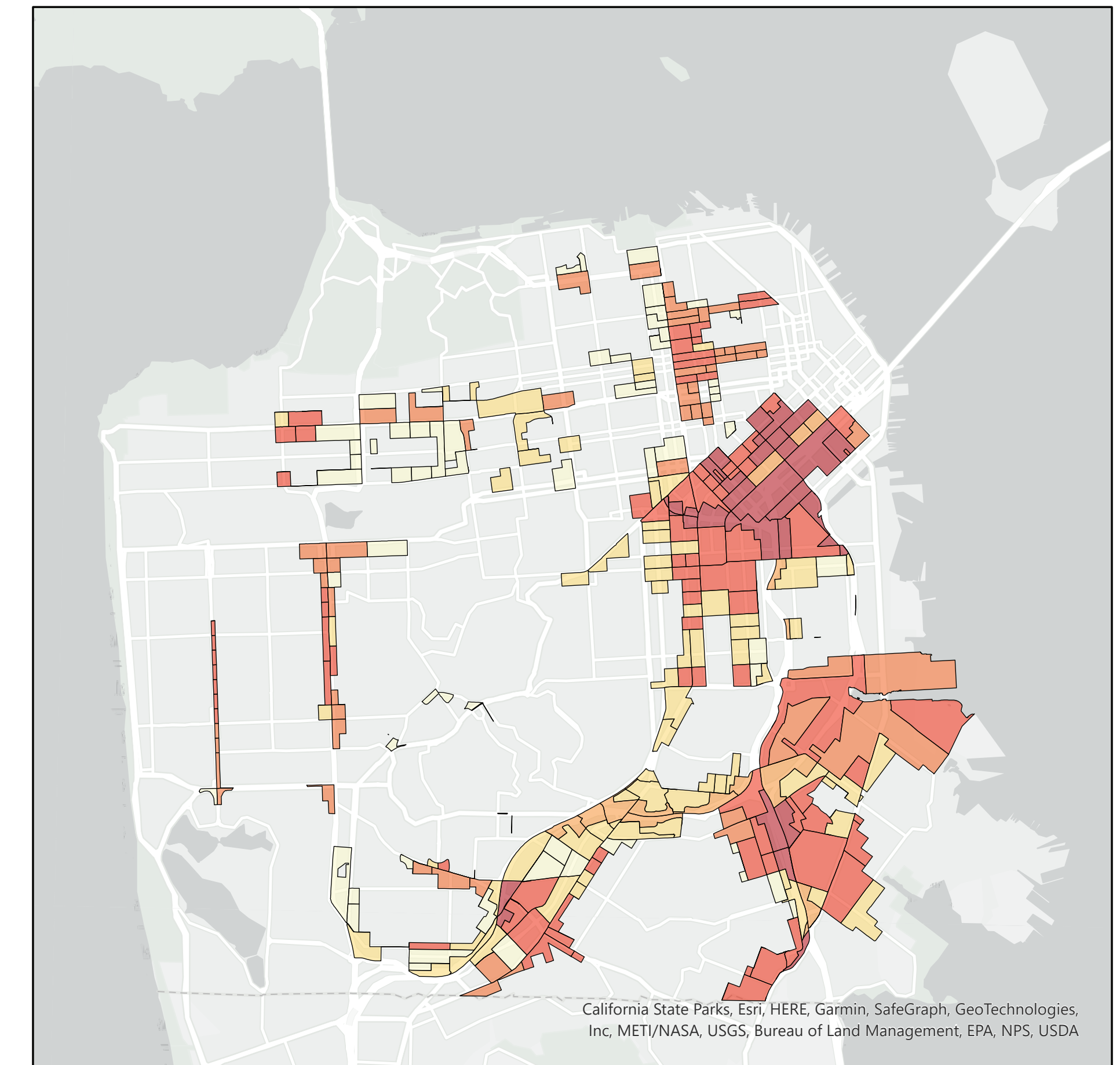
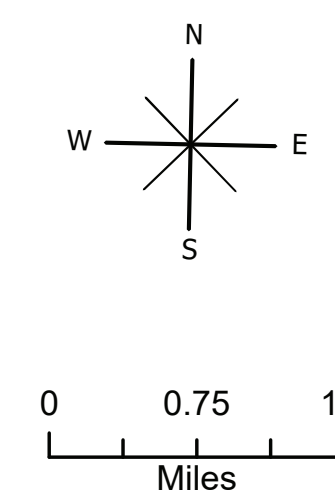
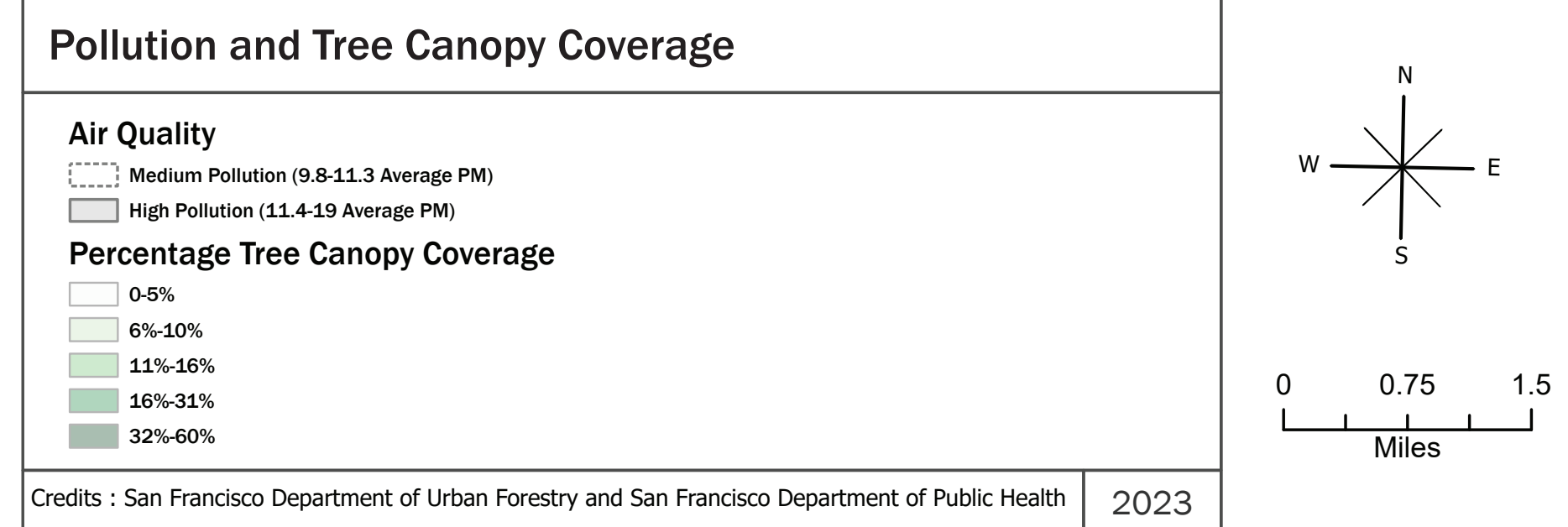
## Citywide Exposure



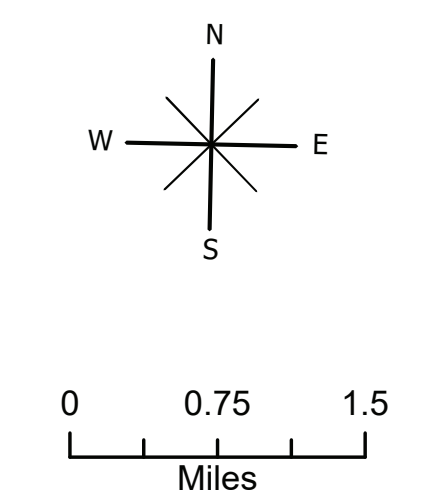
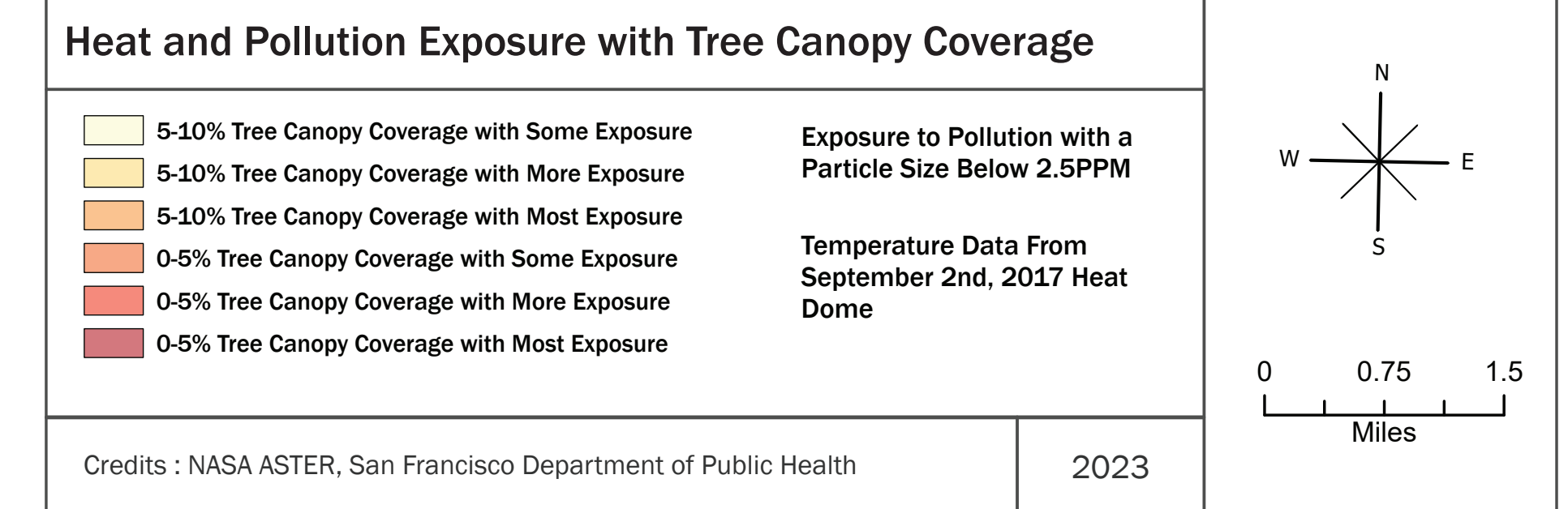
California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA



California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA



California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA



The first map in this series identifies where in the city heat waves are most pronounced and where air pollution is most pronounced.

The air pollution we are measuring is Particulate Matter Under 2.5 Parts Per Million, also known as fine particulates. This kind of particulate matter is created by vehicle exhaust, burning of gas or other fuel, and fires. Breathing in an unhealthy concentration of fine particulates can increase the risk for health problems like asthma and heart disease.

Heat waves can lead to heat stroke in vulnerable populations, including the elderly and can exacerbate existing health conditions like cardiovascular diseases, respiratory disorders, kidney diseases, and diabetes (CDC).

The second map in this series visualizes tree canopy coverage in comparison to the highest concentrations of Fine Particulate Matter.

One way to combat Fine Particulate Matter is with plants, they can disperse pollution and catch particulates before they get to humans. Tree canopy coverage is a measure of the density of our urban canopy.

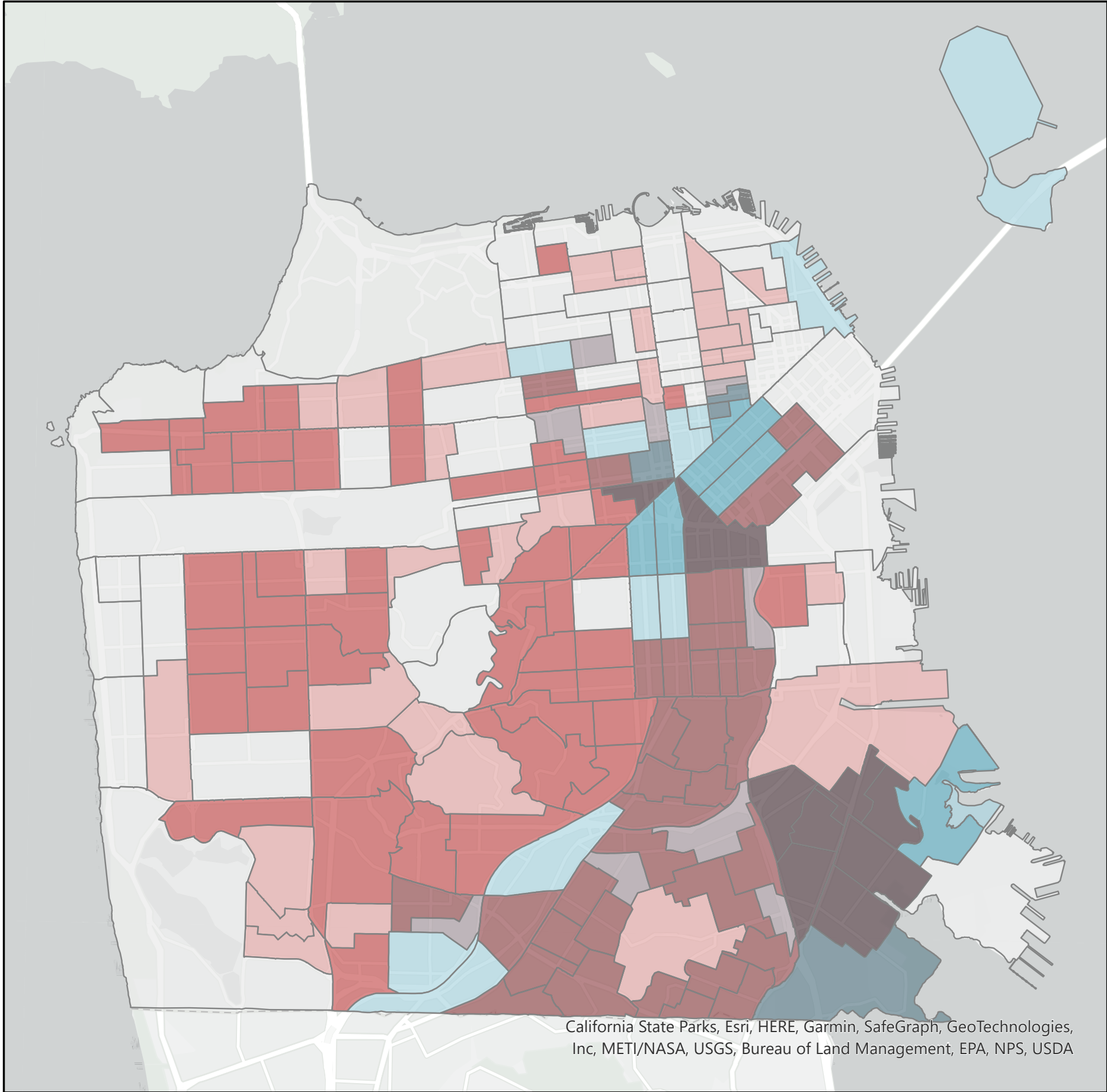
Places exposed to the highest density of Fine Particulate Matter do not have the highest tree canopy coverage in San Francisco.

The third map in this series combines the first two maps to find out where in the city is most exposed to extreme heat wave temperatures and high pollution. The areas with the lowest tree canopy coverage are layered over that.

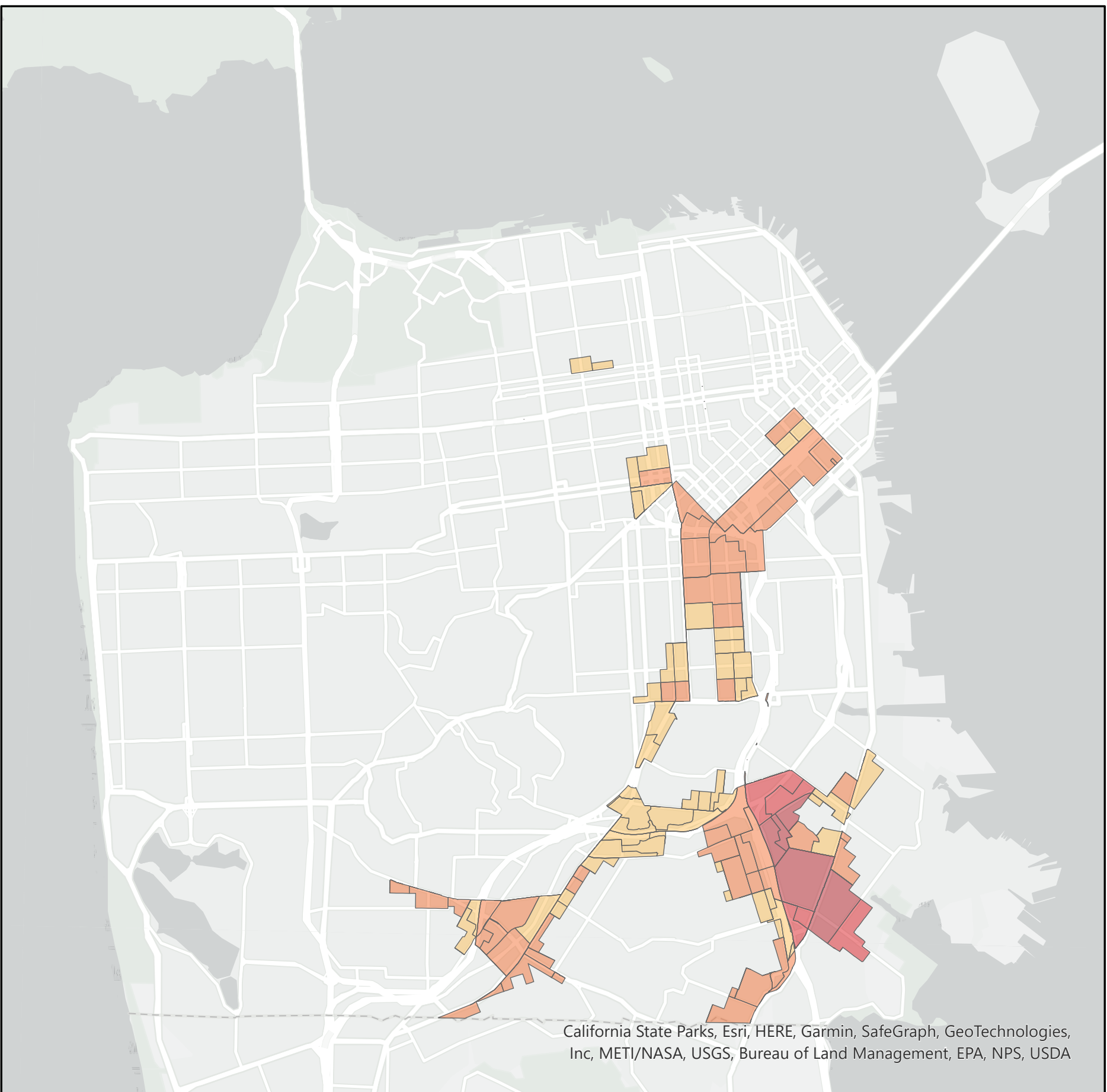
We can begin to see which areas of San Francisco would most benefit from more trees with this map. The darkest red represents places with the greatest exposure to both heat and pollution with the lowest tree canopy density.

# Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping

Health Focus: Diabetes



<b>Heat Wave Temperatures and Diabetes Hospitalizations</b>		
Credits : NASA ASTER and San Francisco Department of Public Health		2023



<b>Focus Areas Based on Diabetes Hospitalizations</b>		
	<p>All target areas had medium to highest exposure to high temperatures and high Particulate Matter. Temperatures ranged between 112-119 degrees and Mean Average Particulate Matter between 9-19 PPM. They also had diabetes hospitalizations between 12.23-32 people per 10K residents. All areas had low tree canopy coverage ranging from 0-10% coverage.</p>	
Credits : San Francisco Department of Urban Forestry and San Francisco Department of Public Health		2023

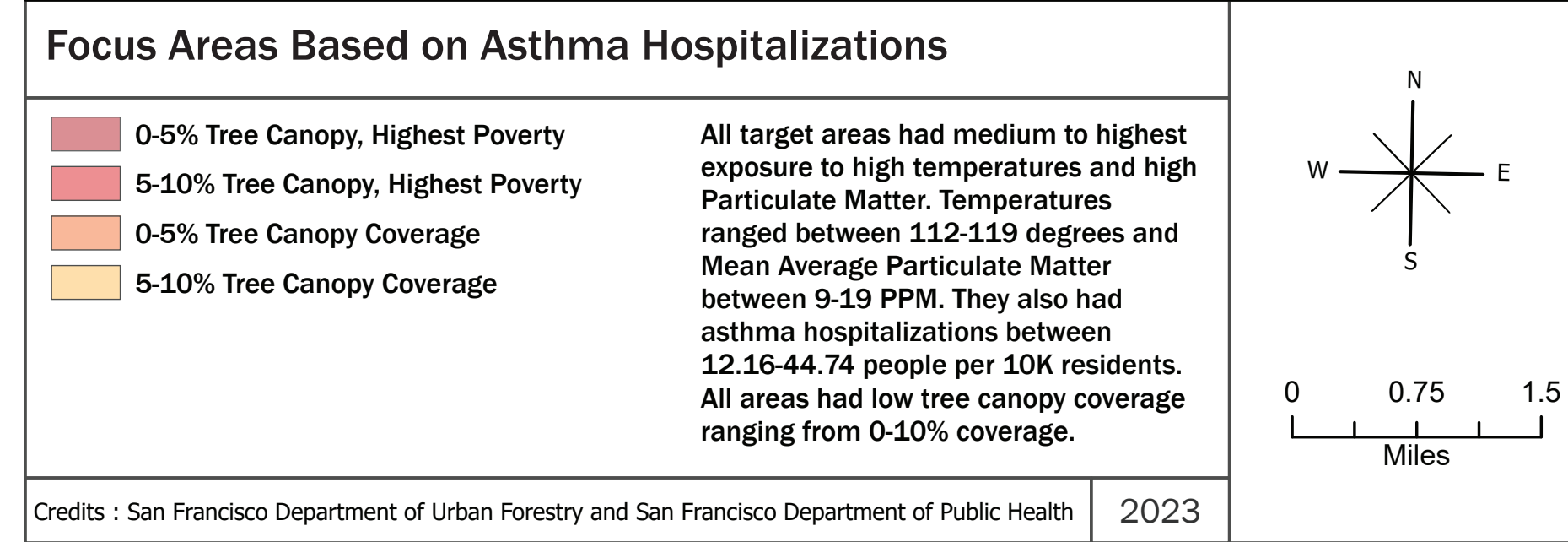
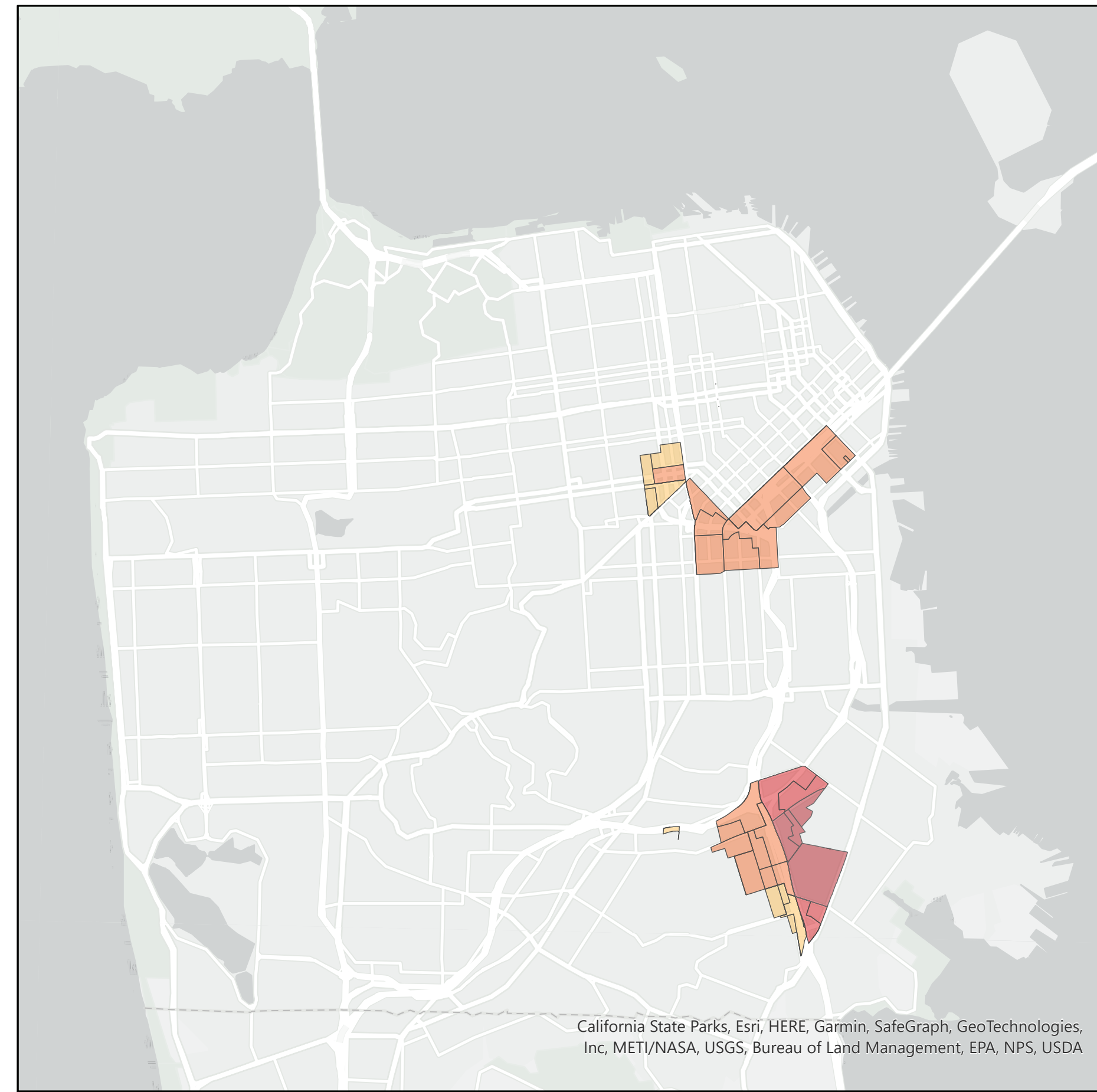
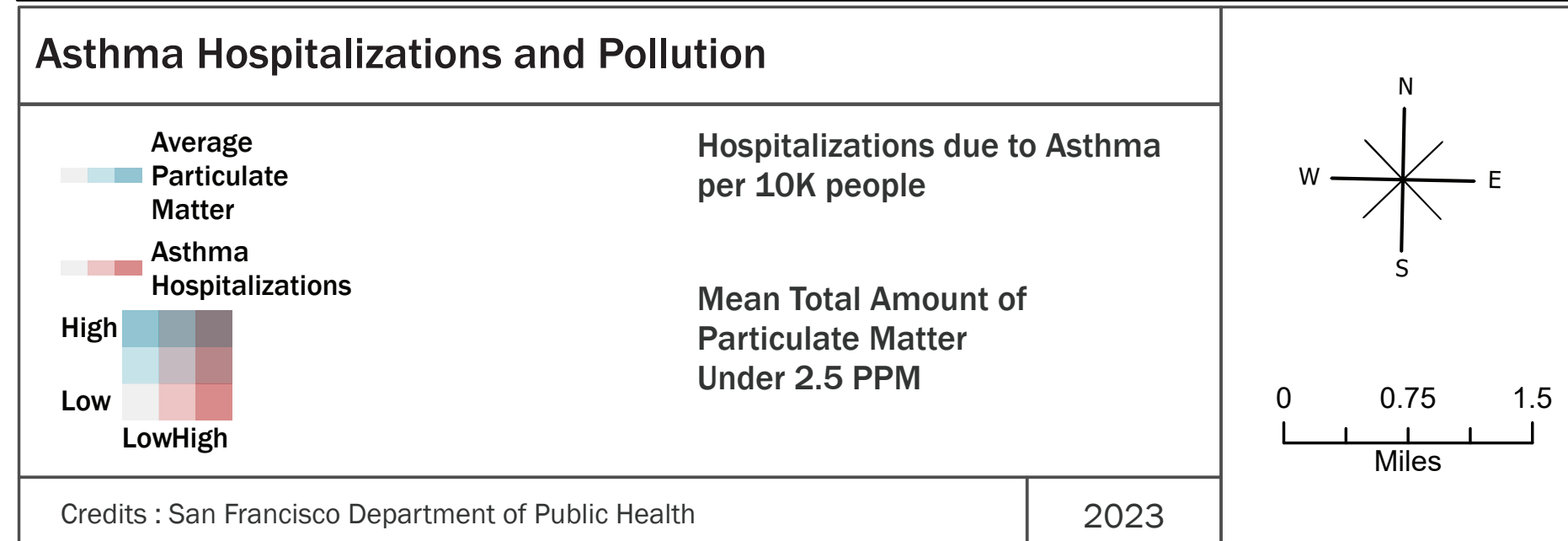
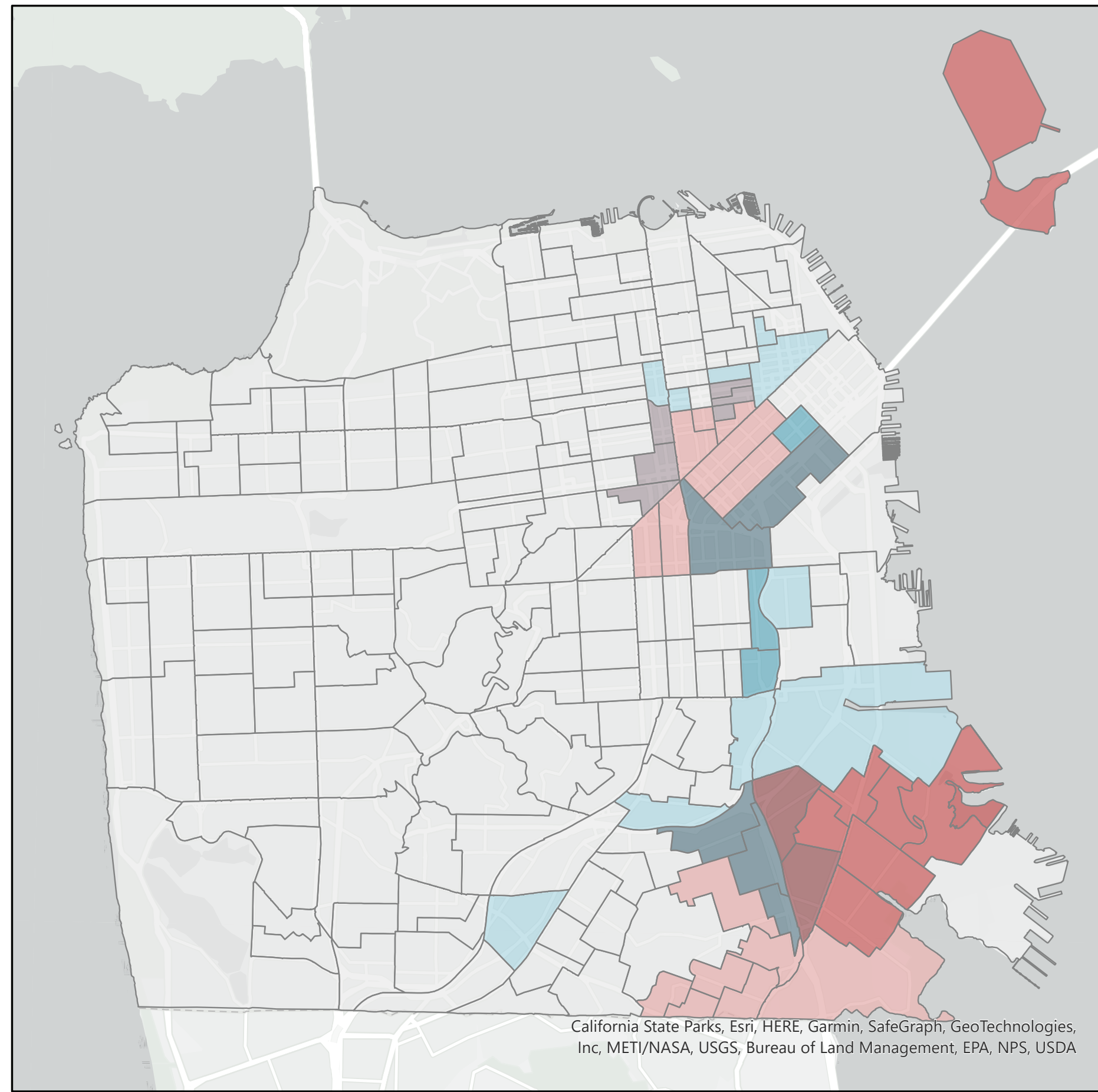
We know that heat waves can exacerbate symptoms of diabetes and lead to hospitalizations for those who cannot manage their diabetes.

The neighborhoods in purple are places where high heat wave temperatures and high diabetes hospitalizations co-occur. Other neighborhoods in the city may have residents with diabetes, but the hospitalization data shows us where people are not able to manage the symptoms of diabetes in a heat event.

By combining the data of areas with the lowest tree canopy, highest temperatures, highest pollution exposure, highest diabetes hospitalizations and highest poverty, we can identify which neighborhood needs to be prioritized for tree planting.

# Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping

Health Focus: Asthma



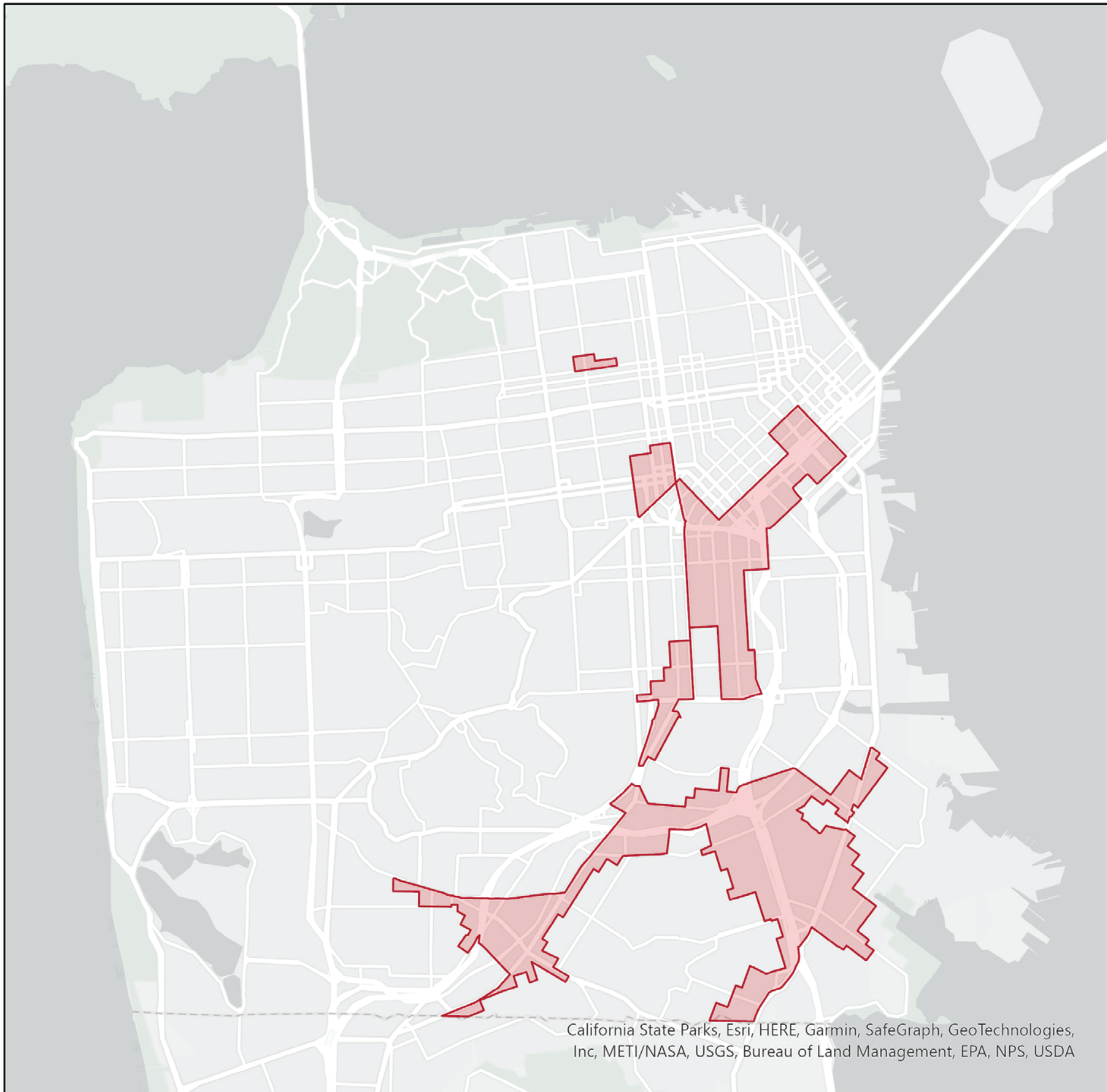
We know that particulate matter exposure can exacerbate symptoms of asthma and lead to hospitalizations for those who cannot manage their asthma at home.

The neighborhoods in purple are places where the highest concentrations of fine particulate matter and high asthma hospitalizations co-occur. Other neighborhoods in the city may have residents with asthma, but the hospitalization data shows us where people are not able to manage the symptoms of asthma.

By combining the data of areas with the lowest tree canopy, highest temperatures, highest pollution exposure, highest asthma hospitalizations and highest poverty, we can identify which neighborhood needs to be prioritized for tree planting.

# Heat and Air Quality Resilience Mapping

## Priority Areas and Tree Planting

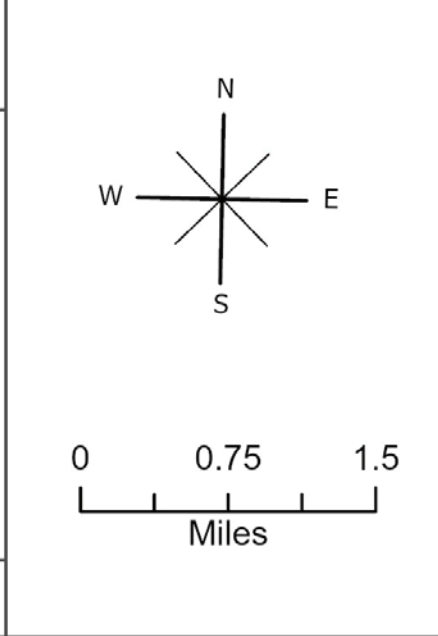


California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA

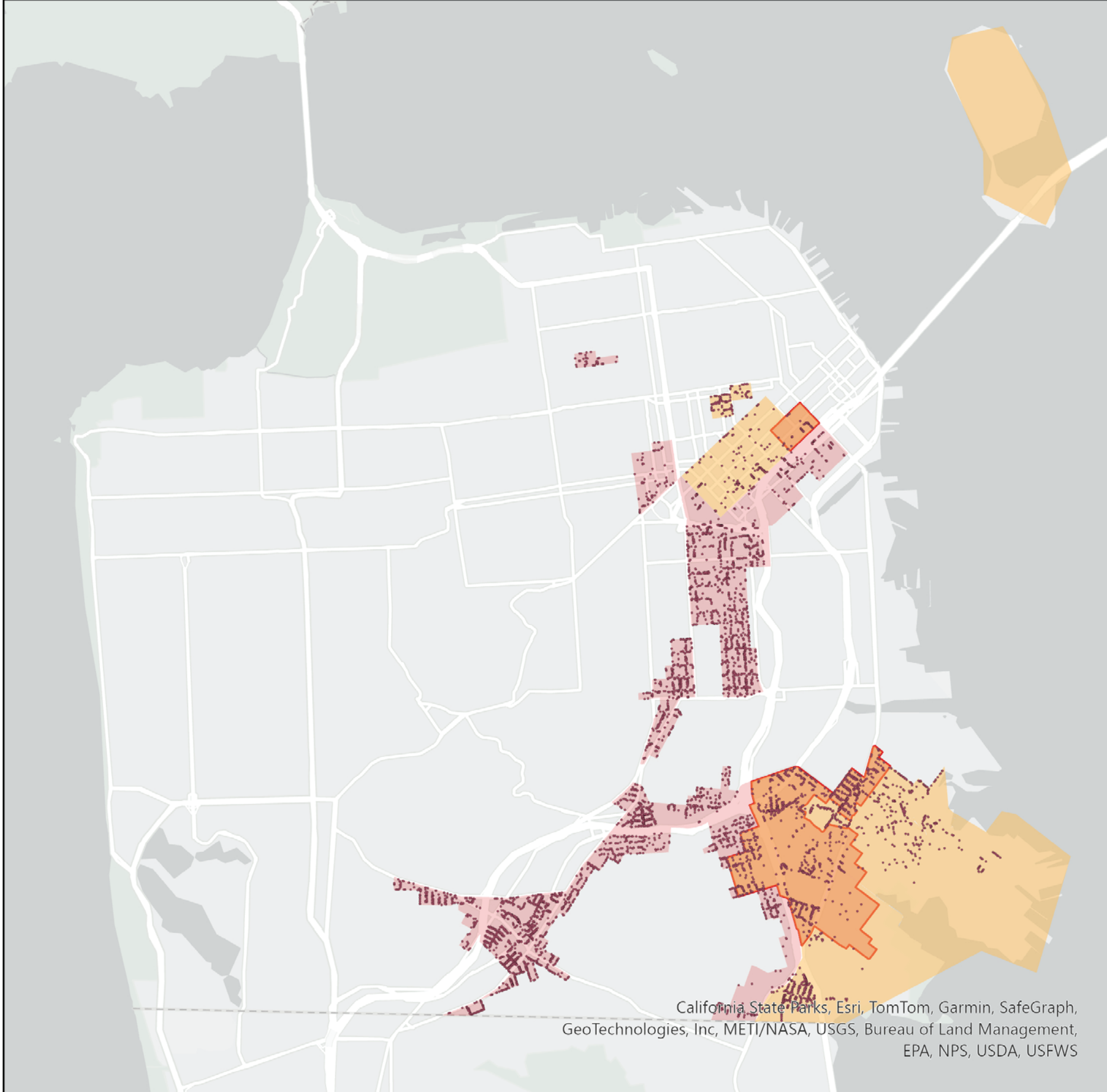
**HAQR Tree Planting Priority Area**

Priority Area

All priority areas had medium to highest exposure to high temperatures and high Particulate Matter. Temperatures ranged between 112-119 degrees and Mean Average Particulate Matter between 9-19 PPM. All areas had low tree canopy coverage ranging from 0-10% coverage. All priority areas had medium to high hospitalizations due to diabetes or asthma.



Credits : San Francisco Department of Urban Forestry and San Francisco Department of Public Health | 2023



California State Parks, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS

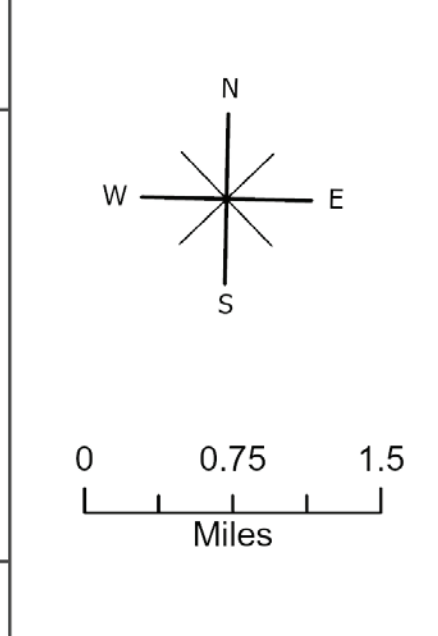
**Priority Areas and Empty Tree Wells**

- HAQR Identified Priority Area
- Cal EnviroScreen Disadvantaged Communities
- Cal Enviro Screen and HAQR Identified Priority Areas Overlap
- Empty or Potential Tree Wells in Identified Areas

**1,053 empty or potential tree wells in super priority area.**

**2,123 empty or potential tree wells in Cal EnviroScreen Priority Area**

**5, 237 empty or potential tree wells in HAQR Priority Area.**



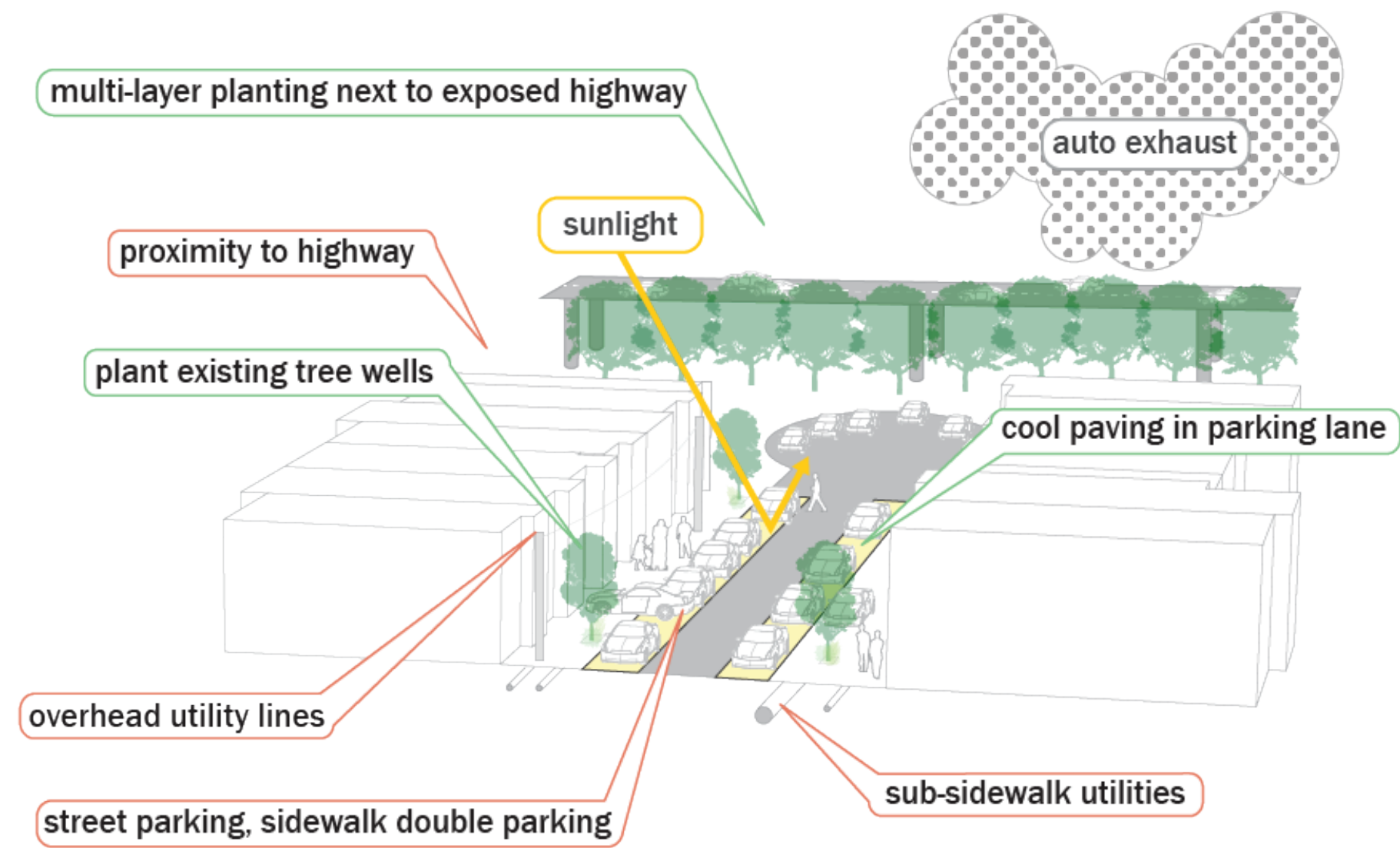
Credits : San Francisco Department of Urban Forestry and San Francisco Department of Public Health | 2024

Combining both the Asthma Focus Areas and the Diabetes Focus Area, we can create an outline of the areas throughout the city that would be best served by a denser tree canopy.

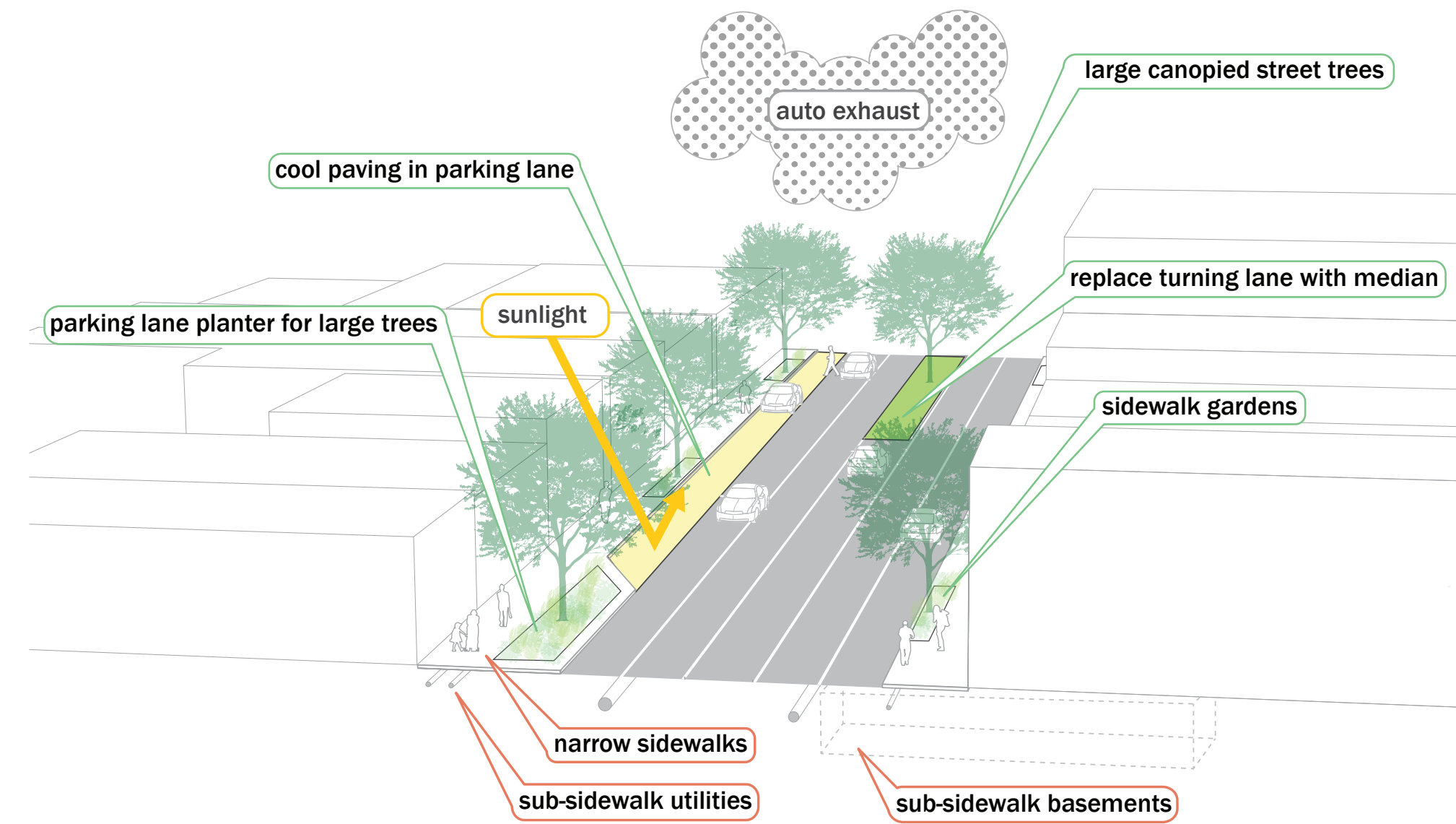
**Identifying places for new tree plantings.**  
 The Bureau of Urban Forestry's recent acquisition of a grant funding street tree planting across the city meant we needed to prioritize where in the city would be most impacted by those trees, as well as how many potential trees could go into these areas. We can quantify the cost of planting and maintaining these identified tree wells.

# Urban Typologies in Identified Priority Zones

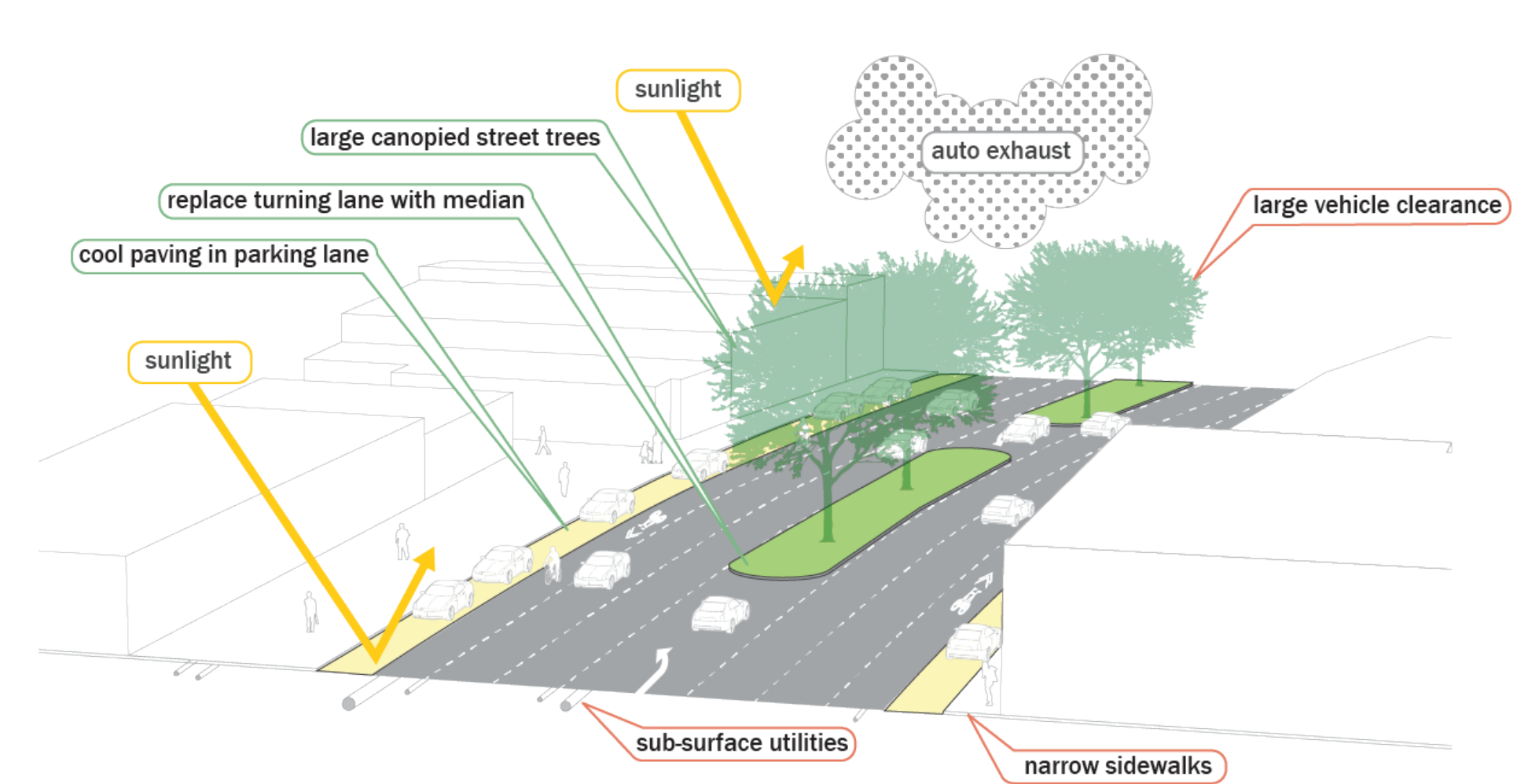
## Silver Terrace: Residential Typology



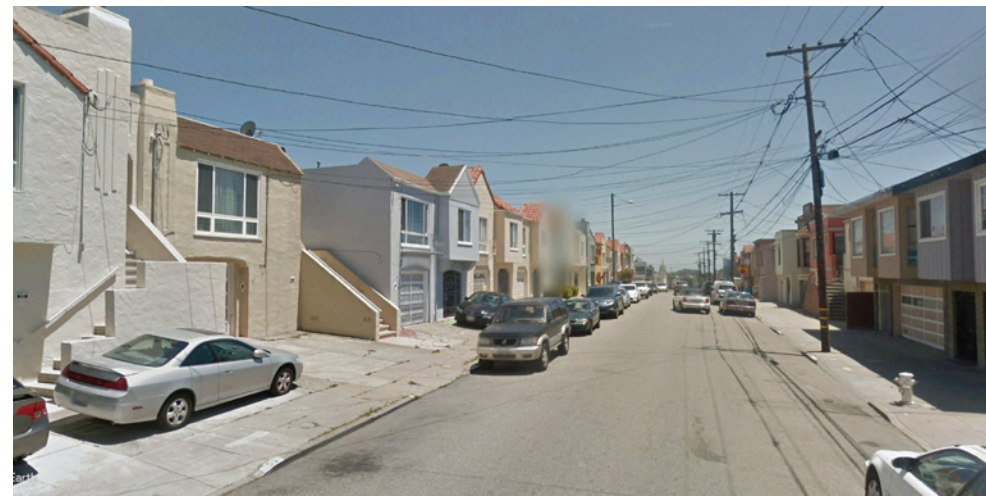
## SoMa: Urban Typology



## Bayview: Industrial Typology



## Existing Conditions



Scotia Ave & Quint St

Elmira St & Augusta St

### OPPORTUNITIES:

- Plantings in residential areas have a direct impact on residents, can reduce electric bills, and improve health outcomes.
- Roads tend to be narrower and traffic volumes low.
- Residential areas have more "eyes on the street" and residents can more actively assist in ensuring long-term tree health.

### CONSTRAINTS:

- Many residential areas have overhead utility lines that limit the size of trees that can be planted.
- Narrower sidewalks also limit the size of trees that can be planted.
- Parking is often happening in a non-standard manner due to unmet housing and transportation needs.
- Some residential areas are adjacent to Caltrans right-of-way that is not under City control.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Select a palette of smaller trees that can do well under utility lines and in smaller tree basins.
- Plant large tree species wherever possible.
- Enlarge tree basins wherever possible or use chicanes to add trees and slow traffic.
- Explore school yard greening with SFUSD to increase tree canopy and reduce pavement.
- Support MTA's Community Mobility planning to ensure resident's have access to the transportation they need for daily life to reduce car use.
- Support citywide housing initiatives to increase affordable housing that can decrease crowded living conditions which also causes multiple cars per household.
- Partner with Caltrans to explore greening in priority zones within their right-of-way.

## Existing Conditions



8th St & Folsom St

Bryant St & Morris St

### OPPORTUNITIES:

- Large right-of-way
- Less overhead utilities.

### CONSTRAINTS:

- High traffic volumes
- Narrow sidewalks
- Sub-sidewalk basements and major underground utilities more frequently found in these corridors.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Plant trees wherever possible along the curbside.
- Create additional space for trees using bulbouts.
- Study the potential of adding a central median to accommodate large shade trees.

## Existing Conditions



Cesar Chavez St & Kansas St

Bayshore Boulevard & Oakdale Ave

### OPPORTUNITIES:

- Large right-of-way
- Less overhead utilities.
- Often overlaps with bicycle infrastructure that could use improvement.

### CONSTRAINTS:

- High traffic volumes
- Narrow sidewalks
- Sub-sidewalk basements and major underground utilities more frequently found in these corridors.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Plant trees wherever possible along the curbside.
- Explore how improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure could be combined with additional tree planting to create safer streets for all.
- Study the potential of adding central medians to accommodate large shade trees and create pedestrian refuge at crossings.

# Heat and Air Quality Mapping Methodology

## Heat and Pollution Exposure:

The heat data in the heat and pollution map was sourced from the NASA Aster Data (SFDPH). The classes were created using Natural Breaks and are as follows:

97-100 Degrees Fahrenheit  
101-107 Degrees Fahrenheit  
108-111 Degrees Fahrenheit  
112-114 Degrees Fahrenheit  
115-119 Degrees Fahrenheit

The pollution data was created using the 2019 Bay Area Air Quality Management District Data, the classes are sorted as follows:

7.8-8.7 PM  
8.8-9.8 PM  
9.81-11.4 PM  
11.41-14 PM  
14.1-19 PM

The two pollution categories were generalized using the bottom three classes.

High Pollution: 11.41-19 PM  
Medium Pollution: 9.81-11.4 PM

## Tree Canopy And Pollution

The tree canopy coverage layer was sourced from a 2018 Forest Service Canopy Raster, ran through raster to polygon tool in ArcGIS Pro and is sorted via Census Block group, it was sorted using Natural Breaks.

The classes for the data are as follows:

0-5%  
6-10%  
11-16%  
16-31%  
32-60%

Then the two pollution categories from **Heat and Pollution Exposure** were added:

High Pollution: 11.41-19 PM  
Medium Pollution: 9.81-11.4 PM

## Heat and Pollution Exposure Combined with Tree Canopy

To accurately capture the true need of communities, this map combines the previous heat and pollution map with the current tree canopy coverage of the city.

The hottest areas (those with temperature measurements between 112-119 degrees during the September 2nd, 2017 heat wave) and the highest pollution scores (places with a mean value between 9-19) were overlaid and intersected.

Then, a tree canopy coverage percentage map using census tracts was overlaid. The two designated lowest canopy zones either had 0-5% tree canopy coverage or 5-10% tree canopy coverage. An important distinction was that overall tree canopy was chosen, not street tree canopy. We did not want to discredit the impact canopy from large parks had on certain neighborhoods.

Areas across the city are impacted by heat, pollution and low tree canopy, but the impacts of heat and pollution are less manageable by certain groups depending on a multitude of factors (See Map 1, Heat Vulnerability Index). The goal of this study is to identify places that are disproportionately impacted by environmental impacts

## Heat Wave Temperatures and Diabetes Hospitalizations

This map was created with the Diabetes Hospitalizations per 10,000 People using the San Francisco Department of Public Health Data. The Average Surface Temperature data was from the San Francisco Department of Public Health Data set as well and refers to the September 2nd, 2017 Heat Wave Data collected by the NASA ASTER Radiometer.

The bivariate colors are classified to reflect the class divisions from earlier heat and pollution map.

Temperature  
Low: 0-111  
Medium: 111.1-114  
High: 114.1-119

Diabetes Hospitalizations  
Low: 0-12.22  
Medium: 12.23-20.6  
High: 20.7-32

## Asthma Hospitalizations and Average Particulate Matter

This map uses the Average Particulate Matter measurements from SFDPH. The Particulate Matter map from the Heat and Pollution Map is sorted into census blocks, this map has particulate matter sorted into census tracts so it can be used in conjunction with Asthma Hospitalizations per 10K People which were sorted by census tracts as well.

### Asthma Hospitalizations

Low: 0-12.15

Medium:12.16-18.53

High:18.54-44.74

### Average Particulate Matter

Low: 0-9.7

Medium: 9.8-11.41

High: 11.42-13.6

## Asthma Focus Area Map:

To prioritize neighborhoods that are suffering the impacts of heat and pollution disproportionately, this map selects areas using the lowest tree canopy coverage, highest pollution, highest heat wave data, and medium to high asthma hospitalizations. Then poverty is overlaid to find who has the least resources to address these problems.

This map uses the two lowest categories of tree canopy coverage from the Tree Canopy And Pollution Map page. Tree Canopy Coverage was either

0-5%

5-10%

The Mean Average Particulate Matter fell into one of these categories:

High Pollution: 11.41-19 PM

Medium Pollution: 9.81-11.4

The Heat Wave Temperature fell into one of two categories:

112-114 Degrees

115-119 Degrees

The Asthma Hospitalizations followed the categories laid out in the Asthma Hospitalizations and Average Particulate Matter Map.

Medium:12.16-18.53

High:18.54-44.74

Poverty data as defined by SFDPH as "Percent of population with an income under 400% of the federal poverty rate by census tract, 2017-2021." It was sorted into classes using Normal Breaks, then the High Class ranking was used in this map.

### Poverty:

Low: 0-47.08%

Medium: 47.09%-65.12%

High: 65.13-100%

**Diabetes Focus Area Map:**

To prioritize neighborhoods that are suffering the impacts of heat and pollution disproportionately, this map selects areas using the lowest tree canopy coverage, highest pollution, highest heat wave data, and medium to high diabetes hospitalizations. Then poverty is overlaid to find who has the least resources to address these problems.

This map uses the two lowest categories of tree canopy coverage from the Tree Canopy Additions page. Tree Canopy Coverage was either

0-5%

5-10%

The Mean Average Particulate Matter fell into one of these categories:

High Pollution: 11.41-19 PM

Medium Pollution: 9.81-11.4

The Heat Wave Temperature fell into one of two categories:

112-114 Degrees

115-119 Degrees

The Diabetes Hospitalizations followed the categories laid out in the Heat Wave Temperatures and Diabetes Hospitalizations map.

Medium: 12.23-20.6

High: 20.7-32

Poverty data as defined by SFDPH as “Percent of population with an income under 400% of the federal poverty rate by census tract, 2017-2021.” See the Heat and Poverty map for classification and histogram.

High: 65.13-100%

**HAQR Tree Planting Priority Area:**

This map combines the outline of all areas from the Diabetes Focus Area Map and the Asthma Focus Area Map to define what areas should be prioritized for tree planting.

**Priority Areas and Empty Tree Wells:**

Uses the HAQR Tree Planting Priority Area layer combined with the CalEnviroscreen 2022 Disadvantaged Communities shapefile. Adds the Bureau of Urban Forestry 2023 Empty and Potential Tree Well layer.

# Heat and Air Quality Mapping Sources

## Poverty data:

Definition: Percent population with an income under 400% of the federal poverty rate

Data source: U.S. Census Bureau's 2017 – 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

[Visualizing climate health impacts in San Francisco | San Francisco \(sf.gov\)](#)

## Tree Canopy Coverage:

2018 United States Forest Service Canopy Raster

<https://data.fs.usda.gov/geodata/rastergateway/tree-canopycover/#table1>

## Asthma Hospitalizations per 10K People:

Population with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

Definition: Age-adjusted rate of ED visits for asthma and COPD per 10,000 residents

Data source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information, Emergency Department data, 2013 – 2017

[Visualizing climate health impacts in San Francisco | San Francisco \(sf.gov\)](#)

## Diabetes Hospitalizations per 10K People:

Definition: Age-adjusted rate of ED visits for diabetes per 10,000 residents

Data source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information, Emergency Department data, 2013 – 2017

[Visualizing climate health impacts in San Francisco | San Francisco \(sf.gov\)](#)

## PM 2.5 Parts Per Million:

Definition: Annual average PM2.5 concentration in micrograms per meters cubed

Data source: San Francisco Department of Public Health, and San Francisco Planning Department, The San Francisco Citywide Health Risk Assessment: Technical Support Documentation, September 2020

[Visualizing climate health impacts in San Francisco | San Francisco \(sf.gov\)](#)

## Heat Wave Data:

Surface temperature was collected using land surface kinetic temperature data from NASA's Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) satellite for September 2, 2017, a record-breaking heat wave in the San Francisco Bay Area.

<https://sf.gov/data/visualizing-climate-health-impacts-san-francisco>

## Enviroscreen Data:

SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities (2022 Update)

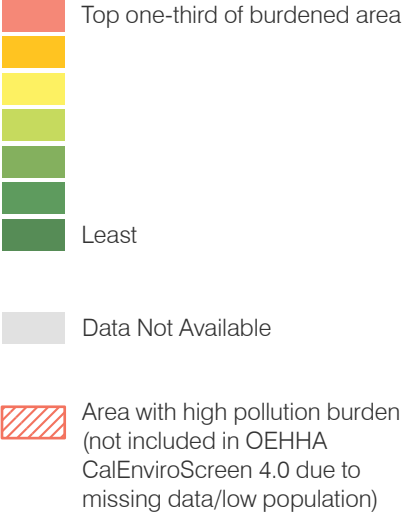
[SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities | OEHHA \(ca.gov\)](#)

## Empty Treewells and Potential Tree Wells:

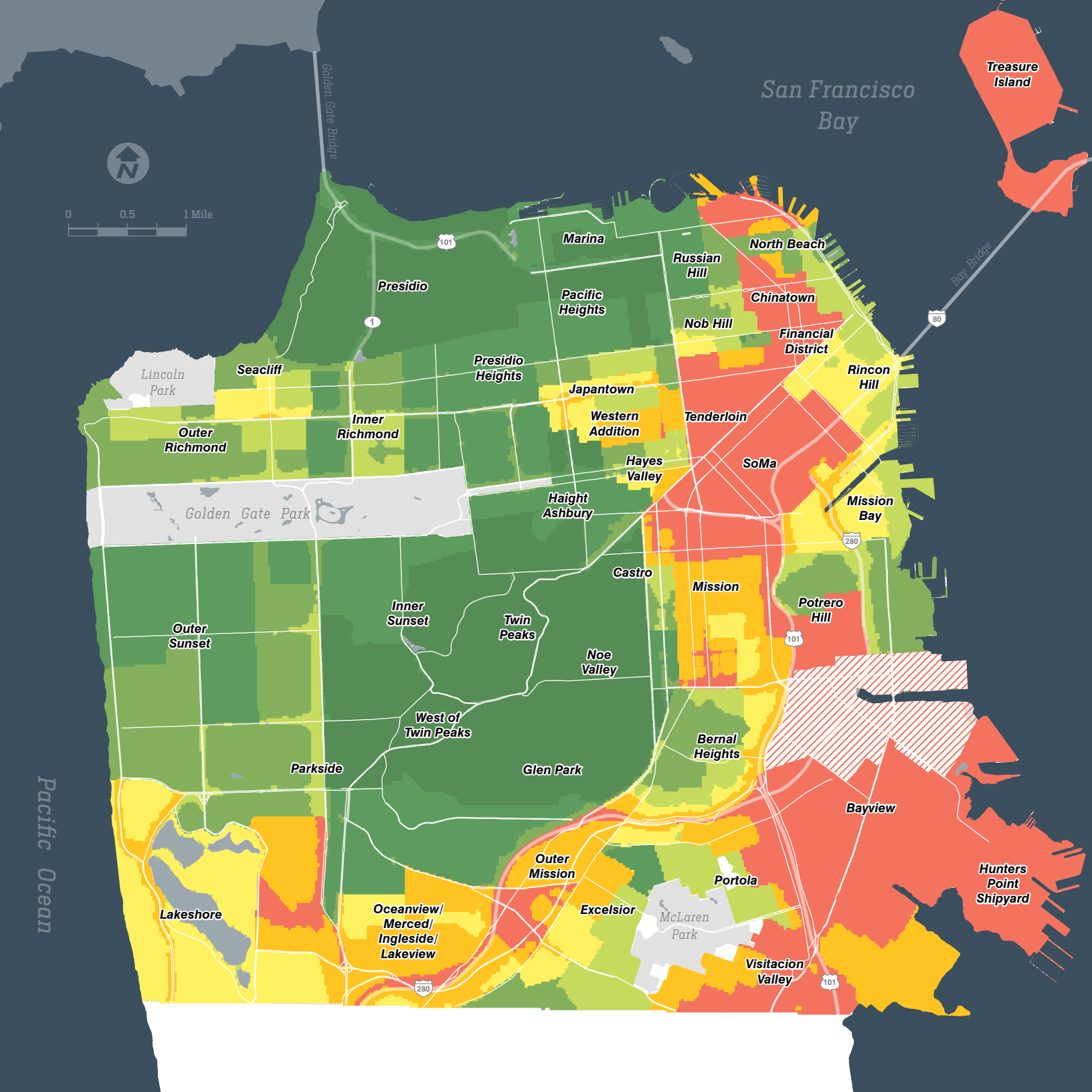
2023 Bureau of Urban Forestry Internal File

# Environmental Justice Communities

## Environmental Justice Burden



NOTE: This map was created to meet the requirements of CA Senate Bill 1000. The legislation requires that municipalities identify where "Disadvantaged Communities" are located, defined as areas facing elevated pollution burden coupled with a high incidence of low-income residents. This map is based on OEHHAs CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Map, modified to incorporate additional local data on pollution burden and socioeconomic disadvantage.



**October 7, 2025**

Mayor Daniel Lurie  
Office of the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 200  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
[Daniel.Lurie@sfgov.org](mailto:Daniel.Lurie@sfgov.org)

**Subject: An Urgent Call for Environmental Justice and the Repeal of Public Works Order 187246**

Dear Mayor Lurie,

For over two decades, the South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) has been advocating and organizing Filipino families, seniors, tenants, and workers in the South of Market (SOMA). We write to you today about a physical, daily, and systemic injustice being inflicted on our community.

The lack of tree canopy in SOMA is a public health crisis, and our community is at its center. SOMA has a tree canopy of just 2.7%, a fraction of the city's 12.8% average. This is not just an aesthetic preference – it is a severe health inequity.

As our 2023 report “[Urban Air Pollution Impacts on Health, Wellness, and Safety](#)” details, our community lives in a state of extreme environmental burden. We are a designated Environmental Justice community with one of the city’s highest pollution burdens. Residents of SOMA are exposed to substantial air pollution due to its proximity to Interstate 80, Interstate 280, and Highway 101, and in 2020, SOMA had the highest yearly average particulate matter concentrations out of any neighborhood in San Francisco. Many of the alleyways where our families live are included in the SOMA Youth and Family Special Use District, which was created in 2008 to “protect and enhance the health and environment of youth and families.” For our youth and families, trees are not a luxury but essential public health infrastructure.

We have learned through the recent “[Concrete Over Canopy](#)” report that the city is actively making this crisis worse in two ways:

1. **A Toxic Policy:** [Public Works Order 187246](#) is guaranteeing the net loss of our few remaining trees, ordering our empty tree wells to be filled with concrete.
2. **Misspent Funds:** A \$12 million federal grant, money that was intended to help disadvantaged communities like ours, was diverted away from in-need census tracts in SOMA, the Tenderloin, and the Bayview.

This is a profound moral failure. The city is systematically removing our community's trees while giving away the money that was meant to plant them. For this reason, the city's current policy regarding tree canopy coverage is not just a failure – it is a severe environmental injustice.

This neglect for our neighborhood must end. SOMCAN joins a growing city-wide coalition, including the SOMA West Neighborhood Association, Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN), and the UCSF Center for Climate, Health, and Equity, to advocate for the following:

- We endorse the findings of the “Concrete Over Canopy” report.
- We demand the immediate repeal of Public Works Order 187246.
- We demand the passage of a “San Francisco Tree Equity Ordinance” that legally mandates the city close the canopy gap in SOMA and all other Environmental Justice communities.

Our community has borne the brunt of the city's environmental burdens for decades. We refuse to continue bearing the burden of environmental neglect. We expect your immediate action.

Sincerely,



Angelica Cabande

Executive Director

South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN)

CC:

Supervisor Matt Dorsey, [Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org](mailto:Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org)

Supervisor Bilal Mahmood, [Bilal.Mahmood@sfgov.org](mailto:Bilal.Mahmood@sfgov.org)

Supervisor Jackie Fielder, [Jackie.Fielder@sfgov.org](mailto:Jackie.Fielder@sfgov.org)

Carla Short, Director of San Francisco Public Works, [Carla.Short@sfdpw.org](mailto:Carla.Short@sfdpw.org)

Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, [Jesus.Lozano@sfgov.org](mailto:Jesus.Lozano@sfgov.org)

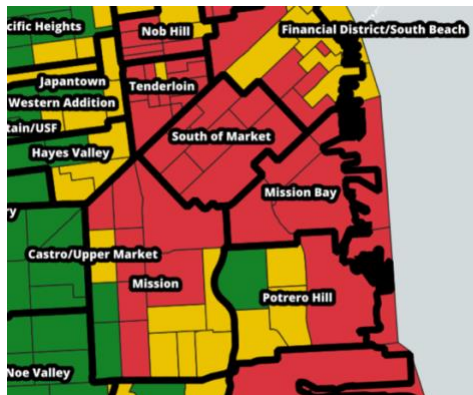
23 September 2025

San Francisco Tree Equity Ordinance Request

Honorable Mayor Lurie, Supervisor Dorsey and Urban Forestry Council Members,

On Friday, 9/26/25, Shaun Aukland will make a presentation to the Urban Forestry Council (Agenda Item 6) on urban forestry policies and tree distribution outcomes that highlights the disparity in urban canopy cover across neighborhoods throughout the city and will propose that the city develop a new ordinance that addresses tree canopy equity, targeting first designated environmental justice communities (EJCs) and then neighborhoods ranked in the bottom 1/3 of the city's rankings, which includes our area. We, the South Beach| Rincon|Mission Bay Neighborhood Association board, are writing to support this request.

With portions of South Beach and ALL of Mission Bay among the lowest rated for canopy cover—Mission Bay clocks in at only 3.2% as compared to the city average of 12.8%--we empathize with the even more disadvantaged EJCs and seek redress once their canopies are boosted. See a portion of the lowest ranking canopy areas below, in red.



For its substance, clarity and documentation, we endorse the SoMa West NA letter issued on this matter, attached for reference.

Sincerely,

The South Beach | Rincon | Mission Bay Neighborhood Association Board

Alice Rogers, President

Gary Pegueros, Vice President /Secretary

Michael Adams, Director

Bruce Agid, Director

Shelley Costantini, Director

Mike Linksvayer, Director



September 14, 2025

The Hon. Daniel Lurie  
Office of the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 200  
San Francisco, CA

Re: A Call for Tree Equity for SOMA West and the City's Environmental Justice Communities

Mayor Lurie,

The SOMA West Neighborhood Association applauds the new direction in local governance that uses a data-driven approach to correct long standing neighborhood inequities. We believe the time has come to similarly extend this principle of restorative justice to our City's urban forest.

Recent legislation has established a clear and most welcome precedent. Supervisor Mahmood's One City Shelter Act acknowledges that a few neighborhoods, including SOMA, have shouldered a disproportionate share of the city's homelessness crisis.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, your own office's Family Zoning Plan recognizes that new housing has been concentrated in eastern neighborhoods while well-resourced areas have been insulated from growth.<sup>2</sup> Both initiatives seek to create a more balanced and equitable system.

This new political consensus finally concedes as unjust the treatment of neighborhoods like ours as "containment zones" for the city's challenges. Further, state legislation like Senate Bill 1000, which mandates that cities redress neighborhood environmental inequities, and Assembly Bill 2251, which calls for a 10% expansion of the urban canopy, adds legal weight to this moral imperative. This commitment to fairness must now also extend to the fundamental right to a healthy environment and the benefits of a robust urban tree canopy.

### **SOMA West's Canopy Deficit: A Public Health Emergency**

While our neighborhood absorbed a 39% population increase in the last decade, we have been starved of the environmental infrastructure to support this density. The lack of tree canopy in SOMA West is an environmental and public health emergency.

Trees are critical public health infrastructure. They filter harmful air pollutants like PM2.5, which are linked to asthma and heart attacks, and they cool surface temperatures during heat waves. We endorse the findings of Shaun Aukland’s August 2025 report, [Concrete Over Canopy: How San Francisco is Failing Its Environmental Justice Communities](#). The report provides irrefutable evidence that the City has failed to prioritize communities in need and is not assigning funding and resources with equity in mind for what is needed to close the gap on tree canopies throughout the City.

SOMA West has a tree canopy cover of a mere 2.7%, a fraction of the 12.8% average citywide.<sup>3</sup> This is not an aesthetic concern; it is a direct threat to our community’s health. As the data below shows, SOMA West is an officially designated Environmental Justice Community (EJC) facing severe, overlapping environmental and health risks.

Metric	SOMA West Status	City/State Benchmark	Source
Tree Canopy	2.7% (Very Low)	12.8% (SF Average)	US Forestry Lidar Scan
10-Year Population Growth	+39%	+2.3% (SF Average)	US Census
Pollution Burden	Top 10%	City Percentile	CalEPA
EnviroScreen Score	Top 7%	City Percentile	CalEnviroScreen 4.0
Air Pollutant Zone	Included in APEZ	N/A	SFDPH
Health Vulnerability	High	City-wide Index	SFDPH HVI
Planning Designation	Designated EJC	N/A	SF Planning

While SOMA is one of the communities facing tree inequity, we are far from the only one. Much of the eastern part of San Francisco faces similar challenges with low canopy cover and are designated as *Environmental Justice Communities (EJC)*.<sup>6</sup> We seek not just to address the wrongs in SOMA, but in all underserved communities in San Francisco. Without policy guidance, municipal departments often focus tree resources on neighborhoods where it is easy to plant, rather than where it’s most needed. While understandable given limited resources, this strategy can lead to a profound canopy equity gap such as what we are currently experiencing in San Francisco.

### The Solution: A San Francisco Tree Equity Ordinance

Existing policies and departmental discretion are insufficient. The best way to guarantee the just and equitable distribution of our urban forest is through new, legally binding legislation. We urge you to champion a San Francisco Tree Equity Ordinance. This ordinance must be a permanent, structural solution that includes the following principles:

1. **Equity-Driven:** Legally mandate that a disproportionate percentage of the City’s annual tree budget and resources be directed to designated EJC’s until canopy gaps are demonstrably closed.
2. **Outcome-Based:** Establish clear, neighborhood specific canopy targets and timelines,

such as reducing the canopy gap between each EJC and the citywide average by 50% within ten years. Mandate resources are increased for EJC's that continue to fall below their target canopy.

3. **Funded and Sustainable:** Create a permanent, dedicated funding stream for planting and maintaining trees in EJC's, making this a core service of the City.

Our SOMA West community is not asking for anything more than seeking fairness for our neighborhood's residents, small businesses, hoteliers, tech innovators, artists, non-profits, and multi-generational families that is consistent with the policy changes soundly emanating from your administration. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this proposal further and stand ready to partner in building a healthier, more equitable San Francisco for all.

Sincerely,

SOMA West Neighborhood Association

cc: Supervisor Matt Dorsey  
Supervisor Bilal Mahmood  
Supervisor Jackie Fielder  
Carla Short, Director of San Francisco Public Works

#### Sources

1. *SF advances 'One City Shelter Act' ordinance* - Local News Matters, July 31, 2025, <https://localnewsmatters.org/2025/07/31/sf-advances-one-city-shelter-act-ordinance/>
2. San Francisco Family Zoning Plan | SF Planning, accessed September 7, 2025, <https://sfplanning.org/sf-family-zoning-plan>
3. Concrete Over Canopy - How San Francisco Is Failing Its Environmental Justice Communities - Shaun Aukland, August 17, 2025, [sftrees.short.gy/equity](https://sftrees.short.gy/equity)
4. Air Pollutant Exposure Zone | DataSF, accessed September 7, 2025, <https://data.sfgov.org/Geographic-Locations-and-Boundaries/Air-Pollutant-Exposure-Zone/t65d-x6p8>
5. *6 Ways Urban Trees Benefit Our Climate and Health* - Conservation Law Foundation, August 4, 2023, <https://www.clf.org/blog/urban-trees-benefit-our-climate-and-health/>
6. SF Environmental Justice Communities Map: Technical Documentation | SF Planning, March 2023, [https://www.sf.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/exhibitg\\_23\\_03\\_10\\_ejc\\_map\\_technical\\_documentation\\_trasmittal\\_w\\_app.pdf](https://www.sf.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/exhibitg_23_03_10_ejc_map_technical_documentation_trasmittal_w_app.pdf)



September 23, 2025

Mayor Daniel Lurie  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
[daniel.lurie@sfgov.org](mailto:daniel.lurie@sfgov.org)

RE: San Francisco Urban Tree Canopy and Public Health

Dear Mayor Lurie,

We are writing to provide a summary of contemporary evidence on the impacts of the urban forest on human health. This effort is grounded in a robust body of scientific evidence, including research published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* (2020; 17:4371), which demonstrates the profound benefits of urban tree cover for public health and the urgent need to address disparities in access.

Urban tree canopies provide measurable improvements in physical and mental health. Trees reduce exposure to harmful air pollution, mitigate urban heat islands (i.e., a metropolitan area that is significantly warmer than its surrounding rural areas due to human activities, dense development, and materials like concrete and asphalt that absorb and retain heat, leading to higher temperatures), promote physical activity, and lower the risk of cardiovascular and respiratory disease. They also contribute to mental well-being by reducing stress, fostering social cohesion, and improving overall quality of life. These ecosystem services translate into substantial public-health gains and reduced healthcare costs, particularly as cities face the accelerating impacts of climate change.

Yet, as the research underscores, tree canopy is not equitably distributed. Wealthier neighborhoods typically benefit from significantly greater tree cover, while lower-

income communities—often with higher proportions of marginalized populations—experience more concrete, fewer green spaces, and the health burdens that result. This inequitable distribution exacerbates existing health disparities, leaving vulnerable communities disproportionately exposed to extreme heat, pollution, and related health risks.

Initiatives and efforts that directly address these inequities prioritize the restoration of tree canopy in under-resourced neighborhoods. Such investments in environmental sustainability are vital steps toward health equity and climate resilience.

By expanding tree canopy where it is most needed, cities can create healthier, more resilient, and more just urban communities.

Sincerely,

Arianne Teherani, PhD  
Founding Co-Director  
[Arianne.Teherani@ucsf.edu](mailto:Arianne.Teherani@ucsf.edu)

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Founding Co-Director  
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David Moore, [David.Moore@sfdpw.org](mailto:David.Moore@sfdpw.org)  
Shaun Aukland, [shaun.aukland@gmail.com](mailto:shaun.aukland@gmail.com)  
Amiee Alden, [Amiee.Alden@ucsf.edu](mailto:Amiee.Alden@ucsf.edu)



Visitacion Valley Engage Green  
anne@visvalleygreenway.org  
www.visitacionvalleyengagegreen.com

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Dear Mayor Lurie and Supervisor Walton,

I am writing on behalf of Visitacion Valley Engage Green (VVEG) to express our enthusiastic and urgent support for the proposed Tree Equity Ordinance. For decades, our volunteer group and other neighborhood groups have worked to transform neglected public land into the Visitacion Valley Greenway, a vibrant community space for gardening, education, and the arts. We have seen firsthand how greening can build community and improve the lives of our residents. This ordinance represents a critical and long-overdue step to systemically address the environmental inequities that our neighborhood, and others like it, continue to face.

The need for this legislation in Visitacion Valley is undeniable. New data shows our neighborhood has a tree canopy cover of only 4.7%, which is less than half of the city-wide average of 12.8%. This is not merely an aesthetic issue, it is a matter of public health and justice. As a designated Environmental Justice Community, our residents are disproportionately burdened by environmental hazards that a healthy urban forest helps to mitigate. The fact that four of our five census tracts would qualify as "High Priority" for planting under the ordinance's data-driven methodology underscores the severity of this canopy gap.

This is not a new problem, nor is it a new goal for the city. For nearly two decades, San Francisco has acknowledged these inequities in its own planning documents. The 2006 Urban Forest Plan identified implementing "major tree planting programs targeting underserved neighborhoods in order to achieve greater environmental equity and accessibility" as a "highest, most immediate priority". The 2014 Urban Forest Plan again set a goal to "pursue an expanded and equitable distribution of trees". Yet, in the many years since these plans were published, the canopy gap has not closed. Good intentions and aspirational goals have not been enough. We need legislation that mandates a data-driven model to direct resources to the communities that have been historically overlooked, and this ordinance does exactly that.

For years, VVEG and our partners have worked tirelessly, patchworking together grants and volunteer hours to bring more green space to our community. This ordinance would provide the systemic support and city-wide commitment needed to truly make our neighborhoods whole.

We urge you to give this ordinance your full support and to champion its passage. It is a powerful tool to build a healthier, more resilient, and more equitable San Francisco for all.

Thank you for your leadership and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Seeman  
Visitacion Valley Engage Green (VVEG)

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
SAN FRANCISCO



DANIEL LURIE  
MAYOR

TO: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Dexter Darmali, Legislative & Ethics Secretary  
RE: Environment Code - Climate Action Plan  
DATE: February 24, 2026

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Ordinance amending the Environment Code to update the City's climate action goals and planning process, and to update City Departments' roles and responsibilities regarding the City's climate action goals; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Should you have any questions, please contact Adam Thongsavat at [adam.thongsavat@sfgov.org](mailto:adam.thongsavat@sfgov.org)