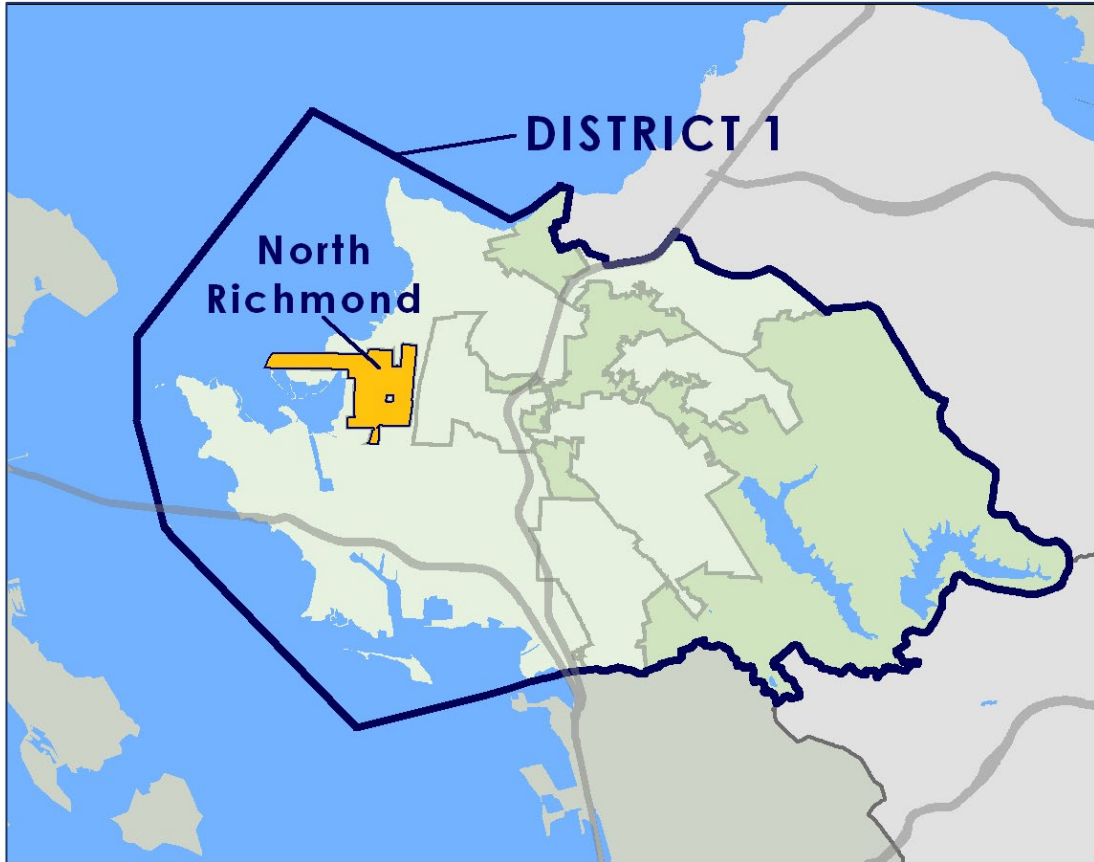




Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control



EPA  
United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency



# North Richmond Cumulative Impacts Assessment

An Overview

Board of Environmental Safety Meeting  
July 13, 2023

# Outline

- What is a Cumulative Impacts Assessment?
- Recent Focus on Cumulative Impacts Assessments
- Why North Richmond?
- Benefits to North Richmond Community

# What Are Cumulative Impacts?

## Cumulative Impacts

“Cumulative impacts means exposures, public health or environmental effects from the **combined** emissions and discharges, in a geographic area, including **environmental pollution** from **all sources**, whether single or multi-media, routinely, accidentally, or otherwise released. Impacts will take into account **sensitive populations** and **socioeconomic factors**, where applicable and to the extent data are available.”

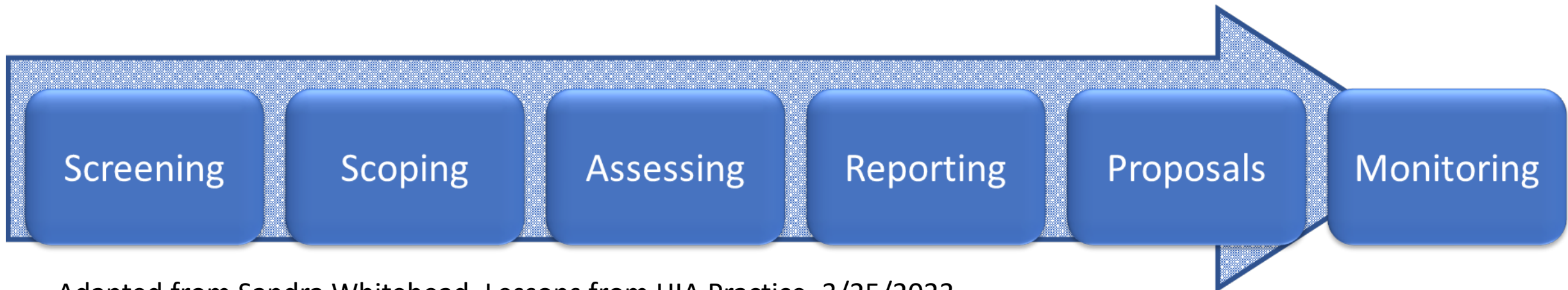
Cumulative Impacts: Building a Scientific Foundation, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), 2010, <https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/calenviroscreen/report/cireport123110.pdf>

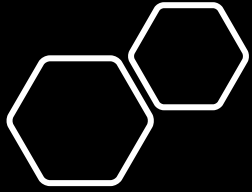
# Cumulative Impacts Example



# What is a Cumulative Impacts Assessment?

- A flexible process that helps communities and decision-makers work together to identify potential accumulated environmental and health effects of past and current regulatory decisions.
- The process explores how these decisions may have undesirable effects on communities due to location, income, race, and other factors.
- The results of the process are recommendations to support decisions that maximize environmental and health benefits and minimize risks.





# Executive Orders and Guidance on EJ and Equity

## [EO 13985:](#)

Advancing Racial Equity and Support for  
Underserved Communities Through the Federal  
Government

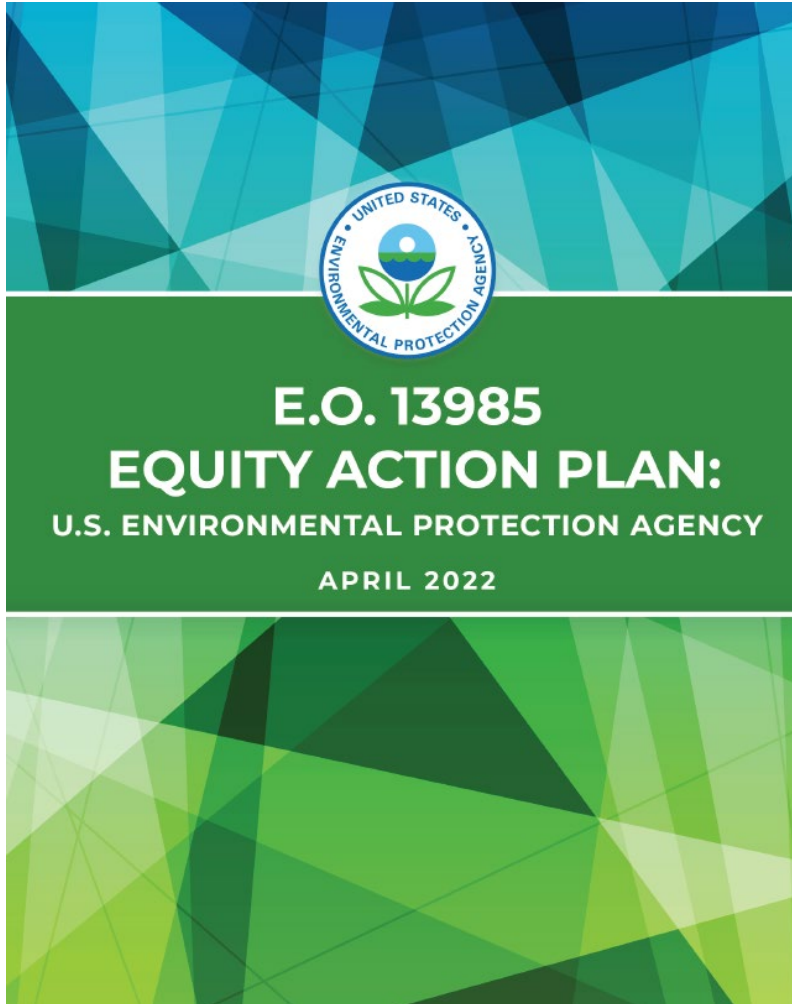
## [EO 14008:](#)

Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

## [Executive Office of the President OSTP 11/30/22](#)

Indigenous Knowledge Guidance

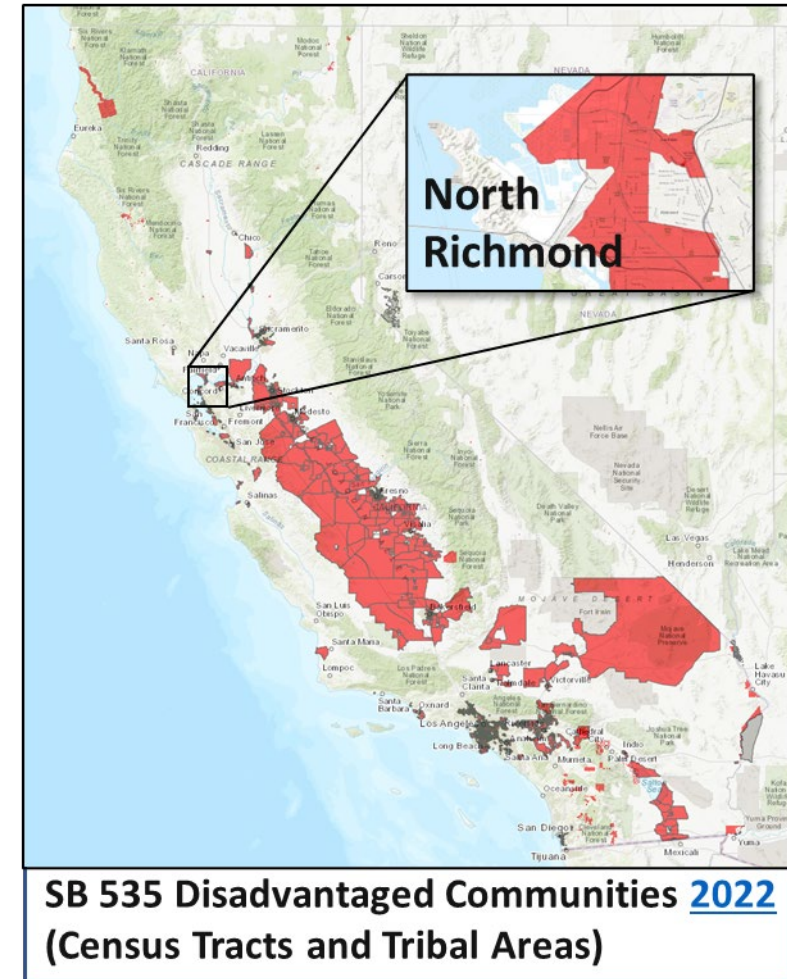
# Key Priorities in EPA's Equity Action Plan



- Develop a comprehensive framework for considering cumulative impacts in EPA decisions.
- Build the capacity of underserved communities to provide their experience to EPA and implement community-led projects.
- Develop EPA's internal capacity to engage underserved communities and act on communities' input.

# California Legislation

- **SB 535 (2012)**
  - Identify Disadvantaged Communities in California based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria.
- **SB 673 (2015)**
  - Established the Violations Scoring Procedure, health risk assessments, enhanced financial assurance, and other requirements. DTSC will consider community vulnerability, existing health risks and set back distances for communities living near permitted facilities.
- **AB 617 (2017)**
  - CARB and air districts will develop and implement additional emissions reporting, monitoring, reduction plans and measures in an effort to reduce air pollution exposure in disadvantaged communities.
  - Air Districts: Bay Area, Imperial, Sacramento, San Diego, San Joaquin, and South Coast.





# DTSC Strategic Plan

Prioritized Action: Propose Regulations on Cumulative Impacts and Community Vulnerability Criteria For Use in Permitting Decisions

- **Challenges**

- Not “one size fits all”
- Constantly evolving
- Availability of data
- Time and resources

- **Opportunities**

- Establish and leverage partnerships
- Understand the lived experience
- Improve decision-making

# North Richmond Cumulative Impacts Assessment (NRCIA)

- NRCIA will:
  - Directly Involve the Community
  - Support Enhanced Regulatory Efforts
  - Inform Future Permitting Decisions
- EPA, DTSC, and Community Partnership
- EPA has funded a contract to facilitate community engagement



# Community Vulnerability

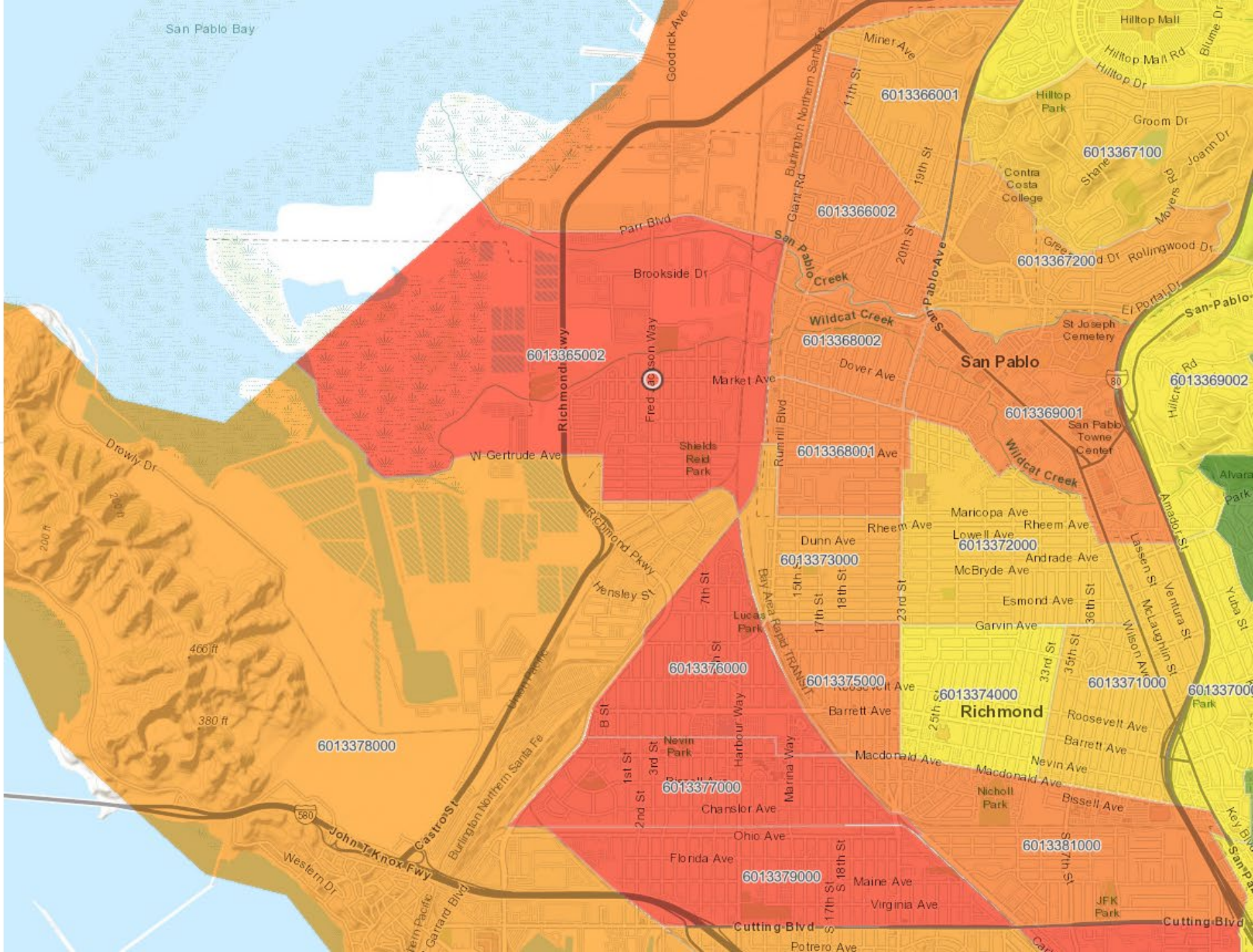
- EPA – EJScreen
- California EPA – CalEnviroScreen
- NRCIA will use CalEnviroScreen 4.0 as starting point

Legend

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Results

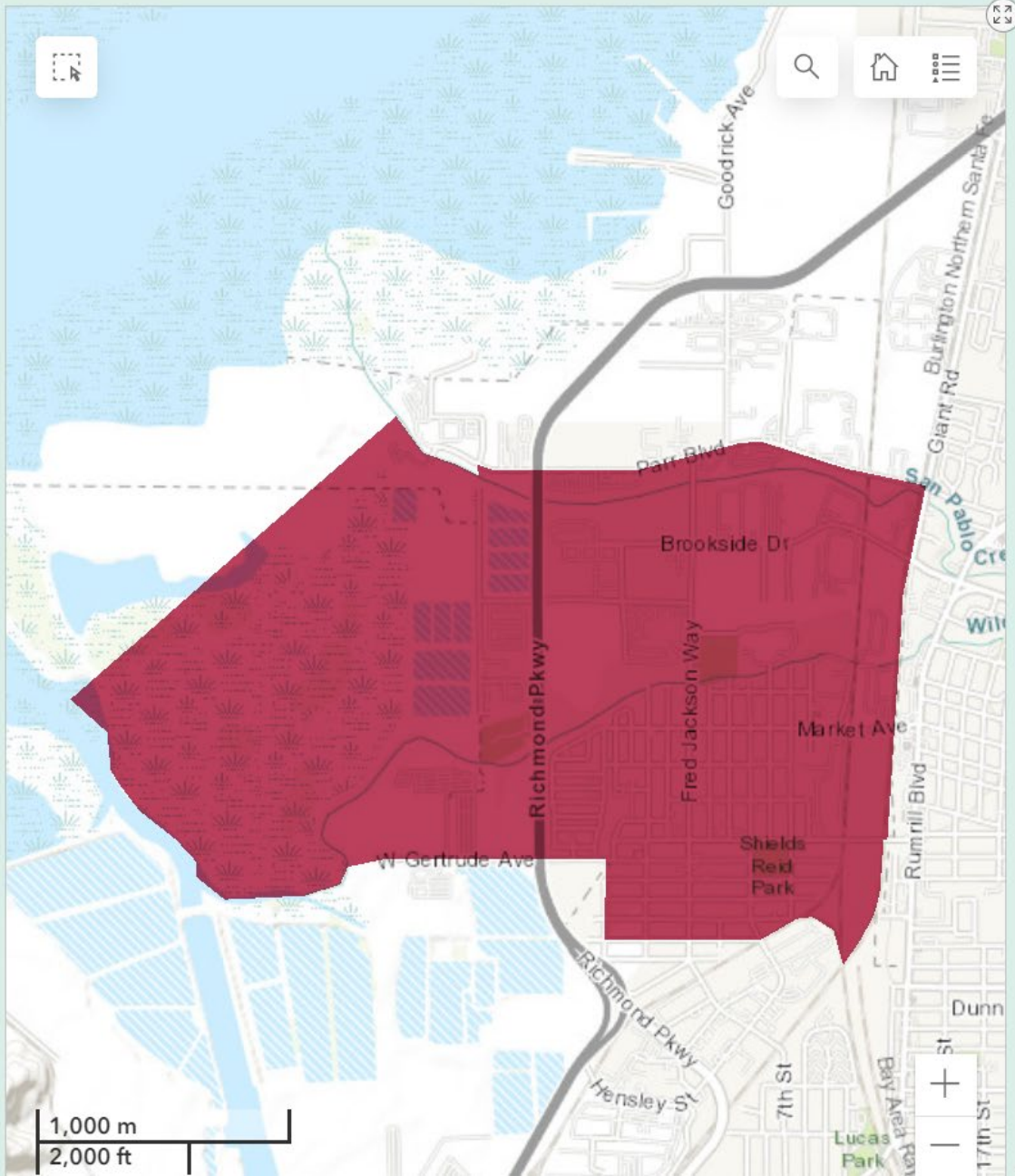
- > 90 - 100 (Highest Scores)
- > 80 - 90
- > 70 - 80
- > 60 - 70
- > 50 - 60
- > 40 - 50
- > 30 - 40
- > 20 - 30
- > 10 - 20
- 0 - 10 (Lowest Scores)

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 High Pollution, Low Population

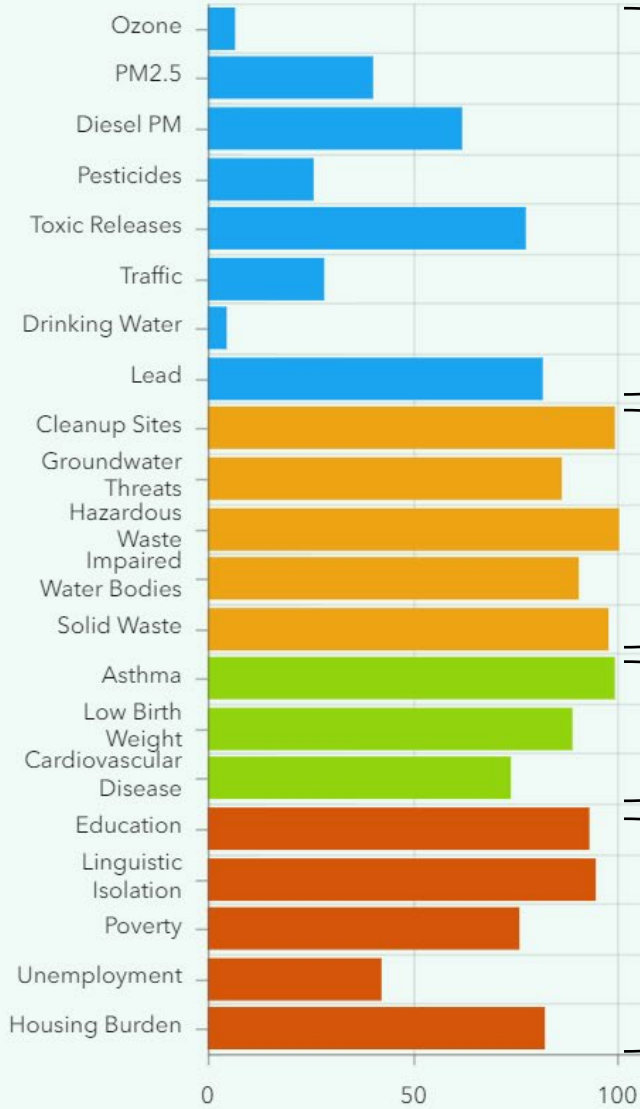




# CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Data Dashboard North Richmond



Average Indicator Percentile Values for Selection



Environmental Conditions

Contaminated Sites

Health Conditions

Social Vulnerability

# EJScreen Community Report

## North Richmond, CA

the User Specified Area  
 Population: 5,623  
 Area in square miles: 2.08



July 5, 2023  
 Project 1  
 1:18,056  
 0 0.17 0.35 0.7 mi

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Low income:  
35 percent



People of color:  
93 percent



Less than high school education:  
43 percent



Limited English households:  
24 percent



Unemployment:  
4 percent



Persons with disabilities:  
12 percent



Male:  
45 percent



Female:  
55 percent

58 years

Average life expectancy

\$35,322

Per capita income

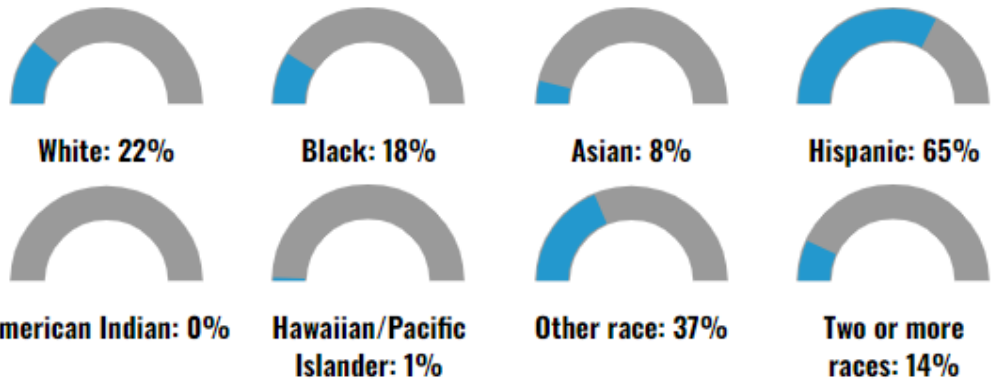


Number of households:  
1,473

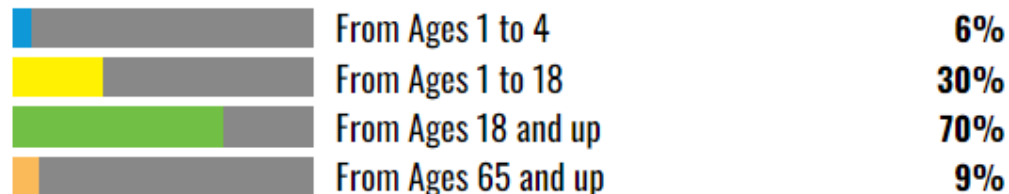


Owner occupied:  
58 percent

## BREAKDOWN BY RACE



## BREAKDOWN BY AGE



## LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	30%
Spanish	61%
Other Indo-European	1%
Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese)	1%
Vietnamese	3%
Other Asian and Pacific Island	1%
Arabic	2%
Total Non-English	70%

### Other community features within defined area:

Schools	2
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	6

### Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	Yes
Impaired Waters	Yes

### Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

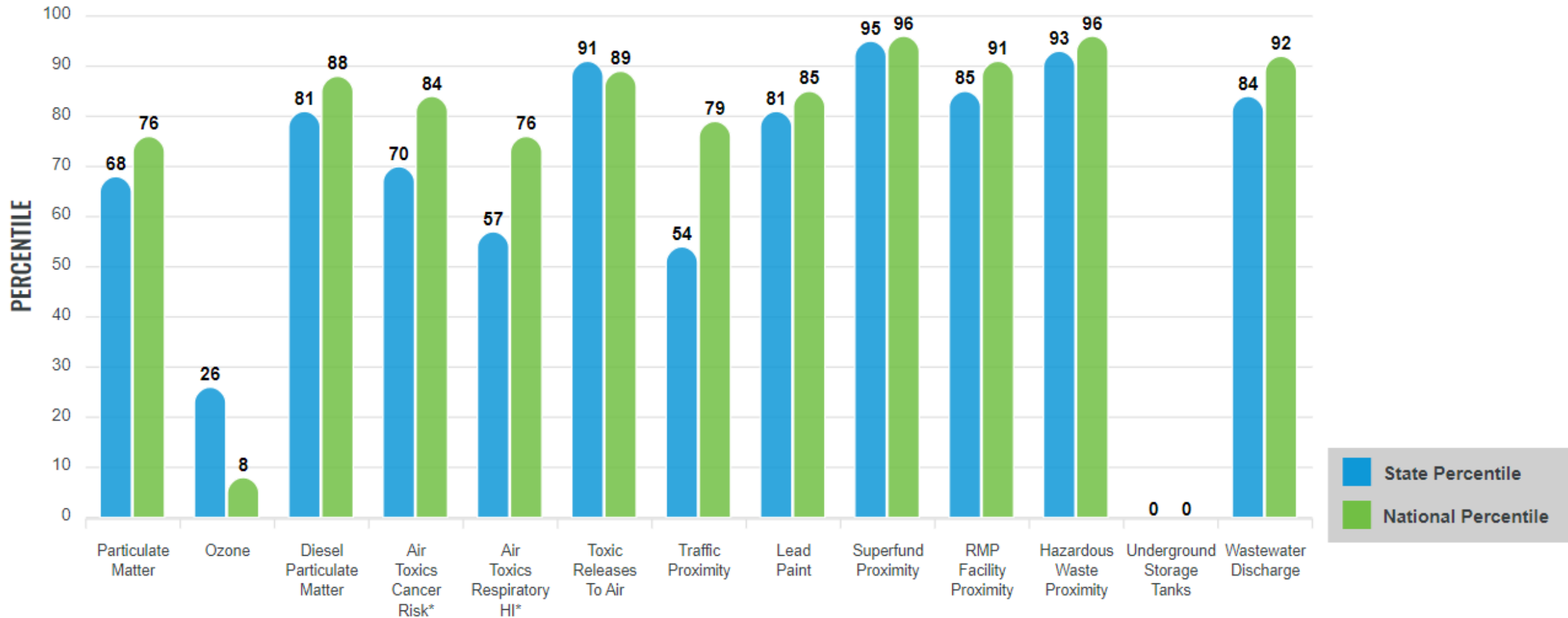
Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	1
Water Dischargers	20
Air Pollution	3
Brownfields	12
Toxic Release Inventory	4

Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community ..... Yes

# SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION





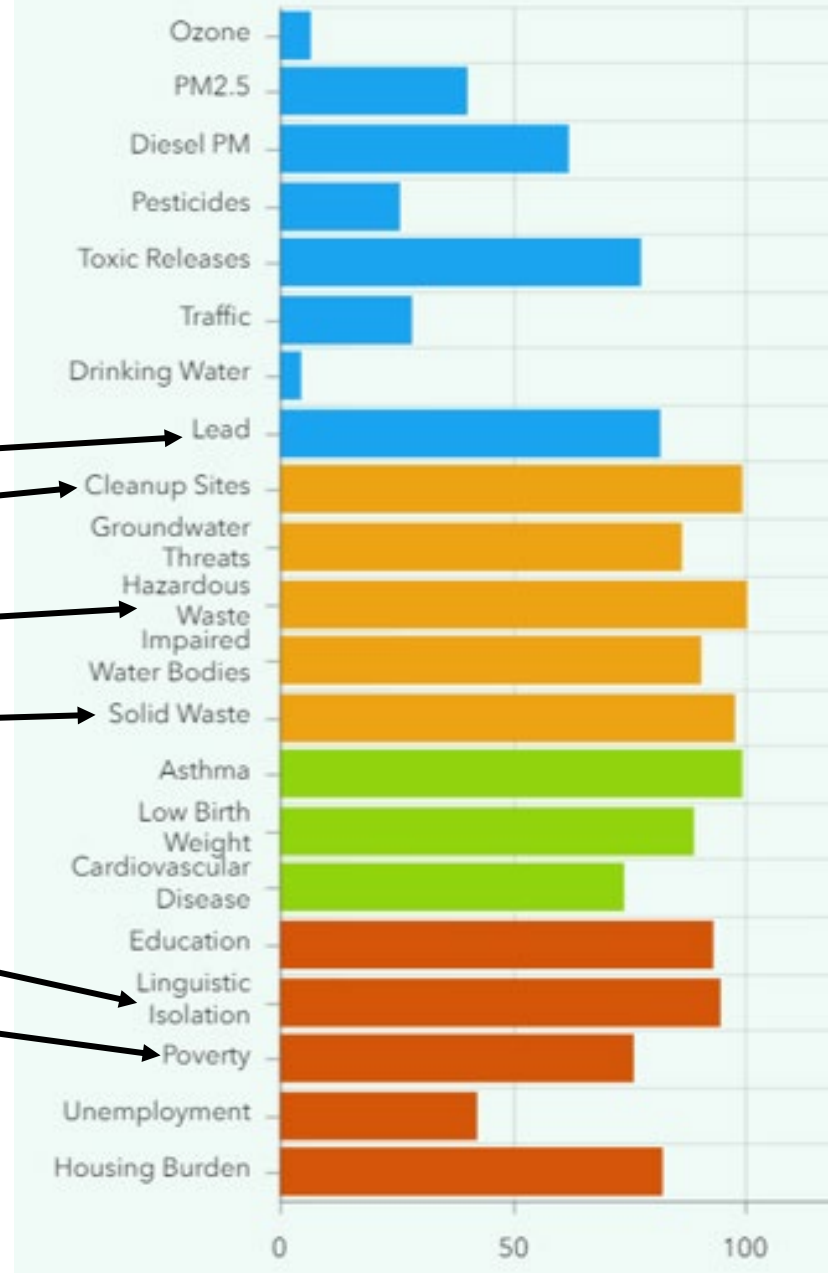
# Why North Richmond?

- 8,035 census tracts in California
- Highest overall CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentiles (scores), as well as:
  - Key indicators
  - Permitted hazardous waste facilities
  - Upcoming hazardous waste facility permit decisions

# North Richmond

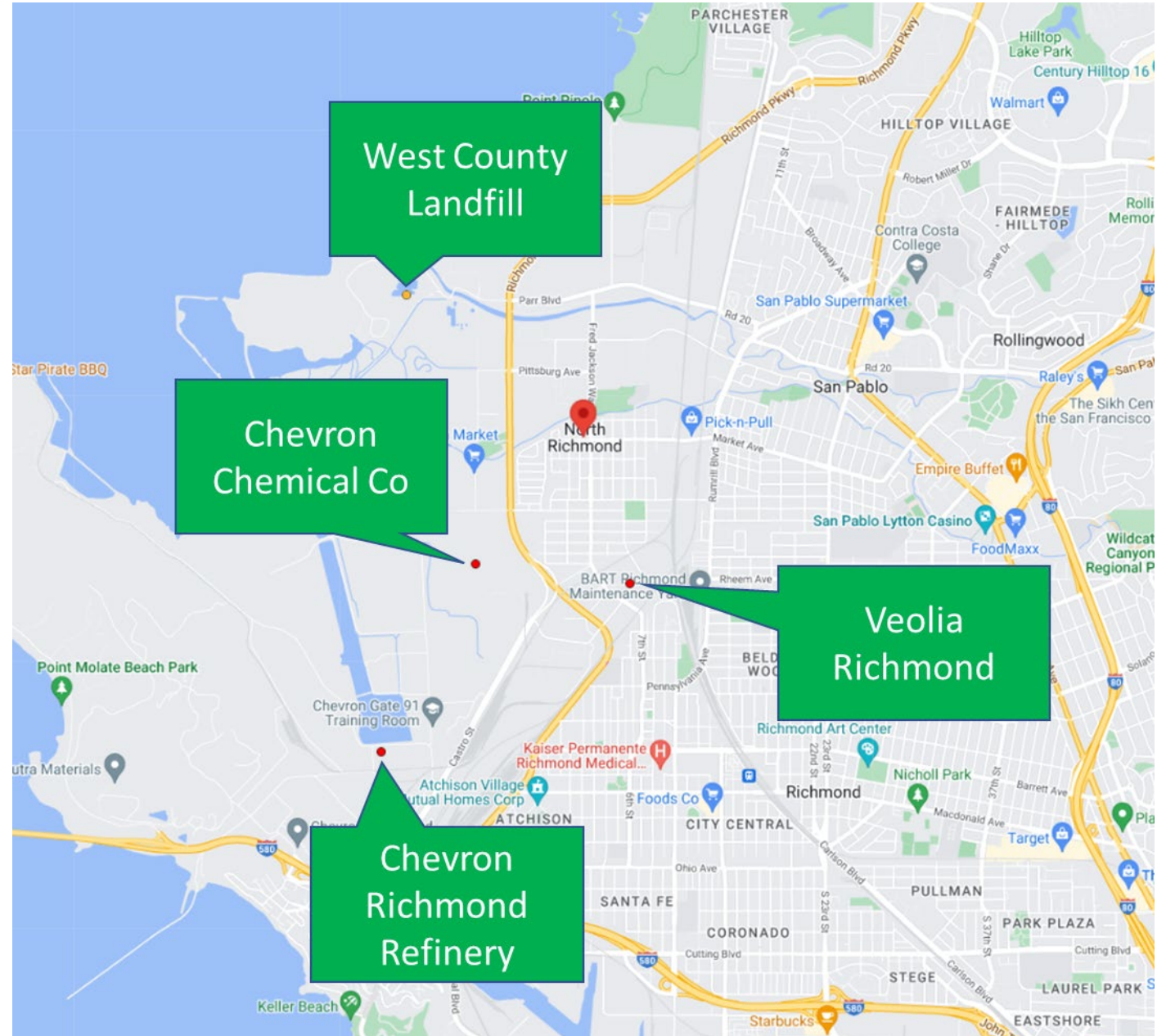
- 96th percentile overall in California
- High percentiles in multiple areas
  - 80 Lead in Housing
  - 99 Cleanup Sites
  - 99 Hazardous Waste
  - 97 Solid Waste
  - 94 Linguistic Isolation
  - 75 Poverty

Average Indicator Percentile Values for Selection



# North Richmond Permitted Hazardous Waste Facilities

- 4 permitted hazardous waste facilities, with 2 projected to have permit decisions in 2024 and 2025



# Cumulative Impacts Assessment Contract

Screening

Scoping

- CalEnviroScreen and EJScreen Analyses
- Identify and subcontract with a local community-based organization(s) (CBOs) in North Richmond

Assessing

- Conduct cumulative impacts assessment

Reporting

Proposals

- Community outreach and engagement
- Draft North Richmond Cumulative Impacts Assessment for review by agencies and community
- Final North Richmond Cumulative Impacts Assessment

Proposals

Monitoring

- A framework for community leadership and shared governance by agencies, to include an independent role for communities to provide recommendations and monitor results

# Objective of Cumulative Impacts Assessment – Benefits to North Richmond

- Nexus to identify planning, regulatory, and decision-making bodies
- “Ground-truthing” existing data with real community concerns
- DTSC and EPA will use final report to:
  - Enhance hazardous waste facility permit decisions
  - Serve as a gateway for ongoing community engagement
  - Help inform future cumulative impacts considerations

Questions

