


Environmental Justice & Safety Elements Community Workshop

May 9, 2024



Introductions



- Cade Cannedy – Climate Resilient Communities
- Geoff Bradley – M-Group

Agenda

1. Elements Overview
2. Planning Process
3. Highlighted Topics in Revised Draft Elements
 - *Environmental Justice Element Implementation Guide*
 - *Anti-Displacement Strategy*
 - *Urban Forest Management Plan*
 - *Civic and Community Engagement*
 - *Safety Element*
4. Next Steps
5. Feedback Activity

Environmental Justice Element Overview

- City is preparing Menlo Park's first Environmental Justice Element
- Environmental justice means that *everyone* should have equal protection and advantages when it comes to the environment around them
- Environmental justice also means that people should be meaningfully involved in the decisions that affect their community

Environmental Justice Element Overview

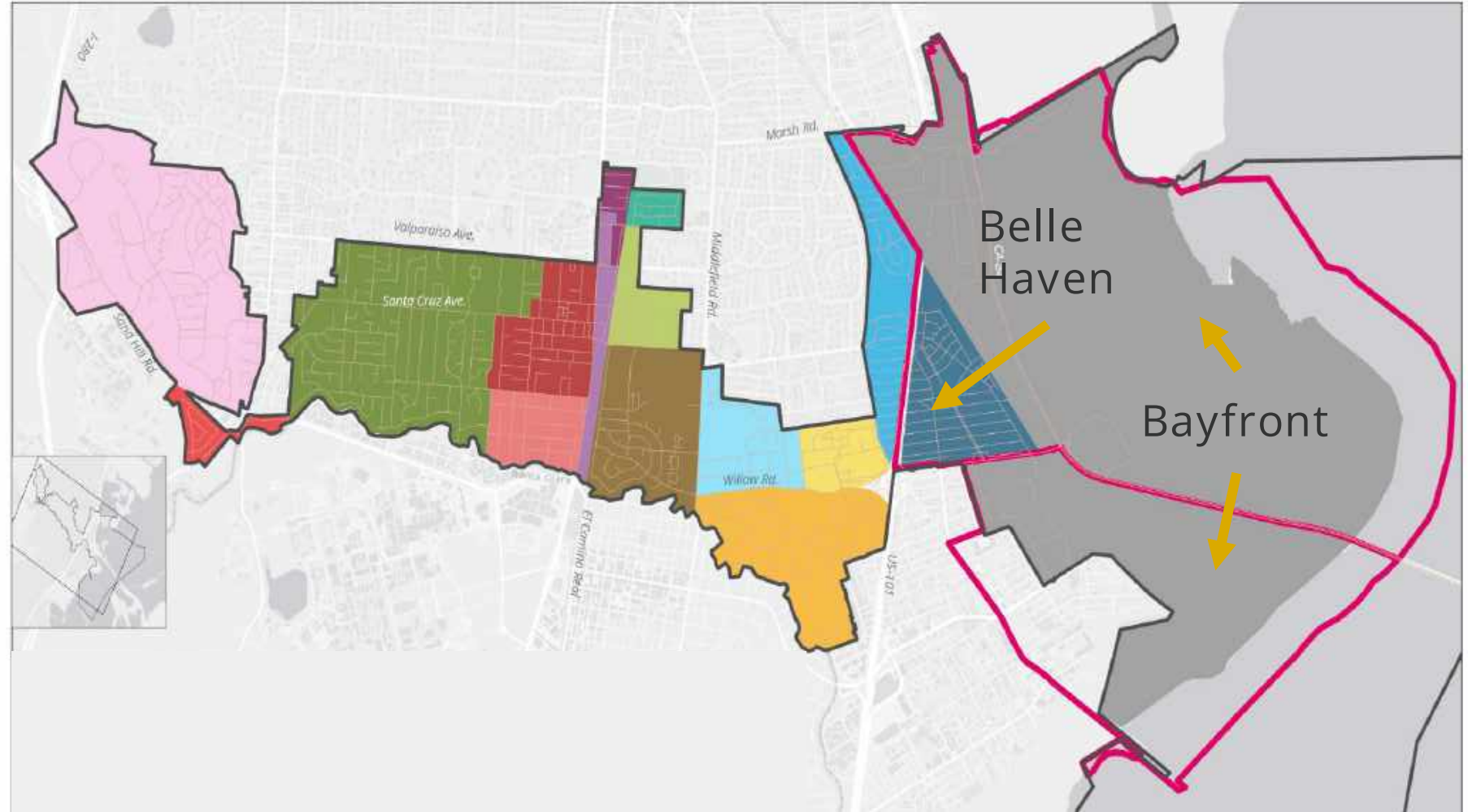
Identify and focus on Underserved Communities

Underserved Communities and Neighborhoods

- Underserved Community**
- Neighborhoods**
 - Allied Arts - Stanford Park
 - Bayfront
 - Belle Haven
 - Central Menlo
 - Downtown
 - El Camino Real Corridor
 - Felton Gables
 - Linfield Oaks
 - Park Forest - Spruce - San Antonio
 - Sharon Heights
 - South of Seminary - Vintage Oaks
 - Stanford Hills
 - Suburban Park - Lorelei Manor - Flood Triangle
 - The Willows
 - VA Medical District
 - West Menlo
- City Boundary**

Projection: NAD83 StatePlane California III FIPS4963 (USFeet)

0 0.2 0.4 Mile



Environmental Justice Element Overview



Safety Element Overview

City is updating the Safety Element

- Primary goal is to identify how to reduce potential risks of injury, property damage, and economic and social disruptions resulting from natural and human-made hazards

Photo Courtesy Yuichi Sakuraba, Flickr

Planning Process

- Community Meetings
February 9 and 10, 2023
- Study Session with Planning Commission and City Council
June 20, 2023
- Housing Element certified by State of California
March 20, 2024
- Tonight!** ■ Community Workshops
May 2 and 9, 2024
- Study Sessions with Planning Commission and City Council
Summer 2024 (Tentative)
- Adoption of Elements
Fall 2024 (Tentative)

Implementation Guide

A list of action items to pursue to improve environmental justice

- Includes community input from the 2023 meetings and study session
- Can be updated to respond to:
 - Emerging community needs
 - New funding opportunities
 - Ongoing community outreach, particularly input from Underserved Communities
 - Progress on action items



Implementation Guide



A list of action items to pursue to improve environmental justice

- Included in Element appendix and will also be on City website
- Improves accountability by being more adaptable to community needs and feedback over time

Anti-Displacement Strategy

Anti-displacement is a key program in the certified Housing Element

- Anti-displacement is a strong community focus
- City and HEART (Housing Endowment and Regional Trust of San Mateo County) are currently developing strategy
- City Council will consider actions and policies including, but not limited to:
 - Tenant education and rights and access to legal counsel
 - Information on rental assistance and new funding sources
 - Expansion of just cause eviction provisions
 - Increase in required rent relocation assistance
- Anti-displacement strategy to be adopted by 2025
 - Community outreach and engagement are integral to development of the strategy – City will perform outreach to encourage participation

Urban Forest Management Plan

The Plan is a roadmap for the City to proactively and effectively maintain long-term benefits from the community's tree canopy

- City is pursuing grant to prepare the Plan
 - Grant requires project completion by March 31, 2028
- Environmental Justice Policy 2.5, Program 2.J, and implementing actions will support the Plan
- Community outreach and engagement will be a significant part of the Plan's development



Photo Courtesy Nicolas Boullosa, Flickr

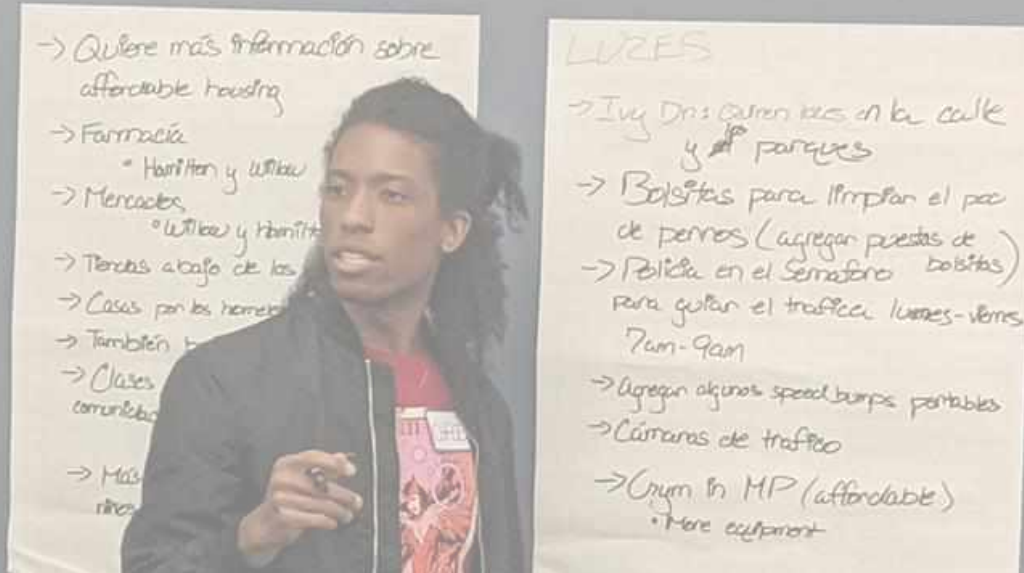
Civic and Community Engagement

Goal 7: Create equitable civic and community engagement

- Promotes stronger inclusivity and accountability
- Includes outreach particularly for Underserved Communities:
 - *Public meetings in Belle Haven*
 - *Outreach and learning hub at Belle Haven Community Campus*
 - *Reporting on progress on key projects and issues*



Civic and Community Engagement



Goal 7: Create equitable civic and community engagement

- Increased community engagement will help make sure the Implementation Guide reflects current community needs

Policies and programs revised to include community feedback

- Revised Policy S1.35 – Disaster Preparedness Planning
 - Multilingual and multimodal outreach in Underserved Communities
- Revised Policy S1.36 – Community Preparedness
 - Support countywide preparedness, response and protection services
- New Program S1.M –Sea Level Rise Planning
 - Collaborate with other agencies to develop a sea level rise plan as part of a subregional San Francisco Bay shoreline resiliency plan
- No changes to Open Space/Conservation and Noise Elements

Next Steps

- **Study Sessions with Planning Commission and City Council**
 - Summer 2024 (Tentative)
 - Reviewing documents and feedback from community workshops
 - Project team will make edits to the elements afterwards as directed in study sessions
- **Adoption of Elements**
 - Fall 2024 (Tentative)
 - Planning Commission review
 - City Council review and adoption

Please attend meetings to learn updates and provide feedback

menlopark.gov/housingelement

Feedback Activity

- Break into small groups (no more than 10 per group)
- Facilitator will walk you through the worksheet activity
 - First, rank the programs based on importance to you and the community. Apply one number to each (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc.)
 - For example, if there are four options the most important program will be one and the least important will be four
 - In the box, explain why you chose your top and bottom choice
 - Facilitator will capture key notes on posters (5 - 10 minutes per worksheet page)

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Washington, D.C., with a semi-transparent blue overlay. The text is centered in the blue band.

Thank you for attending the
Environmental Justice & Safety Elements
Community Workshop!

