



# Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning Green Zones Program



## What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice (EJ) means fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people specifically in the frame of environmental policies. It concerns pollution impact and its risks that disproportionately burden disadvantaged communities and sensitive receptors. The Green Zones Program will provide a set of land use tools and implementation plans to address EJ issues within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.



### Land Use Policy

EJ issues are inherently related to land use incompatibility and regulations. Toxic pollutants emitted near residential neighborhoods or schools pose serious threats on public health as well as the environment. The Green Zones Program will include land use policies and zoning regulations to help improve such conditions in neighborhoods.



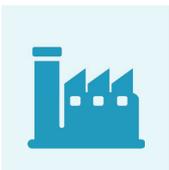
### Community Engagement

The Green Zones Program will be developed through a rigorous community engagement process that raises awareness of environmental justice. Groundtruthing activities in the pilot communities, in partnership with community-based organizations and residents, will help document environmental hazards block-by-block and inform the Program's land use policies and toxic hotspots map.



### Toxic Hotspots Map

The Green Zones Program's toxic hotspots map will identify stationary sources of pollution and analyze cumulative environmental impacts, based on experts' recommendations and the information gathered from groundtruthing activities. This tool will serve as a public resource and provide a foundation for environmental justice policies.



### Prevention and Mitigation

Prevention and mitigation strategies are important in environmental justice. The Green Zones Program seeks to develop ways to improve coordination among various regulatory agencies and to support businesses to become better neighbors, helping to mitigate current and prevent future environmental impacts.

\*The work upon which this publication is based was funded in part through a grant awarded by the California Strategic Growth Council.