



City of Minneapolis Green Zones Working Group

Environmental Justice Training

July 2016

**Center for Earth, Energy and
Democracy**



Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy

CEED's mission is to ensure that communities and policy makers have the tools and information they need to create just, sustainable energy and environmental policy.

- Climate and Energy Policy
- Community Planning
- Trainings and Education

Green Zones Timeline

2012
Minneapolis
Climate Action Plan
EJ Working Group

February 2014
CEAC recommends
Green Zones

March 2014
Included in
Minneapolis Energy
Pathways Study

February 2016
Minneapolis City
Council establishes
Green Zones
Workgroup

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

June 2013
Green Zones
adopted into MCAP
by City Council

March 2014
Green Zones on City
two-year priority
list

2015 HIA
community steering
committee

Each piece was advocated for by community and EJ organizations



Environmental Justice

Disproportionate Burdens

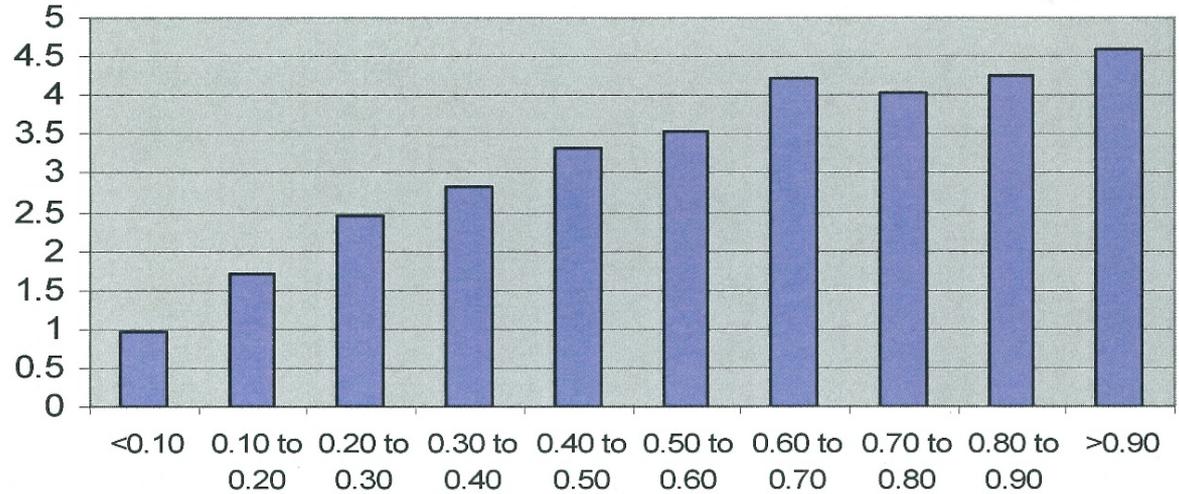
- Exposures and risks to environmental pollutants
- Enforcement and regulation
- Siting
- Access to environmental amenities



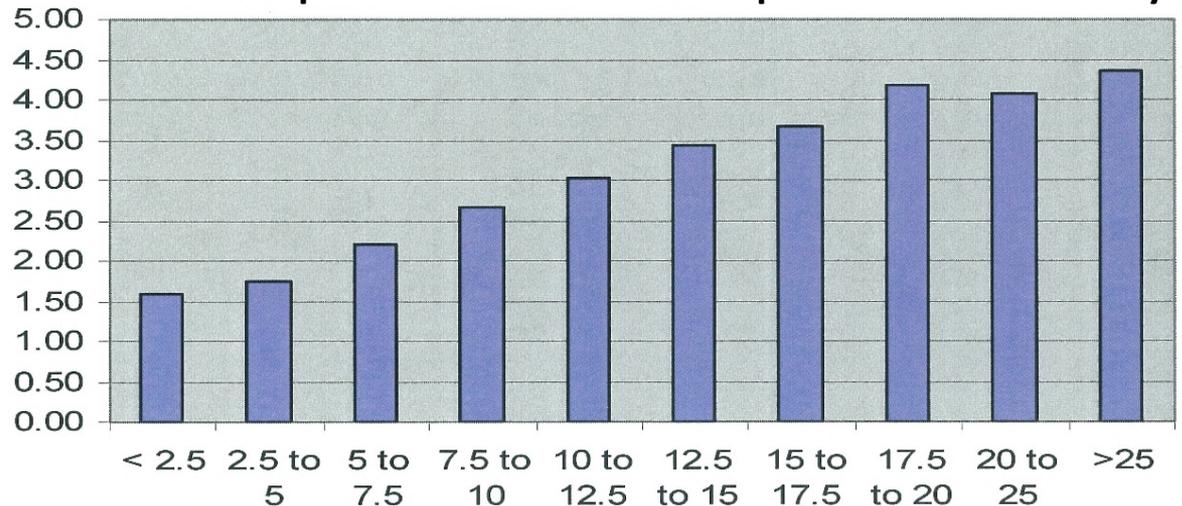
Relationship between Cumulative Impact and Socio-economic Indicators

- Grouped all block groups based on percent minority and poverty
- Calculated cumulative impact score for combined groups
- Cumulative impact scores increase steadily with increased percent poverty and minority

Relationship Between Cumulative Impact & Percent Minority



Relationship Between Cumulative Impact & Percent Poverty



From Dr .Nicky Sheats,
Thomas S. Watson Institute
for Public Policy, Thomas
Edison State University, NJEJA

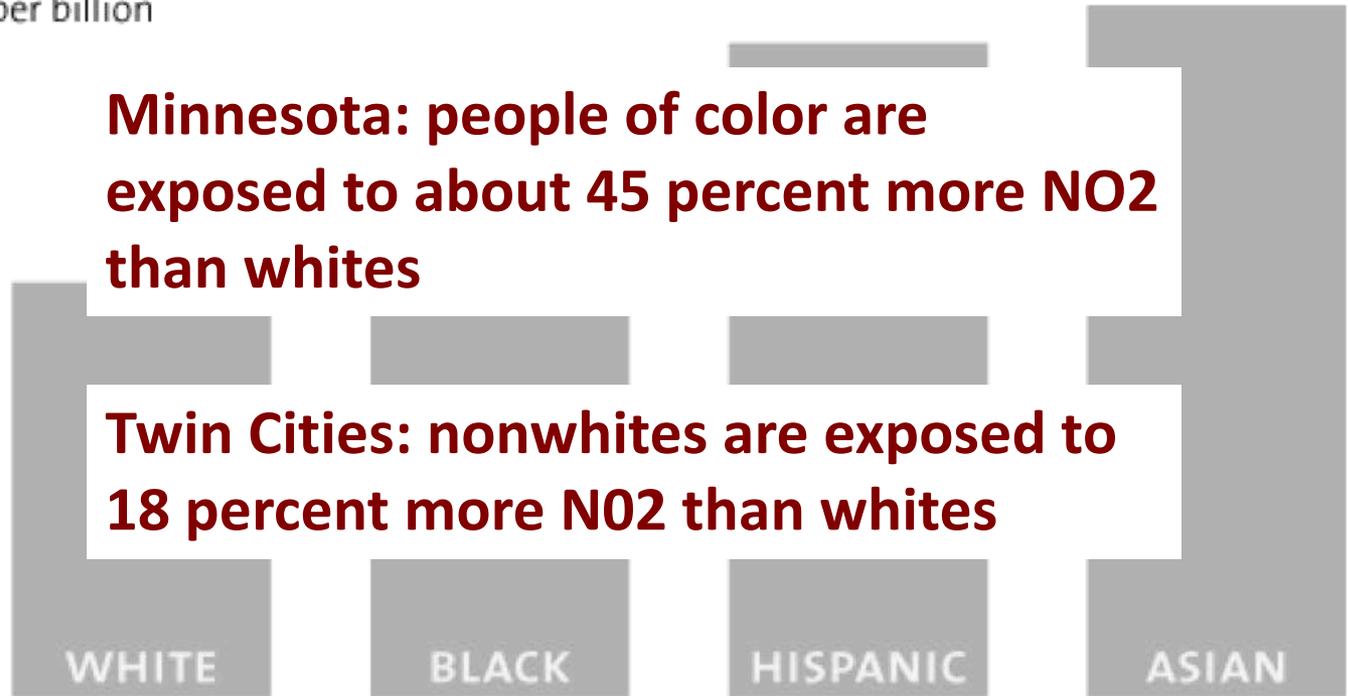
People of color are exposed to 46% more nitrogen dioxide pollution each year than white people.

Average NO₂ exposure
in parts per billion

15 ppb

10 ppb

5 ppb



Minnesota: people of color are exposed to about 45 percent more NO₂ than whites

Twin Cities: nonwhites are exposed to 18 percent more NO₂ than whites

Source: Clark, Millet, and Marshall, "National Patterns in Environmental Injustice and Inequality: Outdoor NO₂ Air Pollution in the United States," PLOS One, 2014.







EJ : Integration

- Environmental Vulnerability
- Health Vulnerability
- Social and Economic Vulnerability

Neighborhood A

Neighborhood B

11 per acre

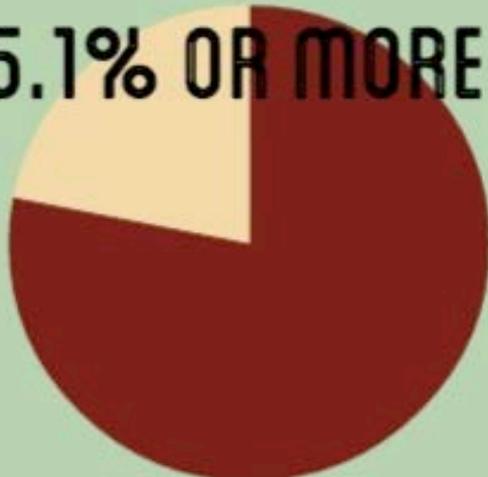


Population Density

3 per acre



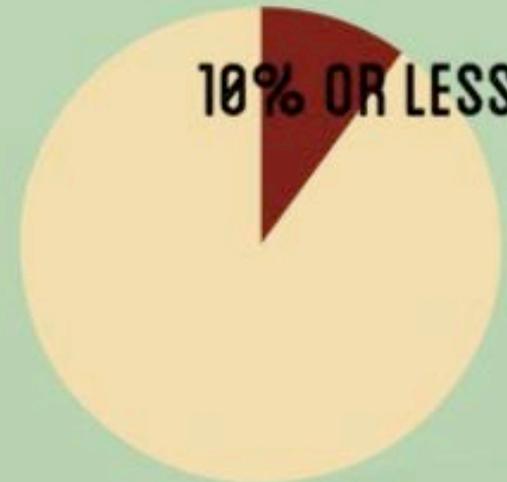
75.1% OR MORE



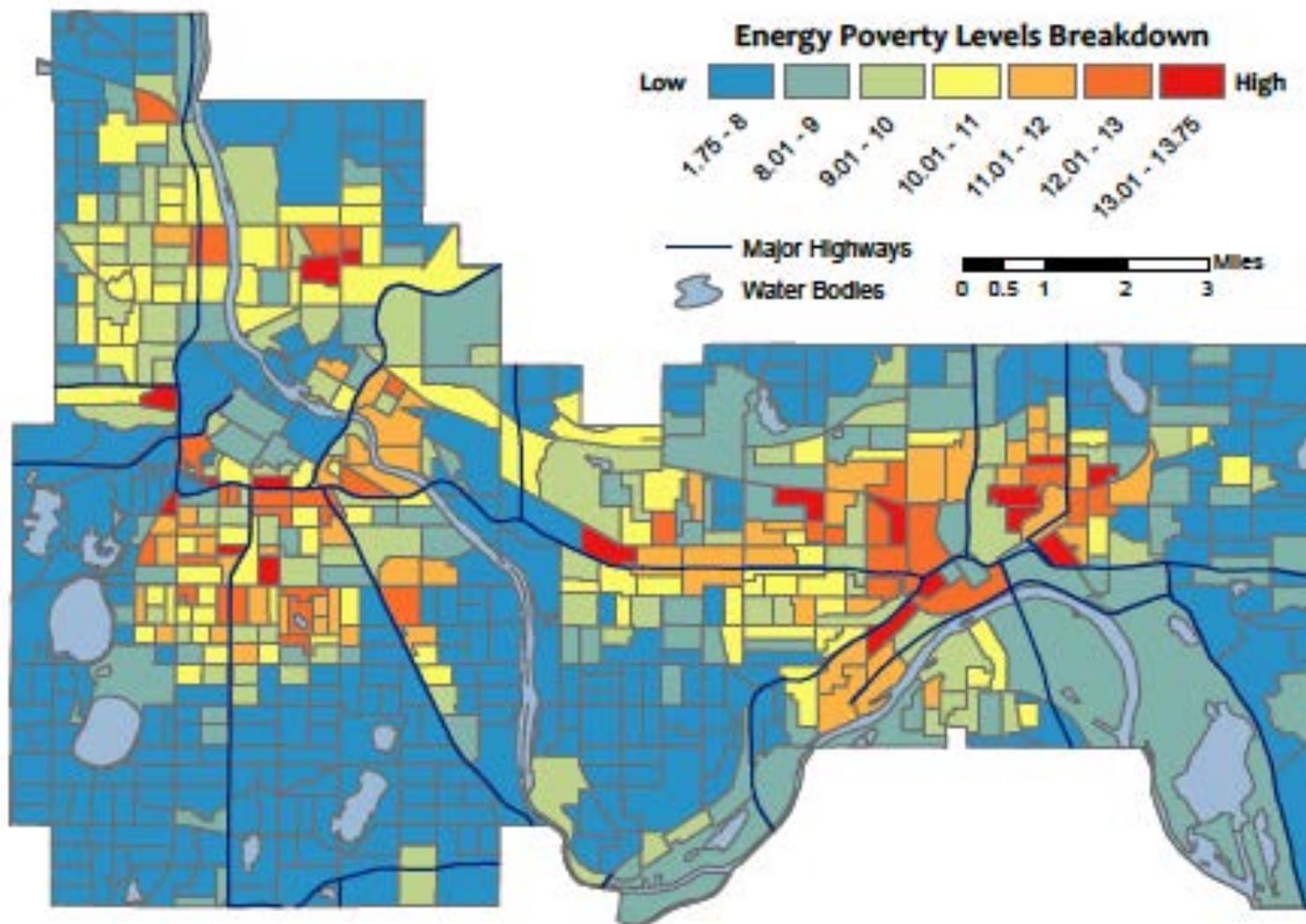
Percentage of People of Color



10% OR LESS



Vulnerability to Energy Poverty in the Twin Cities, MN





The Green Zone Initiative



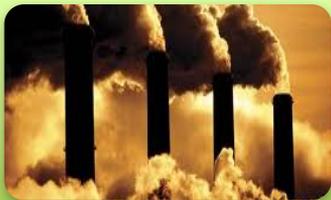
Targets overburdened communities



Utilizes a place-based framework



Directs coordinated, diverse resources toward place-based planning and policy



An organized transition – From “Hot Spot” to sustainability

THE Clean Up Green Up (CUGU) SOLUTION



- Community-driven planning process
- Responsive agencies and policy making
- Three pronged strategy:
 - **Prevent**
 - **Reduce**
 - **Revitalize**



BUSINESS INCENTIVES

- **CREATION OF
OMBUDSPERSON**

PLANNING & LAND USE

- **GREEN ZONES (SUD)**
- **CITYWIDE: REFINERIES**

BUILDING & SAFETY

- **CITYWIDE: AIR FILTERS**
- **CITYWIDE: WINDOWS**



GREEN ZONE SELECTION

New Enclosures

SO_x

PM₁₀

NO_x

PM

CO

PM_{2.5}

Confine harmful materials to enclosed storage areas with mechanical ventilation to prevent fugitive emissions

clean
↑
GREEN
UP



City Wide Planning Standard

1. Conditional use permits for oil refineries and asphalt manufacturing / buffer zones



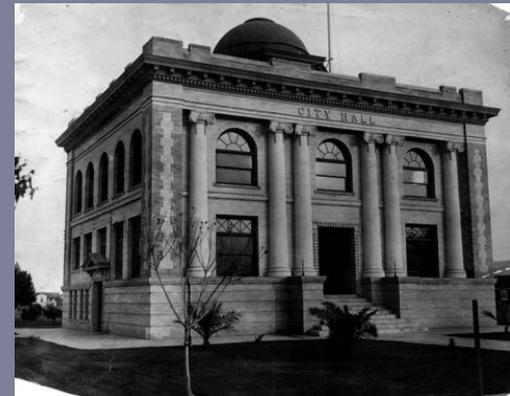
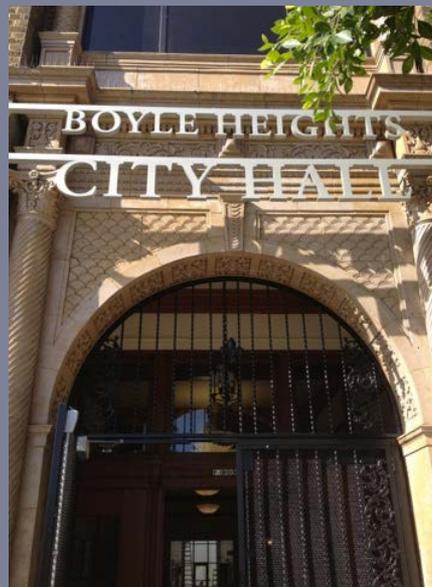


City Wide Building & Safety Standard

2. High-grade air filters for housing & developments near freeways / public health signage

HEALTHY ECONOMY: THE OMBUDSPERSON

- ✓ More aid in complying with current environmental regulations
- ✓ Assistance accessing financial and technical resources available through public sector programs





Components/Indicators of A Healthy Community



Fish Bowl

Each of you represents a sector in Minneapolis, you were selected to the Working Group for that role.

- 1 City Agency Rep
- 1 Business Rep
- 1 Community Rep
- 1 HIA or City Committee Rep

QUESTION:

From your perspective what are some important elements the Green Zones should have?



***“Justice should not be left to chance
in environmental policy”***

– Dr. Nicky Sheats, JD, PhD

Thank You!

Shalini Gupta & Dr. Cecilia Martinez

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sgupta@ceed.org

www.ceed.org