ACTION

Agenda Item #8a

January 29, 2018

Subject: Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant Recommendations

Reporting Period: December 2017 – January 2018

Staff Lead: TCC Program Staff

Recommended Action

Approve staff recommendation to award $1,623,960 in FY 2016-17 Proposition 84 funding to ten (10) projects for the Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grants Program to undertake land use planning and related activities. The ten planning grant applications are shown in Attachment 1.

Summary

The Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grants Program aimed to award up to ten (10) planning grants to support planning activities in disadvantaged communities statewide. During this initial funding cycle we received a total of 19 applications. Funding for the Planning Grants was allocated from the SGC's Sustainable Communities Planning Grants and Incentives Program, which is funded through Proposition 84 funds. The Planning Grants are intended to fund activities that are defined in an existing regional or local plan and that will occur in disadvantaged communities that may be eligible for future TCC Implementation Grants, or other California Climate Investment (CCI) programs. This staff report provides an overview of the TCC Planning Grants Program, the application process for the FY 2016-2017 funding round, and a summary of the applications recommended for award.

Background

On September 14, 2016, Governor Brown signed AB 2722 (Burke), which created the Transformative Climate Communities Program, a grant program administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) for broad-based greenhouse gas emission reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental and health benefits to disadvantaged communities.

The TCC Program is a California Climate Investment (CCI) program administered by the SGC in partnership with the Department of Conservation and other State agencies. The Program will fund two types of grants for FY 2016-17: Implementation Grants and Planning Grants. The SGC will award approximately $140 million in competitive funding through cap and trade for Implementation Grants. The SGC will also award approximately $1.5 million in Proposition 84 funding for Planning Grants to fund planning activities in disadvantaged communities that may be eligible for future TCC Implementation Grants.

On June 27, 2017, Governor Brown signed SB 92 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review), which exempts all Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Program guidelines from Administrative Procedures Act Requirements for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, including the TCC Program. On August 24, 2017, the SGC adopted the 2016-2017 TCC Program Guidelines. The technical amendments that made non-substantial changes to the Implementation Grant requirements were adopted by the SGC on October 23, 2017. Section III of the TCC Program Guidelines outlines the Program Requirements for the Planning Grants including eligibility, program objectives, application process, scoring, and grant administration.

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announcing that applications were being accepted for Planning Grant funding for the TCC Program was released on August 28, 2016, by the SGC staff. The deadline for applicants to submit Planning Grant applications was on November 30, 2017.

2016-2017 Funding Round: Application Process

For this funding round, applicants were required to answer a series of narrative questions in FAAST that described:

1) How their planned activities are consistent with a regional plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy, or a local planning document;
2) How their planned activities will improve outcomes for vulnerable residents in the Planning Area;
3) How their planned activities will advance the SGC's sustainable communities objectives and are consistent with the state's planning priorities; and
4) How their planned activities will assist the applicant in meeting the transformative requirements of the TCC Implementation Grant proposal.

Applicants were also required to upload a series of attachments, including a map of the project area comprised of Census Tracts that rank within the top twenty-five (25) percent disadvantaged communities, per CalEnviroScreen 3.0, letters of intent and support that detail how the Lead and Co-applicants will divide up the proposed tasks, and an Excel workbook with detailed and summary budgets and work plans for all of the proposed tasks.

Application Review Process:

We received a total of 19 applications for funding, a complete list of all applicants is included in Attachment 2- Planning Grant Scores. All applications were reviewed according to the following process:

<u>Completeness Check</u>

After receiving the planning grant applications, TCC program staff reviewed the workbooks and project area maps to determine whether the budgets in the workbook were completed correctly and whether the project area was eligible. For ten of the 19 applications, TCC staff identified problems with either the workbook or project area map. Applicants were given 48 hours to correct the problems and re-submit any application materials.

TCC Program Staff Review

The TCC program staff reviewed the eligibility of all applicants. The program staff also determined whether the applicants had provided a suitable regional and/or local plan to define the planning area, and also whether the selected planning area is comprised of Census Tracts that rank within the top twenty-five percent of CalEnviroScreen 3.0, as is required by the program guidelines.

Interagency Review Panel

The TCC program staff developed a scoring rubric for the planning grants by using the scoring criteria listed in the guidelines. Staff also developed detailed instructions for the interagency review panel to provide direction on how to assign scores for the Planning Grant applications.

There were a total of nine (9) reviewers from eight (8) different agencies and departments that reviewed the planning grant applications. The reviewers were divided into two teams; Team 1 read ten applications and Team 2 read nine applications. Both teams met separately and came to a consensus on the scores they were assigning to the applications.

Full Panel Deliberation

Following the review of the applications by each team, the full interagency review panel came together for a final deliberation. During this meeting, the scores from both teams were displayed side by side and the top ten scoring applications were identified. The two teams presented summaries of the ten applications that scored the highest, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of each.

Award Recommendations

In the interest of equitably distributing available funding, TCC program staff recommends funding each of the top ten proposals up to $170,000. The Moreno Valley application requested a significantly smaller grant amount, and is the only applicant that is being recommended for the full amount requested. Although applicants will receive less funding than originally requested, this distribution allows the SGC to fund a greater number of grants across a broader geography throughout the state.

Geographic Distribution

The 2016-2017 Planning Grant award recommendations reflect a diversity of geographic regions across the state with three awards in the Bay Area, two awards in Los Angeles County, two awards in the Inland Valley, two awards in Central California, and one award to the Coachella Valley. Awards are fairly evenly distributed across key regions throughout the state with high percentages of disadvantaged communities.

If additional funds are made available for future Planning Grants, TCC Program Staff will commit to conducting targeted outreach and stakeholder engagement to communities in the San Joaquin

Valley as well as in other Southern California Regions that are under-represented, including the Inland Valley, Coachella Valley, and Imperial Valley.

Key Policy Issues Next Round

Improvements to the Planning Grant Application and Instructions

The SGC will provide greater clarity as to what constitutes an acceptable planning area and the steps necessary for an applicant to demonstrate their planning area. The SGC will also amend the budget and work plan workbook so that applicants can provide a greater level of detail regarding their proposed activities.

Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for the Planning Grants are much broader than the Implementation Grant requirements. Considerations for future funding rounds could include incorporating minimum and/or maximum planning area sizes to be more in alignment with Implementation Grant project area requirements, and adjustments to disadvantaged communities Census Tracts requirements.

Technical Assistance

Due to limited funding the SGC was unable to provide technical assistance to applicants to the TCC Planning Grant Programs. Making technical assistance available to Planning Grant applicants for future rounds may help promote a more competitive pool of applications from regions in the state that are underrepresented in this year's funding recommendations.

Next Steps

Following approval by the Council of the proposed recommendations for award, SGC staff and Department of Conservation will work with applicants to develop grant agreements and review grant administration procedures to help applicants initiate their planning work. The Department of Conservation will oversee the grant administration. Additionally, SGC staff will work with each of the 10 grant recipients to provide technical assistance to support the implementation of their planning activities.

Attachments

1. TCC Planning Grant Award Recommendations and Summaries
2. TCC Planning Grant Scores
3. Map of FY 2016-2017 Planning Grant Awards and Planning Areas

Attachment 1:
TCC Planning Grant Award Recommendations and Summaries

Lead Applicant (Jurisdiction)	Award Amount
1. City of Oakland (East Oakland)	$170,000
2. Sacramento Area Council of Governments	$170,000
3. Los Angeles County (City of East Los Angeles)	$170,000
4. Riverside County (City of Riverside)	$170,000
5. City of Stockton (City of Stockton)	$170,000
6. Richmond (City of Richmond)	$170,000
7. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (Multiple)	$170,000
8. Bay Area Air Quality Mitigation District (West Oakland)	$170,000
9. City of Moreno Valley (Moreno Valley)	$93,960
10. Gateway Cities Council of Governments (Multiple)	$170,000
TOTAL	**$1,623,960**[1]

1. City of Oakland (East Oakland)

For this project, the City of Oakland will partner with multiple community-based organizations to develop the East Oakland Resilient Neighborhoods Initiative that advances the environmental, economic, and social justice priorities of six East Oakland neighborhoods, namely Highland/Elmhurst, Sobrante Park, Stonehurst, Brookfield Village/Columbia Gardens, Coliseum/Rudsdale/Lockwood/Havenscourt, and Melrose. The proposed Initiative process will allow residents to review past planning documents and prioritize projects that are most relevant for their neighborhoods and that reduce GHG emissions, while improving public health and economic opportunities.

The interagency review panel rated the meaningful and intensive involvement of community organizations as one of the chief strengths of this proposal.

2. Sacramento Area Council of Governments (Franklin Community)

This application proposes to bring together the public, non-profit, and community partners from the Franklin community, which is divided between the City and County of Sacramento, to develop a playbook of implementation strategies to improve the community. The playbook will include plans for infrastructure, transportation, climate adaptation, economic development, and infill housing development projects and strategies that support economic growth, social equity, and greenhouse gas reduction, while also protecting against displacement. Planning activities will also

[1] In reviewing the program funding available, additional funds were identified from an unused portion of the SGC's Sustainable Communities Planning Grants Incentive Program, allowing the total award amount to exceed the initial $1.5 million available for TCC Planning Grants.

strengthen coordination and communication between non-profits, public agencies, businesses and residents.

Strengths of this proposal included the close alignment of the proposed activities with existing planning documents. The application also included an extensive list of community and organizational partners, as well as a plan for engaging the partners during the planning activities and potentially during the application for an implementation grant.

3. Los Angeles County (Unincorporated East Los Angeles)

The project addresses two major challenges for the unincorporated community of East Los Angeles - displacement and climate change - through community ownership and land stewardship. The project will lay the groundwork for a community land trust (CLT) and encourage sustainable food systems through the following: a survey of privately- and publicly-owned property; a property viability assessment; community visioning exercises; and community engagement around culturally appropriate forms of growing, cooking, and sharing food. The project will prepare the County and its community partners to implement the community-land trust, while addressing pressing health issues in East Los Angeles, including food insecurity and the urban heat island effect. Project outcomes will include a CLT business plan, community agriculture curriculum, tree plan, site assessment and vision report, and recommendations for planning tools to enable these uses.

The project was highly ranked because of its attention to community engagement activities, the overall level of project readiness, and the panel's belief that the activities proposed will assist Los Angeles County in applying for a future TCC Implementation Grant.

4. Riverside County (City of Riverside)

The Green Light Riverside proposal will facilitate capacity building to develop a future TCC Implementation Grant application by proposing a combination of activities including development of a strong collaborative stakeholder structure, planning for a fiscal management system, development of a community engagement plan, City and County policy evaluation and improvements that may benefit a future application, and development of goals and strategies for a future application. These activities will provide a pathway to develop neighborhood-level environmental, public health, workforce, and economic benefits over the Planning Area.

A major strength of this proposal is that it demonstrates a high level of readiness to implement and the activities proposed directly link to requirements needed to apply for a future TCC Implementation Grant.

5. City of Stockton (City of Stockton)

The project proposes to conduct outreach and community engagement that will focus on youth, communities of color, and low-income households within the planning area to create a Sustainable Neighborhood Plan that identifies planning area residents' priorities related to the City's 2014 Climate Action Plan (CAP). Outreach and community engagement will be conducted by six community-based organizations, two planning area residents (Community Climate Leaders), city staff, and a FUSE fellow from the Mayor's office. Feedback from the outreach activities will be used to develop the Sustainable Neighborhood Plan to identify future GHG-reducing strategies and projects.

The proposal ranked well because the application demonstrated strong partnerships and community engagement, and the Sustainable Neighborhood Plan would the aide the City in developing a proposal for a future TCC Grant and/or other CCI program grants.

6. City of Richmond (City of Richmond)

The Planning for a Resilient Richmond project proposes to strengthen stakeholder support for integrated climate projects by building a coalition of diverse stakeholders from the Iron Triangle, Coronado, and Santa Fe neighborhoods. Through a series of convening and focus groups, organized and led by the City of Richmond, Richmond Community Foundation, and The Trust for Public Land, Climate Action Plan priorities will be layered into and expand upon current sustainable streets initiatives (i.e. Richmond Wellness Trail) and community revitalization projects to maximize human and environmental benefits.

The project will result in a Resilience Road Map that identifies priority projects that will be ready to be implemented over the next 5-10 years, and an initial schematic design of Phase 1 of the wellness trail.

The proposal strengths included activities that it builds upon the City's existing Climate Action Plan, and it has a strong community engagement component proposed during the planning process.

7. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (Multiple)

The Coachella Valley Association of Governments and the City of Coachella, along with Riverside County, propose to develop the Eastern Coachella Valley Climate Resilience Action Plan. Development of the Plan will involve combining existing planning documents, such as general plans, neighborhood specific mobility plans, the Sustainable Communities Strategy and the Coachella Valley Active Transportation Plan, into one master plan. Policy and program gaps will also be identified. By creating a master plan, the region will be able to identify and prioritize affordable housing, transportation, green infrastructure and park projects that would be competitive for future climate investment opportunities and capitalize on the interconnected nature of the region.

This is a unique application that proposes to improve planning activities in a rural area of the state. The activities proposed will better prepare the region to be competitive for future California Climate Investment program funds.

8. Bay Area Air Quality Mitigation District (West Oakland)

This application will fund a community participatory design process to launch the Adapt Oakland Green Infrastructure Masterplan for air pollution mitigation in West Oakland that was completed in 2016 and funded by the SGC. This project will result in the installation of green infrastructure strategies along the freeway corridor in the Prescott neighborhood, which is a hotspot of air pollution. The neighborhood is currently home to an affordable housing development, and there are plans for additional low-income housing units and an elementary school, all downwind of the freeway. The grant will fund the community participatory research and design phases of the outreach and education, as well as citizen science, multi-stakeholder advocacy and engagement, and the development of a design and implementation plan. It is the intention that this project will create a community-scale pilot for one neighborhood that can be used as a framework for health and citizen-science driven environmental justice projects.

The strengths of this project include its strong partnerships with community-led and academic science organizations, and its potential to inform the policy discussion around air quality mitigation efforts for neighborhoods near freeways.

9. City of Moreno Valley (Moreno Valley)

The City of Moreno Valley applied for a planning grant from the Strategic Growth Council's (SGC) Transformative Climate Communities Program to fund the creation of an outreach "toolkit" that can be used to engage the residents of the City. The engagement activities will target disadvantaged communities in the top 25% Census Tracts as defined by CalEnviroScreen 3.0. The toolkit will be used as part of the efforts to update the Moreno Valley's General Plan. The activities can also be used to help the city apply for a future Implementation Grant from the SGC.

The strengths of this project are its emphasis on developing a wide array of community engagement and outreach tools that can be used to help the City of Moreno Valley apply for and receive funding from multiple California Climate Investment programs.

10. Gateway Cities Council of Governments (Multiple)

The Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) applied for a planning grant from the Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities Program to help fund the development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) Framework for its member jurisdictions. The CAP Framework will include tools that cities can use to prepare their own CAPs. The Climate Action Opportunity Assessment and Readiness Plan will identify additional sustainability funding opportunities that the COG's members can pursue. Through outreach and technical assistance, Gateway COG will prepare its jurisdictions to address the state's GHG reduction priorities and programs.

The strengths of this application are its efforts to create a comprehensive planning document that can help all of the member jurisdictions in the Gateway COG apply for future California Climate Investment funding and other grants that are targeted towards climate action planning.

Attachment 2:

TCC Planning Grant Scores

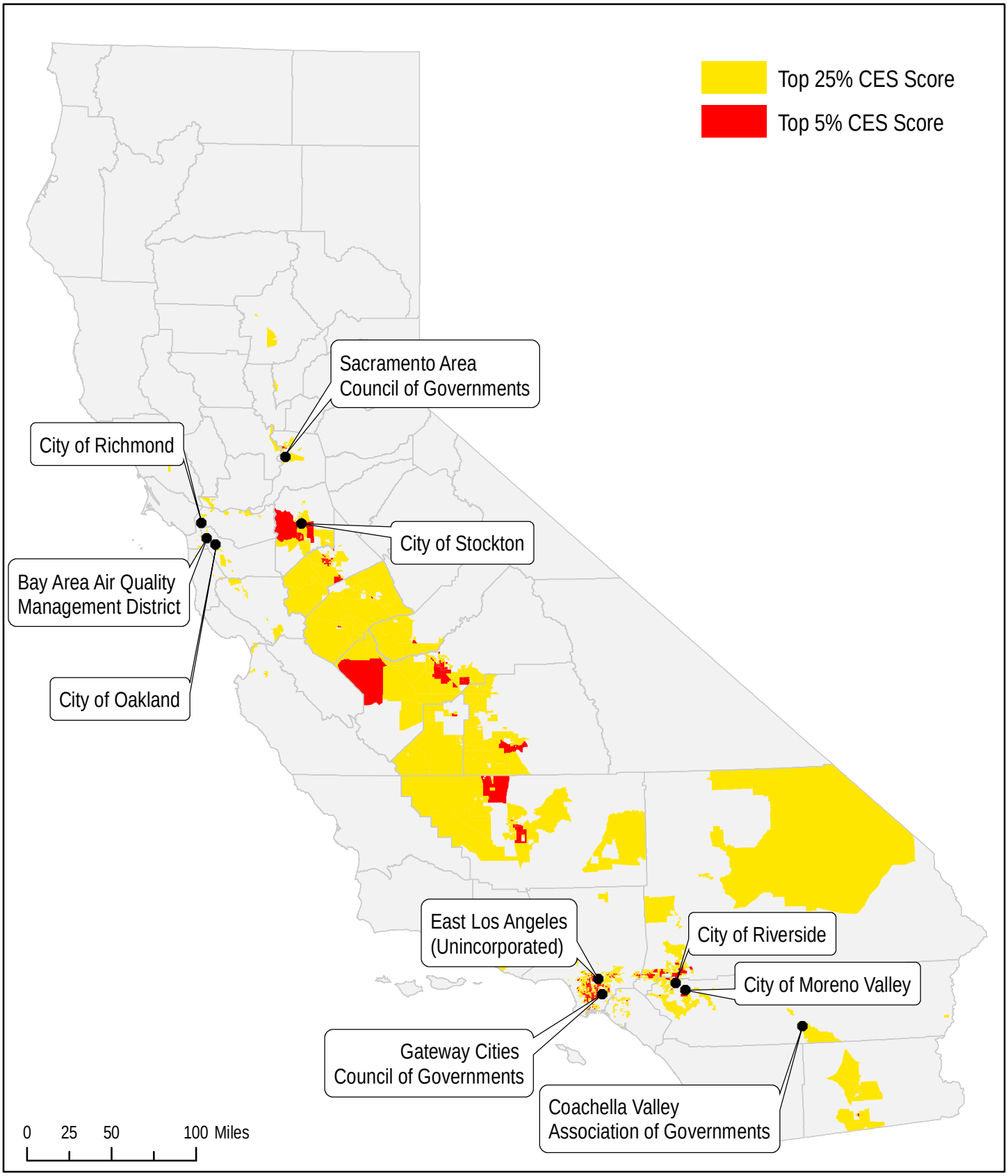
Lead Applicant (Jurisdiction)	Amount Requested	Score
1. City of Oakland (East Oakland)	$ 249,993	**91.0**
2. Sacramento Area Council of Governments	$ 181,663	**84.7**
3. Los Angeles County (City of East Los Angeles)	$ 250,000	**84.5**
4. Riverside County (City of Riverside)	$ 250,000	**83.7**
5. City of Stockton (City of Stockton)	$ 249,317	**82.5**
6. Richmond (City of Richmond)	$ 245,860	**82.0**
7. Coachella Valley Association of Governments (Multiple)	$ 250,000	**80.3**
8. Bay Area Air Quality Mitigation District (West Oakland)	$ 250,000	**76.7**
9. City of Moreno Valley (Moreno Valley)	$ 93,960	**75.3**
10. Gateway Cities Council of Governments (Multiple)	$ 249,997	**72.7**
11. Selma	$ 148,977	72
12. Fresno	$ 250,000	71.5
13. West Sac	$ 199,850	70.0
14. South El Monte	$ 190,658	69.7
15. Kern	$ 244,561	65.5
16. Long Beach	$ 134,263	65
17. San Fernando	$ 241,100	63
18. Whittier	$ 156,808	59
19. Cudahy	$ 167,047	49.3

Attachment 3

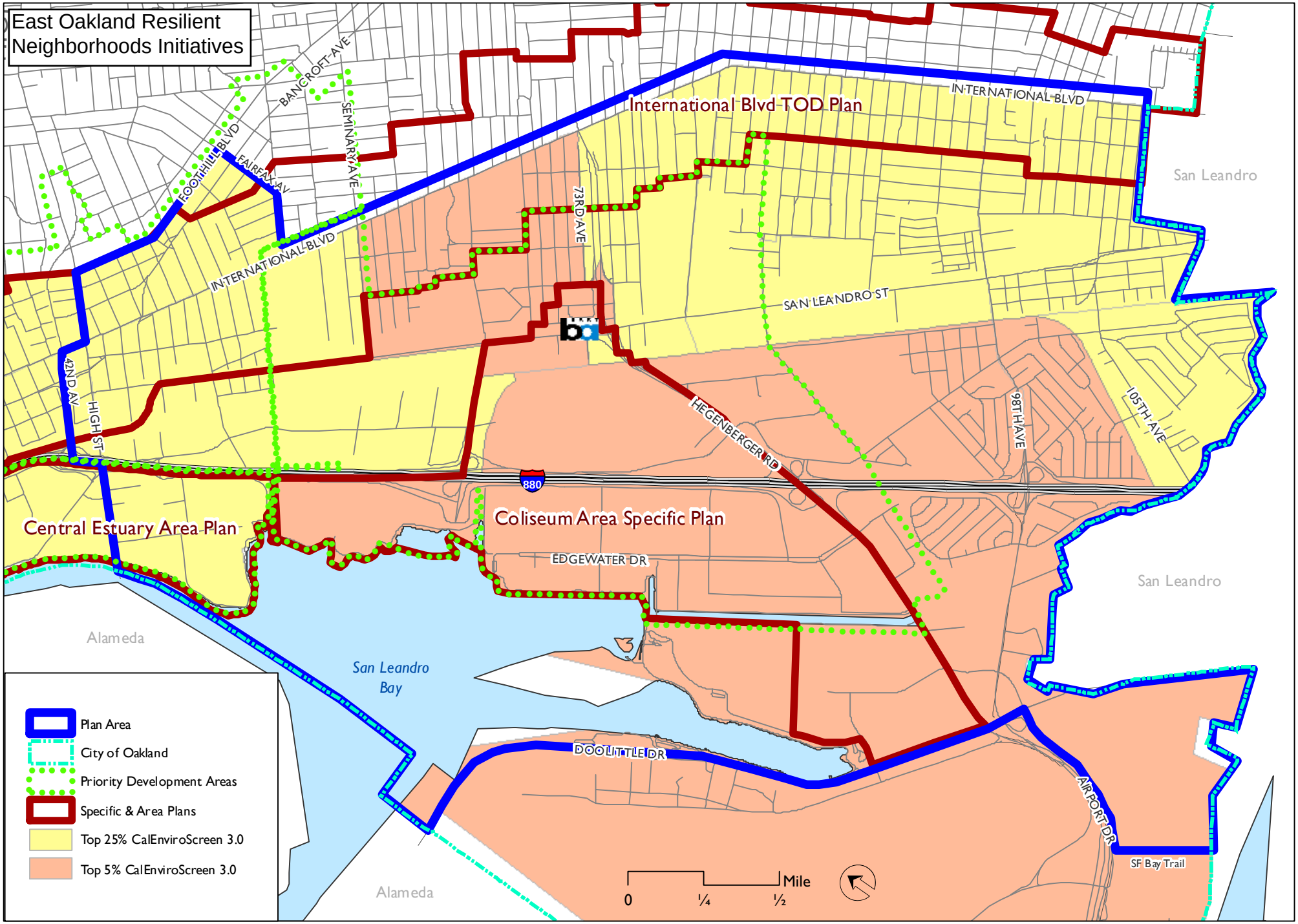
Map of FY 2016-2017
Planning Grant Awards and Planning Areas

Proposed Planning Grant Awards

Transformative Climate Communities Program, FY 16/17



Data regarding disadvantaged communities was obtained from the CalEnviroScreen (CES) 3.0 Tool, developed by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). CES data and reports can be found here: https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30 .



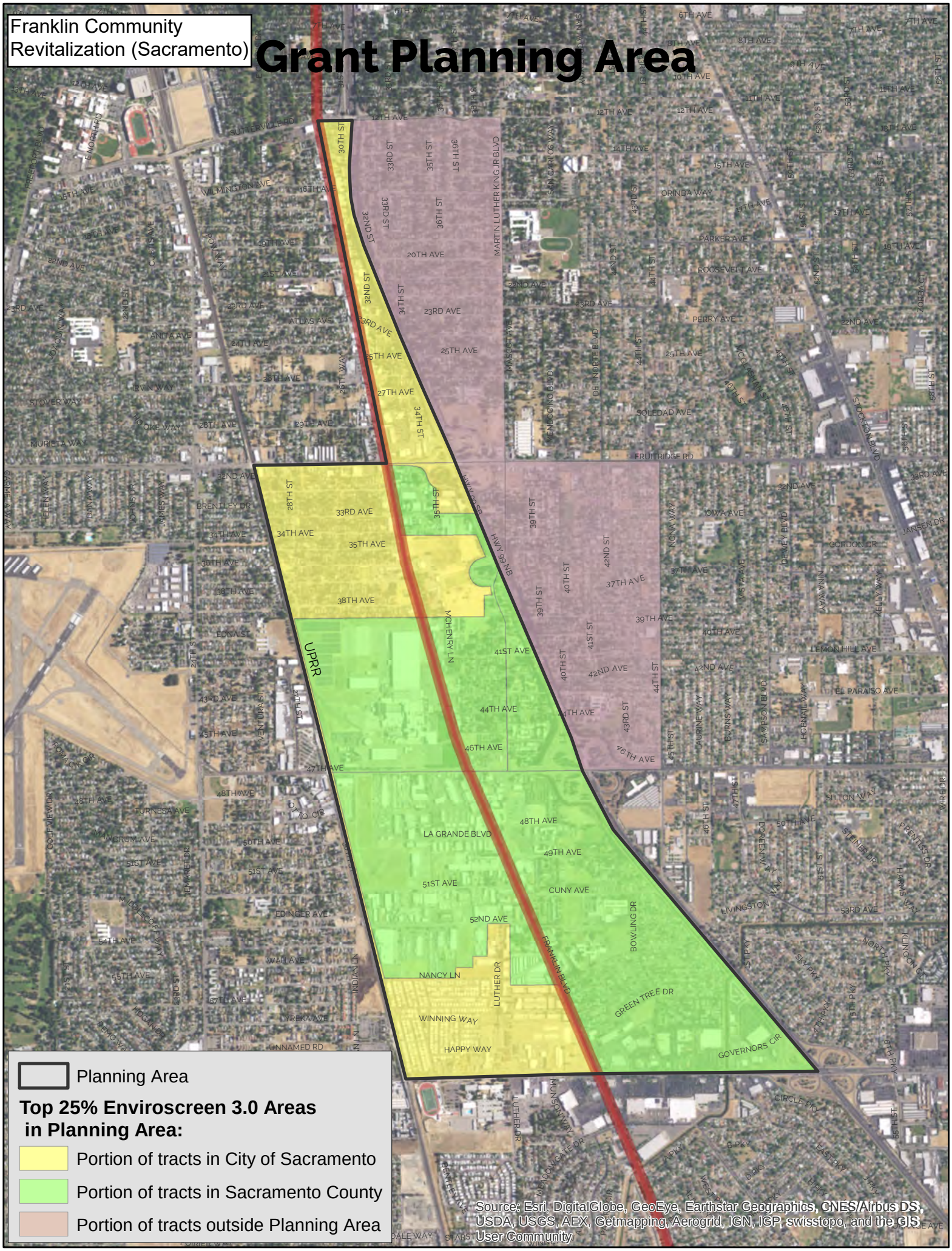
Transformative Climate Communities Grant

Map 1. Planning Area

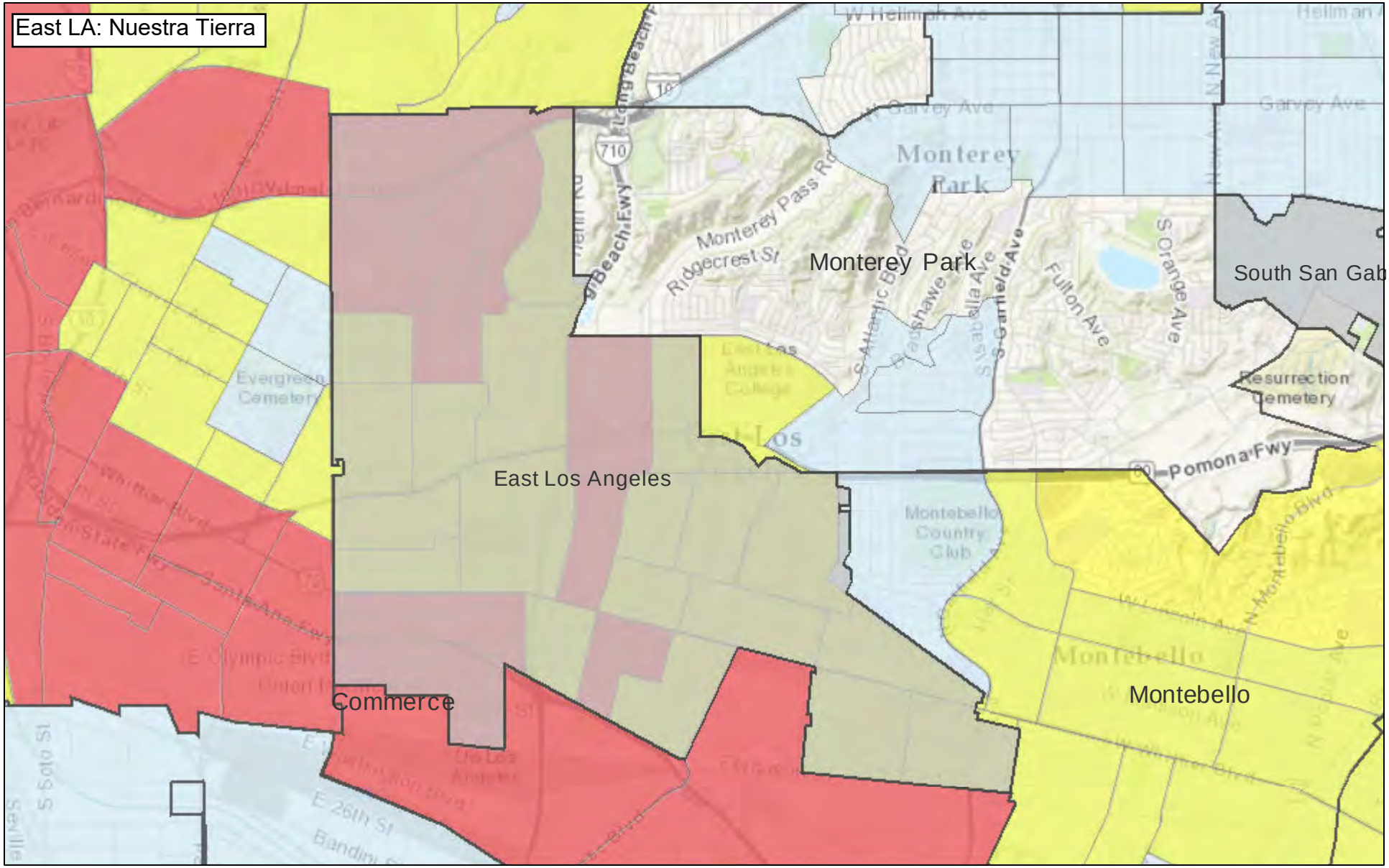
Planning and Building Department
November 2017

Franklin Community Revitalization (Sacramento)

Grant Planning Area



CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Top 5% & 25% Census Tracts in East Los Angeles



November 30, 2017

Incorporated Places

Census Designated Places

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Top 5%

Override 1

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Top 25%

Override 1

low_income_only

1:57,779

0 0.475 0.95 1.9 mi

0 0.5 1 2 km

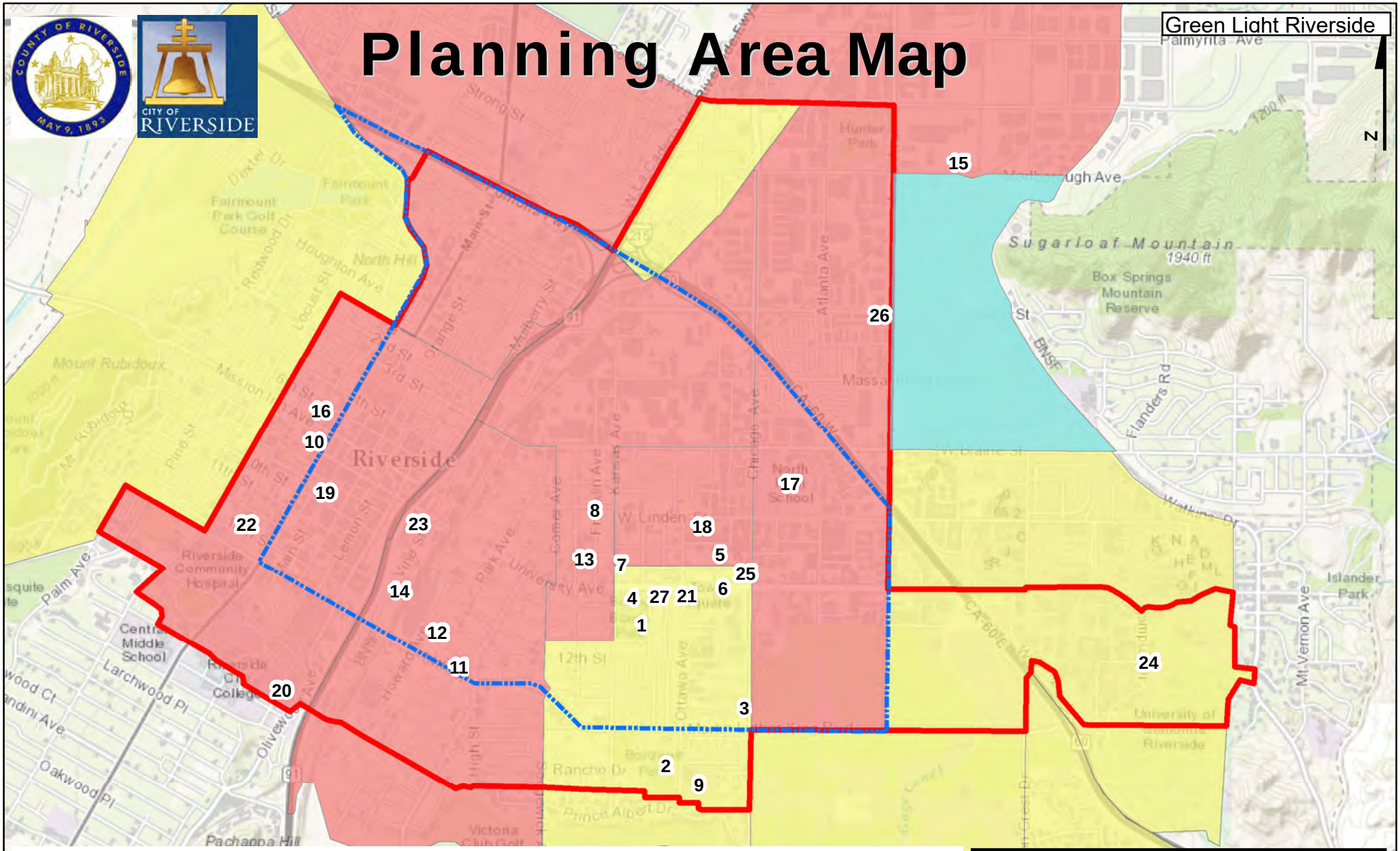
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey,

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

County of Los Angeles, Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA | Source: U.S. Census Bureau |

Planning Area Map

Green Light Riverside

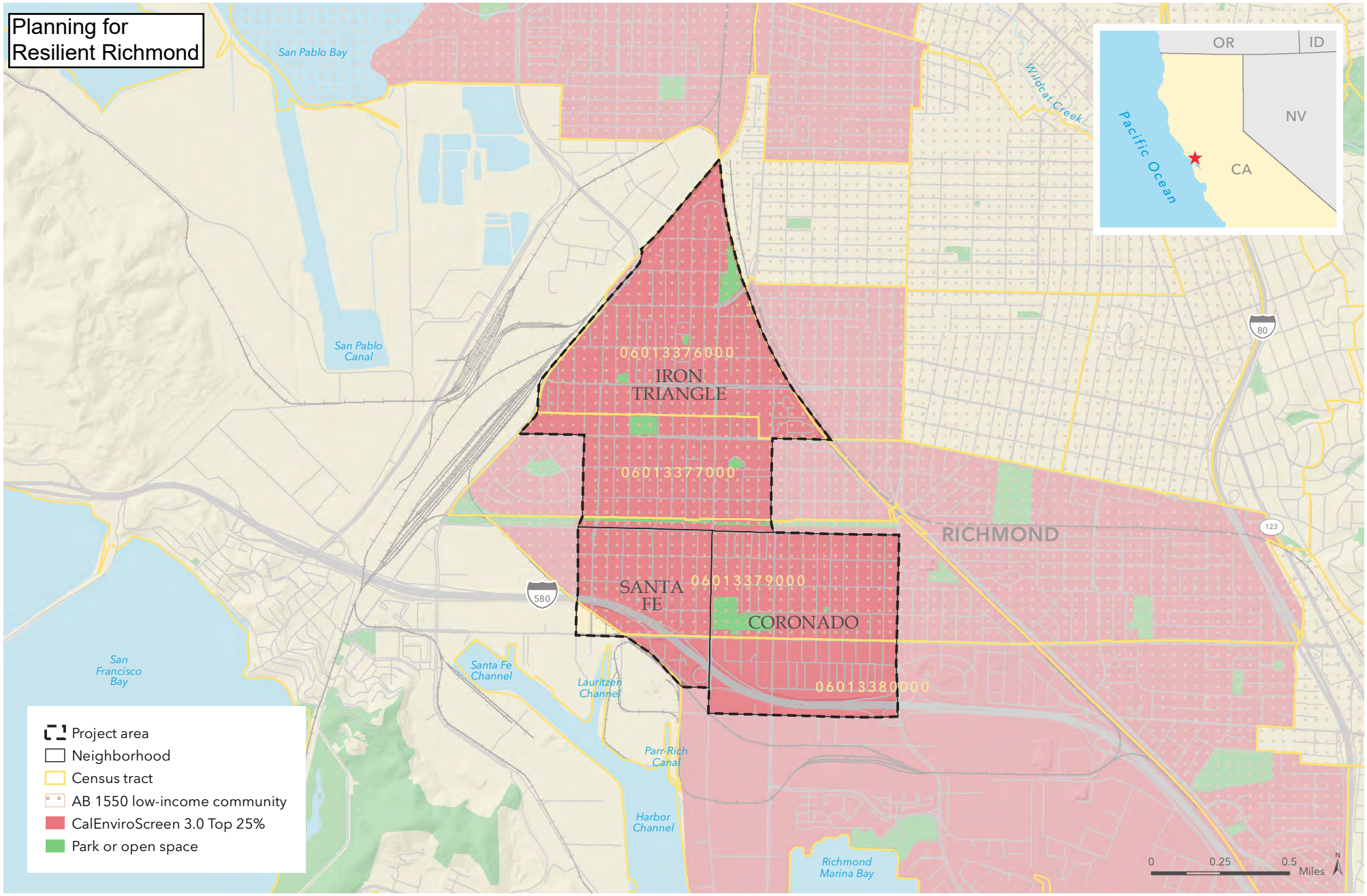


1 - Bobby Bonds Park
2 - Bordwell Park
3 - CARB (future site)
4 - Cesar Chavez Community Center
5 - Chicago-Linden Housing Project
6 - Community Market (La Michoacana)
7 - Community Market (La Tapatia)
8 – Community Market (The Green Store)
9 – Emerson Elementary School
10 – Library (future site)
11 – Lincoln High School
12 – Lincoln Park
13 – Longfellow Elementary School
14 – Metrolink Station (Downtown)
15 – Metrolink Station (Hunter Park)
16 – Mission Heritage Housing Project
17 – High School
18 – Patterson Park
19 – Riverside City Hall
20 – Riverside City College
21 – RCHF Eastside Health Clinic
22 – Riverside County Office of Education
23 – RTA Mobility Hub (future site)
24 – University of California, Riverside
25 – Walgreens Pharmacy
26 – Workforce Development Center
27 – Youth Opportunity Center

Planning Area
Innovation District
AB1550 Low Income Community
Top 5% Disadvantaged Community
Top 25% Disadvantaged Community

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Data Sources: CalEnviroScreen 3.0 & Riverside Housing Authority



Transformative Climate Communities Planning Program: Planning for a Resilient Richmond

CENTRAL RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

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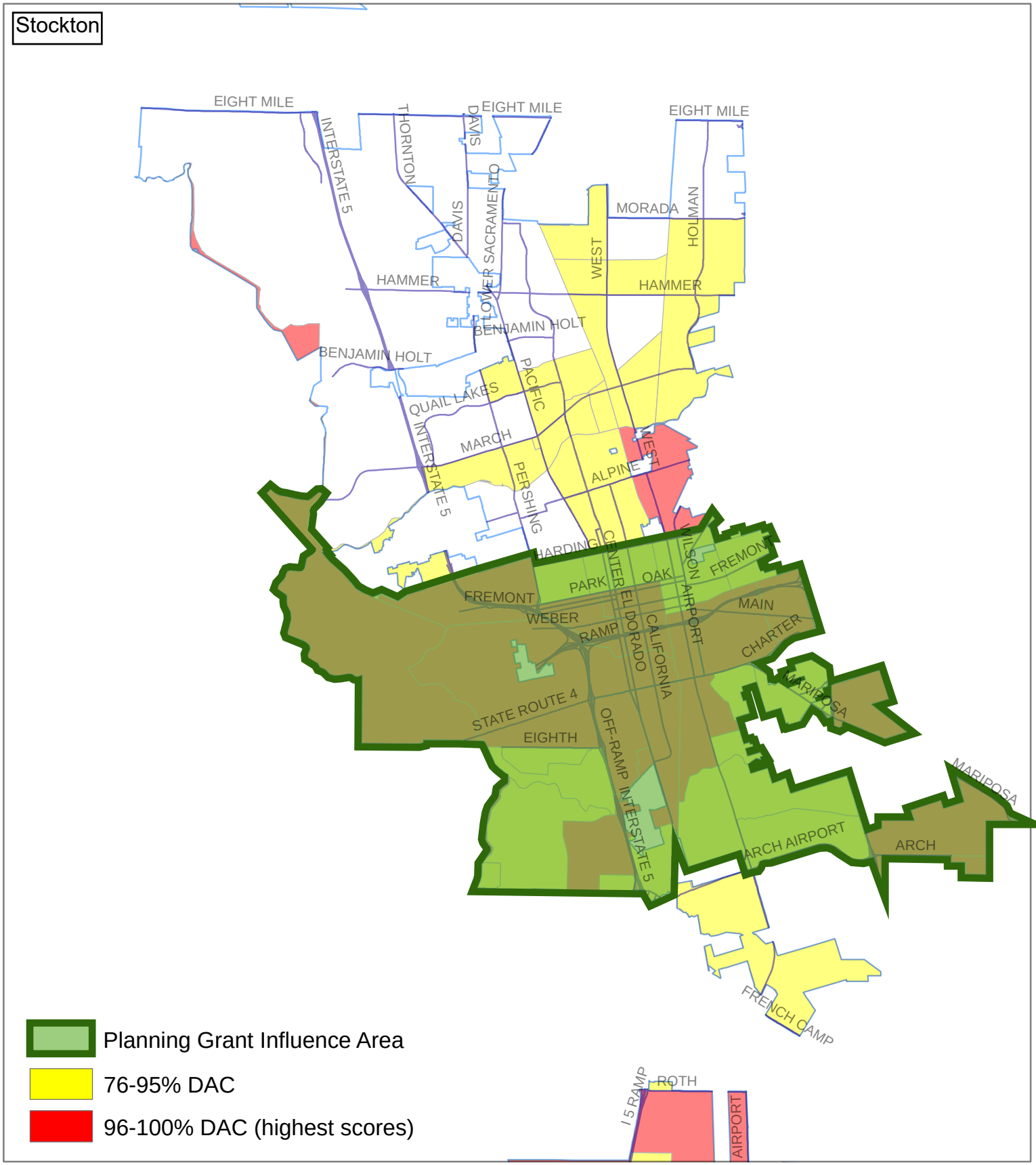
THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

City of Stockton
2017 TCC Planning Grant
Proposed Planning Boundaries



Data: California Air Resources Board, City of Stockton, County of San Joaquin

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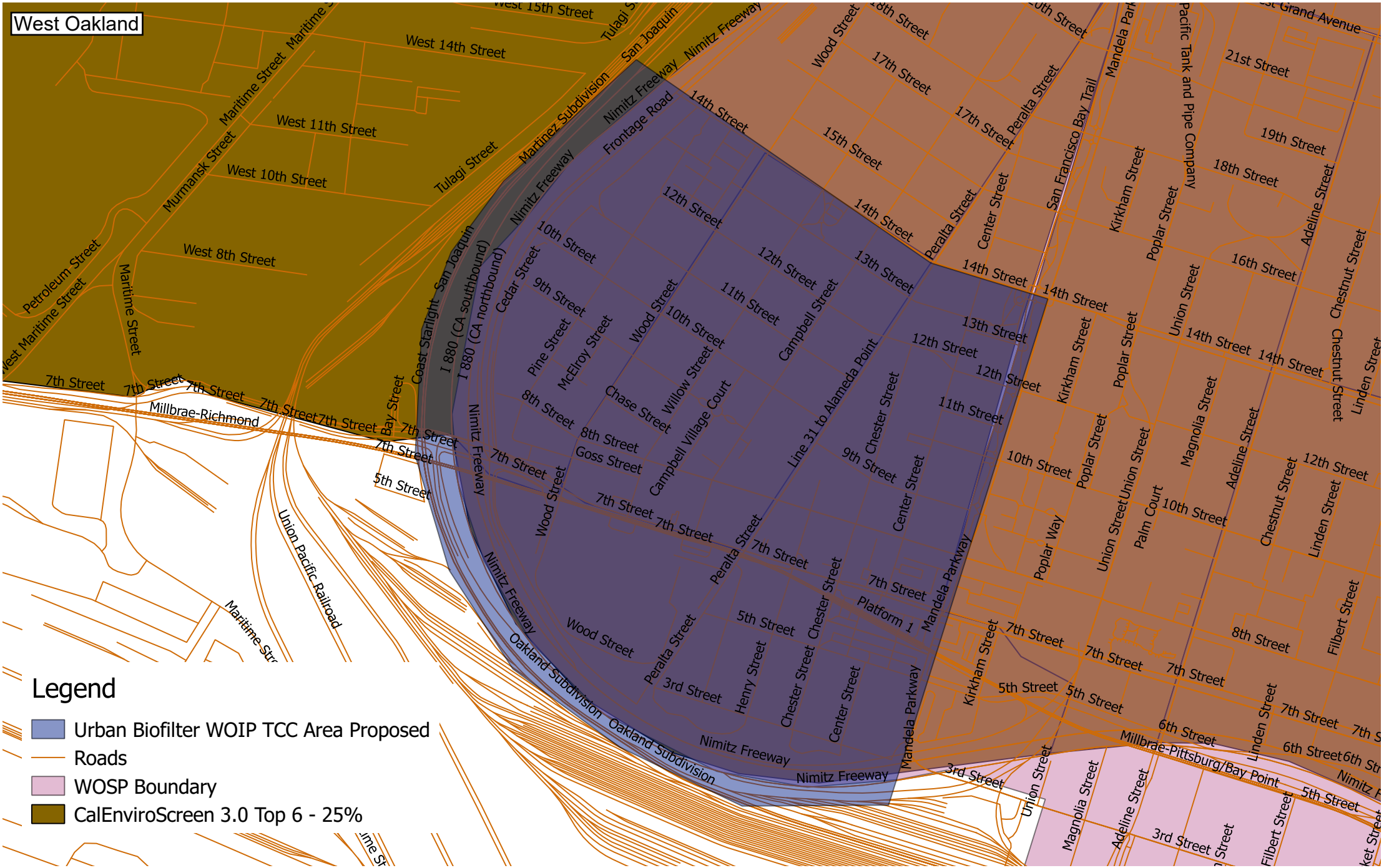
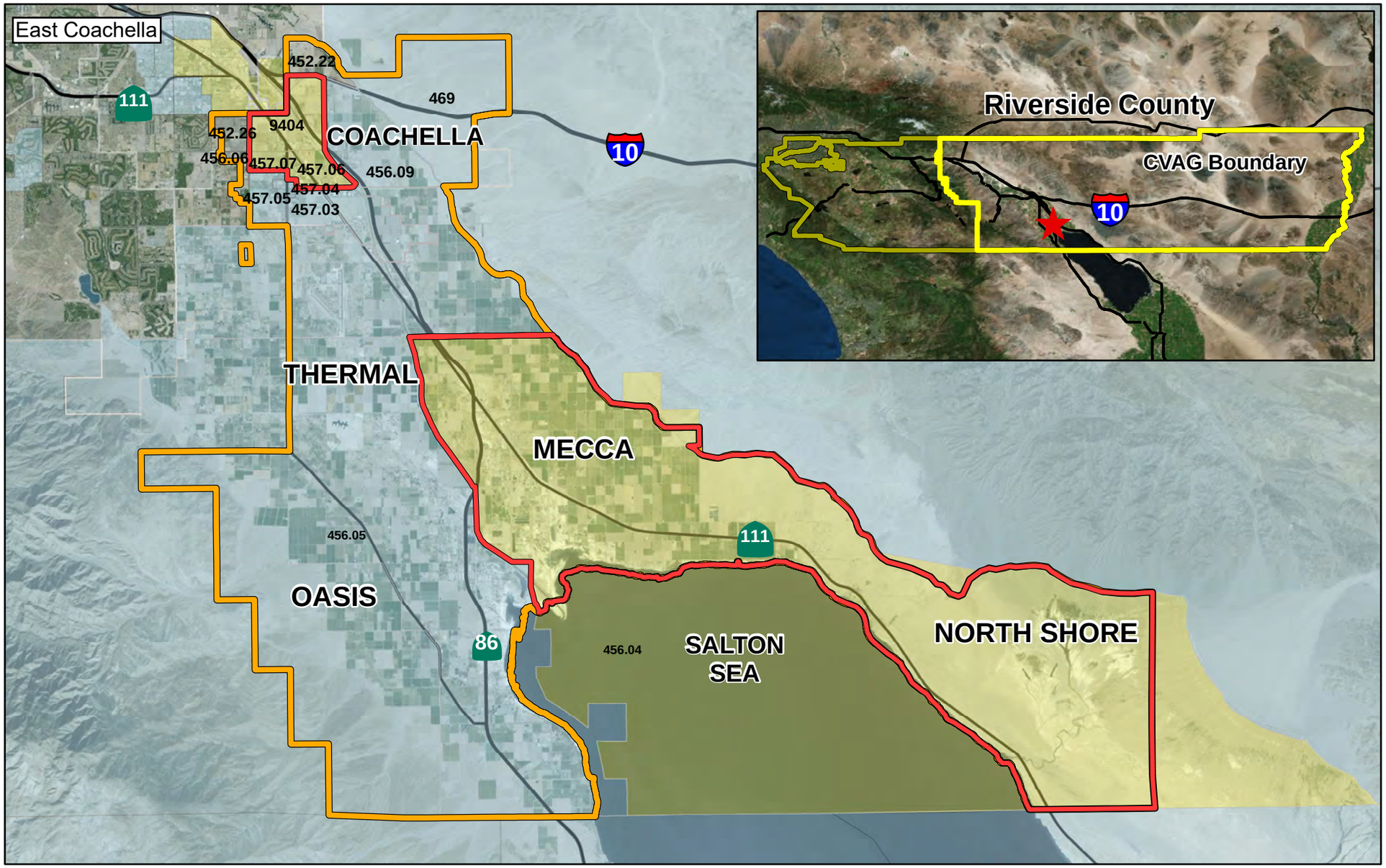


Urban Biofilter & West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
Transformative Climate Communities proposed project area overlaps with the West Oakland Specific Plan (WOSP) and also with the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 top 25% area.

250 0 250 500 750 1000 m

Eastern Coachella Valley Climate Resilience Action Plan



Legend

- CalEnviroscreen Disadvantaged Communites
- AB 1550 Low-Income Communities
- Plan Boundary
- Regional Boundary
- Census Tracts
- Highways

CVAG

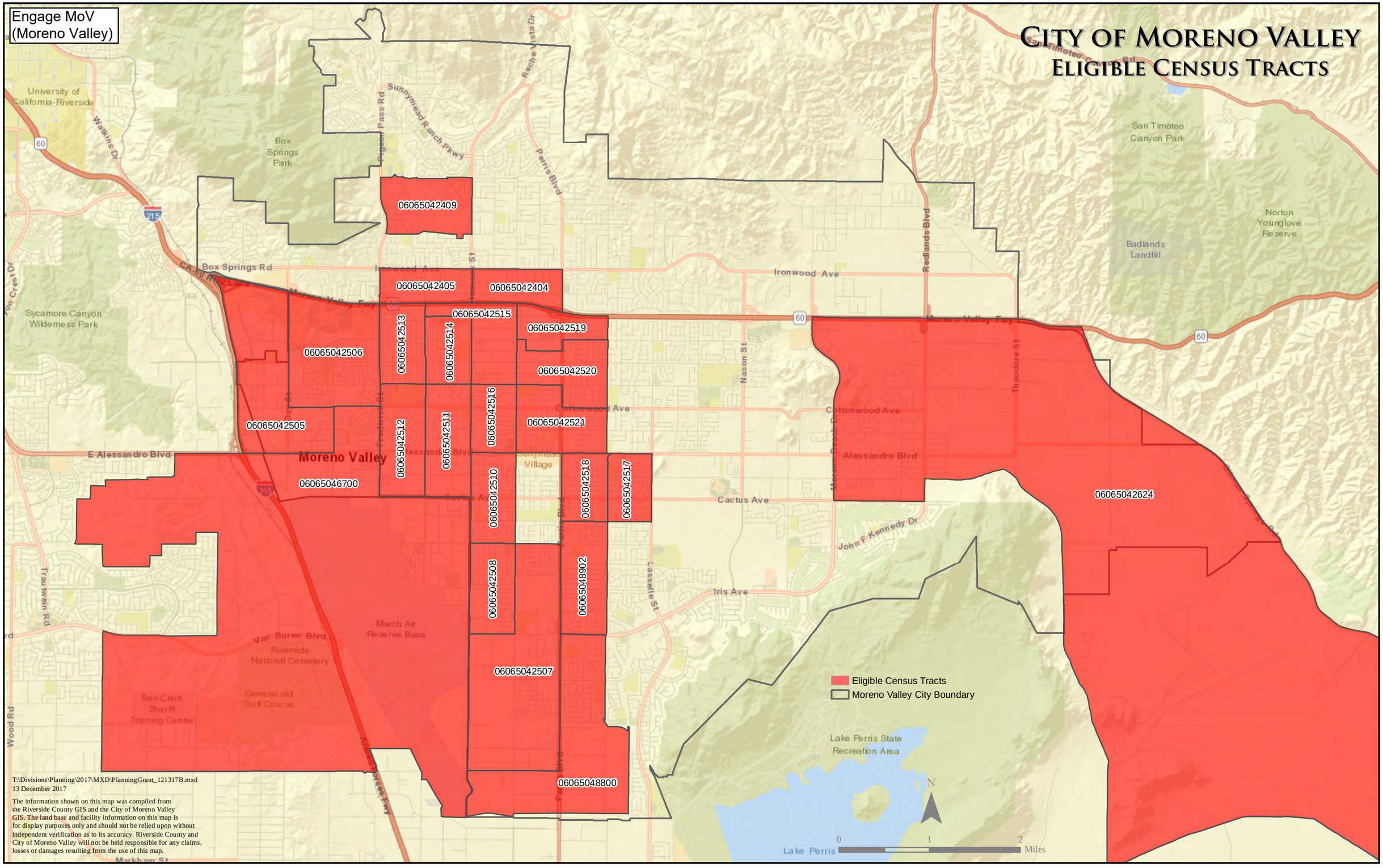
N

Source: CalEnviroScreen 3.0 and AB 1550 Mapping Tool for TCC

0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

Engage MoV
(Moreno Valley)

City of Moreno Valley
Eligible Census Tracts



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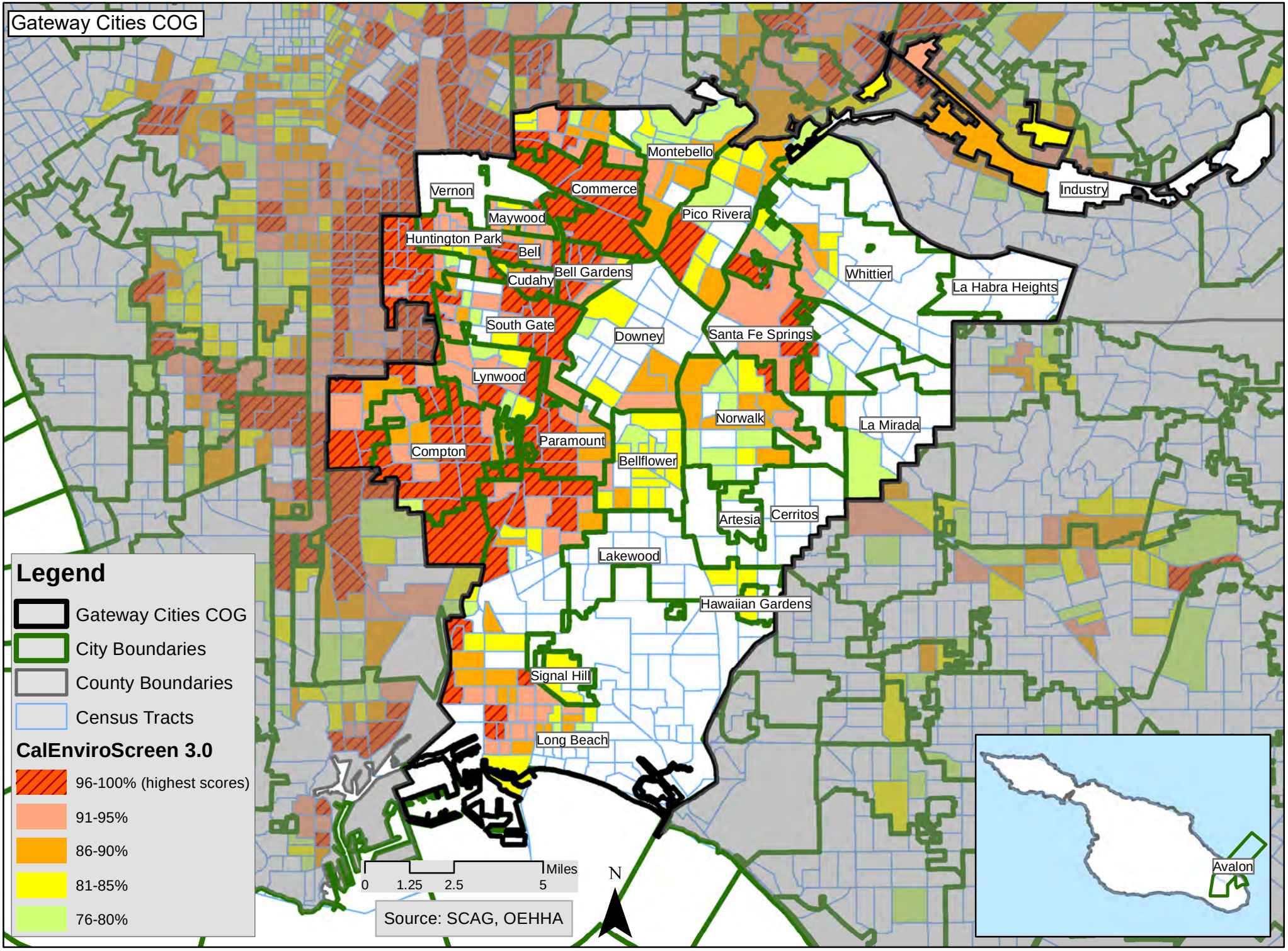
13 December 2017

The information shown on this map was compiled from the Riverside County GIS and the City of Moreno Valley GIS. The land base and facility information on this map is for display purposes only and should not be relied upon without independent verification as to its accuracy. Riverside County and City of Moreno Valley will not be held responsible for any claims, losses or damages resulting from the use of this map.

SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities (CalEnviroScreen 3.0) in the Gateway Cities Council of Governments



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