# Environmental Justice to Promote Public Health and Environmental Protections

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April 24, 2018

### 1) Brief History: Environmental Justice

- Environmental Justice Movement
- Environmental Racism
- Principles of Environmental Justice
- Environmental Justice in Government

## 2) Examples: Sharing Information and Seeking Proactive Solutions

- Exide Cleanup Sampling Data
- Civil Rights and Language Access Considerations

## Environmental Justice Movement





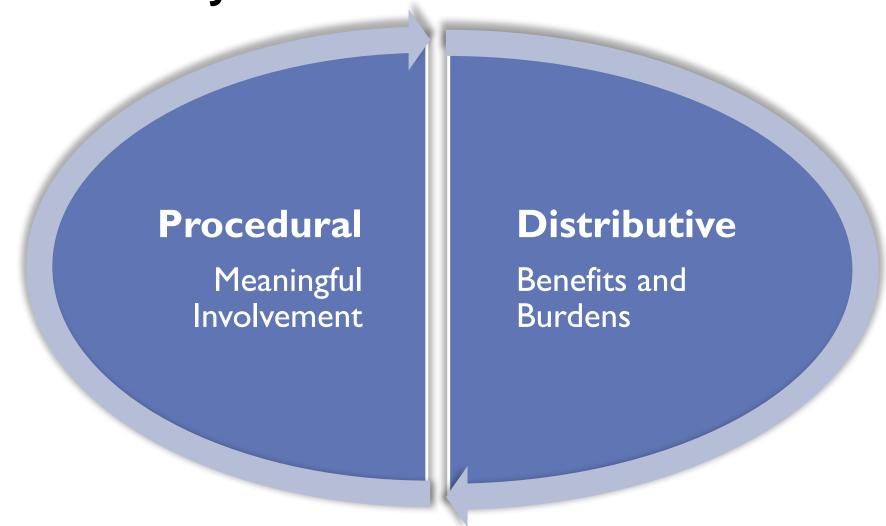
#### **Environmental Racism**

 Policies and actions that, intentionally or unintentionally, have resulted in the disproportionate exposure of people of color to environmental hazards.

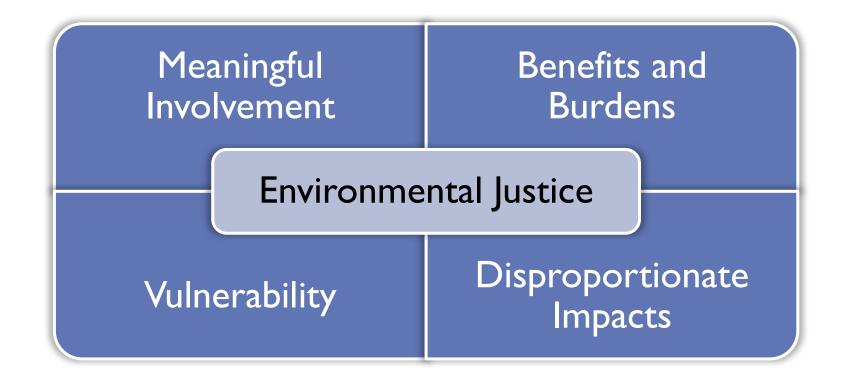
## Principles of Environmental Justice

 October 1991 First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit

## Elements of Justice



## Environmental Justice Framework Presidential Executive Order 12898



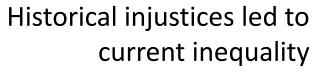
#### California Government Code

"Environmental justice means the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."



California Government Code §65040.12(e)

#### Breaking the Cycle of Injustice



Now permeates as implicit bias

## Inequality decreases participation

no control over decisions affecting their environment and health

Lower participation increases cycle of inequality

Pollution manifests in places of least resistance

## Rebuild trust, increase control

Emphasize accountability and transparency

## Create and evaluate measurable goals

Partner with communities; commit resources and creativity to overcome barriers

## Make environmental justice explicit

Place responsibility for action on the highest levels of government

## Office of Environmental Justice & Tribal Affairs

To ensure DTSC's decision-making processes incorporate the voices of environmental justice and tribal communities by seeking proactive solutions, sharing information, and creating partnerships to reduce environmental impacts and improve public health.



## Former Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facility



#### Exide Residential Cleanup

- 8,497 parcels sampled for lead in soil and exterior paint
- 325,000 total rows of data
- Tools for anyone to use, view, and understand the sampling data
- Protecting personally identifying information



## Sharing Information

#### **Interactive Map**



- GIS Web-Based Interactive Map
- Data Table and Legend
- Printable Map Files

http://dtsc.ca.gov/exide







## Seeking Proactive Solutions

Alternative Dispute Resolution Process - Signatories to 2016 Kettleman Title VI Civil Rights Settlement Agreement

Collaborating to more fully address civil rights and language access considerations through policy development

Seeking early feedback and working to address community concerns

Implementation – Procedures and Training

#### Headline:

Officials Say Flint's Water Is Safe. Residents Say It's Not. Scientists Say It's Complicated.



A Flint resident collects water from a distribution center. Jake May/The Flint Journal-MLive.com/AP

Baptiste, N. (n.d.). Officials say Flint's water is safe. Residents say it's not. Scientists say it's complicated. Retrieved April 22, 2018, from https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2018/04/officials-say-flints-water-is-safe-residents-say-its-not-scientists-say-its-complicated/

## Thank you!

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