



# Welcome!

## We Will Begin Momentarily

NYC Summer Town Hall on  
Environmental Justice

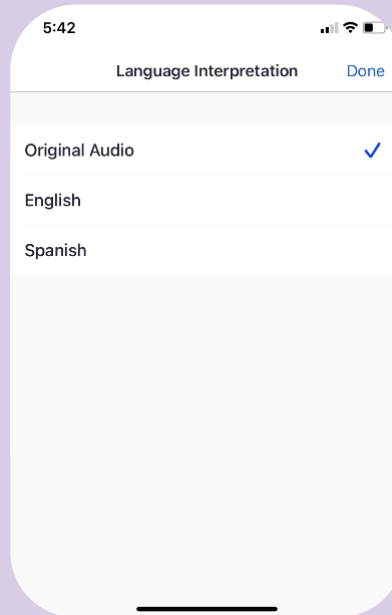
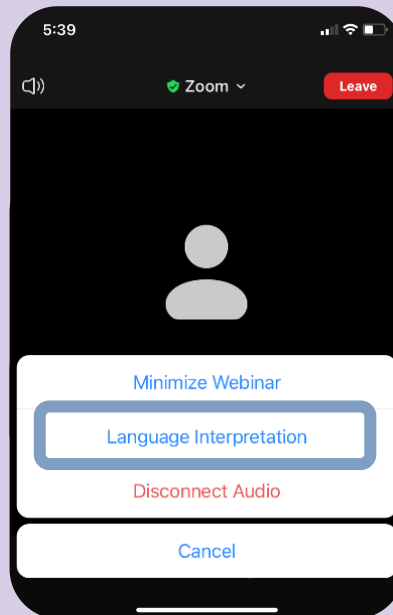
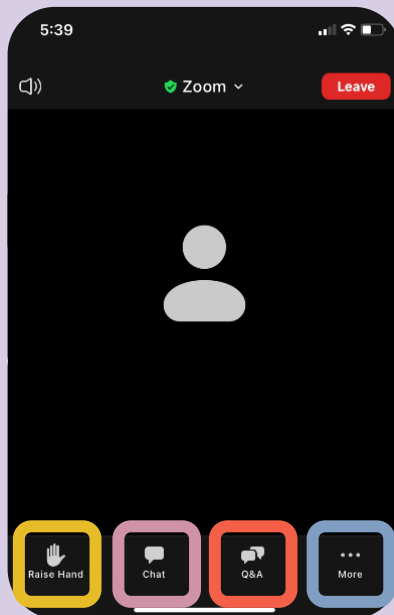
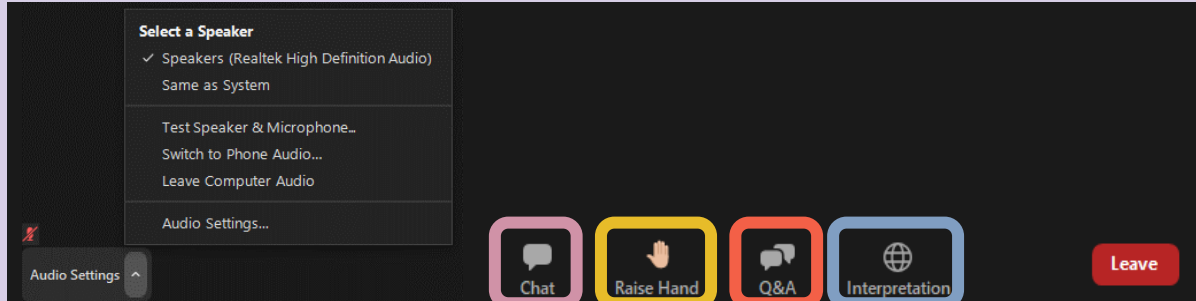


AUGUST 18, 2021

# Summer Town Hall on Environmental Justice

Hosted by the NYC Mayor's Office and  
Environmental Justice Advisory Board

# This is how we Zoom it!



Computer



Mobile  
(Or Smart  
Device)



Landline  
(Or Non-Smart  
Device)



\*6

\*9

# Mic Check!



**Click "Interpretation 🌐" on the Meeting Controls taskbar to select a language.**

একটি ভাষা নির্বাচন করতে মিটিং কন্ট্রোল টাস্কবারে "ব্যাখ্যা 🌐" ক্লিক করুন।

点击会议控制任务栏上的“口译 🌐”，选择粤语。

Klike sou "Entèpretasyon 🌐" sou ekstrè Reyinyon Kontwòl la pou chwazi yon lang.

单击会议控制任务栏上的“口译 🌐”以选择普通话。

Нажмите «Интерпретация 🌐» на панели задач управления совещанием, чтобы выбрать язык.

Haga clic en "Interpretación 🌐" en el controles de la reunión para seleccionar un idioma.



Part 1:

# What is Environmental Justice?

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# Environmental Justice

Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all persons

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Regardless of race, color, national origin, or income

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With respect to:

- the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, policies, and activities
- the distribution of environmental benefits



# Environmental Justice: In Our Own Words





Part 2:

# What is NYC's Environmental Justice program?

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# NYC's Environmental Justice Laws



Local laws 60 & 64 of 2017  
codified environmental justice  
into City decision-making

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Became law after 10 years of  
advocacy from grassroots  
environmental justice  
organizations and the  
leadership of elected officials  
including NYC Councilmembers  
Charles and Inez Barron and  
Costa Constantinides

# NYC's Environmental Justice Laws

Our roadmap to identify and address Environmental Justice concerns in NYC.



**Establish** an Advisory Board of local leaders and experts

**Convene** a Working Group of City agencies



**Identify** EJ Areas and outline concerns through a study/report

**Publish** a web portal with EJ maps, data, and programs



**Current step**



**Develop** a Citywide EJ Plan to:

- **Incorporate** EJ concerns into City decision-making
- **Identify** City initiatives for promoting EJ

# Environmental Justice Team

Each role helps ensure that the process and final plan are transparent and impactful.

## Interagency Working Group

- Conduct research and develop the EJ report
- Assemble relevant data to publish EJ portal
- Develop Citywide EJ Plan

## Environmental Justice Senior Advisor

- Manage process
- Convene Interagency Working Group and Advisory Board
- Advise on environmental justice issues

## Environmental Justice Advisory Board

- Independent body
- Review and advise on the work throughout
- Engage with environmental justice communities and the public

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REPORT, PORTAL, AND PLAN**



Part 3:

# What is the Environmental Justice for All Report?

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# Draft Scope: EJ Report

- The scope is a statement of issues to be studied in the report and our approach for analyzing those issues.
- Incorporates input from the public and EJ Advisory Board following public comment period February-April 2021.

The Report will assess the state of Environmental Justice by completing the following tasks:



## Task 1: Assessing Environmental Outcomes



## Task 2: Reviewing City Programs and Policies



## Task 3: Examining Engagement with Communities

# Task 1: Analyze Environmental and Climate Vulnerabilities

Identify environmental justice and climate concerns

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Assess the impact each concern has on New Yorkers

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Estimate investment in programs and projects that advance climate and environmental justice

**For each environmental justice concern, the Report will:**

- Identify locations in the city experiencing the concern
- Assess the physical presence of the concern overlaid with social and economic vulnerability.
- Propose data collection, or research that may be done to identify locations in the city experiencing the concern or better understand the concern, should sufficient data not exist.



# Task 1: *EJ for All Report*

## Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns

- Defined with input from the EJ Advisory Board and the public via a public comment period.
- Based on this input, the EJ IWG took a broad approach to delineating environmental justice concerns --identifying issues with a demonstrable, direct link to environment and health outcomes.
- Also considered a broader set of issues that relate to quality of life and the principle that all people, regardless of race, disability status or economic background, have a right to live, work, and play in communities that are safe, healthy, and free of harmful environmental conditions.

# Task 1: *EJ for All* *Report*

## Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns



1. Hazardous Materials Exposure
2. Indoor Air & Housing Quality
3. Energy Use & Utility Affordability,  
including Energy Cost Burden and  
Energy Efficiency

# Task 1: *EJ for All* *Report*

## Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns



4. Solid waste management, including but not limited to illegal dumping
5. Outdoor air quality, including proximity to nearby polluting infrastructure or activities
6. Noise, including from construction and heavy infrastructure
7. Land use issues which may contribute to other EJ concerns
8. Traffic, including traffic volumes, congestion, and traffic safety
9. Transit and alternative transportation access

# Task 1: *EJ for All* *Report*

## Sixteen Proposed Environmental Justice Concerns



10. Drinking water quality

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11. Proximity to impaired water bodies

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12. Sewer infrastructure quality and management

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13. Non-park green resources, including street trees and natural areas

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14. Park, waterfront, and public green spaces access

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15. Park and tree canopy maintenance and quality

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16. Fresh food and nutrition access

# Task 1: *EJ for All Report*

## Climate Concerns to be Assessed:

Heat

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Flooding from heavy rains

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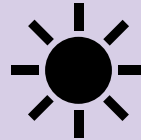
Coastal flooding

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Droughts

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Cold snaps



# Task 2: Analyze the City's Contribution to Environmental Justice

Root causes of current conditions

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Current city programs

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EJ programs in other cities or states





# Task 2: *EJ for All Report*

**What does it mean for a City program to advance environmental justice?**

## **Program designed to:**

- Reduce negative environmental outcomes or poor health outcomes
- Improve quality of life, including in the areas of mobility, accessibility, sanitation and waste, and housing conditions
- Distribute environmental benefits
- Bolster resiliency against climate hazards.

## **Program must:**

- Be a citywide program that may lead to positive impacts on people living in EJ areas;
- Targeted programs in specific communities based on vulnerability, need, and historic or systemic inequality.
- Allow for public participation in agency decision-making

# Task 3: Review Public Engagement in Environmental Decision-making

- **Identify:**
  - Legally required formal public engagement processes
  - Informal engagement on environmental decision-making
- **Evaluate:**
  - For fair treatment and meaningful involvement, based on federal guidance
- **Examine:**
  - Principles and values from the environmental justice movement
- **Outline:**
  - Possible changes to facilitate better participation by populations in EJ areas

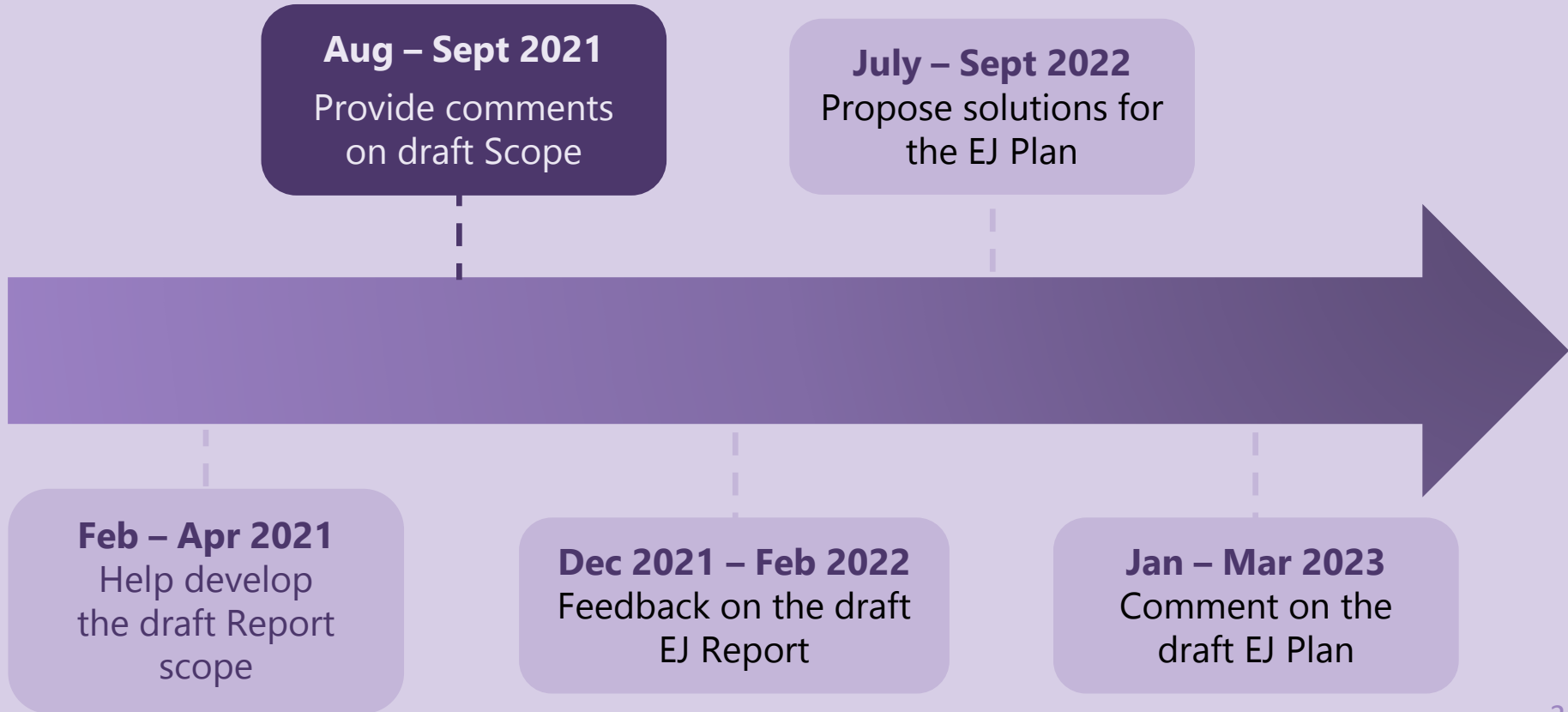


Part 4:

# How can I get involved?

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# How will public input shape this work?



# We want to hear from you!



## Leave a public comment



online at [nyc.gov/ejstudy](https://nyc.gov/ejstudy)



email [EJ@climate.nyc.gov](mailto:EJ@climate.nyc.gov)



voice message 212-788-4144

Comments must be submitted  
by *September 5, 2021*

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## Share with your community

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Stay in touch @NYClimate @GreeNYC

# Stay Involved!

**Register to vote**

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**Know your elected officials**

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**Join an EJ organization in your neighborhood**

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**Get involved with your local community board**





# Make Your Voice Heard!



Are the environmental justice concerns proposed in Task 1 of the scope representative of your priorities and lived experiences?

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Are there City's environmental programs or activities that have improved your neighborhood or quality of life in your community?

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What does "meaningful involvement" in environmental decision-making look like to you?



# Discussion



[nyc.gov/EJstudy](https://nyc.gov/EJstudy)



[EJ@climate.nyc.gov](mailto:EJ@climate.nyc.gov)



212-788-4144



[@NYClimate](https://twitter.com/NYClimate) & [@GreeNYC](https://twitter.com/GreeNYC)

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# NYC Environmental Justice Team

## Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

- City Commission on Human Rights
- Dept. of City Planning
- Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services
- Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Dept. of Buildings
- Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Dept. of Transportation
- Dept. of Parks and Recreation
- Dept. of Sanitation
- Economic Development Corporation
- Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development
- Mayor's Office of Climate Policy and Programs
- Mayor's Office of Resiliency
- New York City Housing Authority
- Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination
- Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation
- Mayor's Office of Operations
- Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings

## Environmental Justice Advisory Board

- Chair: Peggy Shepard, Executive Director, WE ACT
- Rebecca Bratspies, Professor of Law, CUNY Law
- Shoshanah Brown, Founder and CEO, AIRnyc
- Marco Carrión, Executive Director, El Puente
- Dr. Luz Claudio, Professor and Chief of Division of International Health, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- Omar Freilla, Environmental Justice Organizer and Bronx Resident
- Diana Hernandez, Associate Professor, Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia
- Anhthu Hoang, NYC Resident
- Albert Huang, Senior Attorney, NRDC
- Tina Johnson, Environmental Justice Advocate and NYCHA Resident
- Beryl Thurman, Executive Director, North Shore Waterfront Conservancy of Staten Island