

RECOMMENDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED MAPPING PLATFORM TO IDENTIFY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN CONTEXT OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE (SEE [AB 2577 BILL TEXT](#))

TO: Members of Governor Newsom's Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery

FROM: 90+ Organizations that Signed on to [Just Recovery Recommendations](#) for Governor Newsom's Task Force

Important Note: *This platform is intended to be complementary to and modeled by CalEnviroScreen. It is **NOT** intended to replace CalEnviroScreen.*

SUMMARY

This bill lays the groundwork to protect California's most vulnerable populations from climate change by requiring the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to consolidate existing data and develop an integrated climate vulnerability mapping platform.

BACKGROUND

The past several years of natural disasters underline how the climate crisis disproportionately impacts the state's most vulnerable communities. During 2011 to 2016, the state experienced a severe drought and broke numerous high temperature records, conditions that most impacted our agricultural and rural communities. These five years were followed by devastating wildfires that destroyed thousands of homes and affected the respiratory health of millions. These disasters especially impact the elderly, young children, people who are disabled, outdoor workers, low income communities, immigrant and refugee communities, and indigenous people.

There are existing frameworks that provide data identify and depict the communities most impacted by climate change, including the California Department of Public Health's [Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Indicators](#) (CCHViz), California Energy Commission's [Social Vulnerability to Climate Change](#) Report, and Four Twenty Seven's California Heat Assessment Tool. However, they are not in broad use.

A model of a comprehensive mapping tool to communicate complex information for planning and decision making is CalEnviroScreen, which is a place based cumulative impact screening methodology used to protect communities overburdened by the impacts of pollution and poverty. However, CalEnviroScreen is not intended to depict climate vulnerability, and it does not include data on the impact of climate change or adaptive capacity.

THE PROBLEM

Although there is mounting evidence of the unequal effects of climate change, there is no existing tool that holistically displays the data needed to identify the communities most vulnerable to climate change. Moreover, the existing tools that do exist are not centralized or consolidated into a user-friendly platform, making it difficult to easily access the data and effectively inform policy action. This leads policymakers and advocates to develop and implement climate adaptation policies and programs without the benefit of thorough data to inform their decisions.

THE SOLUTION

OPR must lead a process to create a new integrated climate vulnerability mapping platform that consolidates and updates existing data to identify California's communities who are most vulnerable to climate change. This centralized tool will give stakeholders, legislators and the State an easily accessible foundation to consider, analyze, and combat the ongoing climate crisis. Funding to develop this online platform could be supported by technology partners on the Taskforce like ESRI.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- APEN Report: [Mapping Resilience: A Blueprint for Thriving in the Face of Climate Disasters](#)
- Public Health Alliance of Southern California's [Healthy Places Index](#) is a strong starting place for a data visualization tool (includes [CCHViz](#) mentioned above and [novel analysis on COVID-19](#))

The recommendations above are an expansion of concepts included in the [Just Recovery Recommendations for Governor Newsom's Task Force](#), which was supported by the 90+ organizations below. While the organizations below support the overall concepts, they have not yet had a chance to review the detailed recommendations we shared in this letter.

Please contact Amee Raval (amee@apen4ej.org) for more information about the recommendations.

Sona Mohnot
The Greenlining Institute

Miya Yoshitani
Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)

Tiffany Wong
Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Political Education (SCOPE)

Zoe Siegal
Greenbelt Alliance

Chuck Mills
California ReLeaf

Gloria Ohland
Move LA

Chanell Fletcher
ClimatePlan

Maricela Morales
Central Coast Alliance United for A Sustainable
Economy (CAUSE)

Matthew Baker
Planning and Conservation League

Jessica Meaney
Investing in Place

Joe Donlin
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)

David Diaz
Active San Gabriel Valley

Jonathan Matz
Safe Routes Partnership

Gershon Bialer
Sunrise Bay Area

Effie Turnbull Sanders
SLATE-Z

Linda Rudolph
Center for Climate Change and Health

Crystal Huang
People Power Solar Cooperative

Sean Bothwell
California Coastkeeper Alliance

Antonio Diaz
PODER SF

Ellie M. Cohen
The Climate Center

Richard Marcantonio
Public Advocates Inc.

David Braun
Rootskeeper

Jasmine Leek
Third City Coalition

Kevin D. Hamilton
Central California Asthma Collaborative

Lauren Weston
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

Harold Goldstein
Public Health Advocates

Bryn Lindblad
Climate Resolve

Benjamin Zank
East Bay Democratic Socialists of America

Julia Hatton
Rising Sun Energy Center

Dillon Delvo
Little Manila Rising

Abigail Ramirez
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California

Darryl Sarmiento
Communities for A Better Environment

Sammy Nunez
Fathers & Families of San Joaquin

Al Weinrub
Local Clean Energy Alliance

Veronica Tovar
Catholic Charities Environmental Justice Program

Katherine McNenny
Industrial District Green

Claire Robinson
Amigos de los Rios

Joshua Stark
TransForm

Torri Estrada
Carbon Cycle Institute

Jim Lindburg
Friends Committee on Legislation of California

Jennifer Savage
Surfrider Foundation
Baldwin Moy
Madera Coalition for Community Justice

Jose Leon-Barraza
Southeast Fresno Community Economic Development Association
(SEFCEDA)

Lauren Welch
Urban Corps of San Diego County

Kenda Templeton
Promotores Unidas Para La Educacion Nacional Tecnologias
Sostenibles (PUENTES)

Mary Kay Benson
350 Butte County

Michelle Sevilla
350 Santa Barbara

Marty Martinson
Department of Health Education at San Francisco State University

Medha Chandra
Pesticide Action Network

Michelle Romero
Green For All, a program of Dream Corps

Liza Chu
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – California

Caroline Farrell
Center for Race, Poverty, and Environment

Andrea Vidaurre
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

Juliana Gonzalez
The Watershed Project

Rico Mastrodonato
Trust for Public Land

Lisa Engdahl
Clean & Green Pomona

Esther Rivera
California Walks

Mona N. Cummings
Tree Fresno

Alan Weiner
350 Conejo/San Fernando Valley

Gavin Raders
Planting Justice

Stuart Wood
Sustainable Claremont

Jan Mignone
Richmond Trees

Melissa Iger
Tree Foundation of Kern

Elena Karoulina
Sustainable Solano

Gabby Trejo
Sacramento Area Congregations Together

John Yi
Los Angeles Walks

Carolina Martinez
Environmental Health Coalition

Sandy Emerson
Fossil Free California

Catherine Garoupa White
Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ)

Susannah Churchill
Vote Solar

Leticia Romero Valentin
North Bay Organizing Project

Bruce Reznik
Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Cindy Montañez
TreePeople

Solange Gould
Human Impact Partners

Diana Vasquez
California Environmental Justice Alliance

Belinda Faustinos
Nature for All

Belinda Faustinos
OurWaterLA

Tori Kjer
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust

Lauren Ahkiam & Agustin Cabrera
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)

Ron Sundergill
National Parks Conservation Association

Fatima Malik
Green Technical Education and Employment

Antony V. López
Avenal Historical Society & Museum

Michael Flynn
Common Vision

Markos Major
Climate Action Now!

Rosa L. Rivera Furumoto
Parent Pioneers-Padres Pioneros

Mayor Michael Tubbs
City of Stockton

Susan Silber
NorCal Resilience Network

Paul Francis
KIGT

Laurie Litman
350 Sacramento

Alicia Brown
WALKSacramento

Catherine Martineau
Canopy