



City of Lompoc

Environmental Justice Element

Public Hearing Draft
April 2024

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Introduction

What is Environmental Justice?

While it is the hope that all people have equal access to healthy foods, clean environments, safe housing, and accessible parks and recreational facilities, this is not always the case. Today, and throughout California and United States history, communities with lower incomes, lower levels of education, and higher proportions of minority residents often bear a disproportionately large burden of exposure to environmental hazards. This disadvantage gave way to the notion of environmental justice.

The State of California defines Environmental Justice as “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 Section 65040.12). “Fair treatment” means no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations, and policies. According to the SB1000 Implementation Toolkit, “Planning for Healthy Communities,” low-income residents, communities of color, tribal nations, and immigrant communities have disproportionately experienced some of the greatest environmental burdens and related health problems throughout the history of the United States. Conditions in these communities can be traced to a variety of factors such as underinvestment, inequitable land use and zoning policies, and lack of meaningful public engagement with community residents. Environmental justice seeks to remedy this imbalance, based on the democratic values of fairness and equity.

Today, environmental justice efforts seek to minimize the effects of environmental hazards to all people regardless of race, ethnicity, or income level. This Environmental Justice Element addresses public health risks and environmental justice concerns citywide and for those residents living in disadvantaged communities.

Relationship to Other General Plan Elements

The Planning for Healthy Communities Act of 2016 (Senate Bill 1000) was enacted to address environmental justice in local and regional planning practice. The legislation requires cities and counties to incorporate policies to promote environmental justice in their general plans. The purpose of Lompoc's Environmental Justice Element is to develop policies and goals that prioritize improving the health and quality of life of the city's most vulnerable residents. As provided by State Government Code 65302(h), the Environmental Justice Element has the same weight as the other mandatory elements of the General Plan and shall be internally consistent with the other elements.

The goals, policies, and programs in this Environmental Justice Element align with and expand upon those found in other elements of the General Plan. Various policies within the Environmental Justice Element closely relate to subjects addressed in the following Elements:

- **Land Use** establishes the framework for shaping the types and location of new development along with strategies to maintain and enhance existing development and character within the City.
- **Circulation Element** supports the Land Use Element by identifying the major roads and transportation systems necessary to support the development of the land uses and densities laid out in the element. In addition, the Circulation Element encompasses objectives and policies that focus on establishing secure, accessible, and efficient multi-modal transportation systems to facilitate the movement of individuals and goods throughout the City.
- **Housing Element** ensures that there is sufficient residential capacity available to meet the minimum needs established by the State for various income levels. The Housing Element provides an assessment of current and future housing needs, as well as opportunities and constraints on housing production. The goals, policies, and programs outlined in the Housing Element address these needs and focus on preserving and improving access to affordable, fair, and equal housing opportunities. The City updated its Housing Element in 2023.
- **Safety Element** identifies hazards to people and infrastructure and includes safety considerations in the planning and decision-making process by establishing goals, policies, and programs related to future development that will minimize the risk of personal injury, loss of life, property damage, and environmental damage associated with natural and human-caused hazards. The City updated its Safety Element in 2023.

Many environmental justice-oriented policies are already present in other General Plan elements. EJ-Table 1 provides a list of these policies. The goals, policies, and programs in the Environmental Justice Element aim to fill the gaps in other General Plan elements and ensure the General Plan fully addresses community needs.

Table EJ-1 Policies in Other Elements Supporting Environmental Justice Efforts

Policy Number	Policy	Page Number
Pollution Exposure		
LU-6.1	The City shall maintain Open Space designations for areas that require special management due to hazardous, safety, or public health considerations.	LU-8
Public Facilities		
LU-4.1	The City shall encourage new public facilities and commercial facilities to support walkable and/or bikeable design.	LU-7
LU-9.1	The City should encourage access to park facilities for all residents with a variety of park types and recreational opportunities.	LU-10
PR-1.3	The City shall develop Neighborhood Parks in currently developed areas of the City (e.g. high density housing areas), where there is a shortage of parks.	PR-2
PR-3.2	The City shall improve and rehabilitate existing parks as needed and as funds become available.	PR-5
PS-2.2	The Police Department shall undertake special efforts to deal with high crime rates in key areas, including commercial, industrial, and higher density residential areas.	PS-5
PS-2.4	The Police Department shall foster and maintain a partnership with the community and deliver its services in a community-based manner.	PS-5

Table EJ-1 Policies in Other Elements Supporting Environmental Justice Efforts

Policy Number	Policy	Page Number
PS-2.6	The Police Department shall review development projects for prevention of crime, vandalism, and traffic problems.	PS-6
PS-3.5	The City shall encourage public education regarding fire prevention, safety and first aid medical procedures.	PS-6
Food Access		
LU-7.3	The City shall encourage agricultural education programs conducted by local farming and community garden organizations.	LU-9
LU-7.7	The City shall encourage voluntary community gardens throughout the city, with the permission of the land owner, to enable residents without access to land to grow fresh, affordable food.	LU-9
Physical Activity		
LU-2.1	The City shall require residential developments to provide amenities and features that provide convenient access by pedestrians and bicyclists to commercial areas and recreation areas.	LU-5
LU-8.7	The City shall require development to be pedestrian-friendly and convenient for transit.	LU-9
PR-2.1	The City shall continue and, where possible, expand recreation programs for children, teens, adults, seniors, and disabled persons.	PR-2

Table EJ-1 Policies in Other Elements Supporting Environmental Justice Efforts

Policy Number	Policy	Page Number
Safe and Sanitary Housing		
LU-2.2	The City shall protect residential neighborhoods from encroachment by adverse or incompatible non-residential uses (for example, new intensive agriculture or industry) and impacts associated with non-residential uses, including impacts to neighborhood character and public health.	LU-5
LU-2.3	The City shall require provision of permanent buffer or transitional areas as part of new residential development adjacent to areas designated for commercial or industrial uses, except where mixed-use development may be appropriate.	LU-5
LU-2.4	The City should encourage creative and efficient site designs in residential developments which address natural constraints, promote energy efficiency and overall sustainability, walkability, and bikeability, protect aesthetic qualities, maintain neighborhood character and improve public health.	LU-5
LU-8.5	The City shall require commercial, industrial, civic, and institutional development to be designed in ways that minimize conflicts with adjacent homes and neighborhoods.	LU-9
PS-3.7	The Fire Department shall review all development projects for fire safety requirements.	PS-3.7

Table EJ-1 Policies in Other Elements Supporting Environmental Justice Efforts

Policy Number	Policy	Page Number
Civic Engagement		
LU-8.12	The City shall engage the community to ensure new infill development addresses neighborhood concerns and to gain greater acceptance and support for infill development.	LU-10
PS-2.5	The Police Department will work with citizens and community organizations to develop crime prevention programs addressing issues such as substance abuse and illegal gang related activities.	PS-5

Source: City of Lompoc, 2023

While references to related policies are provided where applicable, the goals and policies in this Element are tailored to address specific environmental justice and public health-related issues. It is important to thoroughly examine the policies referenced in other elements to identify any environmental, health, social equity, or related programs linked to the identified Communities of Focus.

Scope and Content of the Environmental Justice Element

Scope

To address environmental justice disparities, this Element includes a comprehensive range of goals, policies, and programs designed to enhance the participation and empowerment of historically marginalized populations, referred to in this Element as the "Community of Focus." The aim is to restore balance and promote equity in decision-making processes. A comprehensive analysis of Lompoc's Community of Focus is provided later in this Element.

To promote environmental justice and reduce exposure to environmental and health hazards, the goals, policies, implementation programs of this Element focus on the following areas:

- Reducing pollution exposure and improving air and water quality
- Promoting health food access
- Promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles

- Promoting "civic engagement" in the public decision-making process
- Promoting public and recreational facilities
- Promoting safe and sanitary homes
- Prioritizing improvements and programs that address the needs of Communities of Focus

Content and Organization

To aid in the understanding of environmental justice and how the City will address environmental justice concepts, this Element is organized as follows:

Introduction. This section provides a brief overview of environmental justice concepts and the statutory obligation for communities. A discussion on the content and scope of this Environmental Justice Element is also provided.

Background. This section discusses environmental justice principles and the methodology for identifying Communities of Focus within the Lompoc city limits. This section also identifies and shows the location of the Communities of Focus in Lompoc.

Public Participation. A robust and thorough community engagement strategy is essential in the preparation of this Element. This section summarizes the community outreach and publicity strategy employed for this effort. Appendix A and B supplement this section and includes copies of all community outreach materials and community feedback received.

Community Profiles and Demographics. This section identifies the Communities of Focus in Lompoc and provides an evaluation of baseline demographic data for each. Data analyzed in this section include race and ethnicity, age, income and poverty status, educational attainment, spoken language, and population density.

Environmental Justice Concerns. This section provides an evaluation of baseline (2023) environmental issues within the Communities of Focus including pollution burden, health and wellness, food insecurity, and park access.

Objectives and Policies. The goals and policies described in this section establish how the City will incorporate environmental justice into decision making and support positive outcomes for affected residents.

Implementation. This section establishes the implementation programs the City will undertake to address environmental justice concerns citywide and in the Communities of Focus.

Appendices. This section includes a comprehensive list of associated appendices and reference materials.

Background and Context

Statutory Requirements

With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 1000, California Government Code Section 65302(h) requires local jurisdictions to incorporate environmental justice in their general plans. The law requires local governments to develop policies to reduce the disproportionate exposure to pollution in neighborhoods that also experience increased social and economic challenges. These requirements are organized into two subsections: Section 65302 (h)(1) through Section 65302 (h)(2), which are summarized below:

- **65302 (h)(1)** add to the required elements of the general plan an environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, that identifies “disadvantaged communities.”
- **65302 (h)(1)(A)** identify objectives and policies to promote:
 - Public facilities in disadvantaged communities
 - Food access in disadvantaged communities
 - Safe and sanitary homes in disadvantaged communities
 - Physical activity in disadvantaged communities
- **65302 (h)(1)(A)** identify objectives and policies to reduce:
 - Exposure to pollution, including improving air quality in disadvantaged communities
 - Any unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities
- **65302 (h)(1)(B)** identify objectives and policies to promote civic engagement in the public decision-making process in disadvantaged communities
- **65302 (h)(1)(C)** identify objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities
- **65302 (h)(2)** adoption or revision of environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives (programs), upon the revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018.

California law refers to communities with high levels of environmental and socioeconomic vulnerability as “disadvantaged communities.” Identifying communities faced with social, economic, and environmental challenges as “disadvantaged” does not accurately capture the many strengths these communities also possess, such as a strong sense of community and local community-based organizations and residents working to improve their neighborhood. In recognition of the many assets and importance of this area to the well-being of the City of Lompoc, determined that any area which qualifies as a “disadvantaged community” is more accurately identified as a “Community of Focus.”

Identifying Environmental Justice Communities

This section explains the methodology used by the City to identify a Community of Focus for analysis.

Methodology and Analysis

The City used two geospatial screening tools that analyze socioeconomic, environmental, and health factors to identify if a Community of Focus exists within the city limits.

CalEnviroScreen 4.0: CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is a screening tool developed by the California OEHHA and is the primary screening tool used by the CalEPA to identify disadvantaged communities in California. CalEnviroScreen uses 21 indicators to assess pollution burdens and population vulnerabilities for each census tract in California and assigns a score for each indicator. The higher the score, the more that census tract is impacted by that indicator. Individual indicator scores are then summarized into two primary metrics: pollution burden and population characteristics, which are together calculated to determine an overall CalEnviroScreen score. Census tracts in the top 25 percent of overall CalEnviroScreen scores (percentile scores between 75 and 100) are identified as disadvantaged communities by the CalEPA.

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Cumulative Scores

The **Pollution Burden score** identifies census tracts that are disproportionately affected by pollution exposure and other adverse environmental conditions that pose negative health effects and environmental degradation.

The **Population Characteristics score** identifies census tracts with higher concentrations of people with physiological traits, health status, or community characteristics that can result in increased vulnerability to pollution.

The overall **CalEnviroScreen score** is a cumulative score that combines the Pollution Burden and Population Characteristics scores and represents the cumulative impact of environmental and socioeconomic effects on a community.

EJScreen: EJScreen is a screening tool developed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) that combines environmental and socioeconomic factors to calculate environmental justice index scores for each census block group in the United States. EJScreen provides an environmental justice index score for 12 environmental indicators that then receive a percentile score compared to both countrywide and statewide scores. For the purposes of this Environmental Justice Element, Lompoc block groups were compared to statewide percentile scores and a 75th percentile filter was used as the threshold for identifying environmental justice communities.

Although Lompoc does not have any census tracts in the top 25 percent of overall CalEnviroScreen 4.0 scores, the City used the cumulative pollution burden and population characteristics scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 to identify census tracts to be included in the Lompoc Community of Focus. As shown in Figure EJ-1, Figure EJ-2, and Figure EJ-3, census tracts 6083002702 and 6083002706 have population characteristics scores of 86 and 82, respectively. No census tracts have a pollution burden score above 75 percent, according to CalEnviroScreen 4.0.

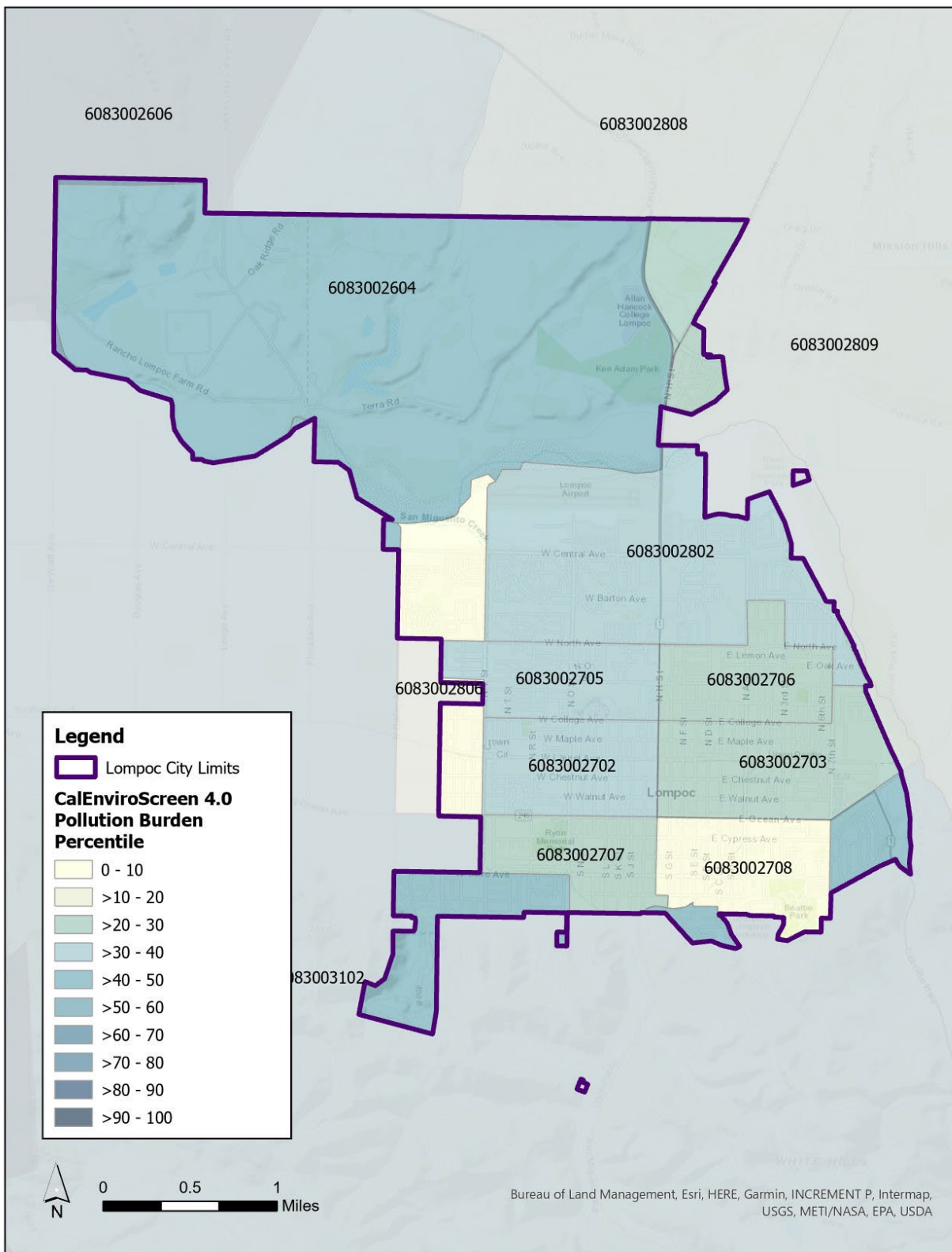
The City understands that community identity and environmental justice issues are not confined to census tract boundaries. With this in mind, the City also chose to include census tracts 6083002703 and 6083002705 in the Lompoc Community of Focus based on the following factors:

- Proximity to census tracts 6083002702 and 6083002706.
- Relatively high population characteristics scores. Both census tracts have vulnerable population characteristics scores of 72, which (although not above 75) is significantly higher than other census tracts in the Lompoc.

EJScreen was used to better understand the conditions within these four census tracts on a more localized level. EJScreen affirmed that the block groups within the identified four census tracts experience significantly higher rates of pollution exposure and vulnerable populations compared to other block groups in Lompoc. Figure EJ-4 shows the identified Community of Focus using the methodology and analysis explained above.

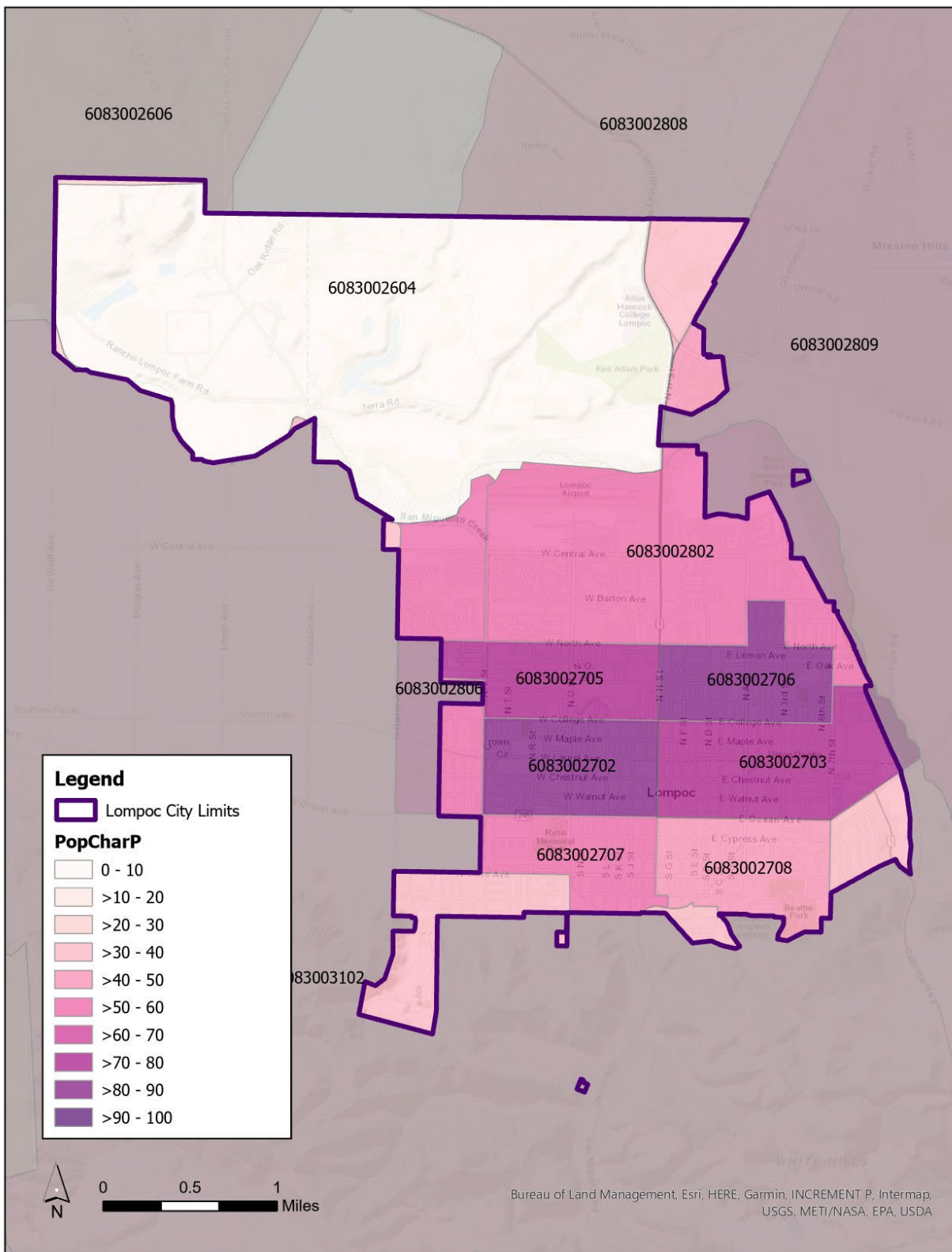
“Disadvantaged Communities” are defined by California State Law as (1) “an area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety code;” or (2) “a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation” pursuant to California Government Code Section 650302(h)(4)(A).

Figure EJ-1 CalEnviroScreen Pollution Burden, Lompoc



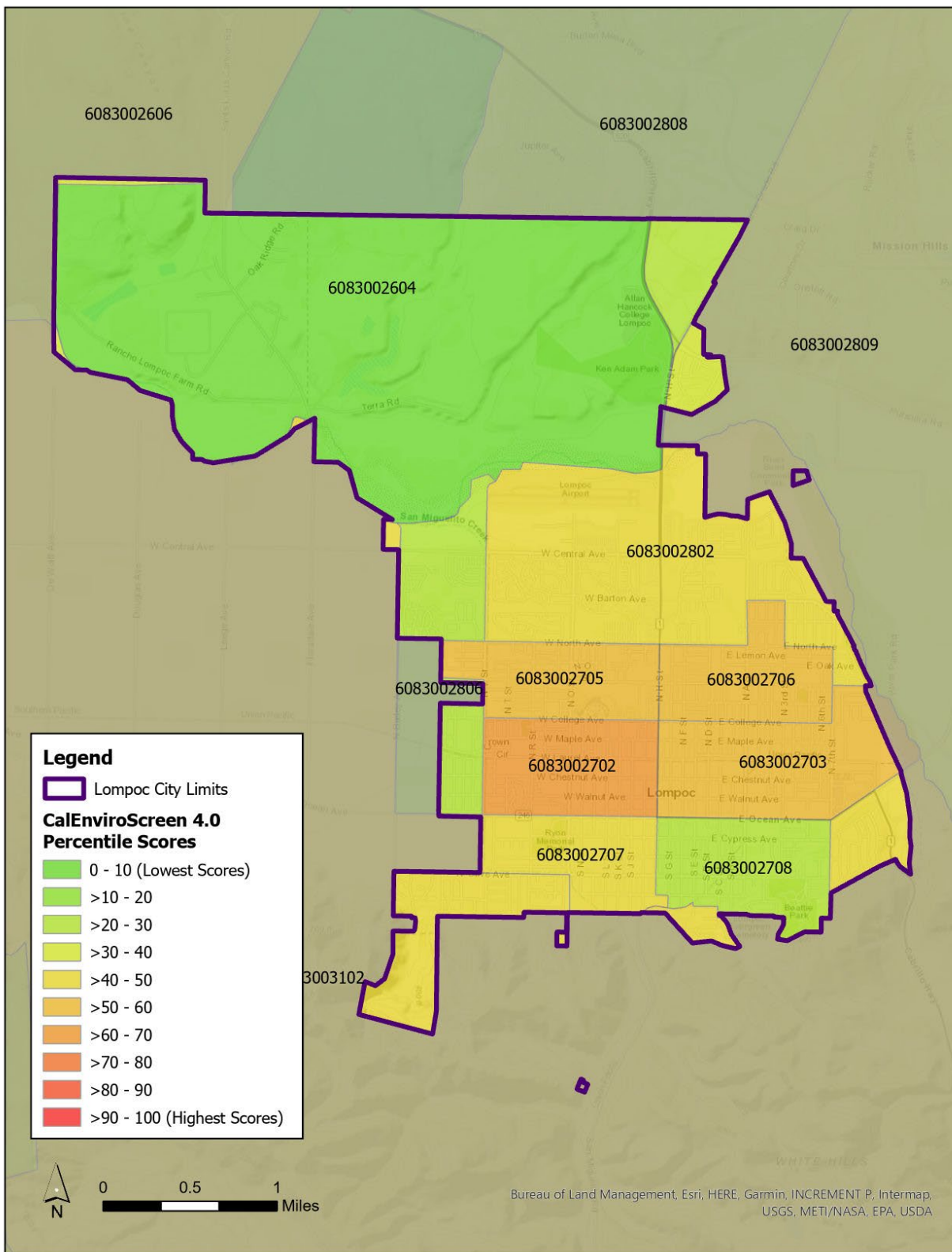
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Figure EJ-2 CalEnviroScreen Population Characteristics, Lompoc



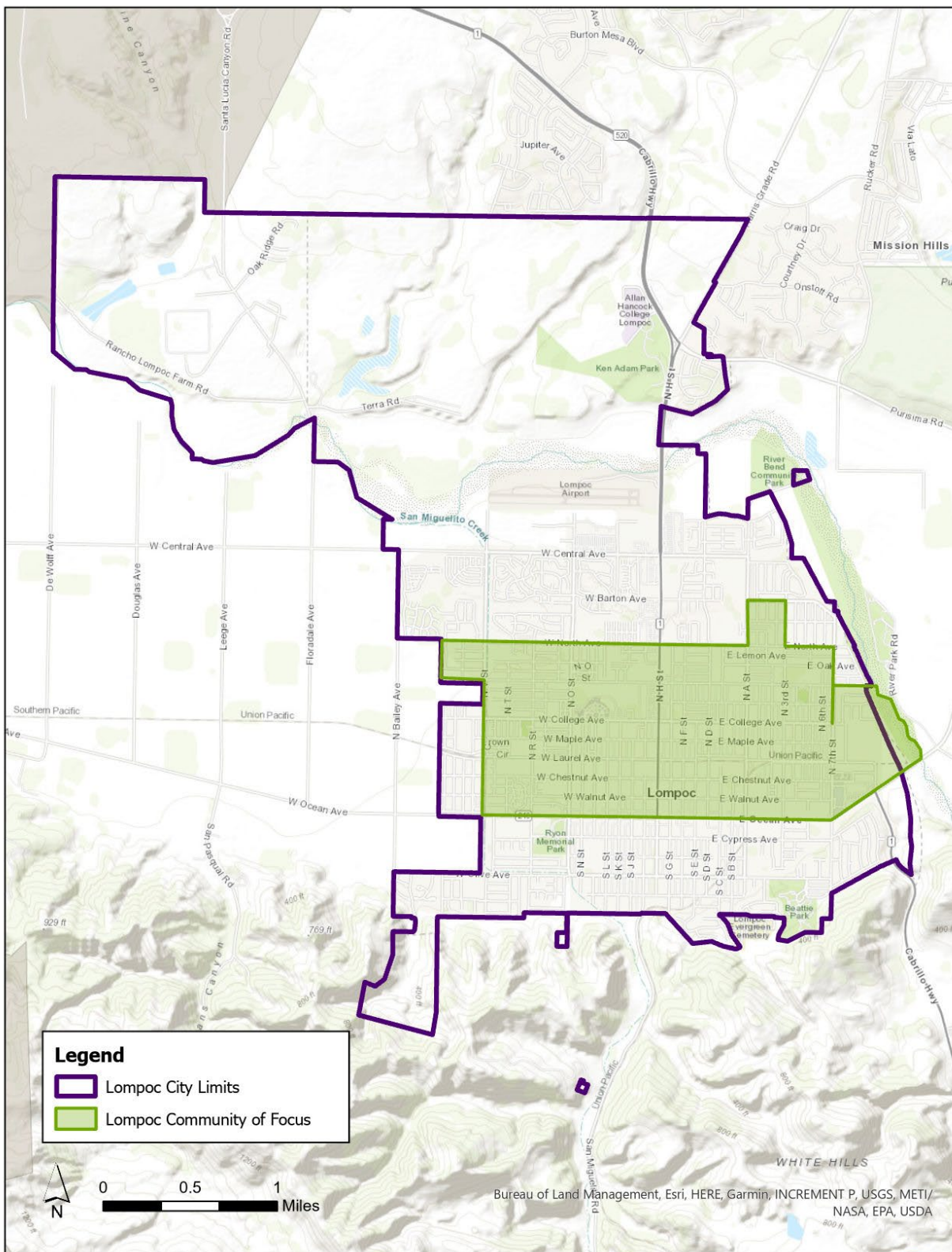
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Figure EJ-3 CalEnviroScreen Overall Census Tract Scores, Lompoc



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Figure EJ-4 Lompoc Community of Focus



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Public Participation

A key principle of environmental justice is engaging the communities most impacted by pollution burden and other environmental justice factors. In January 2023, the City facilitated a series of community engagement events to better understand lived experiences and generate opportunities for the city to improve the quality of life for residents. The publicity and outreach strategy included:

- One community pop-up event
- One community workshop
- An online and physical community survey
- E-blasts, newsletters, and community flyers
- The comments received from the community events and survey were used to develop the goals, policies, and programs outlined in this Environmental Justice Element.

Publicity and Outreach Strategy

Several methods were used to publicize the Environmental Justice Element and associated community engagement opportunities. Below is a summary of the City's publicity strategy:

Project Website: The City updated the project website (EnvisionLompoc.com) two weeks prior to each event with the information, time, and location of the event. The survey was also posted on the website from January 13, 2023, through February 8, 2023. The website has translation options and all materials posted to the website were available in both English and Spanish.

City Website The City updated the Environmental Justice page of the City's website (<https://www.cityoflompoc.com/government/departments/community-development/environmental-justice-element>) with the information, time, and location of each event and a link to the project website (EnvisionLompoc.com).

E-Blasts: The City sent e-mail e-blasts to the project mailing list one week prior to each event with a reminder email sent either the day of or one day prior to the event. A total of eight e-blasts were sent over the course of two months. The e-blasts included the information, time, and location of each event and a link to the project website.

School Newsletter: The City sent event information and a flyer to the Lompoc Unified School District administrative team to send out in the School District's newsletter. A notification was sent one week prior to each event, with a reminder sent the day before.

Community Flyers: On January 21, 2023, the City distributed and posted flyers throughout Lompoc, covering 11 local businesses and community facilities (see list below). The objective was to distribute flyers in diverse locations that experience high foot traffic and cater to a wide range of community members. Both English and Spanish versions of the flyers were displayed at each location.



Credit: Mintier Harnish, 2023

- Lompoc City Hall
- Starbucks (on East Ocean Avenue and South E Street)
- Grocery Outlet (East Ocean Avenue)
- Lompoc Library
- Lompoc Family YMCA
- Goodwill (in Palm Square Shopping Center)
- La Michoacana Ice Cream (in Lompoc Plaza Shopping Center)
- La Favorita Market (in Lompoc Plaza Shopping Center)
- Blenders in the Grass Juice Shop (in Mission Plaza Shopping Center)
- Starbucks (in Mission Plaza Shopping Center)
- Central and H Street Bus Shelter (in Mission Plaza Shopping Center)

Pop-Up Booth at Community Market

On Saturday, January 21, 2023, the City facilitated a booth (“pop-up” booth) at the Lompoc Outdoor Community Market. The market is held every Saturday in the parking lot on West Ocean Avenue and I Street. The pop-up booth engagement was designed to inform the community on the Environmental Justice Element and gather input on the issues and opportunities regarding environmental justice in Lompoc and individual's lived experiences.



Credit: Mintier Harnish, 2023



Credit: Mintier Harnish, 2023

The pop-up booth included posters with information about environmental justice and a survey that was administered by the Project Team in attendance, which allowed the Project Team to engage in more in-depth discussions about their answers. The posters and survey were in both English and Spanish. The survey and posters were also available on the project website (EnvisionLompoc.com) for those who were not able to attend in person or did not have time to take the survey at the pop-up booth.¹ A full summary of survey results and comments received from community members can be found in Appendix B.

Community Workshop

On January 30, 2023, the City hosted a community workshop at Lompoc High School. The workshop included a presentation, informative posters on environmental justice and the overall project, and a mapping activity (see Appendix A for workshop materials). The purpose of the mapping activity was to identify assets, problems, and opportunities in Lompoc across the six environmental justice topics (pollution exposure, public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary housing, physical activity, and civic engagement).

Three large maps of Lompoc were displayed, one for assets, one for problems, and one for opportunities. Participants used sticky notes or directly wrote on the posters to identify specific assets, problems, and opportunities throughout the community. Annotated maps from the workshop can be found in Appendix B.



Credit: City of Lompoc, 2023

¹ Appendix A includes a copy of the posters and survey.

Community Survey

An online survey was available on the project website from January 13, 2023, through February 8, 2023, in both English and Spanish. The survey was divided into six sections covering the six environmental justice topic areas (pollution exposure, public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary housing, physical activity, and civic engagement), with the goal of understanding lived experiences of community members related to each topic area. Each section had two to five questions using a rating system (i.e., "on a scale from 1 to 5..."), with a total of 23 questions.

The same survey was provided to attendees at the community pop-up event in a printed format. In addition to the survey, in-person events included a short mapping activity where participants answered questions related to where they live, work, recreate, and shop in Lompoc; the mode of transportation they use to get to each of those places; and how long it takes to get to their destination from their place of residence. A summary of all survey responses can be found in Appendix B.

Community Profile and Demographics

Location and Context

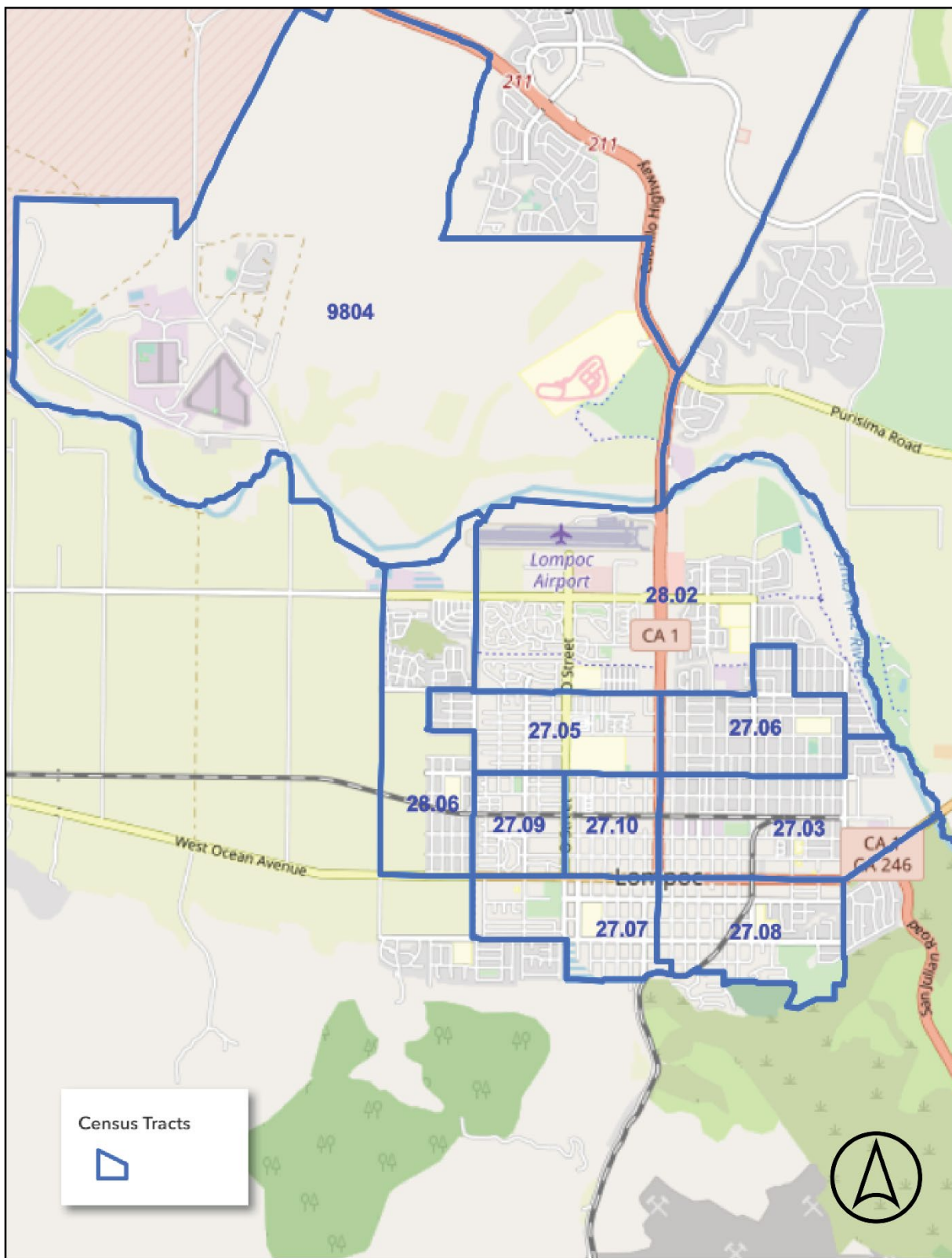
"Community of Focus" refers to the area encompassing the census tracts within the city that experience lower incomes, lower levels of education, higher proportions of minority residents, and a disproportionately large burden of exposure to environmental hazards. These inequities lead to disproportionate pollution burdens, health impacts, and socioeconomic barriers. Five census tracts comprise Lompoc's Community of Focus (see Figures EJ-5):

- **Tract 27.03** (6083002703)
- **Tract 27.05** (6083002705)
- **Tract 27.06** (6083002706)
- **Tract 27.09** (6083002702)
- **Tract 27.10** (6083002702)

Please Note!

In 2021 the City of Lompoc completed a redistricting process. As a result of the redistricting, census tract 6083002702 (27.02) was divided into two separate census tracts: 6083002709 (27.09) and 6083002710 (27.10). Please note: the data sourced from the California Environmental Health and Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen 4.0) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJSCREEN) do not reflect Lompoc's 2021 redistricting process.

Figure EJ-5 Census Tracts Resulting from 2021 Redistricting, Lompoc



The Community of Focus area is approximately 2.4 square miles and is bounded by West Ocean Avenue/Highway 246 to the south, and East/West North Avenue to the north. The area encompasses some of Lompoc’s oldest neighborhoods and significant community assets.

Demographics

The residents of the Community of Focus represent diverse cultures, income, and age. Many of the working families and individuals living in the Community of Focus provide critical support to the agricultural and service industries in the Central Coast region. This section summarizes existing conditions related to populations characteristics, and socioeconomic factors within the Community of Focus compared to the City of Lompoc and Santa Barbara County.

Population and Density

Based on the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, Lompoc has a population of 44,232. As illustrated in Table EJ-2 below, approximately 51 percent of Lompoc’s population reside in the census tracts that comprise the Community of Focus. All identified census tracts in the Community of Focus have significantly higher population densities than Lompoc as a whole (3,807 persons per square mile).

Table EJ-2 Population and Density

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	Community of Focus	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
Population	3,553	3,952	6,519	4,154	4,481	22,659	44,232	443,837
Land Area (sq. mile)	0.81	0.5	0.5	0.27	0.29	2.37	11.62	2,735
Population Density (persons per sq. mile)	4,386	7,904	13,038	15,385	15,452	9,561	3,807	162

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (DPO5), 2021

Race and Ethnicity

Identifying the racial and ethnic makeup of communities is vital to determining the strengths and assets of community networks, resources, and other social capital indicators. It is also important in analyzing disparities related to pollution burdens, health impacts, quality of services, and level of community investments. Furthermore, race and ethnicity are one of the factors considered when measuring health equity and the social determinants of health, along with income, educational attainment, employment status, and access to healthcare. Achieving environmental justice goals requires unequal conditions to be understood and addressed so resulting policies and implementation programs can prevent further inequities.

As shown in Table EJ-3, the largest racial/ethnic group in the Community of Focus is Hispanic or Latino. This is consistent with the City of Lompoc and Santa Barbara County statistics, though the Community of Focus has a larger percentage of Hispanic or Latino population than that of the county. Around 84 percent of the population living in census tract 27.10 identify as Hispanic or Latino. Census tract 27.06 has the second highest Hispanic or Latino population (82 percent), followed by census tract 27.09 (69 percent). White residents make up the second largest racial group in the Community of Focus, Lompoc, and county. Census tracts 27.06 and 27.10 have a significantly lower population of Whites compared to the citywide and countywide totals. The percentage of White residents in the Community of Focus and city are lower than Santa Barbara County's (44.9 percent).

Table EJ-3 Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
White	32.6%	27.5%	13.1%	20.8%	12%	28.6%	44.9%
Black/ African American	0.2%	1.3%	2.2%	1.4%	2.7%	2.4%	1.8%
Asian	1.4%	1.9%	0.4%	5%	0%	3.9%	5.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.3%
Hispanic or Latino	61.9%	67.4%	82%	69%	83.6%	61.4%	45.1%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Two or More Races	3.9%	1.7%	2.1%	3.8%	0.6%	2.8%	2.5%
Other	0%	0.3%	0.1%	0%	0%	0.1%	0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (DP05), 2021

Household Income and Poverty Status

Household income and poverty status are closely linked to a person's ability to access resources and protect themselves from environmental harm. Low-income households and communities are often disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards, such as air and water pollution, and other hazardous waste. In addition, low-income households and communities may have limited access to healthy food, green spaces, and transportation options, which can impact their overall health and well-being. For example, neighborhoods with low-income households may lack access to grocery stores with fresh and healthy food, leading to health problems related to poor nutrition. Furthermore, poverty status can also affect an individual's ability to participate in decision-making processes related to environmental policy and planning. Low-income communities may have less access to information, resources, and decision-making power, which can result in environmental injustices and disproportionate impacts on these communities.

As of 2021, the median income of Lompoc residents is \$60,234; whereas Santa Barbara County's median income is \$84,356. As shown in Table EJ-4, these incomes are higher than the median incomes of all five census tracts in the Community of Focus. Census tract 27.03 has the highest median income of \$55,947, followed by census tract 27.06 with \$51,930, and tract 27.10 (\$46,579).

Table EJ-4 Household Income and Poverty Status

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	Community of Focus Average	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
Median Income (dollars)	\$55,947	\$37,325	\$51,930	\$41,563	\$46,579	\$46,669	\$60,234	\$84,356
Population in Poverty Status	22.5%	24.6%	21%	18.5%	32.7%	23.9%	19.4%	13.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (S1701, S1901), 2021

The Community of Focus has a significantly lower mean income compared to the county, with an average of \$75,837 across all census tracts versus Santa Barbara County's mean income of \$120,192. The Community of Focus census tracts also have a higher percentage of residents living in poverty, except for census tract 27.09 which has a lower poverty rate than the county. Among the tracts in the Community of Focus, tract 27.05 has the lowest mean income of \$37,325, while tract 27.10 has the highest percentage of residents living in poverty, at 32.7 percent.

Educational Attainment

Educational attainment influences the social determinants of health and can also indicate the level of accessibility and involvement in public decision-making processes. According to the California Healthy Places Index, all people should be able to seek opportunities for higher education, access quality jobs and higher wages, gain knowledge to make healthy choices, and build important social and cognitive skills.

As illustrated in Table EJ-5, the Community of Focus has lower educational attainment compared to both Lompoc and Santa Barbara County. Census tract 27.10 has the lowest level of educational attainment, with approximately 45 percent of its residents holding a high school degree or higher and only 2.8 percent of its residents holding a bachelor's degree or higher. Census tract 27.03 has the highest number of college graduates (9.4 percent), while tract 27.05 has the highest number of high school graduates (74.7 percent). However, these percentages are significantly lower than that of Santa Barbara County, where 81.8 percent of its residents hold a high school diploma and 35 percent of its residents hold at least a bachelor's degree.

Table EJ-5 Educational Attainment

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
High School or Higher	69.6%	74.7%	60%	69.4%	44.8%	73.6%	81.8%
Bachelor's or Higher	9.4%	9%	6.4%	8.8%	2.8%	12.2%	35%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (S1501), 2021

Language Spoken and English Proficiency

It is common for residents of impacted communities to speak languages other than English. This has historically created additional barriers to navigate traditional public processes without additional resources and support. Both English and Spanish are the primary languages spoken in the Community of Focus. This is generally consistent with the statistics of Lompoc and Santa Barbara County, though there are more Spanish speakers in the individual census tracts compared to that of the city and county.

Analysis indicates the primary language spoken in census tracts 27.03 and 27.05 is English, whereas census tracts 27.06, 27.09, and 27.10 have a large Spanish speaking population. Specifically, census tract 27.10 has the highest proportion of primarily Spanish speakers, making up 67 percent of its population (see Table EJ-6). Additionally, compared to the City of Lompoc and Santa Barbara County, the Community of Focus has more Tagalog speakers.

Table EJ-6 Language Spoken

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
English	58%	53%	39%	36%	29%	53%	60%
Spanish	40%	44%	61%	58%	67%	42%	33%
French, Haitian, or Cajun	0%	0.5%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%	0.5%
German	0.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%	0.6%
Russian, Polish, and other Slavic	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<0.1%	0.3%
Indo-European	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%	1.1%
Korean	0.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%	0.3%
Chinese	<0.1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.4%	1.3%
Vietnamese	0%	0%	0.1%	0%	0%	0.9%	0.3%
Tagalog	1%	2%	0.3%	5.4%	0%	1.1%	0.9%
Asian and Pacific Island	0.4%	0.4%	<0.1%	0%	0%	0.8%	0.8%

Table EJ-6 Language Spoken

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
Arabic	0.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<0.1%	0.2%
Other languages	0%	0%	0%	0.7%	4%	0.8%	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (S1601), 2021

Age

Age distribution analysis related to environmental justice examines the extent to which the most vulnerable populations – the young and elderly – are impacted. For example, young children and elderly populations are more susceptible to the health effects of environmental hazards such as air pollution and extreme heat. Considering age distribution in environmental justice efforts ensures the needs and concerns of different age groups are considered. This results in more equitable and sustainable communities for everyone.

As shown in Table EJ-7, the percentage of residents between the ages of 15 and 64 and under 15 is similar between the City of Lompoc and the Community of Focus. However, there is a significant variation in the number of residents over 65 years old among the different census tracts in the Community of Focus. Specifically, Census Tract 27.05 has the highest number of residents over 65 years old, whereas tract 27.10 has the lowest number of residents over 65 years old, accounting for around 6 percent of its population. Overall, the age distribution in the Community of Focus is comparable to that of Santa Barbara County, but with a higher percentage of children under the age of 15.

Table EJ-7 Age Distribution

	Census Tract 27.03	Census Tract 27.05	Census Tract 27.06	Census Tract 27.09*	Census Tract 27.10*	Lompoc Community of Focus	City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara County
Children (<15)	794	914	1,838	1,315	1,673	6,534 (28%)	10,486 (23%)	81,750 (18%)
General Population (15-64)	2,249	2,385	4,220	2,582	2,886	14,322 (62%)	28,637 (65%)	293,262 (66%)
Older Population (65+)	510	653	461	257	282	2,163 (9%)	5,109 (12%)	71,463 (16%)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (DP05), 2021

Environmental Justice Concerns in Lompoc

This section provides an evaluation of baseline (2023) environmental justice concerns across the six environmental justice topics (pollution exposure, physical activity, food access, public facilities, safe and sanitary housing, and civic engagement) within the Lompoc Community of Focus.

Conditions in each topic area are assessed based on a variety of datasets including CalEnviroScreen 4.0, EJScreen, Healthy Places Index, U.S. Census Data, and existing land use. In cases where CalEnviroScreen 4.0 or EJScreen percentile scores are used, the higher the score the more that census tract is impacted by that indicator. Percentile scores are measured in comparison to all other census tracts in California. For example, a census tract with a percentile score of 80 in pesticide use has a higher rate of pesticide use than 80 percent of all other census tracts in California. For more information about the environmental justice screening tools used, please refer to the "Identifying Environmental Justice Communities" section of this Element.

Pollution Exposure

Pollution exposure occurs when people come into direct contact with pollutants in the air, water, food, or soil that can result from nearby incompatible land uses or activities. Consistent exposure to pollutants can result in serious health risks such as respiratory infections, cancer, or heart disease. Some vulnerable populations (i.e., children, older adults, and low-income households) and sensitive land uses (i.e., schools, medical facilities, senior living) tend to have physiological traits, health conditions, or community characteristics which make them more susceptible to the negative effects of pollution exposure. Many environmental justice communities are often exposed to multiple sources of pollutants, which can have a compounding effect on health risks.

According to CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and EJScreen, the top pollution burdens in Lompoc's Community of Focus include pesticide use, traffic proximity, and risk management plan (RMP) facility proximity.

Pesticide Use

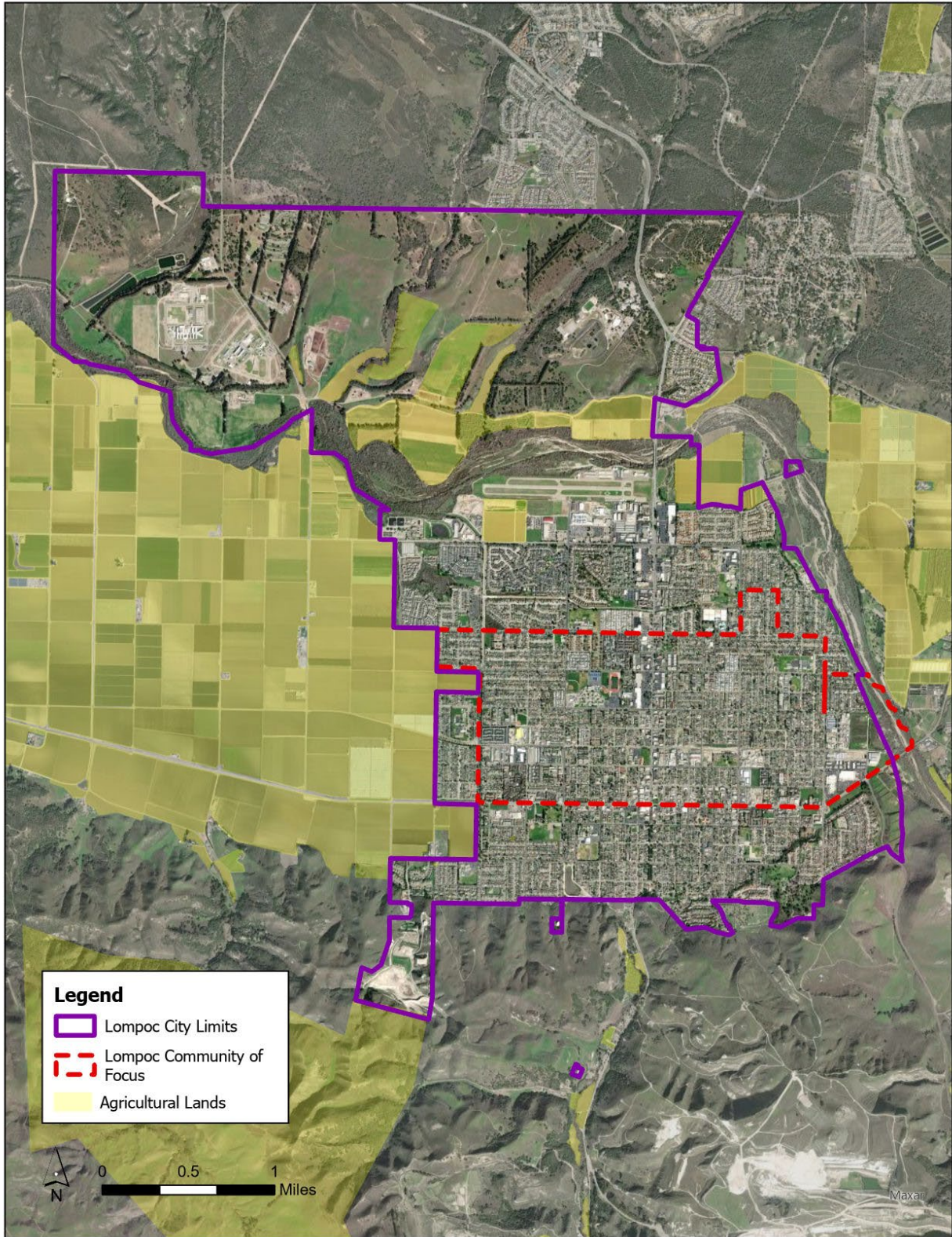
Pesticides are chemicals used by farmers to control insects, plant diseases, and other pests that threaten crops. Pesticides applied in agricultural areas can become airborne and drift to neighboring communities and become a significant source of pollution exposure to residents. Several studies have shown that chronic exposure to harmful pesticides can cause serious health issues such as respiratory illnesses, birth defects, cancer, and neurological impacts.

Community Voices

During community outreach efforts, several residents commented how they can frequently see and smell pesticides in the air that blow in from the agricultural fields, expressing that conditions tend to be worse in the early mornings and when there is a marine layer.

Lompoc is surrounded by farmland that produces flowers, vegetables, and fruit crops. As shown in Figure EJ-6, this farmland abuts Lompoc's city limits with little to no buffer between residential and agricultural uses. Although this farmland is located outside of Lompoc's city limits, pesticide drift can significantly impact residential areas in Lompoc. CalEnviroScreen uses data from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation to assess pesticide exposure for census tracts.

Figure EJ-6 Farmland Surrounding the City of Lompoc





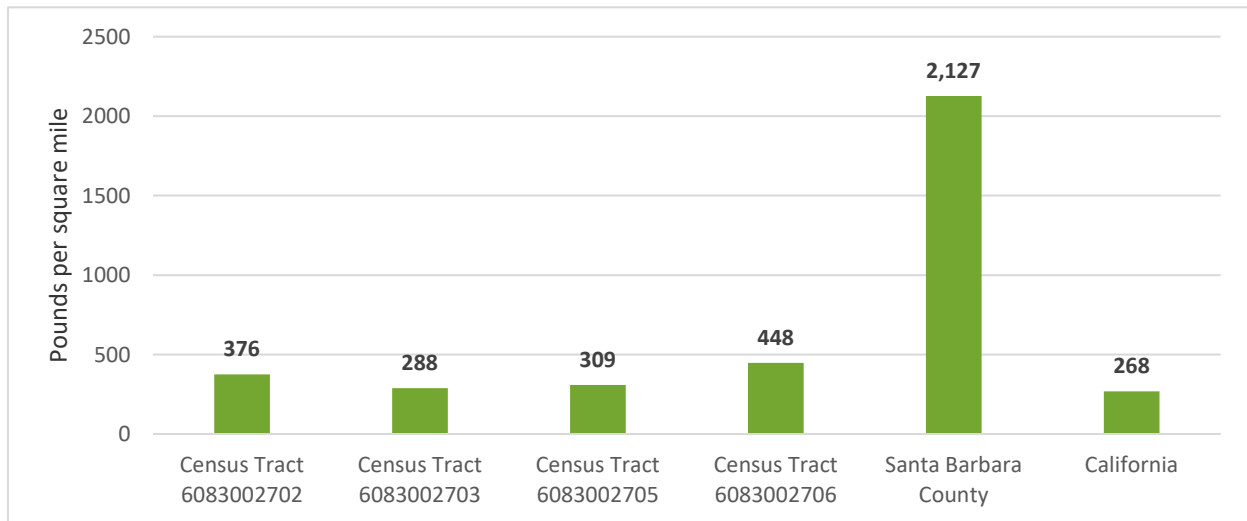
Credit: Adobe Stock, Marritch

Although over 1,000 pesticides are registered for use in California, CalEnviroScreen 4.0's pesticide use indicator only includes the most toxic and volatile pesticides residents may be exposed to. The indicator adds the total pounds per square mile of the 132 selected pesticide ingredients for the years 2017-2019 for each census tract². Pesticides include:

- (Z)-9-hexadecenal
- 2,4-xylenol
- Aluminum phosphide

Figure EJ-7 shows the pounds of active ingredients used per square mile for each census tract in Lompoc's Community of Focus. All census tracts in the Community of Focus have a pesticide use percentile score between 81 and 85, meaning pesticide exposure risk is 83 to 85 percent higher than other census tracts in California. It should be noted that eight out of the nine total census tracts in Lompoc have a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 pesticide use percentile score of 74 or higher, demonstrating that pesticide exposure is a significant issue across the entire city of Lompoc in addition to the Community of Focus.

Figure EJ-7 Pesticide Use in Lompoc's Community of Focus (2017-2019)



² Only pesticides used on agricultural commodities are included in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 indicator.

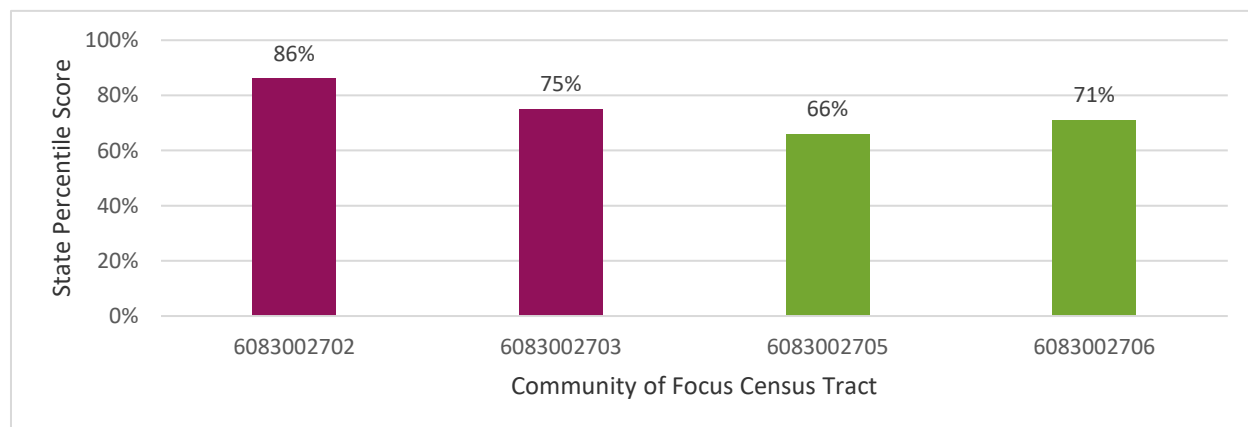
Traffic Proximity

People who live near major roads and highways have an increased exposure to the health and safety risks of high traffic volumes, such as air pollution from vehicle exhaust, noise pollution, and pedestrian collisions. Studies show people of color and low-income households are more likely to live in high-traffic areas and have higher rates of traffic-related health impacts. These include asthma, lung and heart disease, and bronchitis³.

Consistent noise pollution generated from traffic can also adversely affect nearby residents and lead to health issues including stress related illnesses, high blood pressure, sleep disruption, and decreased productivity.⁴ Risk of pedestrian and bicycle injuries and fatalities increase significantly along major roadways and highways as a result of higher vehicle speeds. Residential streets surrounding high-traffic or high-speed roadways can also be at higher risk of pedestrian and bicyclist collisions because a motorist will often detour through side streets to avoid traffic, resulting in increased speeds on residential roads.

Although the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Traffic Impacts Indicator scores were not high in the Lompoc Community of Focus, EJScreen reported high Traffic Proximity scores for several block groups in the Community of Focus. The Traffic Proximity score is calculated by combining the demographic factors and the average annual daily traffic (AADT) on major roads and highways within 1,700 feet of a census block group. As the score increases, the probability of residents in that census block being exposed to elevated levels of noise and air pollution also increases. In Lompoc, block groups with the highest Traffic Proximity index scores are primarily located along H Street and Ocean Avenue, where they align with Highway 1, as seen in Figure EJ-8. Figure EJ-9 shows the average Traffic Proximity State percentile score for each census tract in the Lompoc Community of Focus.

Figure EJ-8 Traffic Proximity State Percentile Score, Lompoc Community of Focus

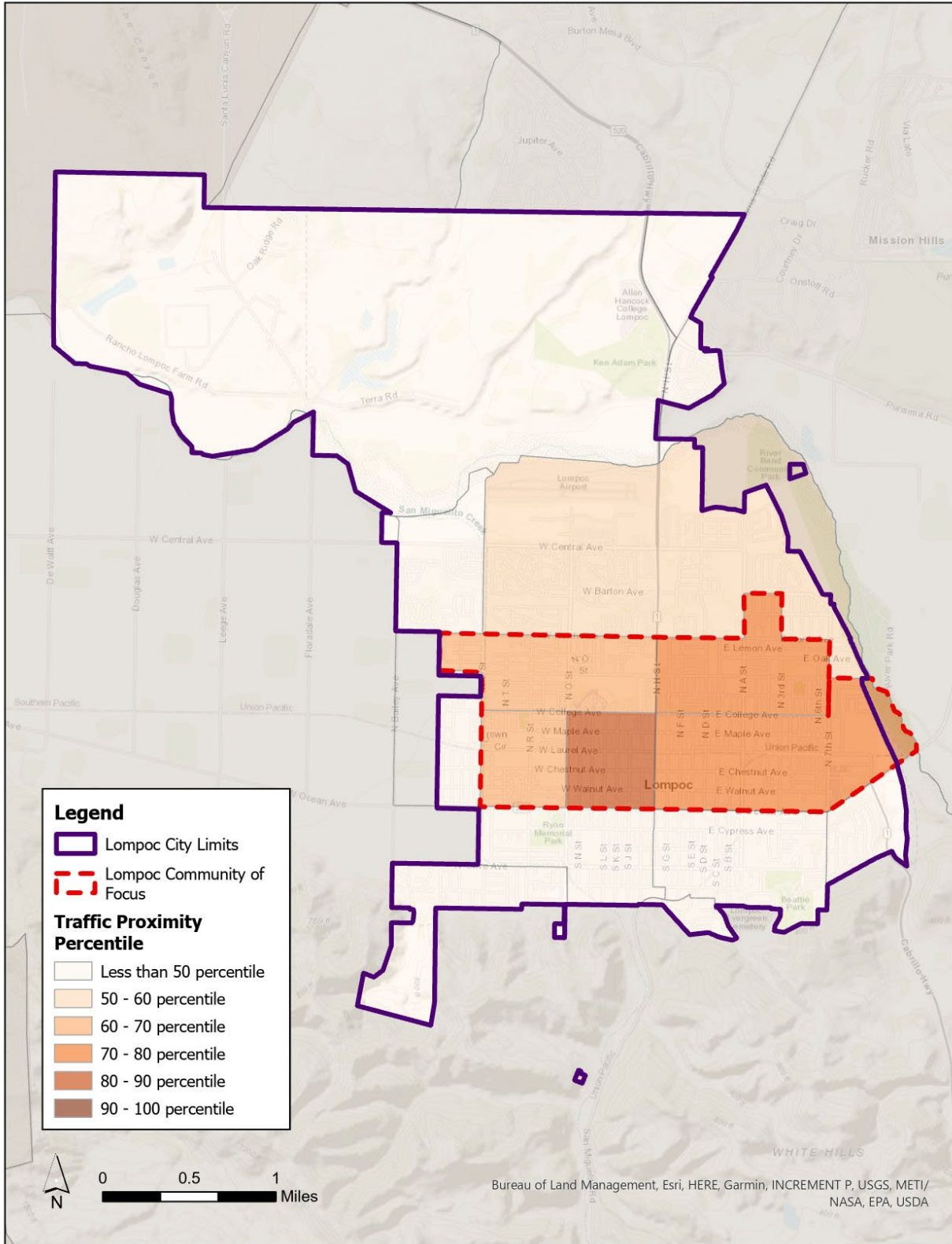


³ CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Report

⁴ United States Environmental Protection Agency. <https://www.epa.gov/clean-air-act-overview/clean-air-act-title-iv-noise-pollution#:~:text=Health%20Effects,sleep%20disruption%2C%20and%20lost%20productivity>.

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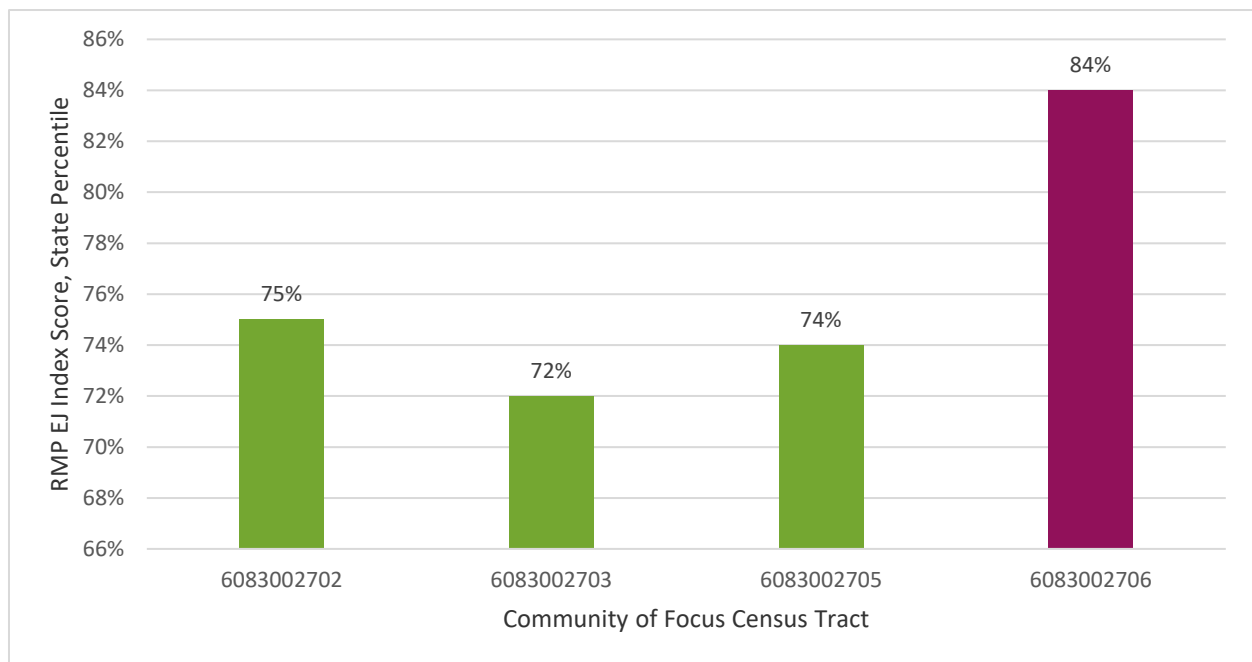
Figure EJ-9 Traffic Proximity Scores in the Lompoc Community of Focus



Risk Management Plan Facility Proximity

The EPA requires facilities that use extremely hazardous substances to develop a risk management plan (RMP). RMPs provide local authorities important information on how to respond to a potential chemical emergency, such as effects of a chemical emergency, steps the facility is taking to prevent an accident, and emergency response procedures that should be followed in the event an accident occurs. People living near a facility requiring an RMP are at higher risk of negative impacts or need of emergency services in the event of a chemical accident. EJScreen calculates the RMP Facility Proximity score by counting the number of RMP facilities within three miles of a census block group (see Figure EJ-10). As the RMP Facility Proximity score increases, the probability of residents in that census block being exposed to hazardous materials and waste increases.

Figure EJ-10 RMP Facility Proximity Scores in the Lompoc Community of Focus



Healthy Food Access

Adequate access to healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate food is key to high quality of life in any community. Food access is linked not only to physical proximity to grocers and other food providers, but also ensuring households can afford the types and amount of food adequate to live a healthy and active lifestyle, also known as food security. Environmental justice communities often have a more difficult time achieving food security since residents in these communities tend to be lower income and less likely to have regular access to a vehicle to drive to grocery stores that are further away.

Food Environment

As of 2023, there are nine grocery stores in the Lompoc city limits, four of which are located within the Community of Focus and two just outside of the Community of Focus. Figure EJ-11 shows grocery store locations in relation to residential areas in Lompoc within a half mile designating reasonable walking distance around each grocery store. As shown in Table EJ-8, about 58 percent of the residential areas in the Lompoc Community of Focus are within a half mile⁵ of a grocery store, which is higher than the other residential areas in the city. This finding was further supported when talking with residents, emphasizing that access to grocery stores is not a primary concern in the Lompoc Community of Focus.

While it is essential for jurisdictions to strive for increased grocery store access in their communities, the current access to grocery stores appears to be sufficient in meeting the needs of the residents in the Lompoc Community of Focus. However, access and proximity to grocery stores is only one factor when analyzing food access, a further discuss in Food Insecurity section, below. The grocery stores within walking distance to Community of Focus residents include:



Credit: Adobe Stock, Noel Powell

- **ALDI:** 729 N H St, Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Grocery Outlet:** 316 East Ocean Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Dollar General Market:** 1124 West Ocean Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436
- **La Favorita Market:** 720 North H St, Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Lompoc International Market:** 404 North H St, Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Super Carnicera La Chiquita:** 819 West Laurel Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436

Additionally, the Route One Farmer's Market held in the northern part of the city in Vandenberg Village is held every Sunday and accepts CalFresh EBT and Market Match, which doubles EBT benefits up to 10 dollars, and offers translation services. In 2022, the Route One Market launched a mobile market that makes various stops throughout Lompoc throughout the week.

⁵ One-half mile is an industry standard for measuring a reasonable walking distance.

Households in the Community of Focus are more likely to have limited or no access to a vehicle, which is important to households not within walking distance of a grocery store. About 13 percent of households in the Community of Focus do not have access to a vehicle, compared to approximately nine percent of households citywide and six percent countywide⁶. Vehicle access can be important for food access if households not within walking distance to a grocery store also do not have access to a vehicle or reliable public transit to get to a grocery store.



Credit: Grocery Outlet Bargain Market, 2023

As shown in Figure EJ-11, three of these grocery stores are identified as ethnic grocery stores. These grocery stores carry products specific to certain cultures that are typically not carried by mainstream supermarkets. Ethnic grocery stores are important in providing culturally appropriate foods and increasing food availability. All three ethnic grocery stores in Lompoc are located within the Community of Focus.

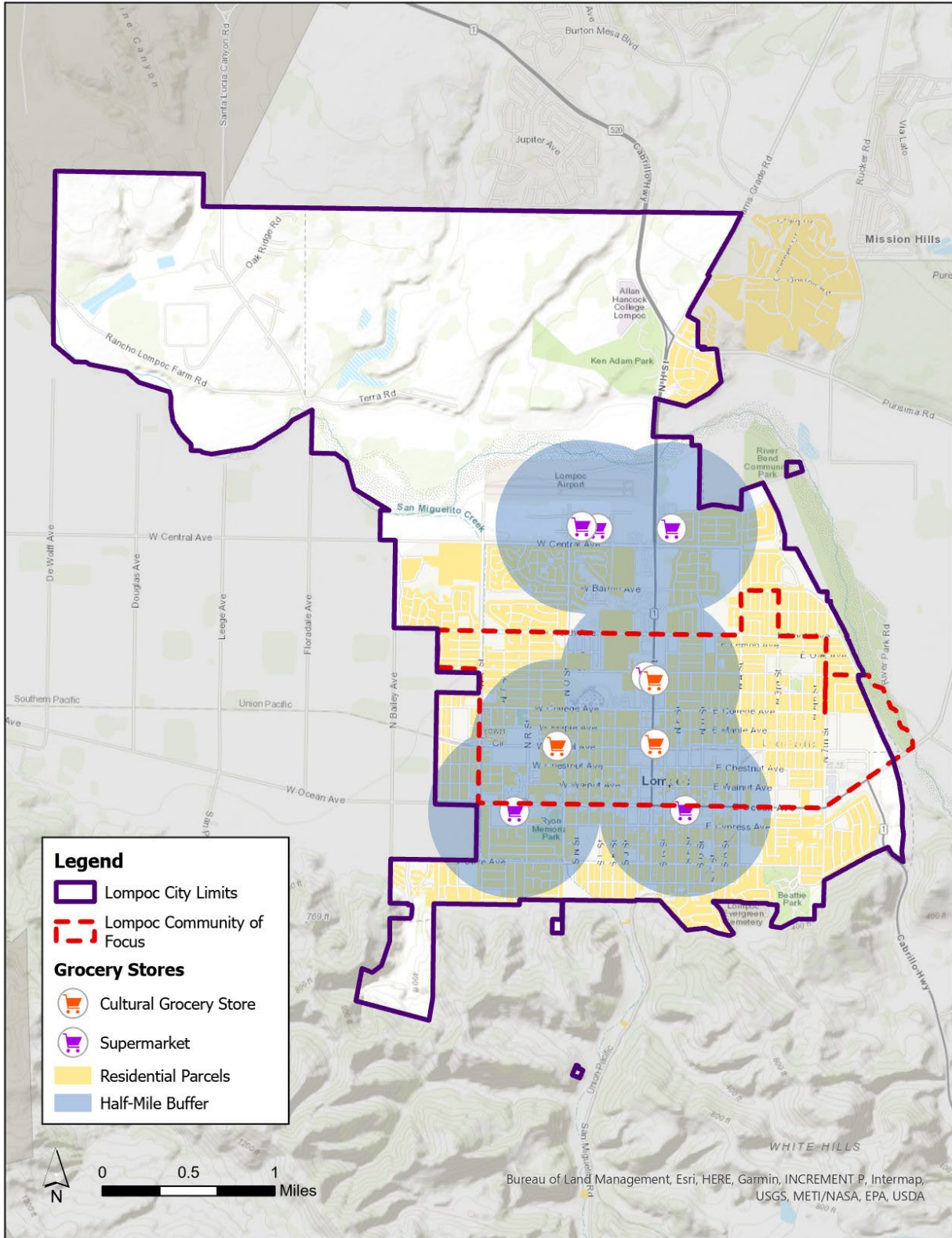
Table EJ-8 Percentage of Residential Areas within ½ Mile of a Grocery Store

	Number of Residential Parcels	Number of Residential Parcels within ½ mile of Grocery Store	Percentage of Residential Parcels within ½ mile of Grocery Store
Lompoc Community of Focus	3772	2172	57.6%
Non-Community of Focus	5875	2665	45.4%
Citywide	9636	4836	50.2%

Source: City of Lompoc, Mintier Harnish; 2023

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (Table S2504)

Figure EJ-11 Grocery Stores in Lompoc, 2023



Food Insecurity

Physical proximity to grocery stores is important but is not the only indicator in determining food security. People living near a grocery store can still lack the income, skills, or nutritional education to buy and prepare healthy food on a regular basis. Although the Community of Focus has relatively high access to grocery stores compared to other parts of the city, it has the lowest median incomes and highest poverty rates in Lompoc.

The census tracts in the Community of Focus have a median annual household income between \$37,000 and \$56,000, which is less than the citywide median income (\$60,234) and significantly less than the countywide median income (\$84,356). Additionally, the Lompoc Community of Focus has higher poverty rates (between 18.5 percent and 32.7 percent than the city (19.4 percent) or county (13.4 percent)).

Although food assistance programs such as SNAP are available to low-income households, some low-income households do not meet income eligibility requirements, but are still food insecure. In 2021, Feeding America estimated that Santa Barbara County had a food insecurity rate of nearly nine percent. Of that approximate nine percent, about 21 percent of food insecure people had an income above the SNAP income limits⁷.

Additionally, SNAP benefits may not always cover the cost of meals⁸, especially in areas with a higher cost of living. Feeding America estimates the average meal cost in Santa Barbara County is \$3.89; however, SNAP benefits in California cover approximately \$2.50 to \$3.00 per meal depending on the household size.



Credit: Carniceria Jalisco, 2023

⁷ Feeding America, Map the Food Gap (2021) <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2021/overall/california/county/santa-barbara>

⁸ Assuming three meals a day, seven days a week.

Physical Activity

Regular physical activity is a major contributor to mental and physical health. People who are physically active have higher life expectancy and lower risks of serious chronic illnesses including diabetes, heart disease, depression, and anxiety. The built environment plays a key role in determining whether a community has opportunities to engage in regular physical activity by providing convenient and safe access to parks, recreational facilities, open space, and well-connected pedestrian and bike networks. Environmental justice communities can experience less opportunities for regular physical activity due to discriminatory land use practices and lack of investment, resulting in fewer facilities such as parks and bike lanes in these areas.

Table EJ-9 shows the prevalence of chronic health issues and risk factors in the Lompoc Community of Focus compared to the city and county. The Community of Focus has slightly higher rates of smoking, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity than the city. Rates for these factors in the Community of Focus, with the exception of heart disease, are significantly higher than the county.

Table EJ-9 Risk Factors and Chronic Diseases, Lompoc Community of Focus

	Lompoc Community of Focus	Lompoc (City)	Santa Barbara County
Adults who currently smoke	12%	10.3%	7.3%
Adults ever diagnosed with diabetes	16.1%	14.2%	11.6%
Adults ever diagnosed with heart disease	6.6%	6.5%	7.4%
Adults with obesity (BMI \geq 30)	32.9%	28.7%	22.6%
Adults with serious psychological distress	13.9%	14.5%	15.3%

Source: UCLA California Health Interview Survey, 2020

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

Park Accessibility

Access to quality parks and other recreational areas promote physical activity by providing residents safe and enjoyable areas to exercise and recreate. There are 13 parks located in the City of Lompoc, four of which are in the Community of Focus: Johns-Manville Park, Pioneer Park, College Park, and Thompson Park. Additionally, Ryon Memorial Park is located outside of the Community of Focus boundary on the south side of West Ocean Avenue.

Johns-Manville Park: A 6.5-acre park located in the southeast portion of the Community of Focus and includes a playground, barbeques, a basketball court, two little league baseball fields with spectator areas, a basketball court, seating areas, and open grass areas.

Pioneer Park: A five-acre park located in the northeastern portion of the Community of Focus and includes a lighted baseball field with spectator areas, a playground, seating areas, a small pre-school building, and open field areas.

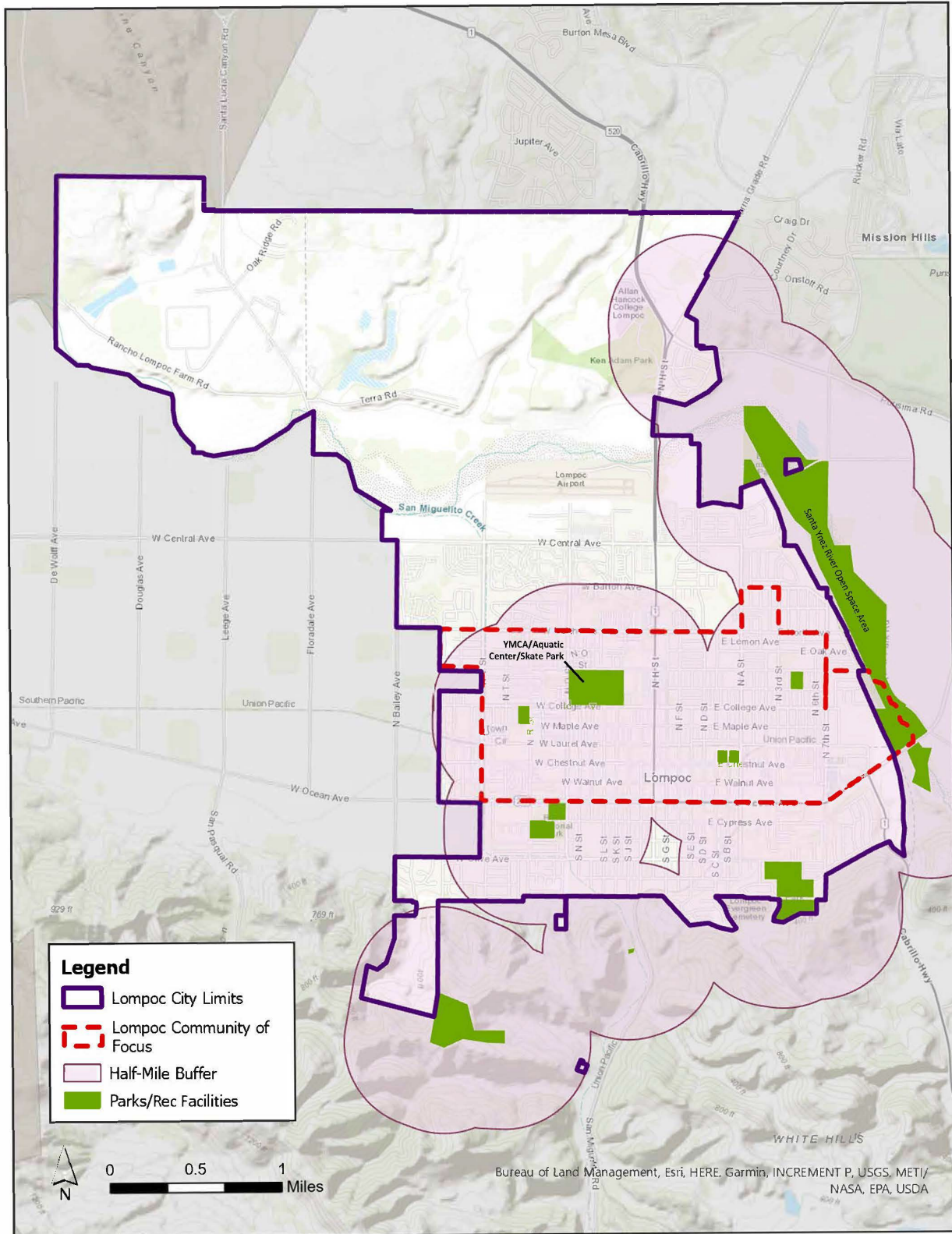
College Park: A 4.6-acre park located at the center of the Community of Focus next to Lompoc High School and is the location of the Lompoc YMCA, Lompoc Aquatic Center, and a 10,000 square foot skate park which is planned for a complete renovation in 2024.

Thompson Park: A 5-acre park located in the southwestern portion of the Community of Focus and includes a lighted softball field with spectator areas, a playground, seating areas, and open grass fields.

Figure EJ-12 shows parks⁹ located in Lompoc within one-half mile buffer. Nearly all (99 percent) of residential parcels in the Community of Focus are located within one-half mile of a park. Although most residents in the Community of Focus have access to a park, it is also important to note the quality and maintenance of park space. Well-maintained parks that have facilities such as bathrooms, sports fields, and playgrounds are more likely to generate use and promote physical activity. Lompoc currently does not have an official assessment report on parkland quality and maintenance, however, several community members during community outreach efforts expressed the need for better maintenance of parks and improvements to facilities such as lighting and sports fields.

⁹ Lompoc High School is included as a park because the public is allowed to access the school track and field facilities outside of school hours, providing a significant public recreational space for residents.

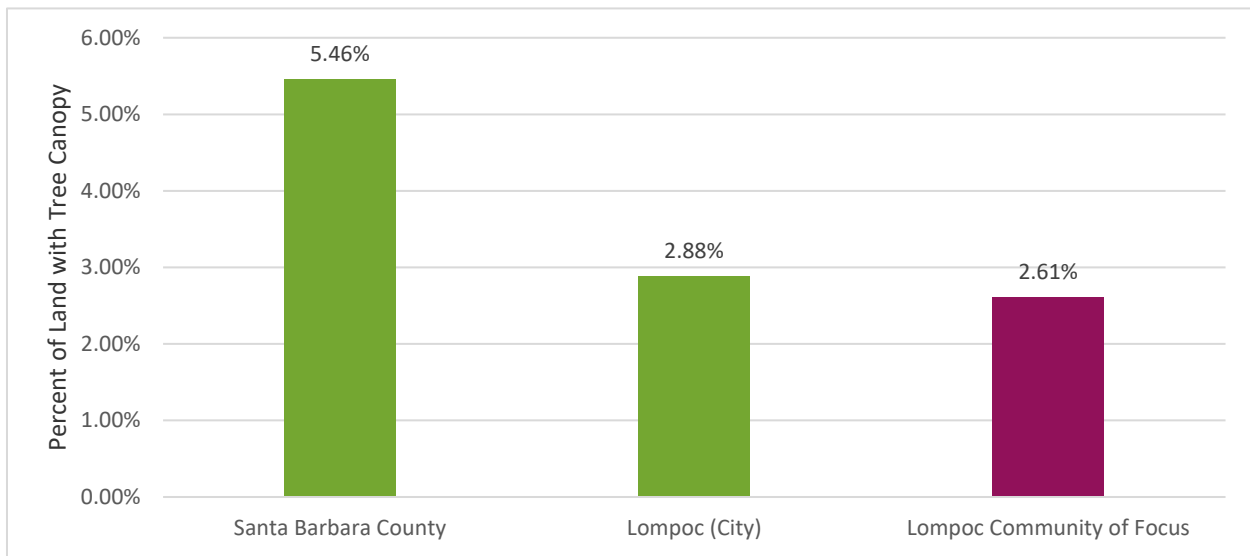
Figure EJ-12 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Access in Lompoc



Tree Canopy

An urban tree canopy can have various positive health outcomes and help improve quality of life. Trees can help mitigate the effects of climate change and extreme heat events by providing shade and creating a cooling effect in urban areas with high concentrations of concrete and asphalt. Tree canopies can also promote physical activity by creating a more comfortable environment for pedestrians and bicyclists. As shown in Figure EJ-13, less than three percent of land in Lompoc has a tree canopy, with the Community of Focus having slightly less.¹⁰ During community outreach efforts, several residents commented that Lompoc used to have a significant amount of street trees but have been removed in the past two decades.

Figure EJ-13 Percent of Land with Tree Canopy



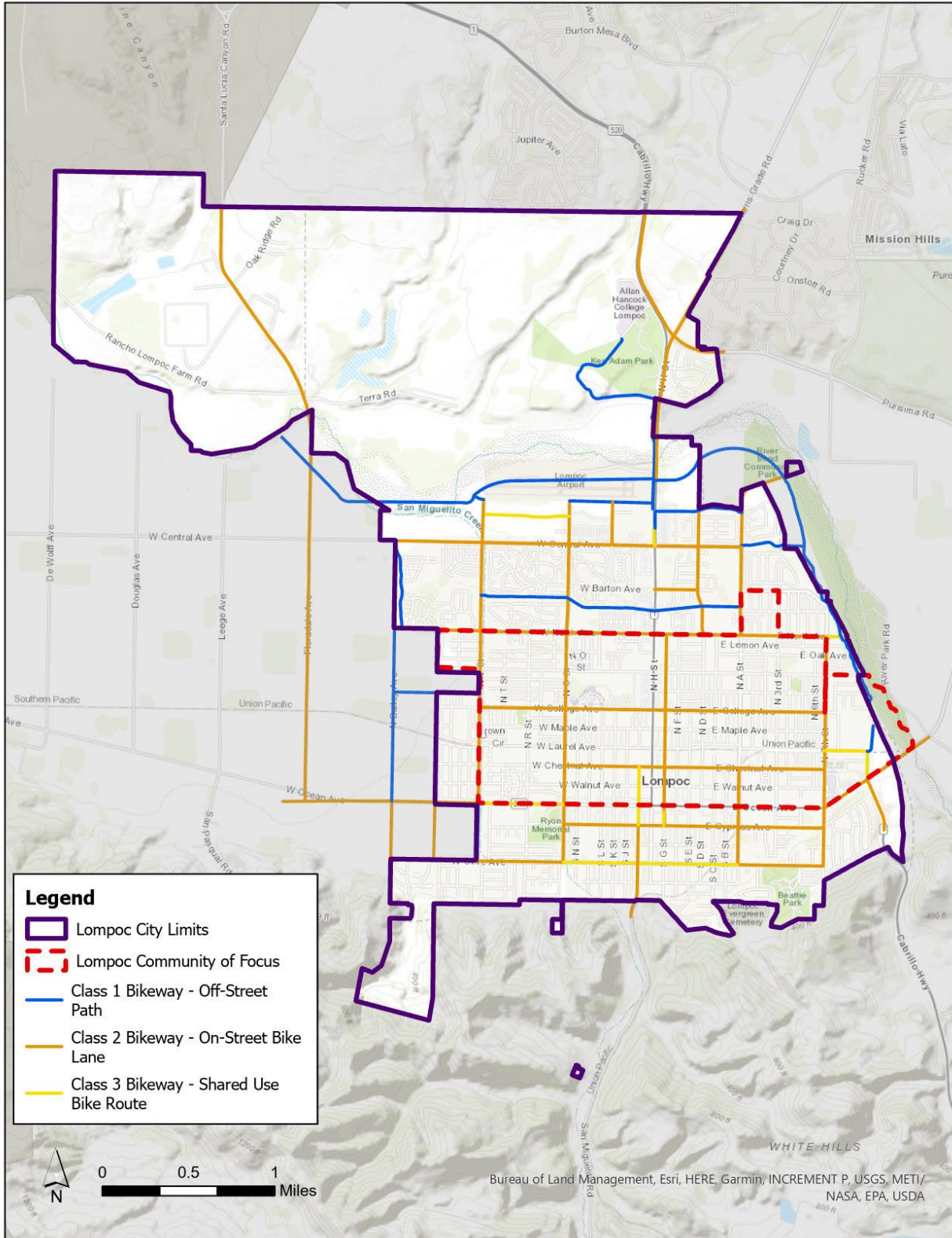
Active Transportation

In addition to adequate park access, safe and well-connected pedestrian and bike facilities promote physical activity while also reducing traffic and pollution. Between 2012 and 2022, there were 260 reported traffic collisions in Lompoc that involved bicycles or pedestrians. About 77 percent of these reported collisions occurred in the Community of Focus. A high concentration of these collisions occurred along major roadways, specifically North H Street (Highway 1), West North Avenue, West College Avenue, and West Ocean Avenue.

Figure EJ-14 shows the existing bike network in Lompoc. There are a significant number of Class II bike lanes throughout the city, including in the Community of Focus. Although there are currently no bike facilities on H Street or Ocean Avenue, there are bike lanes located on West Cypress Avenue and North G Street, which run parallel to H Street and Ocean Avenue.

¹⁰ California Healthy Places Index, 2023

Figure EJ-14 Lompoc Bike Network



Public Facilities

Access to high-quality public facilities and services are important to the health, safety, and overall quality of life for any community. State law defines public facilities as “public improvements, public services, and community amenities” and includes a wide range of categories such as emergency services, healthcare facilities, parks, schools, transportation, childcare services, and community centers.

Environmental justice communities frequently do not have adequate access to public facilities in their neighborhoods or existing public facilities are not well-maintained or do not meet the needs of the community. This section describes the public facilities accessible to residents in Lompoc’s Community of Focus.

Educational and Childcare Facilities

Schools

Higher educational attainment is correlated with higher income and opportunity, therefore access to a variety of local, public educational facilities is important to improved quality of life. Educational facilities include public primary and secondary schools, colleges, and libraries. Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD) has 16 public schools: seven elementary schools, two middle schools, one kindergarten-eighth grade school, and three high schools. Of these schools, 10 are within Lompoc’s city limits, with three in the Community of Focus. LUSD also has the Lompoc Adult School and Career Center, which offers classes and programs for adults.



Credit: Adobe Stock, pololia

As shown in Figure EJ-15, four LUSD schools are located in the Community of Focus (Lompoc High School, La Canada Elementary School, Leonora Fillmore Elementary School, and the Lompoc Adult School and Career Center) and three LUSD schools located within a half mile outside of the Lompoc Community of Focus (Clarence Ruth Elementary School, Lompoc Valley Middle School, and Hapgood Elementary School). Additionally, there are two public (tuition-free) charter schools and two private schools in or within a half-mile of the Lompoc Community of Focus. In addition to primary and secondary educational facilities, Lompoc also has one college, Allan Hancock Community College, located in the north part of the city off Highway 1, about three miles from the center of the Lompoc Community of Focus.

Overall, there is adequate access to schools in Lompoc for primary, secondary, and post-secondary education.



Credit: City of Lompoc

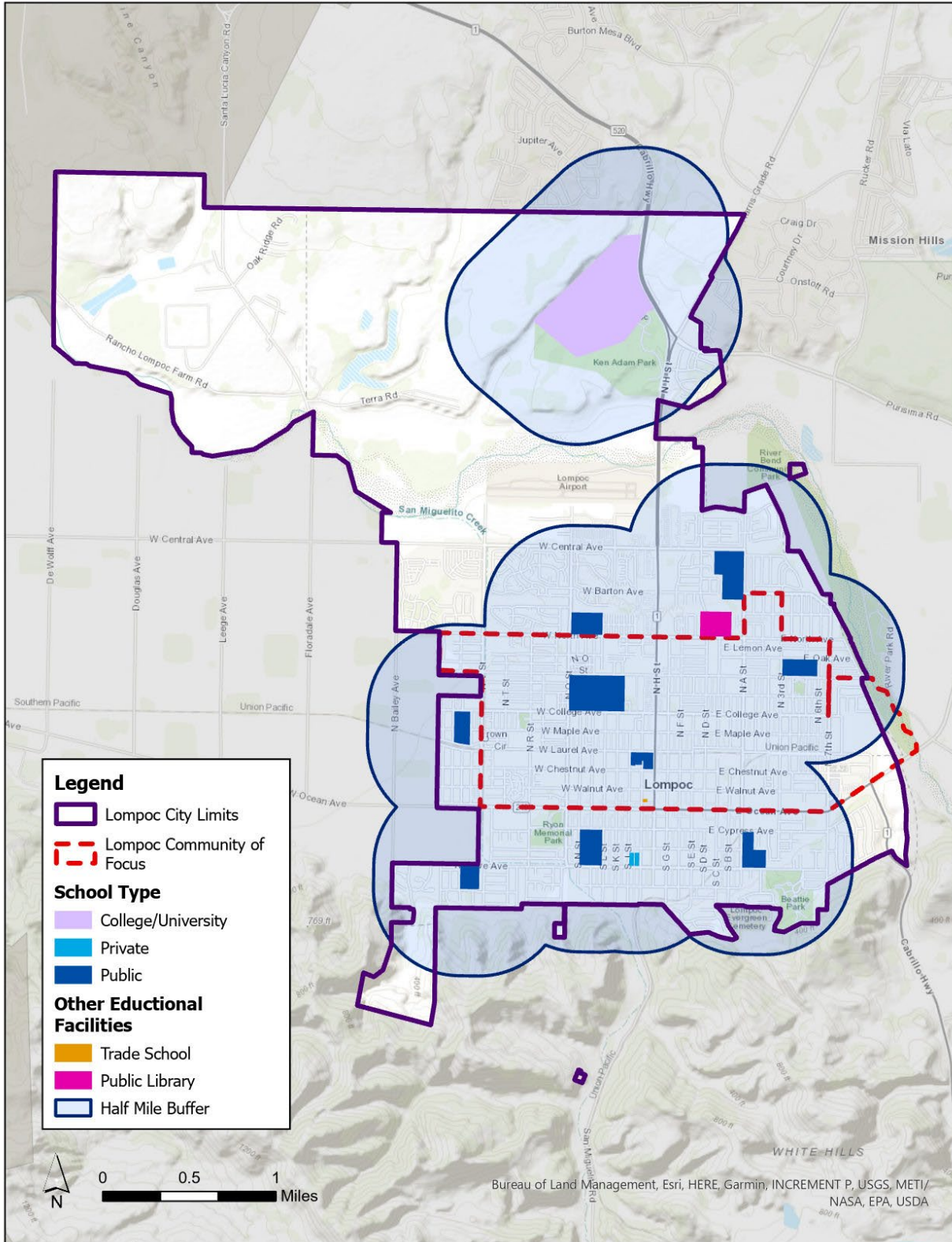
Libraries

Lompoc has two public libraries (see Figure EJ-15). The Lompoc Main Library is located on East North Avenue on the boundary of the Community of Focus. The library is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday through Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is also a library located in the Vandenberg Village community. The Vandenberg Village Library is in the northern part of the city on Constellation Road. The city also hosts Charlotte's Web Bookmobile which is a mobile library designed to serve young children (infancy to grade six). The Bookmobile focuses its stops at afterschool programs, low-income housing, homeless shelters, and preschools.

Library locations within the city (except for the Charlotte's Web Bookmobile) provide free public access to computers, internet connection, online databases, and software programs. The library system also provides access to an eLibrary and a variety of services such as online tutoring, an adult literacy program, and social events.

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Figure EJ-15 Libraries and Educational Facilities in Lompoc



Childcare

Childcare facilities and after school programs are an important community resource, especially for single-parent households, because it allows parents to participate in the workforce. According to the California Department of Social Services, there are 21 licensed childcare facilities in Lompoc, including 17 traditional day care centers, two school age day care centers, and two infant care centers. Of these, 11 traditional day care centers and the two infant centers are located in the Community of Focus.

Medical and Emergency Services

According to the California Department of Public Health, there are 10 medical facilities in Lompoc. Of these facilities there are two urgent care facilities and one general acute care hospital (Lompoc Valley Medical Center) which provide immediate and emergency medical services. Seven medical facilities are in the Community of Focus; however, the Lompoc Valley Medical Center is located outside the Community of Focus on East Ocean Avenue.

Lompoc has two fire stations, one of which is located outside the Community of Focus on South G Street, with a total of four fire engines. The Lompoc Police Department has a station located south of the Community of Focus on Civic Center Plaza.

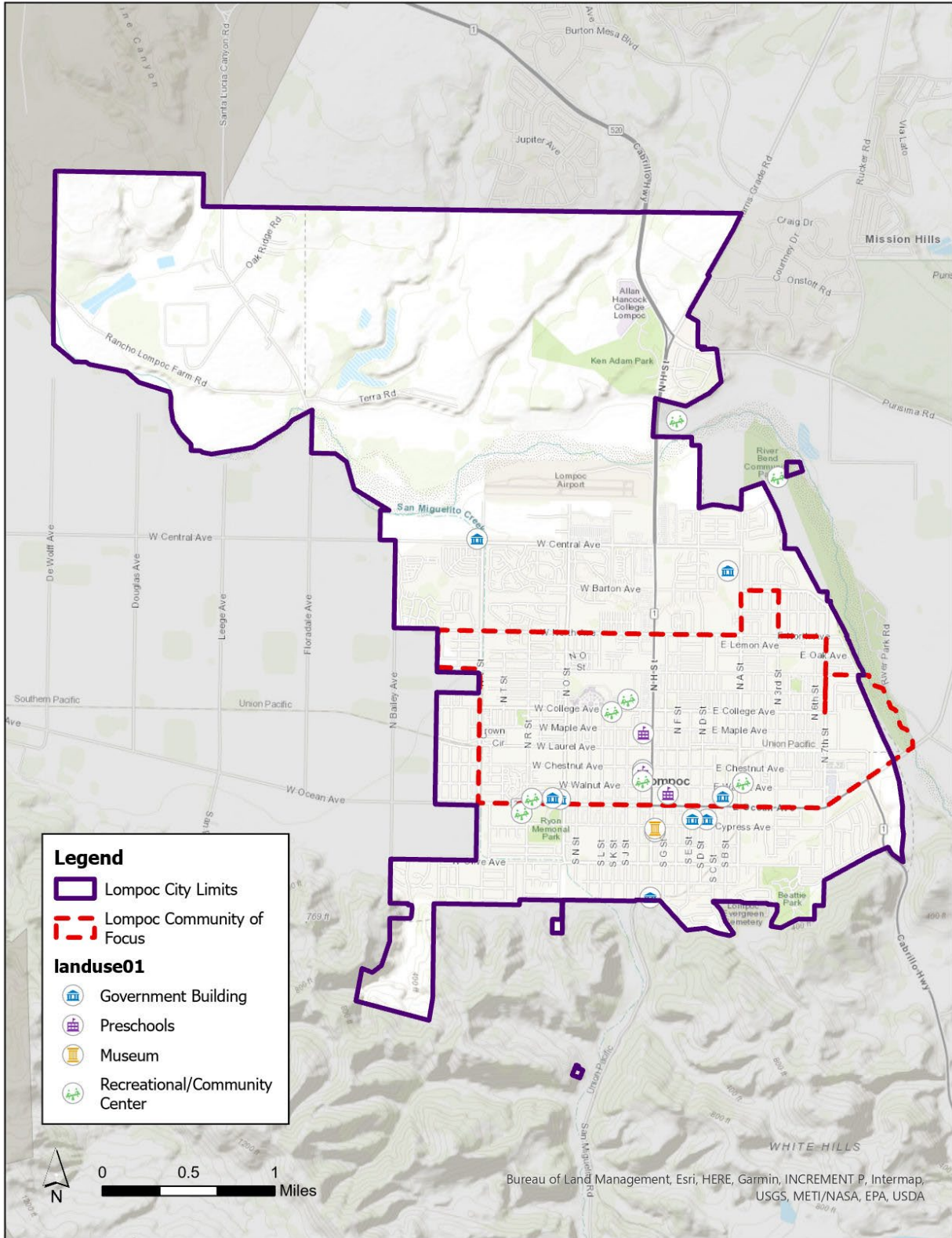
Community Centers and Recreational Facilities

Community centers and recreational facilities are important resources for any community for improved quality of life. These facilities support physical activity, educational opportunities, and community meetings and events. Figure EJ-16 shows the location of these facilities in relationship to the Community of Focus.

Anderson Recreation Center: Anderson Recreation Center is located in the southern portion of the Community of Focus just west of H Street. The recreation center includes a large gymnasium, a basketball court, a volleyball court, commercial kitchen, and two meeting rooms. Anderson Recreation Center is connected to the City of Lompoc Transit system (COLT) via Route 3.

Dick DeWees Community & Senior Center: The Dick DeWees Community & Senior Center is located outside the southern portion of the Community of Focus on West Ocean Avenue. The 15,000 square foot center includes a banquet room, multipurpose room, and two commercial kitchens. The center is primarily used as a community meeting and event space.

Figure EJ-16 Lompoc Community Centers and Recreational Facilities



Public Transportation



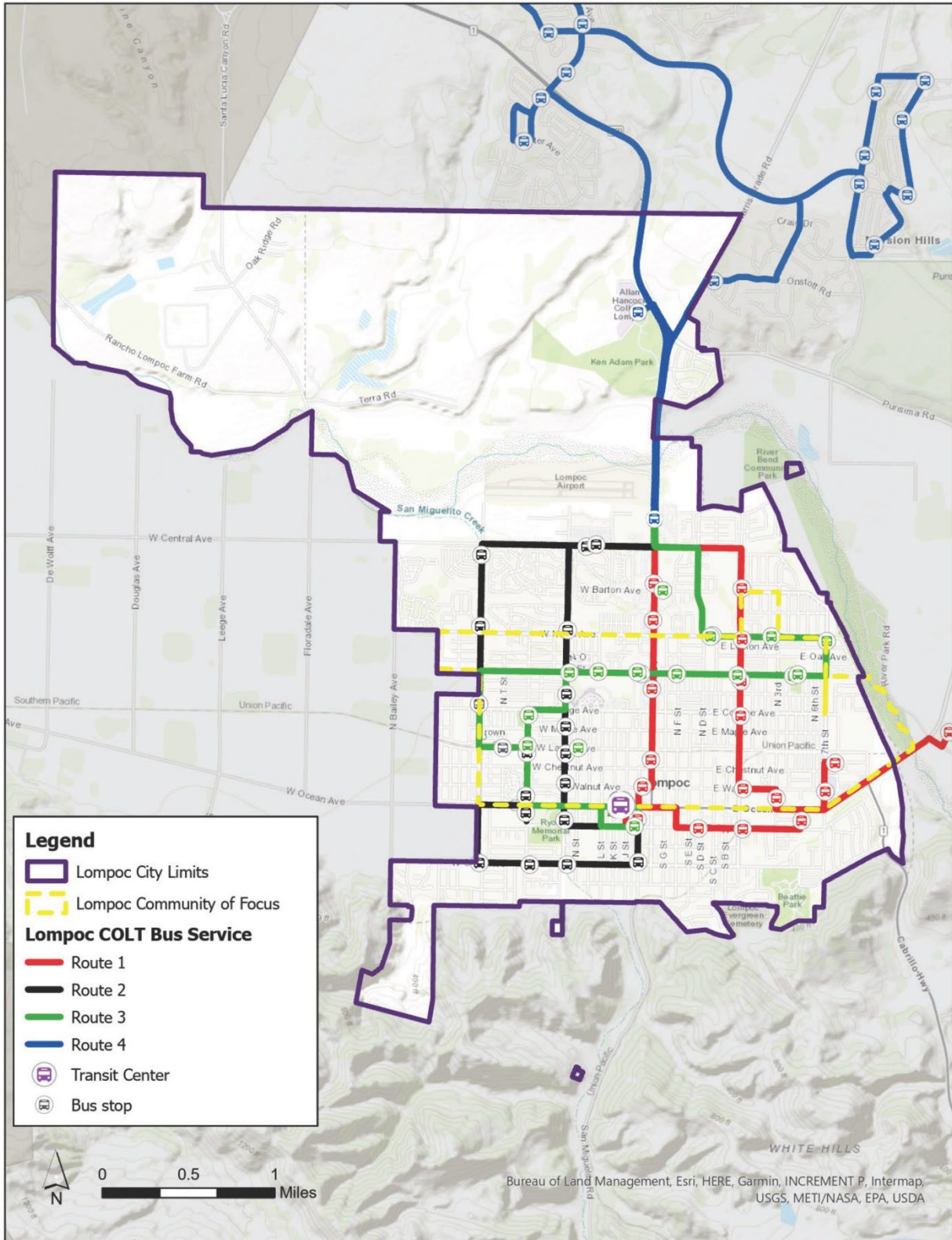
Credit: City of Lompoc



Credit: Lompoc Record

Public transportation service in Lompoc is provided by City of Lompoc Transit (COLT) that operates four local fixed routes and six on demand services. Routes 1, 2, and 3 operate within the Community of Focus, as seen in Figure EJ-17. The main transit center is located just south of the Community of Focus. The local fixed routes operate between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends. COLT also provides the Wine Country Express which makes three daily round trips from Lompoc to Buellton and Solvang. COLT also offers one round trip service to Santa Barbara every Tuesday and Thursday. In addition the COLT, Santa Maria Regional Transit (SMRT) provides weekday service between Lompoc, Vandenberg Space Force Base, and Santa Maria; and the Clean Air Express provides weekday service between Lompoc, Goleta, and Santa Barbara.

Figure EJ-17 COLT Public Transportation Services



Safe and Sanitary Homes

Housing conditions can contribute heavily to the health and safety of residents. Occupants of housing built before the widespread adoption of building standards and regulations are at higher risk of pollution exposure in their homes, particularly asbestos and lead paint. Additionally, older housing may have poor ventilation that can lead to mold, uncomfortable indoor temperatures, and pest and rodent infestation. Housing located near pollution-generating land uses (i.e., agricultural fields, industrial uses, highways) can also affect the health and safety of residents by increasing the exposure to pollutants.

Household overcrowding can also lead to serious health impacts by increasing the risk of unsanitary conditions. Overcrowding occurs when the number of occupants in a household exceeds the capacity of a dwelling unit, typically measured by the number of rooms and the age and relationship of the occupants. Research has shown that overcrowding can lead to a variety of adverse health outcomes, such as exposure to infectious disease, increased stress, and sleep disorders.¹¹

Finally, housing affordability can directly impact the safety and cleanliness of homes. High rent or home prices increase overcrowding and homelessness and leave households with less income to spend on food, healthcare, and other goods and services. The following sections describe the existing condition of housing in Lompoc including lead exposure and housing cost burden,



Credit: Adobe Stock, Evgavrilov

Lead Exposure

Lead is a toxic heavy metal that can enter the bloodstream and cause serious neurological or behavioral health problems, especially in young children. Historically, lead was used as an additive in house paint, plumbing materials, and gasoline. Although, the use of lead in common household items is now regulated in the United States, house paint is still a significant

source of lead exposure in older, unrenovated homes. Young children are more susceptible to the effects of lead exposure due to their developing brains and higher exposure pathways (object-to-hand-to-mouth).

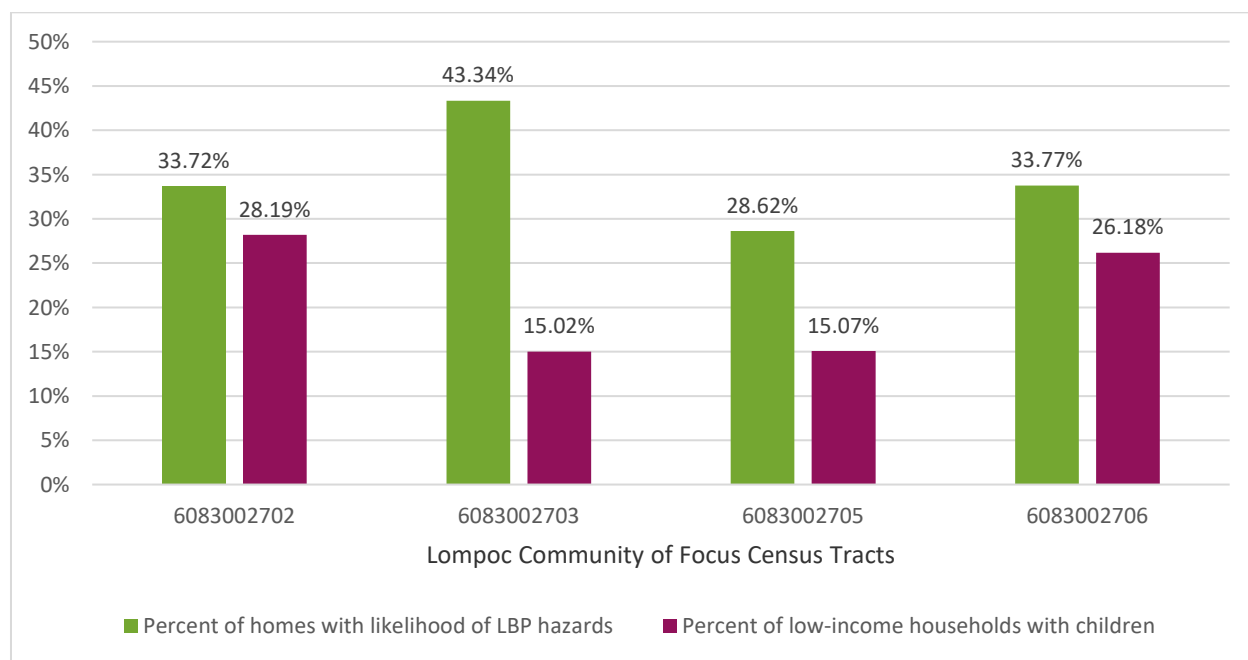
¹¹ World Health Organization, 2018

CalEnviroScreen 4.0's Children's Lead Risk from Housing indicator calculates lead exposure risk by combining the percentage of homes with higher likelihood of having lead-based paint (LBP) hazards and the percentage of low-income households with children. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 calculates the likelihood of LBP hazards based on the age of housing, using five age of housing categories. The older the home, the higher likelihood of LBP hazards.

Three of the four census tracts in the Lompoc Community of Focus scored in the 81-82 percentile for the Children's Lead Risk from Housing indicator. Figure EJ-18 shows the LBP hazard risk percentage and percent of low-income families with children in each census tract in the Lompoc Community of Focus.

Table EJ-10 provides a breakdown of housing stock by year built and tenure in the Lompoc Community of Focus. As of 2021, there are about 6,890 housing units in the Lompoc Community of Focus, 69 percent of which were built prior to 1980. According to the USEPA, homes built prior to 1978 are at a much higher risk of LBP exposure if proper measures have not been taken to test for and mitigate the presence of LBT in the home.¹² This means that a majority of housing units in the Community of Focus are at higher risk of LBP exposure, most of which are renters and may not have significant knowledge of the home's history and renovations completed.

Figure EJ-18 Lompoc Community of Focus Lead Risk from Housing



¹² United State Environmental Protection Agency, 2022 <https://www.epa.gov/lead/protect-your-family-sources-lead>

Table EJ-10 Housing Stock by Year Built and Tenure in Lompoc Community of Focus

	Renter	Owner	Total	% of Total Housing Stock in Community of Focus
Built 2020 or later	0	0	0	0%
Built 2010 to 2019	131	125	256	4%
Built 2000 to 2009	229	59	288	4%
Built 1990 to 1999	559	64	623	9%
Built 1980 to 1989	631	372	1003	15%
Built 1970 to 1979	1130	346	1476	21%
Built 1960 to 1969	970	739	1709	25%
Built 1950 to 1959	633	541	1174	17%
Built 1940 to 1949	114	18	132	2%
Built 1939 or earlier	95	134	229	3%
Total housing units	4492	2398	6890	-
Total housing units built prior to 1980	2942	1778	4720	69%

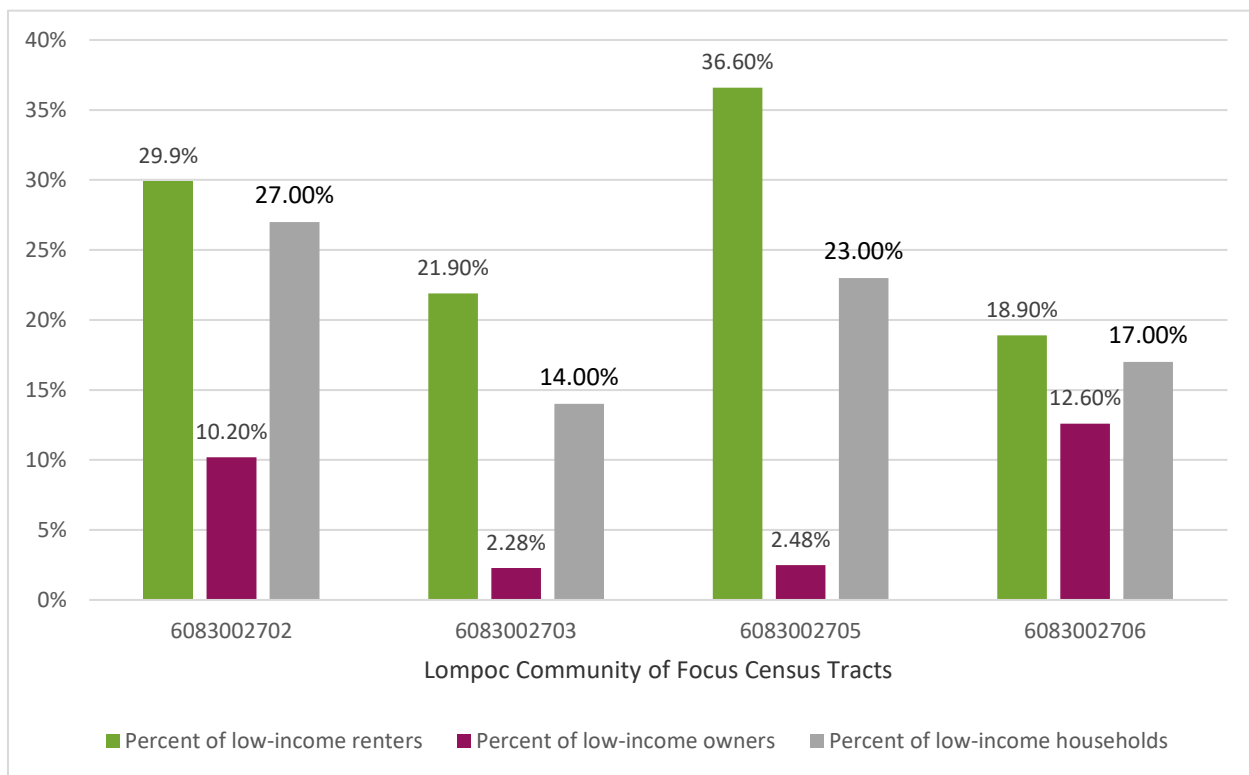
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2021

Housing Cost Burden

A household is considered severely cost burdened when more than 50 percent of the household income is spent on housing, (i.e., rent, mortgage payment, utilities).¹³ CalEnviroScreen 4.0 calculates the percentage households that housing cost burdened, low-income households in each census tract. One census tract in the Lompoc Community of Focus scored in the top 25th percentile in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 with 27 percent of households being housing cost burdened and low-income. However, households that are not low-income can still be cost burdened, which can still limit the household's ability to pay for other needs and services. Figure EJ-19 shows the percentage of cost burdened households as well as low-income, cost burdened households in the Lompoc Community of Focus. All but one census tract (6083002703) has over 45 percent of households that are housing cost burdened.

¹³ California Office of Environmental Health Hazards Assessment (OEHHA), CalEnviroScreen, 2023

Figure EJ-19 Severely Cost Burdened Households by Tenure



Source: CalEnviroScreen 4.0, 2023; Healthy Places Index, 2023.

Housing Conditions

The City of Lompoc does not have updated information regarding the condition of housing units throughout the city. The most recent housing conditions survey was conducted in 2003 as part of the City of Lompoc Housing Conditions Survey and was not divided by census tract. It is difficult to know how many housing units in the Community of Focus are in poor condition since an updated survey has not been conducted since. The 2003 survey estimated that four single-family units and six multifamily units needed replacement in Lompoc, meaning these units have improvement costs that exceed the estimated replacement cost. Additionally, about

one percent of housing units in the city (82 single-family units and 88 multifamily units) needed significant rehabilitation, which is defined as having major deficiencies requiring immediate repair. About 15 percent of the housing stock was found to need limited rehabilitation, which means these structures need minor repair but are not considered to have major safety issues.

Civic Engagement



Credit: Noozhawk

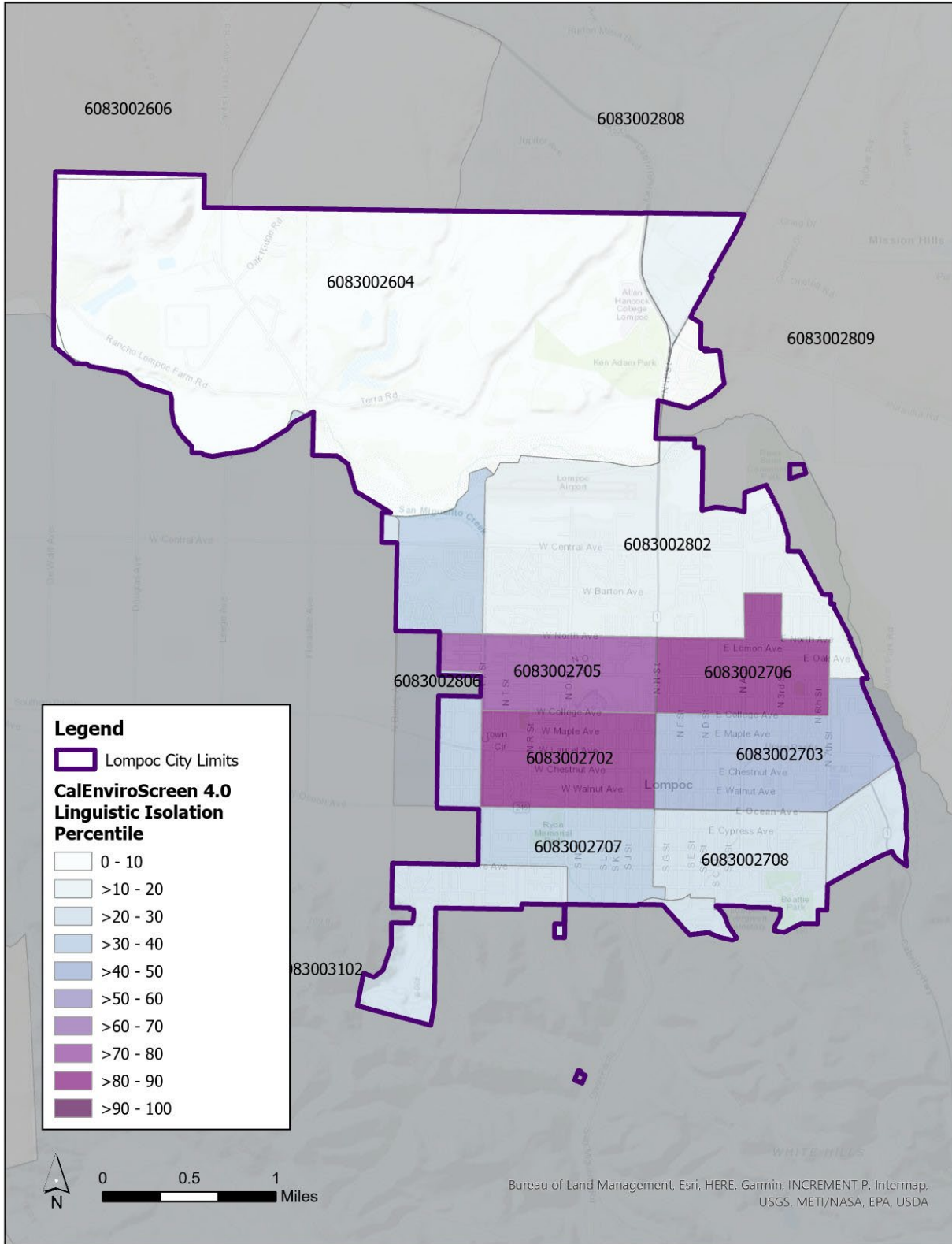
Promoting meaningful community engagement leads to more effective planning processes that cater to the needs of both present and future residents. Unfortunately, environmental justice communities have historically been marginalized and excluded from these dialogues, resulting in inequitable planning practices. Factors such as language barriers, time and location of meetings, and knowledge of topics influence if and how people participate in the public decision-making process. Key

to enhancing community involvement and identifying community concerns is the promotion of civic engagement within environmental justice communities, along with providing convenient and accessible opportunities specifically tailored to these populations. A major consideration in making civic engagement accessible to environmental justice communities is finding new and innovative ways of interacting with the community and meeting them where they are, such as community events, organization meetings, and partnerships with community based organizations (CBOs). Traditional methods of community engagement, such as community meetings held at City Hall, can be difficult for people to attend due to scheduling conflicts, language barriers, lack of transportation, and lack of overall trust in government agencies.

Language Isolation

Language isolation occurs when households have individuals over the age of 14 who have limited English proficiency. Such households face disadvantages when seeking information about meetings and engagement opportunities regarding decisions that significantly impact their overall health and well-being. This is a concern particularly if the information and materials are solely available in English. According to CalEnviroScreen 4.0, the Community of Focus has high rates of linguistic isolation, with two census tracts scoring above the 80th State percentile and one census tract scoring above the 70th percentile (see Table EJ-6 and Figure EJ-20). The primary languages spoken besides English in the Community of Focus include Spanish, Chinese, and other Asian/Pacific-Islander languages.

Figure EJ-20 Language Isolation in Lompoc

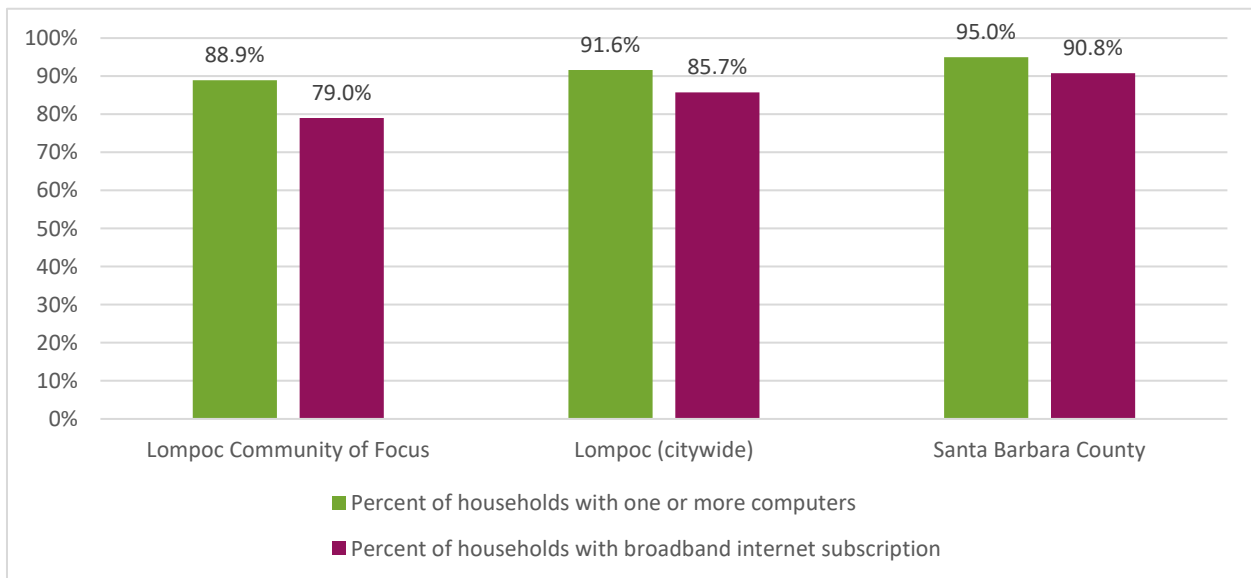


Ensuring meaningful and effective participation of individuals with limited English proficiency necessitates the City's commitment to providing meeting notices and informational materials in languages other than English. By doing so, the City can bridge the language barrier and enable these individuals to access crucial information about community meetings and engagement opportunities. Furthermore, offering translation services at these meetings is vital to facilitate their active involvement, allowing them to fully understand discussions, express their concerns, and contribute to decision-making processes.

Internet Access

It is increasingly common for government agencies to post notices, documents, informational materials online and host virtual community meetings. Although an online format is convenient for many people to participate in the public decision-making process, it requires households to have access to a computer or smartphone and high-speed internet. As shown in Figure EJ-21 about 89 percent of households in the Community of Focus have access to at least one computer or smartphone and about 79 percent have a broadband internet subscription. These percentages are slightly lower than citywide percentages for computer access (92 percent) and broadband internet subscriptions (86 percent). Overall, computer and internet access is not a major barrier to civic engagement in Lompoc.

Figure EJ-21 Internet and Computer Access, Lompoc



Community Involvement

Fostering robust community involvement is essential for guaranteeing that decisions made by the city are inclusive, responsive, and effective. Actively engaging communities establishes a collaborative platform where diverse voices contribute to the shaping of policies that are fair and reflective of the varied needs and perspectives within the community.

Community involvement acts as a catalyst for social cohesion, as it encourages a sense of ownership and pride among residents. When individuals feel their opinions are valued and actively contribute to the decision-making process, it instills a sense of empowerment and trust in the governance system. This, in turn, paves the way for a more harmonious and collaborative relationship between the City and its diverse population.

Voter Response Rate

One way of measuring a community's involvement is by analyzing voter response rate. The voter response rate is significant in the context of environmental justice because it directly affects the representation and influence of marginalized communities in decision-making processes. A low voter response rate within a community signifies that the community's voice and concerns are at risk of being overlooked and disregarded during elections and policymaking processes. This lack of representation can perpetuate existing disparities and create obstacles in effectively addressing environmental injustices.

The California Healthy Places Index (HPI) uses voting and census response rates as measures of healthy community participation. According to HPI, Lompoc's Community of Focus had a 68 percent response rate to the 2020 Census, which is lower than the citywide and countywide average (71 percent and 71 percent respectively). Additionally, about 75 percent of residents in the Community of Focus voted in the 2020 general election, which is lower than the citywide and countywide percentages (78 percent and 85 percent respectively).

Volunteerism

An additional indicator of community involvement is volunteerism. The level of volunteerism within a community reflects the level of active engagement and commitment of community members towards the public decision-making process. It indicates their willingness to take part in efforts aimed at addressing environmental issues and promoting a more equitable and public decision-making process. Volunteers often play a key role in raising awareness about topics of regional concern, advocating for policy changes, and promoting equitable planning and decision-making practices.

According to the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), around 40 percent of adult residents of the Community of Focus performed volunteer work or community service in 2018. This is slightly lower than the citywide and county wide percentages (44 percent and 51 percent respectively).

Environmental Justice

Effective environmental justice policies reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities by reducing disproportionate exposure to pollutants or other hazards, encouraging healthy habits, prioritizing necessary infrastructure improvements and programs, and promoting civic engagement in the public decision-making process. Lompoc is committed to fostering a healthy environment for all city residents. The following goals, policies, and programs are intended to guide the advancement of environmental justice in Lompoc.

Goal EJ-1

Ensure that all land use decisions benefit all residents and do not create a disproportionate burden to any resident based on age, identity, income, race, color, educational status, or national origin. *[Source: New Goal]*

Policies

- EJ-1.1 Health and Safety Impacts.** The City shall consider potential adverse health and safety impacts associated with land use decisions and reduce negative impacts associated with hazardous materials, industrial activities, facility locations, and design features on City residents. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-1.2 Incompatible Land Uses.** The City shall prohibit the introduction of new incompatible land uses and environmental hazards into existing residential areas. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-1.3 Coordination on Siting of Utilities.** The City shall coordinate with utility providers in the siting, site layout, and design of gas and electric facilities, including changes to existing facilities, to minimize environmental, and safety impacts on existing and future residents. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-1.4 Public Service and Infrastructure Equity.** The City shall provide public services and infrastructure, including parks, recreational facilities, community gardens, and public safety facilities, equitably to all city residents. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-1.5 Safe and Sanitary Housing.** The City shall establish and enforce standards that promote safe and sanitary housing. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-1.6 Equity in Capital Projects.** The City shall equitably invest in capital improvements citywide. *[Source: New Policy]*

Access to Health Care and Healthy Foods

Access to health care and healthy foods is a critical component of community health. Policies in this section address accessibility to mental health services, health and wellness education, as well as support to local food vendors to provide healthy foods to their customers.

Goal EJ-2

Actively advocate to ensure all community members have access to healthy foods, education, green spaces, and medical services. *[Source: New Goal]*

Policies

- EJ-2.1 Healthy Food Providers.** The City shall encourage farmers' markets and healthier food options, including grocery and other stores that sell fresh food products, particularly near child-oriented uses. (e.g., schools, day care, parks). *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-2.2 Access to Community Resources.** The City shall identify and address gaps in access to residential, commercial, recreation facilities, natural open spaces areas, and physical and mental health resources, to help ensure that these resources are equally available to all residents. *[Source: New Policy]*

Civic Engagement

Environmental justice efforts must be rooted in a strong culture of civic engagement in the City's decision-making processes. Studies have shown that well-rounded public engagement processes increase social capital in projects and promote equitable community development. The City is committed to goals and policies that build social capital through engagement and empowerment of the public, while emphasizing public participation, transparency, and inclusion. The purpose of this section is to ensure residents are informed and empowered related to City decisions that may impact their health and well-being. The following goals and policies relate to civic engagement in the public decision-making process.

Goal EJ-3

Fully engage the public in City decision-making and facilitate public involvement in civic life. *[Source: New Goal]*

Policies

- EJ-3.1 Transparent Public Decision-Making.** The City shall insure transparent public decision-making processes through effective public outreach, engagement, and participation that is inclusive of socially disadvantaged individuals and groups. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-3.2 Community Budgeting.** The City shall engage the community through multiple participation opportunities in the City's budget process. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-3.3 Scheduling City Events.** The City shall schedule events using different days, times, and formats (i.e., virtual and digital accessibility) to encourage and facilitate participation among community members with work, school, and other obligations that conflict with more traditional scheduling. *[Source: New Policy]*
- EJ-3.4 Public Outreach Materials.** The City shall strive to make public outreach, meeting notices, and education materials available online and in-person, in Spanish and English, and accessible to all Lompoc neighborhoods. *[Source: New Policy]*

Implementation Programs

Land Use and Community Development Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2022-2025	2026-2030	2031-2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>A. Capital Improvement Prioritization</p> <p>The City will prepare a defined set of criteria that measures and prioritizes equitable distribution of Capital Improvement (CI) Projects citywide.</p> <p><i>(Source: New program)</i></p>	EJ-1.4	Public Works Parks and recreation City Manager	✓				✓
<p>B. Code Enforcement</p> <p>The City shall bring substandard housing units into compliance with codes.</p> <p><i>(Source: Existing Program 1)</i></p>	HE-1.1 EJ-1.5	Community Development Building and Safety				✓	
<p>C. Emergency Housing Repair Program</p> <p>The City shall assist residents in repairing, upgrading, and improving single-family and multi-family housing through the Emergency Housing Repair Program.</p> <p><i>(Source: Existing Program 2)</i></p>	HE-1.2 HE-1.5 EJ-1.5	Community Development				✓	

Land Use and Community Development Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2022-2025	2026-2030	2031-2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>D. Resource Gaps</p> <p>The City shall prepare an analysis of gaps in access to residential, commercial, recreation facilities, natural open spaces areas, and physical and mental health resources in the Community of Focus and develop a program to close those gaps to help ensure that health-related resources are equally available to all residents.</p>	EJ-2.2	Community Development Parks and Recreation		✓			

Appendices

Appendix A – Workshop Materials

Appendix A includes a copy of the informational posters and community survey available at the Pop-Up Event and Community Workshop.

Informational Posters

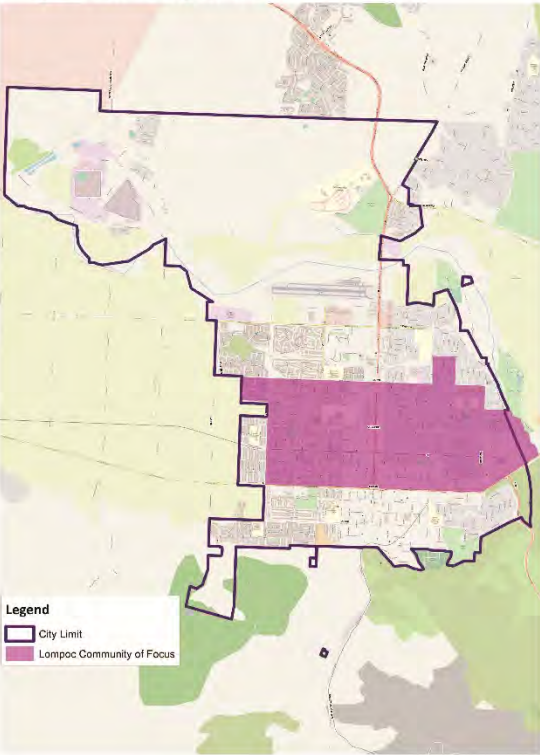
City of Lompoc
Housing Element and Technical General Plan Update

Environmental Justice

What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental justice is the response to the tendency of low-income and racial minority communities bearing a disproportionate burden of hazardous or degraded environments (e.g., freeways, landfills, hazardous waste facilities, poor working conditions) than the general population. Historically, this is due to a lack of meaningful opportunities for these communities to participate in the planning process, sometimes leading to discriminatory practices, such as redlining, that have segregated communities and pushed low-income and racial minority populations to areas with poor air quality, pollution, and other health hazards. Environmental justice policies and programs work to overcome these trends and undo the effects of discrimination in planning decisions.

Lompoc Community of Focus









Legend
 City Limit
 Lompoc Community of Focus

SB 1000 Planning for Healthy Communities Act




State law now requires all cities and counties with environmental justice communities to incorporate environmental justice policies into their general plan. As part of its Housing Element Update process the City of Lompoc is creating its first ever Environmental Justice Element!


Topics of Focus

-  Food Access
-  Safe & Sanitary Housing
-  Reduction of Pollution Exposure
-  Physical Activity
-  Public Facilities
-  Civic Engagement

Identifying Communities of Focus

The California Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment uses over 20 population and pollution indicators to identify communities disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can have negative impacts on health and quality of life. Indicators effecting the Community of Focus in Lompoc include:

-  **Pesticide Use** in Lompoc's Community of Focus is higher than **84%** of other areas in California
-  **The risk of children being exposed to lead from housing** in Lompoc's Community of Focus is higher than **70%** of other areas in California
-  The percent of residents in Lompoc's Community of Focus **living below the poverty line** is higher than **80%** of other areas in California



Housing Element & Technical General Plan Update

La Ciudad de Lompoc

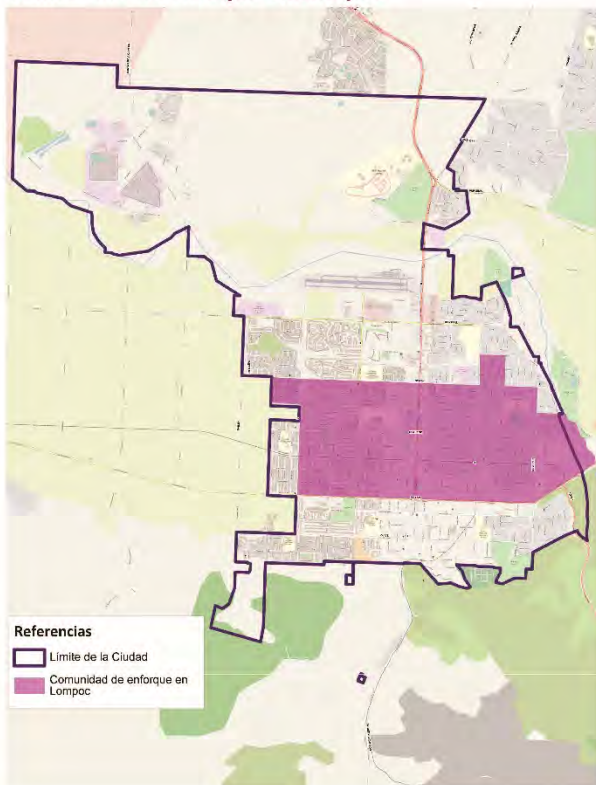
Elemento de Vivienda y Actualización del Plan General Técnico

Justicia Ambiental

¿Qué es Justicia Ambiental?

La justicia ambiental es la respuesta a la tendencia de las comunidades de bajos ingresos y minorías raciales a soportar una carga desproporcionada de entornos peligrosos o degradados (p. ej., autopistas, vertederos, instalaciones de residuos peligrosos, malas condiciones laborales) en comparación con la población general. Históricamente, esto se debe a la falta de oportunidades significativas para que estas comunidades participen en el proceso de planificación, lo que a veces ha dado lugar a prácticas discriminatorias, como la delimitación con las líneas rojas, que han segregado a las comunidades y empujado a las poblaciones de bajos ingresos y minorías raciales a zonas con mala calidad del aire, contaminación y otros peligros para la salud. Las políticas y programas de justicia ambiental trabajan para romper estas tendencias y deshacer los efectos de la discriminación en las decisiones de planificación.

Comunidad de enfoque en Lompoc



SB 1000 Ley de Planificación de Comunidades Saludables

La ley estatal ahora exige a todas las ciudades y condados con comunidades de justicia ambiental que incorporen políticas de justicia ambiental a su plan general.

Como parte de su proceso de Actualización del Elemento de Vivienda, la Ciudad de Lompoc está creando su primer Elemento de Justicia Ambiental.

Temas de enfoque



Identificación de las comunidades de enfoque

La Oficina de Salud Ambiental y Evaluación de Peligros de California utiliza más de 20 indicadores de población y contaminación para identificar a las comunidades desproporcionadamente afectadas por la contaminación ambiental y otros peligros que pueden tener efectos negativos en la salud y la calidad de vida. Los indicadores que afectan a la Comunidad de enfoque en Lompoc incluyen:

- El uso de pesticidas en la Comunidad de enfoque en Lompoc es superior al **84%** de otras áreas en California.
- El riesgo de exposición de los niños al plomo procedente de las viviendas de la Comunidad de enfoque en Lompoc es superior al **70%** de otras áreas en California.
- El porcentaje de residentes en la Comunidad de enfoque en Lompoc que viven por debajo del nivel de pobreza es superior al **80%** de otras áreas en California.



City of Lompoc Housing Element and Technical General Plan Update

Welcome!

We are excited to announce that in 2022, the City of Lompoc kicked off an update to the City's Housing Element to plan for housing through 2031. The update is scheduled for completion in early 2023, and throughout the process, we invite the public to be part of the planning process and provide input on how Lompoc can support housing development over the planning period (2023-2031). As part of the Project, the City will be conducting a technical update to the City of Lompoc 2030 General Plan.

The purpose of the Housing Element is to identify and analyze existing and projected housing needs in order to support housing preservation, improvement, and development for all economic segments of the community.

What other General Plan Elements are being updated? Why?

This technical update includes updating the existing Safety and Circulation Elements, and the development of a new Environmental Justice Element (as required by State Law). The City initiated this update, with input from the City Council Ad Hoc Committee, to refine the existing goals and policies of these Elements to address changes to State law and consider changing community needs and opportunities. This effort will enable the City to implement best practices to ensure the goals and policies in the 2030 General Plan meet the needs of the community now, and in the future.

<p style="text-align: center;">Environmental Justice Element Description</p> <p>Senate Bill 1000 (Leyva, 2016) amended Government Code Section 65302 to require that California cities and counties that have disadvantaged communities incorporate Environmental Justice policies into their general plans, either in a separate element or by integrating related goals, policies, and objectives throughout the other elements. The purpose of the law is to address the "unique or compounded health risks" in disadvantaged communities by decreasing pollution exposure, increasing community assets, and improving overall health. The Environmental Justice Element will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address goals, policies, and programs pertaining to educational attainment, pollution burden of disadvantaged communities, and identification of burdensome quality of life metrics including poverty, unemployment, linguistic isolation, and health. • Align with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research Guidelines for Environmental Justice • Rely on CalEnviroScreen 4.0 to determine areas of concern regarding environmental justice issues 	<p style="text-align: center;">Safety Element Description</p> <p>The Safety Element identifies and includes policies and programs to reduce the impact of natural and man-made hazards that may threaten the health, safety, and property of Lompoc residents, business owners, and visitors. The State of California General Plan Guidelines state that the aim of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, and economic and social dislocation resulting from fires, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and other hazards. The element emphasizes hazard reduction and accident prevention. In addition, the element emphasizes the importance of reducing risk and the effects of disaster prevention and/or preparedness. The Safety Element Update will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure consistency with other General Plan elements • Ensure compliance with State law • Incorporate information from the Draft 2022 Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, with an understanding that the existing plan is currently in the update process • Address AB 747, General Plan Safety Elements; SB 99, Safety Elements, Emergency Evacuation Routes; SB 379, Climate Adaptation and Resiliency; SB 1035, General Plans; and SB 1241, Fire Hazard Impacts. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Circulation Element Description</p> <p>The Circulation Element of the Lompoc General Plan addresses broad issues of physical mobility – how goods and people move about into, out of, and within the community. Meeting the City's transportation needs is one of the most important issues of the General Plan, and is related to land use, community design, air quality, energy consumption, public health, and City infrastructure. The Circulation Element Update will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe existing transportation systems and services • Address complete streets policies, reflecting new California General Plan guidelines • Incorporate new SB 743 requirements and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) • Discuss emerging transportation technologies • Address the multi-faceted implications of new technologies • Ensure consistency with the Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan and the Streetscape Multimodal Improvement Plan
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Project Process



Next Event:

Environmental Justice Community Workshop

Monday, January 30, 2022 | 6pm

Lompoc High School Cafeteria

Spanish translation, food, and childrens activities will be provided.



La Ciudad de Lompoc

Elemento de Vivienda y Actualización del Plan General Técnico

¡Bienvenido!

Nos complace anunciar que en 2022, la Ciudad de Lompoc inició una actualización del Elemento Vivienda de la Ciudad para planificar la vivienda hasta 2031. La actualización está programada para completarse a principios de 2023, y durante todo el proceso, invitamos al público a ser parte del proceso de planificación y proporcionar información sobre cómo Lompoc puede apoyar el desarrollo de viviendas durante el período de planificación (2023-2031). Como parte del Proyecto, la Ciudad llevará a cabo una actualización técnica del Plan General de la Ciudad de Lompoc 2030.

El propósito del Elemento Vivienda es identificar y analizar las necesidades de vivienda existentes y proyectadas con el fin de apoyar la preservación, mejora y desarrollo de la vivienda para todos los segmentos.

¿Qué otros elementos del Plan General se están actualizando? ¿Por qué?

Esta actualización técnica incluye la actualización del elemento de seguridad y circulación existentes, y el desarrollo de un nuevo Elemento de Justicia Ambiental (como lo exige la Ley Estatal). La Ciudad inició esta actualización, con aportes del Comité Ad Hoc del Concejo Municipal, refinar los objetivos y políticas existentes de estos Elementos para abordar los cambios a la ley estatal y considerar las necesidades y oportunidades cambiantes de la comunidad. Este esfuerzo permitirá a la Ciudad implementar las mejores prácticas para garantizar que las metas y políticas del Plan General 2030 satisfagan las necesidades de la comunidad ahora y en el futuro.

Descripción del elemento de justicia ambiental

El Proyecto de Ley del Senado 1000 (Leyva, 2016) enmendó la Sección 65302 del Código de Gobierno para exigir que las ciudades y condados de California que tienen comunidades desfavorecidas incorporen las políticas ambientales en sus planes generales, ya sea en un elemento separado o integrando metas, políticas y objetivos relacionados en todos los otros elementos. El propósito de la ley es abordar los "riesgos de salud únicos o compuestos" en las comunidades desfavorecidas al disminuir la exposición a la contaminación, aumentar los activos de la comunidad y mejorar la salud en general. El Elemento de Justicia Ambiental:

- Address objetivos, políticas y programas relacionados con el logro educativo, la carga de contaminación de las comunidades desfavorecidas y la identificación de métricas de calidad de vida onerosas, incluida la pobreza, el desempleo, el aislamiento lingüístico y la salud.
- Alinearse con las Pautas de Planificación e Investigación para la Justicia Ambiental de la Oficina del Gobernador
- Rely en CalEnviroScreen 4.0 para determinar las áreas de preocupación con respecto a los problemas de justicia ambiental.

Descripción del elemento de seguridad

El Elemento de Seguridad identifica e incluye políticas y programas para reducir el impacto de los peligros naturales y provocados por el hombre que pueden amenazar la salud, la seguridad y la propiedad de los residentes, dueños de negocios y visitantes de Lompoc. Las Pautas del Plan General del Estado de California establecen que el objetivo del Elemento de Seguridad es reducir el riesgo potencial de muerte, lesiones, daños a la propiedad y dislocación económica y social como resultado de incendios, inundaciones, terremotos, deslizamientos de tierra y otros peligros. El elemento hace hincapié en la reducción de riesgos y la prevención de accidentes. Además, el elemento hace hincapié en la importancia de reducir el riesgo y los efectos de la prevención y/o preparación para casos de desastre. La actualización del elemento de seguridad:

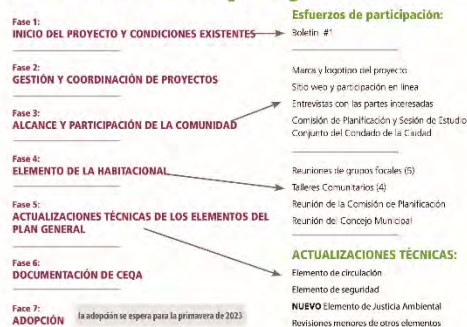
- Asegurar la coherencia con otros elementos del Plan General
- Garantizar el cumplimiento de la legislación estatal
- Incorporar información del Borrador del Plan de Mitigación de Riesgos Multijurisdiccionales del Condado de Santa Bárbara 2022, con el entendimiento de que el plan existente se encuentra actualmente en proceso de actualización
- Dirección AB 747, Plan General elementos de seguridad; SB 99, Elementos de seguridad, rutas de evacuación de emergencia; SB 379, Adaptación al clima y resiliencia; SB 1035, Aviones Generales; y SB 1241, Impactos de peligro de incendio.

Descripción del elemento de circulación

El Elemento de Circulación del Plan General de Lompoc aborda cuestiones generales de movilidad física: cómo los bienes y las personas se mueven dentro, fuera y dentro de la comunidad. Satisfacer las necesidades de transporte de la Ciudad es uno de los temas más importantes del Plan General, y está relacionado con el uso del suelo, el diseño comunitario, la calidad del aire, el consumo de energía, la salud pública y la infraestructura de la Ciudad. La actualización del elemento de circulación:

- Describir los sistemas y servicios de transporte existentes
- Abordar las políticas completas de streets, reflejando las nuevas pautas del Plan General de California
- Incorporar los nuevos requisitos de sb 743 y las millas recorridas por el vehículo (VMT)
- Discutir las tecnologías de transporte emergentes
- Abordar las implicaciones multifacéticas de las nuevas tecnologías
- Sea consistente con el Plan Maestro de Peatones y Bicicletas y el Plan de Mejora Multimodal de Streetscape

Proceso del proyecto



Próximo evento:

Taller Comunitario de Justicia Ambiental:

El lunes 30 de enero de 2023 | 6pm

Cafeteria de Lompoc High School Cafeteria

Habrá traducción al español, comida, y actividades para niños.



Community Survey



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: COMMUNITY SURVEY ENGLISH VERSION

Community Survey

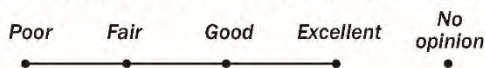
Community input is a key part of the General Plan and Housing Element update process. The General Plan update process is a 20-year look into the future and allows the community of today to ensure a welcoming and prosperous city for the next generation. Input from this survey as well as other community outreach efforts facilitated by the City will be incorporated into the Environmental Justice Element of the General Plan. This input will set the tone for the development of goals, policies, and programs in the General Plan, and serves as a guidepost for how well the City is meeting its long-term goals.

This survey is divided into the following sections:

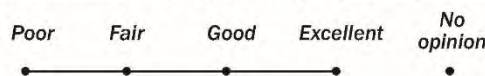
- Pollution Exposure
- Public Facilities
- Food Access
- Safe and Sanitary Housing
- Physical Activity
- Civic Engagement

Pollution Exposure

1. How would you rate the water quality in your neighborhood (from the faucet)?



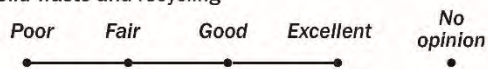
2. How would you rate the air quality in your neighborhood?



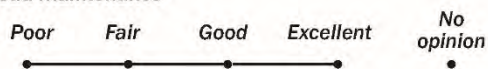
Public Facilities

3. Below is a list of public and utility services within Lompoc. Please rate the quality of each of these services:

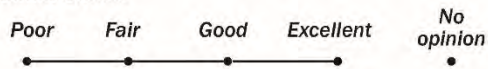
a. Solid waste and recycling



b. Road maintenance

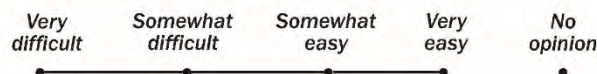


c. Internet access



4. Please rate how easy it is to access the following services within the city:

a. Medical care





b. Daycare

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

c. Schools

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

d. Public transportation

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

e. Community centers

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

f. Libraries

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

Food Access

5. How easy is it to access fresh produce and other healthy foods in Lompoc?

Very difficult Somewhat difficult Somewhat easy Very easy No opinion

6. How frequently do you use food services such as food pantries, food banks, or other forms of meal assistance?

Never Rarely Sometimes Often Always No opinion

7. I feel my community provides the resources and tools needed to live a healthy lifestyle.

Strongly Disagree Somewhat disagree Neutral Somewhat agree Strongly agree No opinion

Safe and Sanitary Housing

8. Do you own or rent your home? (Write an "X" next to your answer)

_____ Rent

_____ Own

_____ Prefer not to answer



9. Rate the condition and safety of your current housing.

Poor Fair Good Excellent No opinion

●-----●-----●-----●-----●

10. My current home is large enough and affordable enough to meet my needs.

Strongly Disagree Somewhat disagree Neutral Somewhat agree Strongly agree No opinion

●-----●-----●-----●-----●-----●

Physical Activity

11. I feel safe walking around my neighborhood.

Strongly Disagree Somewhat disagree Neutral Somewhat agree Strongly agree No opinion

●-----●-----●-----●-----●-----●

12. I feel safe bicycling around my neighborhood.

Strongly Disagree Somewhat disagree Neutral Somewhat agree Strongly agree No opinion

●-----●-----●-----●-----●-----●

Civic Engagement

13. How comfortable do you feel participating in the public decision-making process?

Very uncomfortable Somewhat uncomfortable Neutral Somewhat comfortable Very comfortable No opinion

●-----●-----●-----●-----●-----●

14. Have you ever attended a public meeting at Lompoc City Hall?

____ Yes
____ No

15. What are the top three things that prevent you from attending public meetings? (Please select three)

- ____ Lack of information or knowledge of topics being discussed
- ____ Speaking in front of decision makers and elected officials is intimidating
- ____ I don't know when or where meetings are held
- ____ Lack of available childcare
- ____ The days and times meetings are held are inconvenient
- ____ Language/cultural barriers
- ____ I am not interested in attending public meetings
- ____ Does not apply to me, I attend public meetings regularly without issue

Please flip over to complete a brief mapping exercise



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: MAPPING SURVEY
ENGLISH VERSION

Step 1: On the map below, please draw (using the provided key) where in Lompoc you: (1) live, (2) work, (3) recreate, and (4) grocery shop. If you do not live, work, recreate, or grocery shop in Lompoc, please indicate so by placing a check mark in the corresponding space below.

Map Key

- X Live
- △ Work
- Recreate
- Grocery shop

Please check all that apply

- I do not live in Lompoc
- I do not work in Lompoc
- I do not recreate in Lompoc
- I do not grocery shop in Lompoc

Step 2: Please answer the following questions (check all that apply):

1. How do you get to work?

- Car
- Public transportation (i.e., bus)
- Walk
- Bicycle
- Other (please specify) _____

3. How do you get to where you recreate?

- Car
- Public transportation (i.e., bus)
- Walk
- Bicycle
- Other (please specify) _____

5. How do you get to where you grocery shop?

- Car
- Public transportation (i.e., bus)
- Walk
- Bicycle
- Other (please specify) _____

2. How long does it take for you to get to work (in minutes)?

_____ minutes

4. How long does it take for you to get to get to where you recreate (in minutes)?

_____ minutes

6. How long does it take for you to get to get to where you grocery shop (in minutes)?

_____ minutes

Actualización del Plan General de la Ciudad de Lompoc

ELEMENTO JUSTICIA AMBIENTAL



La Ciudad de Lompoc está preparando su primer Elemento de Justicia Ambiental como parte de la Actualización del Plan General y necesita su opinión sobre vivienda, equidad y asuntos ambientales en Lompoc. ¡Echa un vistazo a los próximos eventos para obtener más información y dejar que tu voz sea escuchada!

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

<p><u>EVENTO POP-UP DEL MERCADO</u> Cuándo: 21 de enero de 2023 9am-12pm Dónde: Mercado comunitario al aire libre (West Ocean Avenue & I Street)</p> <p>Ven a nuestro puesto en el mercado el sábado 21 de enero de 9am a 12pm. Habrá actividades e información sobre el proceso de Actualización del Elemento de Justicia Ambiental.</p>	<p><u>TALLER COMUNITARIO</u> Cuándo: 30 de enero de 2023 6pm Dónde: Cafetería de la Escuela Secundaria Lompoc (515 W College Avenue)</p> <p>La Ciudad está organizando un taller comunitario para que los residentes de Lompoc hacer aportaciones sobre problemas de justicia ambiental y soluciones en su comunidad. Habrá traducción al español, comida, y actividades para niños.</p>
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¿No puedes asistir a un evento? Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más información y otras formas de participar.

www.EnvisionLompoc.com



CITY OF LOMPOC GENERAL PLAN UPDATE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT



The City of Lompoc is preparing its first Environmental Justice Element as part of the General Plan Update and needs your input on housing, equity, and environmental issues in Lompoc. Check out the upcoming events to learn more and let your voice be heard!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARKET POP-UP EVENT

When: January 21, 2023 | 9am-12pm
Where: Lompoc Outdoor Community Market
(West Ocean Avenue & I Street)

Come by our booth at the market on Saturday January 21st from 9am to 12pm. There will be activities and information about the Environmental Justice Element Update process.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

When: January 30, 2023 | 6pm
Where: Lompoc High School Cafeteria
(515 W College Avenue)

The City is hosting a community workshop for Lompoc residents to provide input on environmental justice issues and solutions in their community. There will be Spanish translation, food, and children's activities.

Can't make it to an event? Visit our website for more information and other ways to get involved:

www.EnvisionLompoc.com



Appendix B – Community Comments

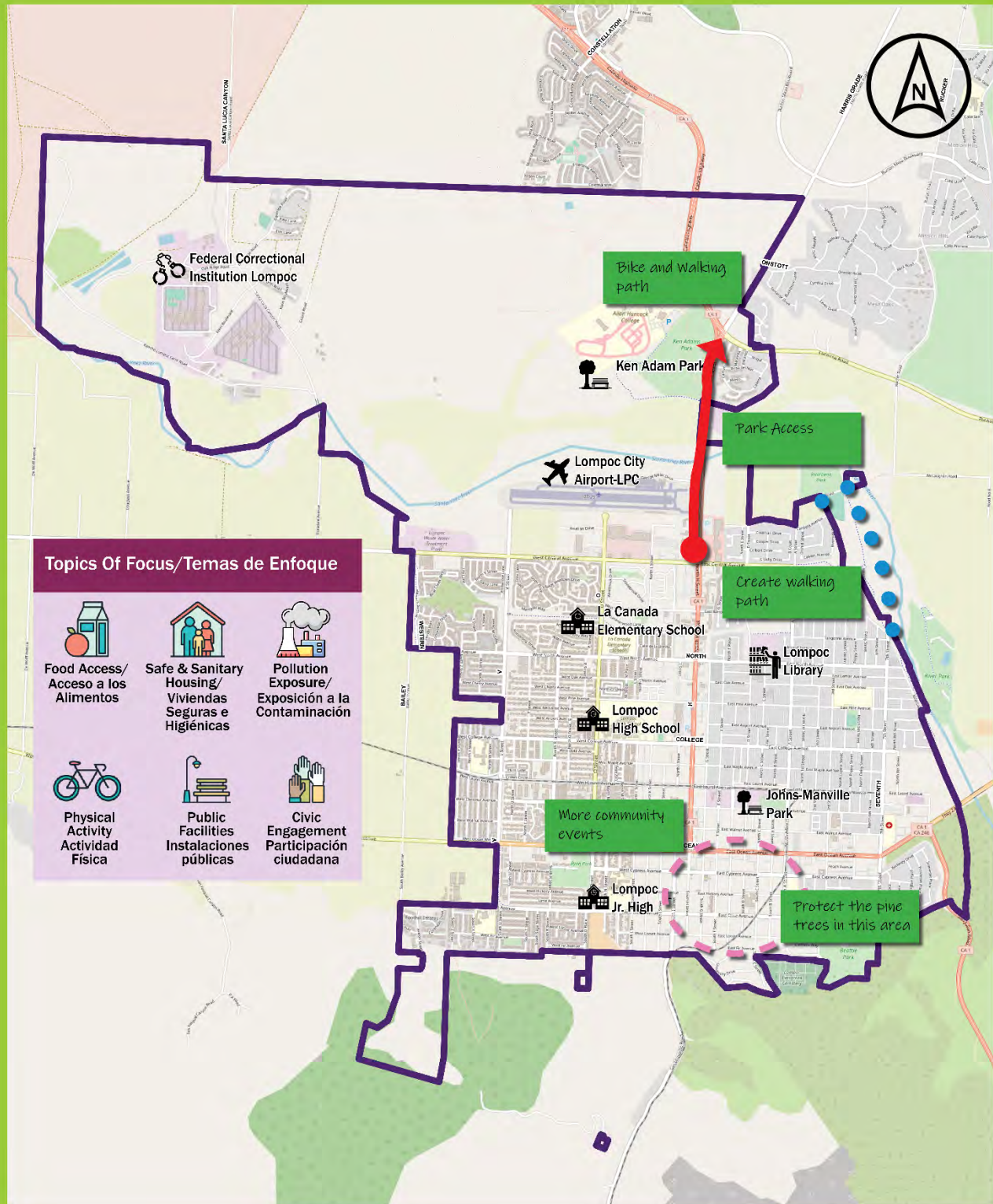
Appendix B includes the written and verbal comments gathered during the pop-up event, community workshop, and survey.

Asset, Problem, Opportunity Comments	Asset	Problem	Opportunity
Pollution Exposure			
Establish an agriculture buffer between the farmland and residential areas on the eastern border of the city.			X
Excessive dust in the community from farmland, especially in residential neighborhoods directly west of the agriculture fields. It makes it difficult to keep homes clean and can make allergies worse.		X	
Pesticides blowing into residential communities from fields. Certain times of the year it is really bad.		X	
There is excessive trash/litter along the river on the West border of Lompoc. This is bad for the environment and makes it unpleasant to recreate along the river.		X	
There is a lot of trash/litter near Riverbend Park and it is a concern that there are more pollutants going in the water in this area due to excessive trash/litter from homeless encampments.		X	
Public Facilities			
Many streets in the community do not have sidewalks.		X	
Poor street conditions in southeastern Lompoc. V Street, H Street, and Ocean Avenue have bad pot holes and poor road markings.		X	
The Lompoc Library has fewer books than it used to and shorter hours.		X	
There is good park access to Ken Adams Park in north Lompoc.	X		
Food Access			
There is a need for neighborhood commercial uses (i.e., small grocery store, gas station) in the eastern side of Lompoc (in area south of West North Avenue and east of O Street)		X	X
Bring back a community farmer's market.			X
Safe and Sanitary Housing			
Provide temporary housing to people experiencing homelessness with community benefit (i.e., temporary housing residents provide community service in exchange for housing)			X
Displaced and homeless persons tend to congregate along the river near Riverbend Park.		X	
The Lompoc Police Department should bring back the Gang Task Force.			X

Asset, Problem, Opportunity Comments	Asset	Problem	Opportunity
Have better code enforcement in residential neighborhoods, alleys and along the river park to address excessive noise, trash/litter, and non-permitted uses of residential property.		X	X
Gang activity and drug use are prevalent in the area east of O Street and west of H Street (just south of Lompoc High School).		X	
Many homeless people have severe mental health issues and there doesn't seem to be enough public services to help them.		X	
Physical Activity			
Need more recreational opportunities throughout the community, especially for lower income residents (i.e., recreational sports leagues and facilities)			X
Park upkeep is not great, particularly in south Lompoc (near Ryon Park)		X	
There are a lot of pine trees in southeastern Lompoc (near South H Street), which are aesthetically pleasing and provide shade in the summer.	X		
There is a nice walking path along the river (between East Central Avenue and East College Avenue), which is going to be extended further south.	X		
There is a nice bike/walking path along CA 1 from Allan Hancock College to East Central Avenue.	X		
Civic Engagement			
Need more community engagement in general.			X
Other			
The City should research examples of other communities that are similar to Lompoc and have similar issues that they have been able to resolve.			X
Encourage job development and attract new businesses and industries in Lompoc so people do not have to go outside the city for work			X
There are a lot of community events in or near Ryon Park, especially in the summertime.	X		

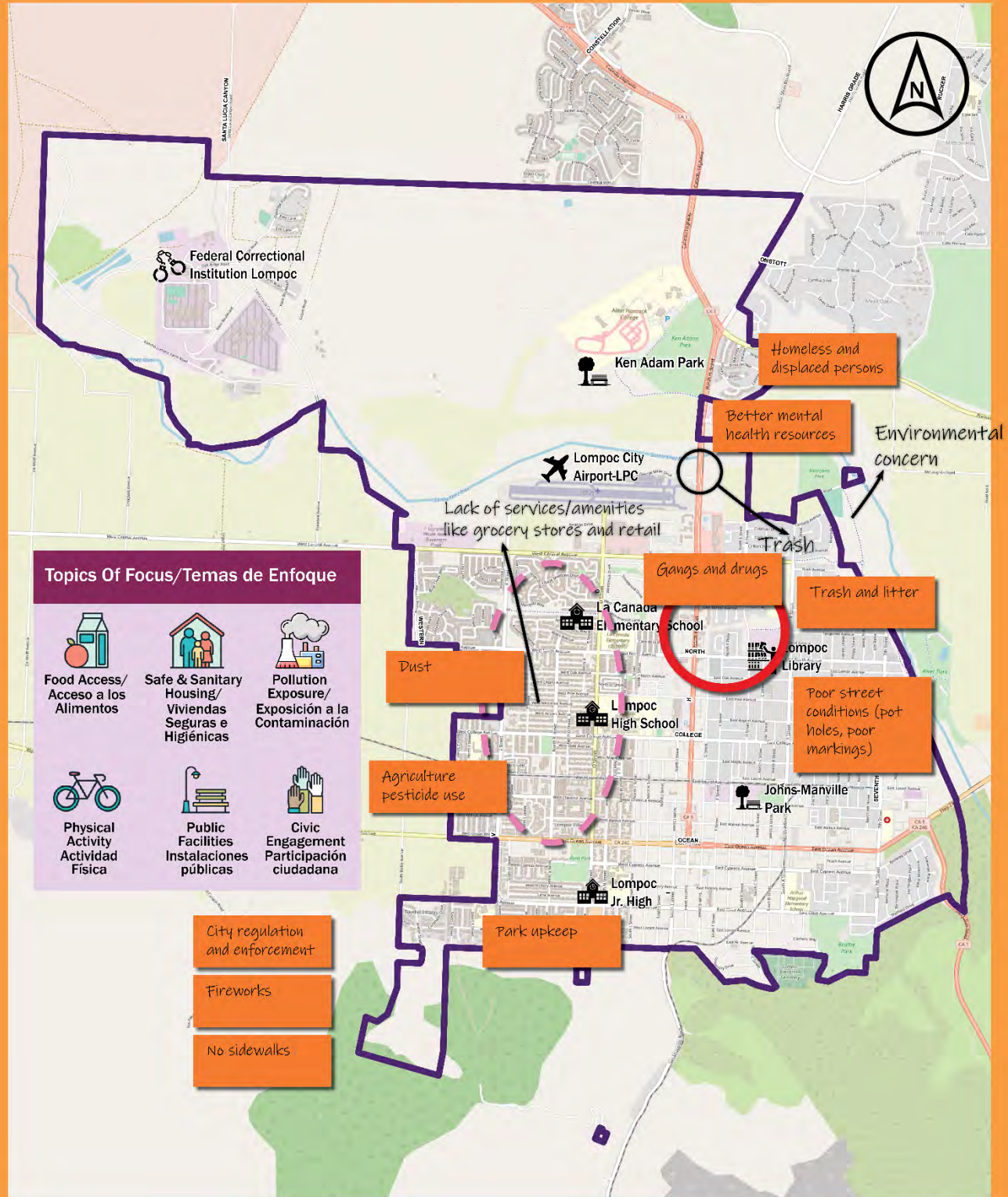


ASSETS/ACTIVOS



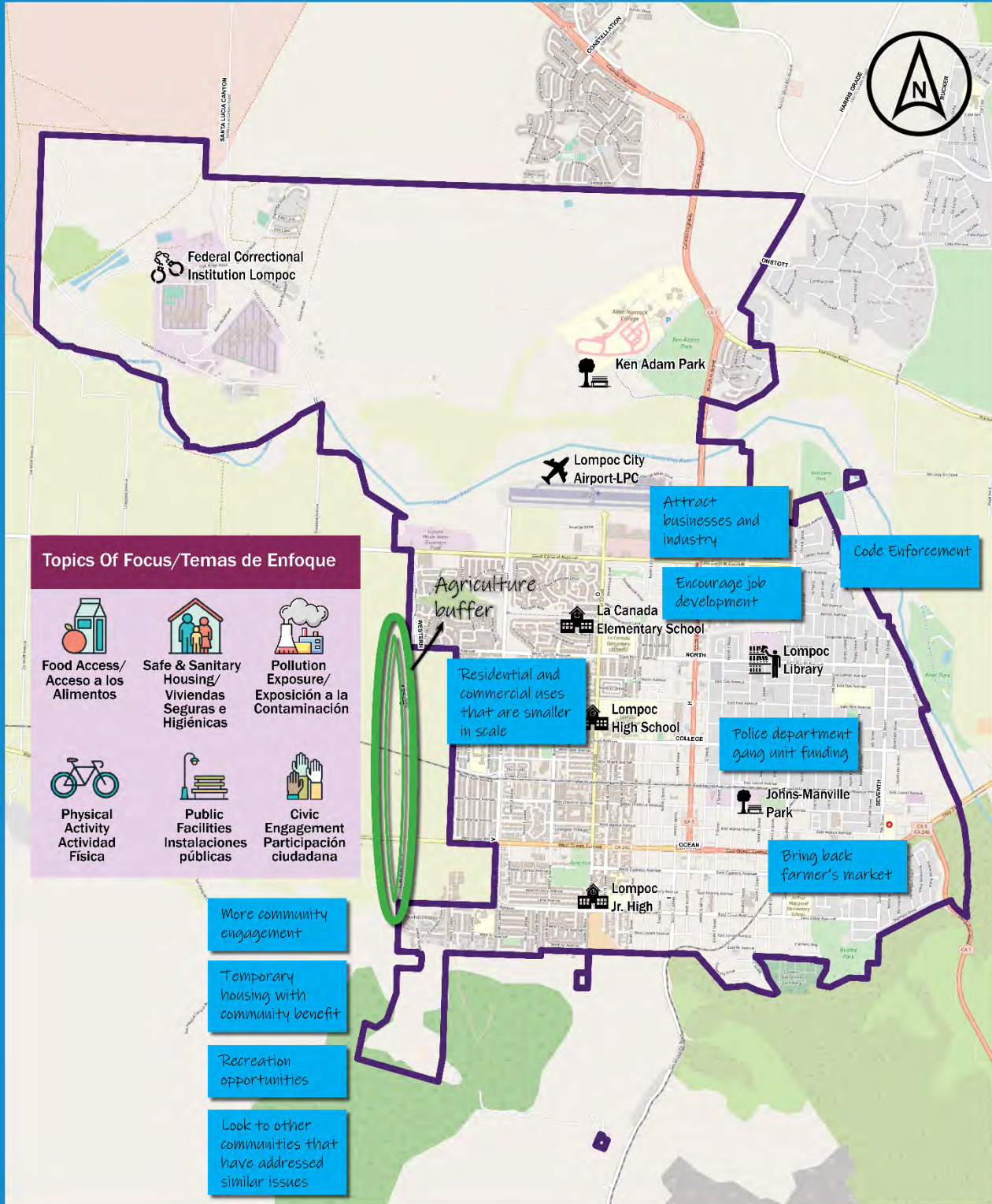


PROBLEMS/PROBLEMAS





OPPORTUNITIES/OPORTUNIDADES



<i>Event</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Community Market Pop-Up	People operate non-permitted businesses from their homes that cause excessive noise, pollution, hazards to the right of way, and are aesthetically unpleasing. Some examples of non-permitted businesses include: vehicle/auto repair, metal working,
Community Market Pop-Up	Several roads are in disrepair (potholes, dips at intersections)
Community Market Pop-Up	Pesticide use is a major problem coming from the agricultural fields west of the City. Pesticides are sprayed at night or very early hours of the morning and are carried into residential neighborhoods with the marine layer. During certain times of the year, you can see and smell pesticides in the air.
Community Market Pop-Up	There is not enough street lighting on residential streets, this is one of the reasons it doesn't feel safe to walk or ride bikes.
Community Market Pop-Up	Parks are okay but they could use more recreational facilities (sports fields and courts) that are well maintained to promote recreational sport leagues for both adults and kids.
Community Market Pop-Up	Lompoc needs more urban forestry/street trees. Lompoc used to be a "city of trees" but a while ago a majority of the street trees and landscaping were removed. Having more trees/landscaping would make neighborhoods more aesthetically pleasing and reduce heat in the summer months.
Community Market Pop-Up	There is a lack of code enforcement throughout the City.
Community Market Pop-Up	If people ride bikes, it is usually on the sidewalk.
Community Market Pop-Up	Internet quality is poor in certain areas of the City, especially with Frontier
Community Market Pop-Up	In most areas of Lompoc, but especially on the western side, it is extremely dusty and is difficult to keep up with cleaning and managing allergies.
Online Survey	Affordable Housing! Why isn't that on the list. Housing for people who are currently unhoused!
Online Survey	Fluoride in the water, keeping it clean/not brackish, removing harmful minerals to the pipes, etc.
Online Survey	While I rated the air quality as good, there are multiple times per year that I cannot open my doors or windows due to the vegetable fields so close to the houses. (stench from manure or vegetables left to seed. There should be a buffer or gap between the fields and the neighborhoods. Also, my house is extremely dusty, and I have bad allergies from all the dust and dirt that comes from the fields.
Online Survey	https://calepa.ca.gov/envjustice/ https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40 The CalEPA website tool EnviroScreen4.00 indicates that Lompoc is in the 87% for Pesticide impacts in the state. A group of current residents is reaching out to groups outside of town to assist in a study such as https://cerch.berkeley.edu/research-programs/chamacos-study The city must incorporate the risk of pesticide and fertilizer use by the farming industry to impact air quality, water table, and water ways into its Environmental Justice element.
Community Workshop (written comment)	This valley has been pristine for millions of years. But have you seen all the trash? It's extreme, it's an outrage, it's irresponsible This is a crime against nature Do you pickup litter? Do you pickup trashbags full? Does it seem to make a difference? Do you stand for environmental justice?

Are you fed-up with all the litter?
Do you stand against litterers?
Have you walked across the bridge lately?
Have you walked behind the wine warehouses over by home depot?
Who is doing all this littering?
Why? They're homeless and they don't care
The litterers should cleanup their own mess...they should be held responsible.
Have you walked down any allies lately?
Shouldn't home owners be responsible to clean their premises?
I just went to Michaels and there was trash everywhere on the sidewalk
Why don't they clean this up?
Shouldn't businesses be responsible to clean their premises?
I demand that the litterers be held responsible
I am for strict enforcement
Isn't littering a \$1000 fine...that pretty much equals a 100 hours of community service
Time to do something.