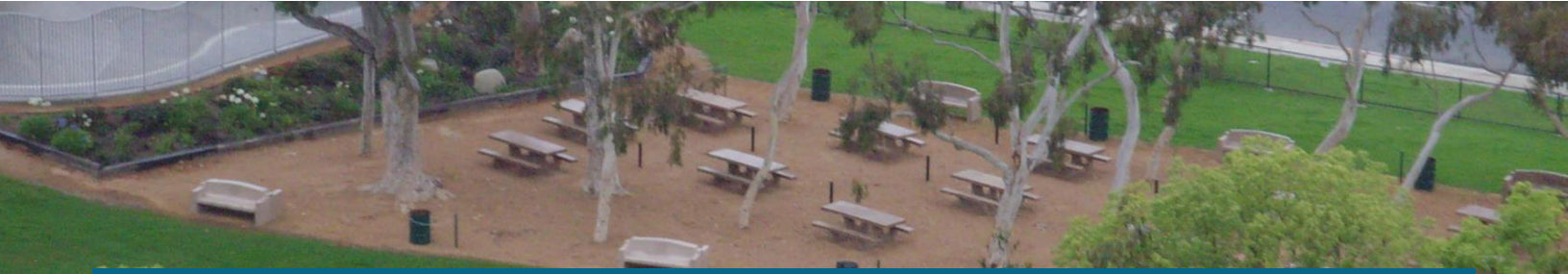


HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



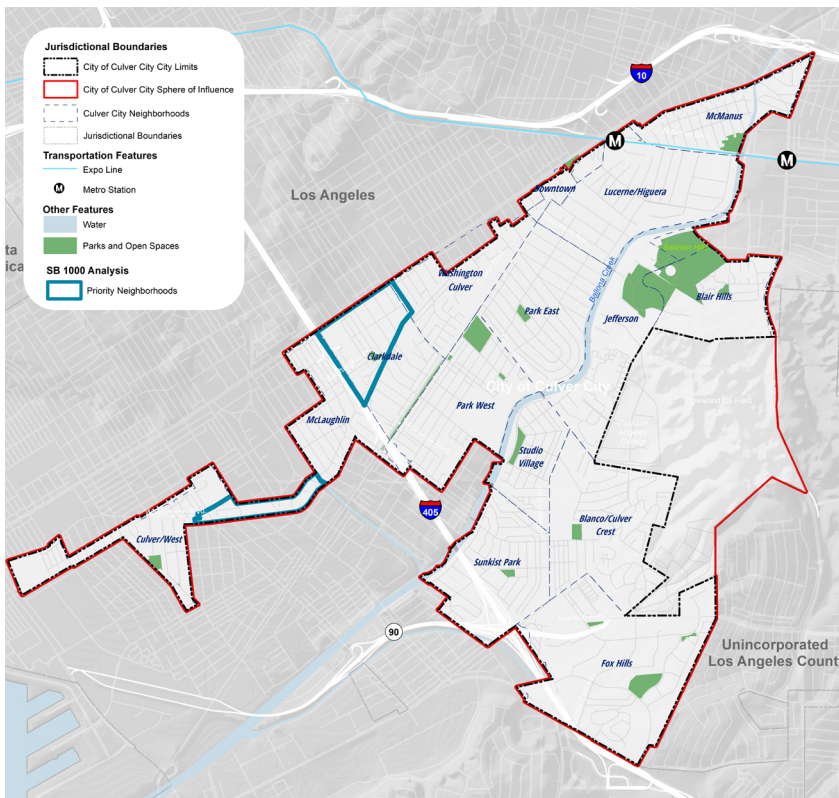
THE CULVER CITY STORY

Culver City is an exceptionally healthy place to live. However, there are vast disparities in health outcomes among the city's diverse population, likely exacerbated by developing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Certain neighborhoods experience lower life expectancies, higher levels of chronic disease incidence and mortality rates, higher concentrations of people experiencing homelessness, and greater risk of displacement and housing pressure compared to the city overall average. Across all neighborhoods, there are also widespread air quality concerns and a high level of potential pollution exposures, when comparing Culver City to the rest of the state.

Through the General Plan Update (GPU), the City has the opportunity to prioritize community health and environmental justice, address existing disparities and citywide issues, and meet the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1000.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **7 Years** difference in life expectancy between the Blair Hills/Jefferson neighborhoods (85 years) and Culver/West (78 years)
- **16%** of adults in the city were diagnosed with asthma in 2016 (a higher proportion than the county and state)
- **46%** of renters in the city are cost-burdened (paying more than 30% of their income on rent)
- **78%** of tracts in the city are in the top 10% of all census tracts in the state for high pollution burden



Areas of Clarkdale and Culver/West are identified as SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods (outlined in blue on the map above) because they have block groups where the median household income falls below 80% of the area and state median income. People of color and other disadvantaged households are overrepresented in both SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods.

Key Definitions



Healthy Communities. Places that foster positive health outcomes for every community member, through strategic policies and design interventions in the built environment



Environmental Justice. California law 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." Both historically and presently, marginalized communities continue to experience a disproportionate share of health-harming burdens and have limited access to the decision-making process around creating healthy environments.



Equity. When socioeconomic and environmental factors (race, income, place, education, etc.) can no longer be used to predict health and other life outcomes. The GPU considers three dimensions of equity in governance that can support achieving equity:

- **Procedural:** Relating to influence in decision-making, such as for municipal planning and other processes
- **Distributional:** Relating to distribution of resources, benefits, and burdens
- **Structural:** Relating to systems and root causes of social inequities



SB 1000 Priority Neighborhood. Areas where low-income households are disproportionately vulnerable to environmental pollution, health hazards, and housing pressures (see map)

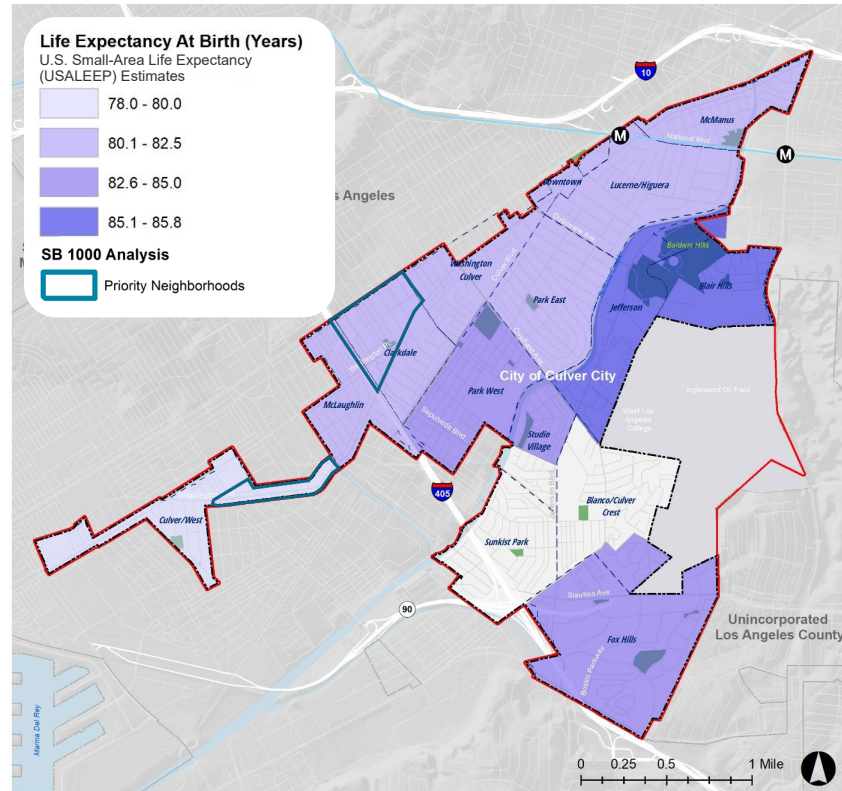
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Why Address Environmental Justice?

SB 1000 (“The Planning for Healthy Communities Act”), adopted in 2016, requires cities to complete an environmental justice element if they are updating more than two General Plan elements and if the jurisdiction identifies disadvantaged communities. The purpose of the environmental justice element is to address the inequitable distribution of environmental hazards and associated health effects in low-income communities of color. The environmental justice element strives to:

- Reduce unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities
- Reduce pollution exposure (e.g., improve air quality)
- Promote public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity
- Promote civic engagement in the public decision-making process

Among other health outcomes, life expectancy at birth is one example of an indicator that varies significantly across the city. The Blair Hills and Jefferson neighborhoods have the longest life expectancies, at over 85 years, while the Culver/West neighborhood, one of the SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods, has the shortest life expectancy at 78 years (see map).



Key Opportunities for the General Plan Update

1

Health Equity

Reduce health disparities through land use and other policy changes that promote healthy communities for all

2

Pollution, Climate Resilience, & Hazards Planning

Address existing pollution concerns and create equitable emergency management/response plans that ensure low-income and disadvantaged communities are not left

3

Civic Engagement

Engage traditionally underrepresented voices in the decision-making process

4

Housing Solutions

Support a range of housing types for different income levels, household compositions, and stages of life; address issues of incompatible land use

5

COVID-19 Recovery

Integrate economic recovery and resiliency in the environmental justice element and throughout the General Plan to proactively prepare for future crises

