WHAT IS SENATE BILL 1000?

SB 1000 is the Planning for Healthy Communities Act. It was signed into law in 2016. SB 1000 requires cities and counties to identify “Priority Equity Communities” within their boundaries. Priority Equity Communities are low-income communities that are near polluting sources and have higher health risks, such as being next to a major freeway and having high asthma rates.

Why use SB 1000?

SB 1000 ensures environmental justice is part of the land use planning process. Land use planning determines what kind of uses—from residential, to commercial, to industrial—are allowed in a community. These uses can then have an impact on what a community has access and is exposed to, such as how far a park is or how near a polluting facility is from a community.

By centering environmental justice in this process, SB 1000 works to improve equity and to reduce the higher pollution exposure and health burdens in low-income communities and communities of color.

What does it mean for my community?

SB 1000 requires that cities and counties address six topics in Priority Equity Communities:

1. Reduce pollution exposure
2. Promote public facilities
3. Promote Food Access
4. Promote civic engagement
5. Promote Safe & Sanitary Homes
6. Promote Physical Activity

Throughout every step of the land use planning process, cities and counties must actively engage Priority Equity Community members and build deep, ongoing, and trust-based relationships to co-create policy solutions to longstanding inequities.

By reducing pollution and improving access to health-promoting amenities, SB 1000 creates places that foster positive health outcomes for all who live, work, and play in them.

This factsheet was produced by the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG) as part of their SB 1000 Toolkit.