



Jonathan Pruitt Environmental Justice Program Coordinator Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton







- In 2005, the late Bishop Stephan Blaire of the Diocese of Stockton proposed to bring an environmental justice project to the Diocese.
- Over a couple of years, the EJ Project became its own designated department/program due to the importance of environmental justice in the Northern Central Valley.
- For 15 years, the EJ Project/program has successfully been at the forefront of environmental justice issues in both San Joaquin and Stanislaus County.





### **CITY OF STOCKTON**

- By the 1850s, the land across the Central Valley of CA was starting to fill with settlers coming into the Gold Rush era.
- Then led to the development of towns. Successful towns needed agriculture. Unfortunately, before 1850, Stockton and San Joaquin County region had lack of access to water for ag.
- Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta was the hope for agriculture in the region. Agriculture investors brought in Chinese laborers to develop levees into town.
- Lack of technological innovation forced ag interests to recruit labor globally.



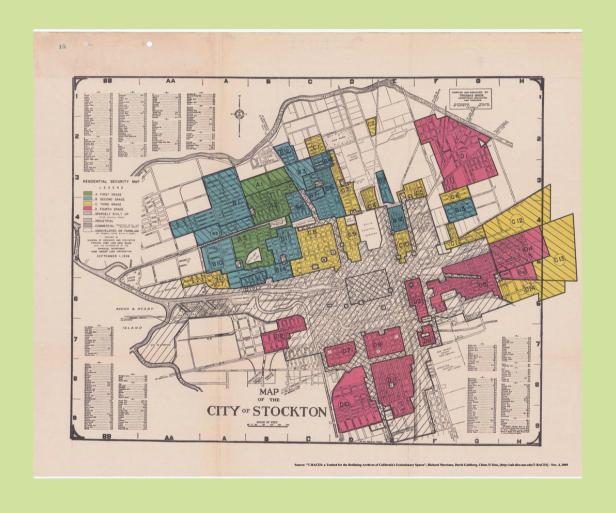


### **CITY OF STOCKTON**

- People of color, such as Chinese, African-Americans from the South, Japanese, Punjabis, Filipinos, and Mexicans were forced into labor by employment segregation.
- Majority of workers that worked in labor around the region lived in Stockton.
- In the late 1800s, racially restrictive housing covenants were written into housing deeds to restrict people of color from living in certain parts of the city.
- Then in 1930s, the Federal Housing Administration created color coded maps to guide mortgage investment. The investments were intentionally directed away from communities of color that were typically depicted in red. A practice known as redlining.



# RESIDENTIAL SECURITY MAP BY HOMEOWNER'S LOAN CORPORATION







# BIG INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IN STOCKTON THE 1930S-1940S





- Port of Stockton opens 1933.
- 1933 1940, fastest growing port in the U.S., doubling tonnage every fiscal quarter
- Huge interest in logistical industries and goods movement.





#### **DEVELOPMENT OF FREEWAYS AND HIGHWAYS**

 1955 - 1970s, Interstate 5, HWY 99, and HWY 4 crosstown were constructed intentionally near lowincome "redlined" communities to reduce the costs of eminent domain.



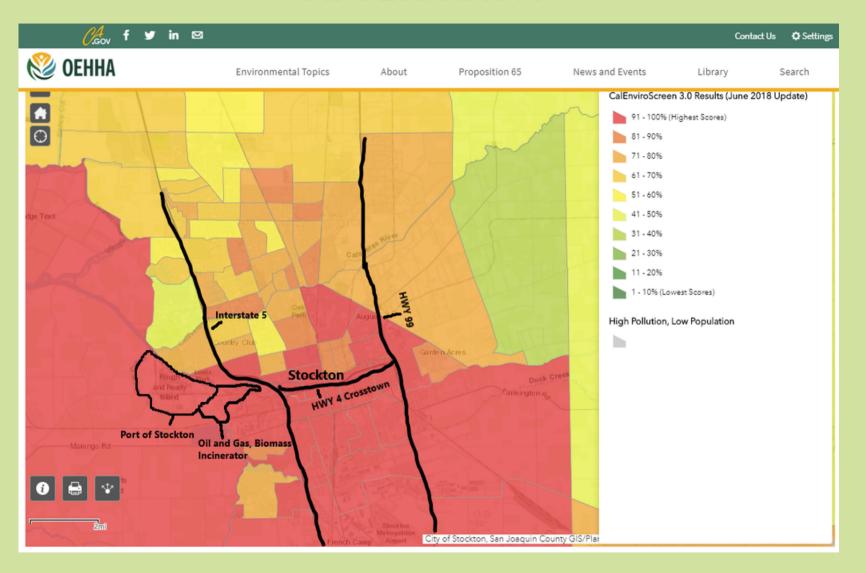
1970s, the construction of HWY 4
 Crosstown freeway and Little
 Manila of Stockton







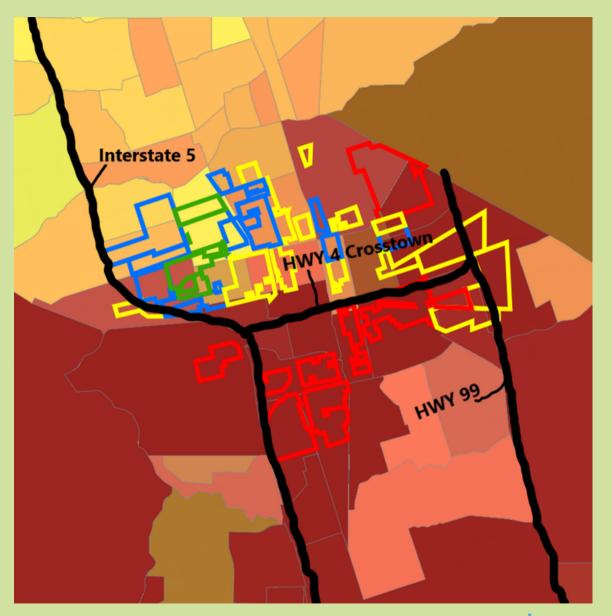
#### **AFTERMATH**







### **POLLUTION SOURCES AND REDLINING**







### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROJECT'S PAST WORK/WINS:

- AB 32: Global Warming Solutions
   Act of 2006 (Nunez and Pavley) Strongest climate change
   legislation in the country
- SB 32 (2006): Climate Pollution Reduction Beyond 2020 (Pavley)
- **SB 375 (2008)**: Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (Steinberg)
- SB 535 (2012): Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (De Leon)
- **SB 350 (2015)**: Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015

- AB 2222 (2015): Transit Pass
   Program (Holden)- free or reduced transit passes to public school students.
- AB 1550 (2016): Disadvantaged
   Community Investments (Gomez)
- **AB 2722 (2016)**: Transformative Climate Communities Program
- **SB 1000 (2016)**: Land use: general plans: safety and environmental justice
- AB 617 (2017): Nonvehicular air pollution: criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants





# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROJECT'S PAST MAJOR STOCKTON WIN



HEALTHY NEIGHBORHO COLLABORATIVE



(2018) After a couple of years of many meetings, trainings, workshops, and outreach, 34 out of 35 General Plan policy recommendations by community-based orgs and community advocates were accepted by Planning Commission and City Council. A huge win for environmental justice communities.

# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROJECT'S PAST MAJOR STOCKTON WIN





# CURRENT WORK: TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE COMMUNITIES

Stockton Rising: TCC Project Area Map



Map Features

TCC Project Area

Parks and Greenspaces

Besidential Areas

Bodies of Water











at Home







# CURRENT WORK: AB 617 COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM







# CURRENT WORK: AB 617 COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM



• A clear depiction of terrible urban planning and environmental injustice. Boggs Tract Community surrounded by the Port of Stockton and industry





# FAITHBASED ENGAGEMENTIN LEGISLATION/POLICY





State Selects Southwest Stockton as 2nd-Year Community for AB 617 Community Air Protection Program

19-12-8: PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER ASSEMBLY BILL 6 COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM - SELECTION OF 2 COMMUNITIES

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD





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