CJWG Meeting Notes
WebEx - 6.15.21

Meeting Commence 12:00pm
CJWG Agenda:
   A. Introductions, Business Items
   B. DAC Definition Status & Timeline
   C. DAC Scenario Overview
   D. DAC Scenario Demo
   E. DAC Scenario Review Process
   F. Next Steps / Scheduling

B) Status & Timeline

Chris Coll
   - Goal: Draft scenarios published early August 2021.
   - By law CJWG needs to engage in a public comment period lasting 120 days.
   - Goal is to have draft criteria ready for public comment early August 2021.
   - Goal: Leaving Sept, Oct, Nov open for public comment process.
   - Goal: Leaving Nov and Dec open for calibrations.

C) DAC Scenario Overview

Amanda Dwelley
Each scenario is made up of 1) indicator list, 2) how to score the data, 3) how to slice the data. We are currently using 40 indicators.

Next step: How do we group and combine these indicators? How do we weight things by importance? To do this we group things by 'factors'.

   - We have a group for 'Burdens'
   - burdens includes: exposures, threats, hazards, climate risks, etc.
   - within burdens = group of environmental exposures, ie) historical discrimination of land use, zoning
   - We also have a group for 'Variables '
   - variables include: population characteristics entitled 'Vulnerability'
   - vulnerability can be grouped into sociodemographics =income, race & ethnicity, language, etc., housing cost.
   - We are grouping these things together, then multiplying them to create an overall score. This model is similar to California's.

Next step: Combining Data

Combining One Way= We can score everyone statewide and rank them by top 25%, 30%, or 40% statewide.

Combining Second Way= We can construct regional scores using the exact same data but compare each tract to others in its region. ie) all of NY city census tracts together and take top 25%, 30%, or 40% of those.

Combination= We are calculating both statewide scores and regional scores then deciphering what is considered a DAC.

Result: Any community that falls into the top 25% from statewide or regional data gets designated a DAC. End result covers roughly a 1/3 of NY state.

Jerrod's Comment: Do you mean 1/3 of the state in terms of population density?

Amanda's Response: We're talking population. We have about a 1/3 of the census tracts covered for NY state.

Eddie's Comments: The sociodemographics are not exhaustive, correct? ie) He is not seeing representation of the Asian population.

Amanda's Response: Good question. The data reflects what is in the current scenario to date.

Alex's Response: We have tried to model the Asian population and test it. We are looking for a better way to include vulnerable Asian populations limited in English proficiency without shifting things away from some of the places more in need to be designated a DAC.

Eddie's Comments: Gotcha, thank you.

Chris's Comments: We want to make sure other indicators not present were documented prior or at least identified so we can build them into future iterations. Let's be sure we capture anything missing. *Alex's Response:* Agreed.

Rhawa's Comment: How can we include Indigenous communities?

Amanda Response: There's a reason they are not listed. Census data available on them is not in line with Indigenous territory or land. To address this we'd like to identify what the designated tribal land or territory is. Then we can explicitly add that in after the quantitative scoring.

Eddie's Comments: For next week can we discuss health impacts and burdens? Current list seems light, things missing. Did anyone from DOH have feedback?

Amanda's Response: We did have an extensive conversation with DOH.

Neal's Response: If specific indicators are missing we are happy to provide a more detailed follow up. Happy to provide more information.

Eddie's Comments: Would be helpful to know what constituted a health risk to elevate things. He's looking for context. No mention of COVID's impacts? Why are COVID vulnerable communities not mentioned? Let's be prepared to answer this.

Alex's Response: COVID data will show a good historical discrimination. Getting this data is part of what we are working on.

Alanah's Response: DEC's OEJ Indian Nations Affairs Coordinator Dr. David Witt did extend an invitation to the Nations to have a conversation on how the Nations want to be included in the conversation if at all. We are awaiting a response. A follow up invitation has been sent.

D & E) DAC Scenario Overview & DEMO

Amanda Dwelley
With 40 indicators there is only so much you can do by adding another indicator. To address this let's look at adding tools.

First tool= 'Designation Thresholds.' First we rank/order communities by their scores. Next , what percentages are considered DAC's, 25%, 30%? We can show this by using scenarios.

Second Tool= 'Factor Importance'. How important are these different things? We can group them and rank some as more important than others.

F) Next Steps for Illume

- Illume will build out and fine tune scenarios.
- Would like CJWG to use scenario tool to provide their input.
- Illume will be working hard to upload scenario tool onto the server so working group will have this week. (Jun14-18)

Jerrod Comment: Will tutorial PDF be updated?

Alex's Response: Yes. Is there anything else Illume can add to the map to make it more user friendly for the working group to use? -No comment from group.

Next Steps & Scheduling

- More information on indicators is requested by working group.
- Answer how are Indigenous population being captured?
- Link and PowerPoint will be sent out over next couple days once its uploaded to the server.
- Next CJWG scheduled for 6/23/21. Invite will be sent out.

Meeting End: 1:00pm