



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Climate Justice Working Group Meeting

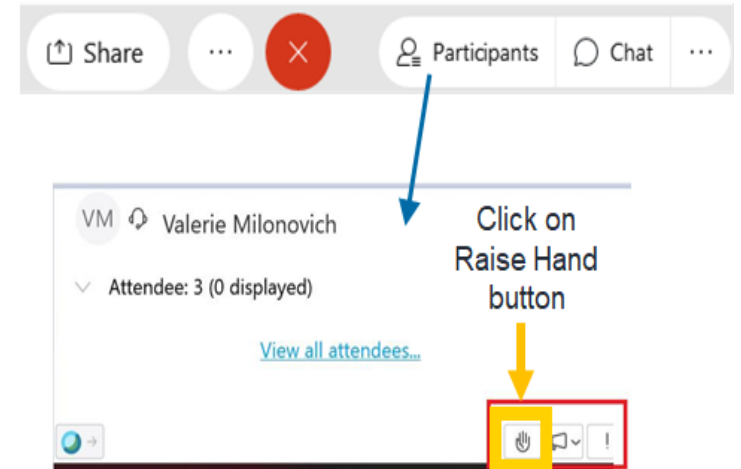
April 20, 2022

Meeting Procedures

Before beginning, a few reminders to ensure a smooth discussion:

- Working Group Members should be on mute if not speaking.
- If using phone for audio, please tap the phone mute button.
- If using computer for audio, please click the mute button on the computer screen.
- Video is encouraged for Working Group members, particularly when speaking.
- To ask a question or make a comment, please use the hand raise function. Click the participant panel button for the hand raise function. Someone will call on members individually, at which time please unmute yourself.
- Please state your name before speaking.

At bottom of screen:





Roll Call



Agenda for April 20, 2022

- DAC Ed Sessions and Hearings Update
- CAC Update
 - Public hearings on draft Scoping Plan
 - Meetings
- Disadvantaged Communities for Air Monitoring Screening
 - Proposed communities

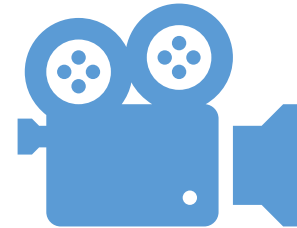


Public Engagement on Draft DAC Criteria

Public Education Sessions



DEC hosted two education sessions on April 13th and April 19th. The event on the 19th was live translated into Spanish.



Both recordings will be available on the climate.ny.gov site.



Public Hearings

Hearings on Draft DAC Criteria

- Ten hearings statewide May through June
- Mix of in-person and virtual via WebEx
- Legislative hearings format with brief and targeted overview of DAC criteria
- Registration recommended to ensure local residents are prioritized to speak
- Two-minute time limit, full remarks may be submitted for the record

Hearings on Draft DAC Criteria

Tentative Hearings Plan

Hearing	Location	Date
NYC Hearing #1	Virtual	May 2022
NYC Hearing #2	In-person, Queens	June 2022
Mid-Hudson Valley Hearing #1	Virtual	June 2022
Mid-Hudson Valley Hearing #2	In-person, Poughkeepsie	May 2022
Central NY & Mohawk Valley Hearing	Virtual	June 2022
Western NY Hearing #1	Virtual	June 2022
Western NY Hearing #2	In person, Buffalo	June 2022
Finger Lakes/Southern Tier Hearing #1	Virtual	June 2022
North Country/ Capital Region Hearing	Virtual	June 2022
Long Island Hearing	Virtual	May 2022



Climate Action Council Update

Remaining 2022 Scoping Plan Public Hearings Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Address
April 26	4:00PM	Syracuse	SUNY ESF
April 27	3:30PM	Buffalo	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
May 3	4:00PM	Brooklyn	NYC College of Technology
May 7	10:00AM	WebEx	Virtual
May 10	4:00PM	Tupper Lake	The WILD Center
May 11	4:00PM	WebEx	Virtual

Note:

- The deadline for written public comment submissions was extended to June 10
- If COVID safety measures are warranted, in-person hearings will be held virtually at the same scheduled time
- Visit: <https://climate.ny.gov/> and click on the 'Meetings and Events' tab for updated hearing information

Disadvantaged Communities for Air Quality Monitoring - Selection



Community Air Monitoring

- Statewide screening effort in 10 communities burdened by air pollution
 - Introduced by Governor Hochul Climate Week 2021
- Complemented by community-driven initiatives
 - Capacity-building for EJ community groups in the 10 communities
 - Local monitoring in 4 communities, led by grassroots EJ organizations

Air Quality Monitoring Statewide Screen



Community Air Monitoring Statewide Screen

- Mobile air quality screening using high-resolution sensors to provide comparison and evaluation across neighborhoods and drive solutions to reduce pollution

Air Quality Monitoring Statewide Screen

Purpose:

- Identify air quality issues in DACs for future emissions reductions, for example:
 - Long-term (e.g., diesel emissions reductions, regulations addressing stationary sources)
 - Short-term (e.g., local facility inspection, permit enforcement)
- Empower communities with easy-to-understand information on air pollution
- Locate leaks in natural gas infrastructure
- Identify sources of GHGs and other pollutants

Air Quality Monitoring Statewide Screen

- 10 communities, 5 million people
- Air quality screening conducted using mobile screening approach to obtain estimated annual averages for each pollutant in each of 10 communities
- Information collected block by block (100m road segment)
- Consistent methodology allows results to be comparable within the project

Air Quality Monitoring Statewide Screen

Year-long monitoring screen in 10 communities

- Four communities beginning in June 2022
- Six communities beginning in September 2022
- Survey data collection through September 2023
- Final reporting in 2024

Pollutants measured include

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Nitric oxide (NO)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- Ozone (O₃)
- Particulate matter (PM_{2.5})
- Methane (CH₄)
- Ethane (C₂H₆)
- Black carbon
- Targeted toxics monitoring:
 - benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes

Data Quality

- DEC operates robust network of 54 sites that generate 1.4 million+ data points annually
- 25 sites in Potential Environmental Justice Areas
- Aclima's survey measurements will be adjusted to match DEC network data, removing the impact of varying background concentrations

Air Monitoring Contractor

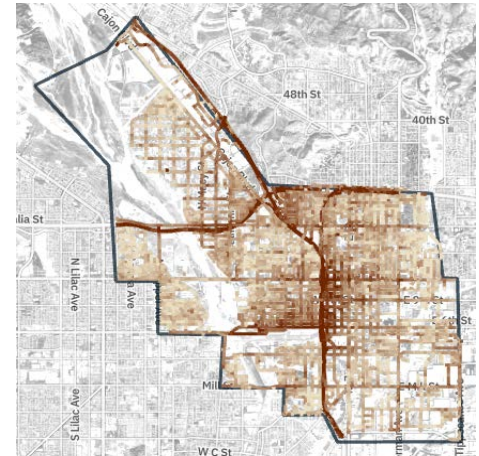
Air monitoring data will be collected by Aclima sensor node platform:

- **San Francisco-based public benefit corporation**
- **Uses internet-connected air quality sensors and operates a software platform to analyze the data**
- Analyzes the block-by-block data and produces gradient maps
- Results available on the cloud-based software, Aclima Pro™

Aclima Platform

Provides access to high resolution data within selected communities to DEC, CJWG and participating CBOs with Aclima Pro™

Will incorporate other data, including locations of sensitive receptors and community-led complementary monitoring efforts



San Bernardino, CA PM_{2.5}

Mobile Sensors



Statewide screen will use Aclima's fleet of vehicle-mounted sensor nodes to collect data by driving at least 20 times on each road segment at different times of day, days of the week, and seasons of the year to measure air pollution in the 10 communities.

Mobile Air Quality Screening

Data are:

- Hyper-local
 - 100-meter roadway segments
 - Wide spatial coverage
- Helpful for identifying potential local sources of air pollution

Data are not:

- Regulatory monitors
 - Data cannot be compared to the NAAQS, or used alone for enforcement purposes
- Designed to characterize an individual's exposure or risk

BlocPower Partnership: Expanded Jobs Program in New York City



Air Burdened Communities

How We're Using Draft DAC Criteria

- Directed by CLCPA, utilizing DAC criteria and draft designations
- Final boundaries drawn in the 10 communities based on air quality considerations and community input

Air Pollution Burden Indicators

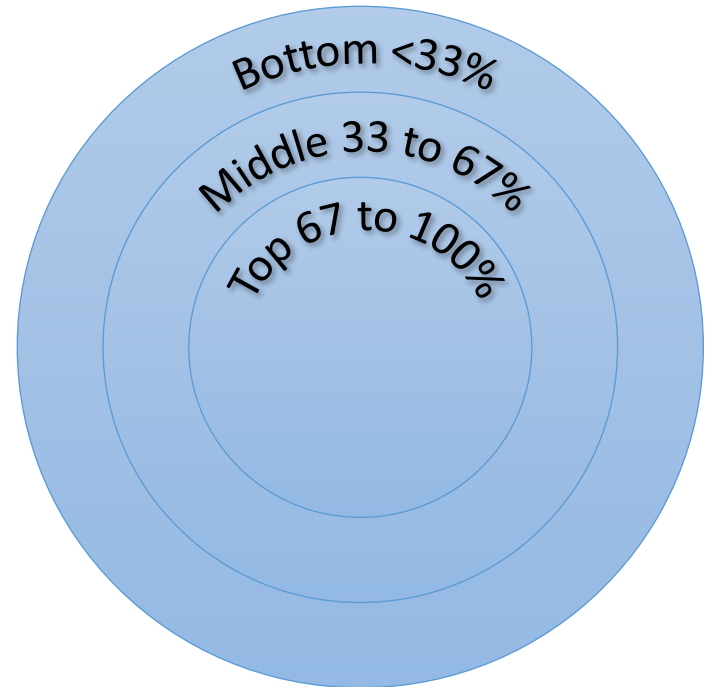
- Traffic: Proximity to diesel trucks and buses, and overall vehicle density
- Select pollutants: Particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), and benzene
- Proximity to:
 - Remediation Sites
 - Regulated Management (Chemical Sites)
 - Major Oil Storage
 - Active Landfills
 - Power Generation
 - Municipal Waste Combustors
 - Scrap Metal Processors and Vehicle Dismantlers
 - Industrial/Manufacturing/Mining Land use (Zoning)

Air Pollution Burden Score

Rank all tracts from high (100%) to low (0%) by burden score percentile.

- Divide into 3 groups:
 - Top: 67 to 100%
 - Middle: 33 to 67%
 - Bottom: <33%
- Separate NYC from the rest of the state (Outside of NYC)
- Group DAC census tracts with top air burden
 - NYC community districts
 - ROS community name
- Sort by population

Air Pollution Burden Score



Air Pollution Burden Score

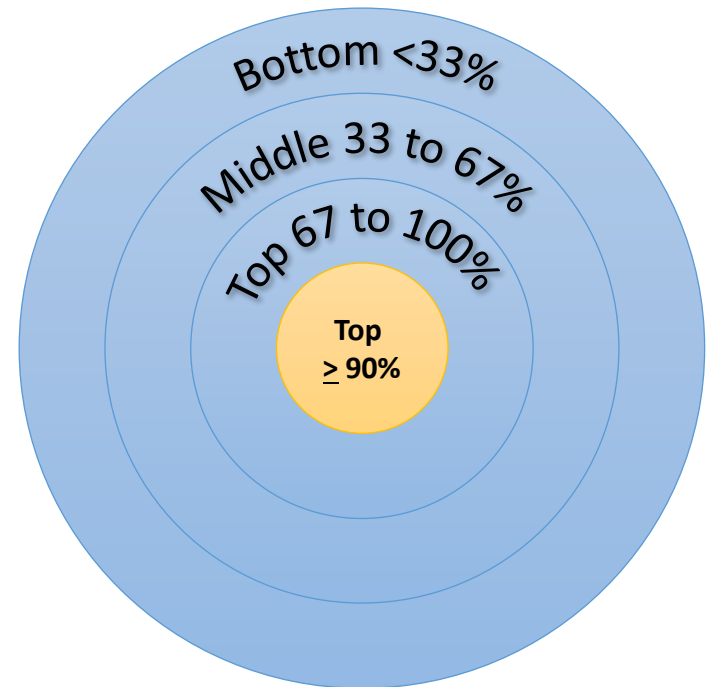
Select DACs with:

- Air Pollution Burden Scores $\geq 90\%$
- Four or more Air Pollution Indicators above the 67% percentile rank

This process allows us to:

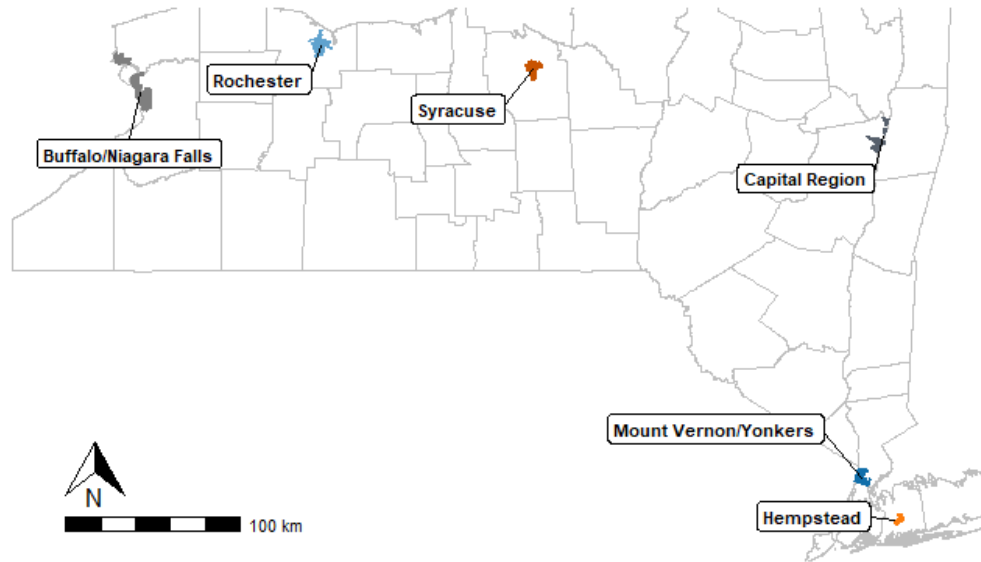
- Pinpoint areas with more air pollution indicators, higher burden, and population
- Further evaluate DACs near the area for selection

Air Pollution Burden Score

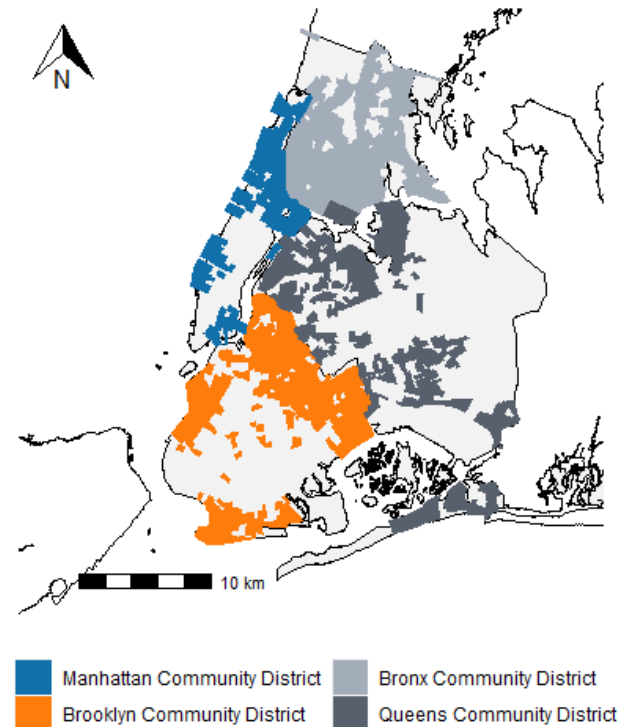


Communities Identified As Higher Air Pollution Burden

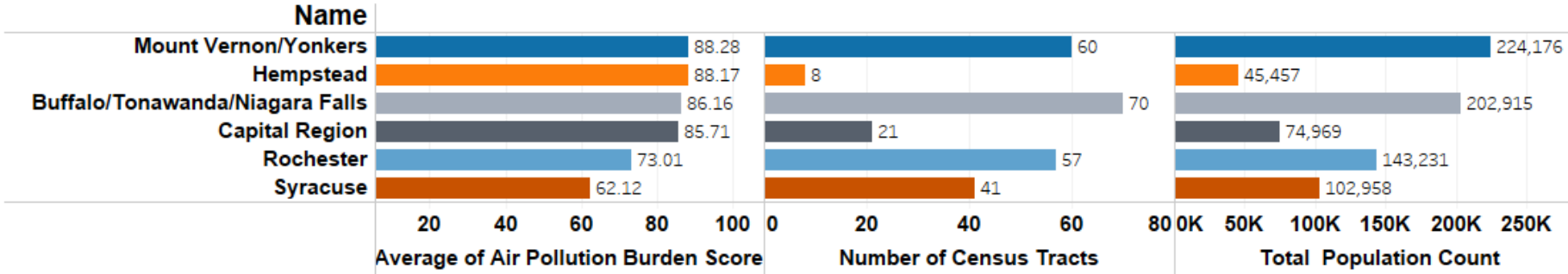
Communities With High Air Pollution Burden



Communities With High Air Pollution Burden



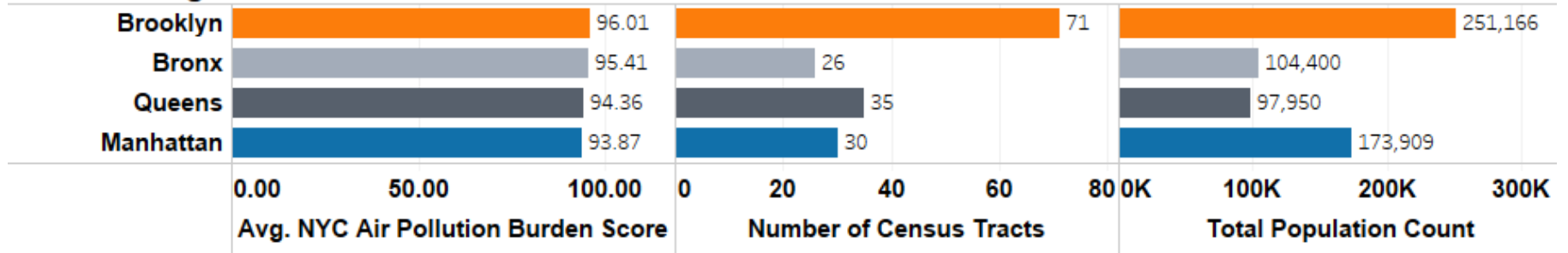
Communities Identified As Higher Air Pollution Burden Outside NYC



* Air pollution burden scores are calculated separate from NYC

Communities Identified As Higher Air Pollution Burden in NYC

NYC Borough



Reporting & Response Actions

Reporting - DEC



DEC, in coordination with local CBOs, will provide periodic updates to the community

Reporting

Participating CBOs and CJWG will have access to preliminary and first-available data through Aclima Pro™ platform

DEC working with participating CBOs and community stakeholders will provide interim progress updates and data summaries

Final report after a year of data has been collected will be shared with the communities



Response Activities

- DEC monitors data as it comes in and will take appropriate action in consultation with community stakeholders.
- Following the conclusion of year-long community screening, DEC will identify elevated areas and potential source contributions.
- Assessment will be used to develop short-term actions and long-term strategies to address air quality issues identified by the screening with community stakeholders.
- Actions could include additional monitoring to isolate issues, enforcement, and regulatory/permitting actions.

Next Steps

- April/May: Outreach to CBOs in four communities selected for first phase:
 - Propose WNY, Capital Region, Bronx and Manhattan/Queens
- Outreach will help to define boundaries of areas to be monitored and structure of stakeholder engagement
 - Considering air pollution indicators and location of sources of concern

Community-Led Monitoring



Community-Led Monitoring

- Grant opportunities will be available to support NGO capacity building for air monitoring in the 10 communities
- Additional community-led monitoring efforts planned in four targeted communities with available grant funding
- Complementary monitoring led by CBOs via competitive grant process

Community-Driven Monitoring

- Projects in the same or different communities from screening effort
- May include additional pollutants
- Design of locally driven projects to support existing efforts, provide more data points, engage communities



Thank You

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Next Steps

Public Comments on DAC Criteria

- For more information visit: <https://climate.ny.gov/Our-Climate-Act/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria>
- Written comments may be submitted until **July 7, 2022** by email or by mail and are weighted the same as making an oral statement.
- Send written comments by U.S. Mail to:
NYS DEC, Draft DAC Comments
Attn. Office of Environmental Justice
625 Broadway, 14th Floor
Albany NY 12233
- Email comments to: **DACComments@dec.ny.gov**

