



**COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS CATE  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
SIXTH DISTRICT**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** May 5, 2021

**TO:** Mayor Todd Gloria

**FROM:** Councilmember Chris Cate

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Year 2022 Recommended Projects for the Climate Equity Fund

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As the City Council initiates budget discussions for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, please accept these funding recommendations for the Climate Equity Fund. As referenced in the Climate Equity Index Report, this index can serve as a tool to identify other areas that could be included in the Communities of Concern definition. While there are no census tracts in Council District 6 that overall meet the definition of communities of concern, it does have several census tracts that either fall in the lowest or moderate to low tier for specific categories based on the Z-score indicator.

**Roadway Improvements**

Using the street assessment indicator and the Weighted average Overall Condition Index (OCI) score, District 6 has 5 of the 20 lowest overall census tracts OCI scores in the City, ranging from 54.42-58.53. We request evaluating these 5 census tracts for potential roadway improvement funding:

- Census Tract 6073008352-OCI Score 54.42
- Census Tract 6073008506-OCI Score 56.14
- Census Tract 6073008512-OCI Score 56.30
- Census Tract 6073008358-OCI Score 58.53
- Census Tract 6073021500-OCI Score 58.60

### Fire Risk

The fire risk indicator measures the percent area of each census tract that falls within zones identified as very high fire severity to low severity by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE). The majority of census tracts in the high fire hazard severity score (80-100) fall within Council Districts 5 and 6. We request evaluating potential funding for additional brush management and fire suppression investments in these areas.

### Food Access

District 6, along with every district in the City, has many census tracts that fall into the highest category score for limited food access measured by the USDA Food Access Research Atlas. Low access is considered greater than one-half mile for urban census tracts, and greater than 10 miles for rural census tracts. We recommend funding toward a city-wide food desert pilot program aimed at incentivizing smaller corner market stores to carry healthy and fresh food.

### Proximity to Community Recreation Areas

The Communities of Mira Mesa and Kearny Mesa both have Census Tracts that fall into the lowest score tier for proximity to community recreation areas defined as the number of recreation areas (parks, open space, beaches, libraries and recreation centers) within one-half mile of populated neighborhoods. Specifically, Kearny Mesa has an open CIP(S00751) at Hickman Field. This project would serve not only the community of Kearny Mesa, but also the areas to the east and south, which also fall into the lowest tier of community recreation area access. We request evaluating potential funding to complete the Hickman Fields Athletic Area.

### Pedestrian Access

The Census Tract that includes Kearny Mesa and the Convoy neighborhood has one of the lowest scores in the city with a -.091 Z-score for pedestrian access. This score is calculated using a combination of average walk score, miles of sidewalk, number of streetlights and pedestrian-vehicle collisions. Specifically, the neighborhood of convoy which is the Asian Pacific Islander cultural hub of the City is notoriously dangerous for pedestrians. We recommend evaluating potential funding for increased pedestrian access in the census tract 6073008511.