



Housing

Segregation in the City of San José

History, Impacts and Government Responsibility

November 3, 2021
San José State University
Racial Justice Symposium

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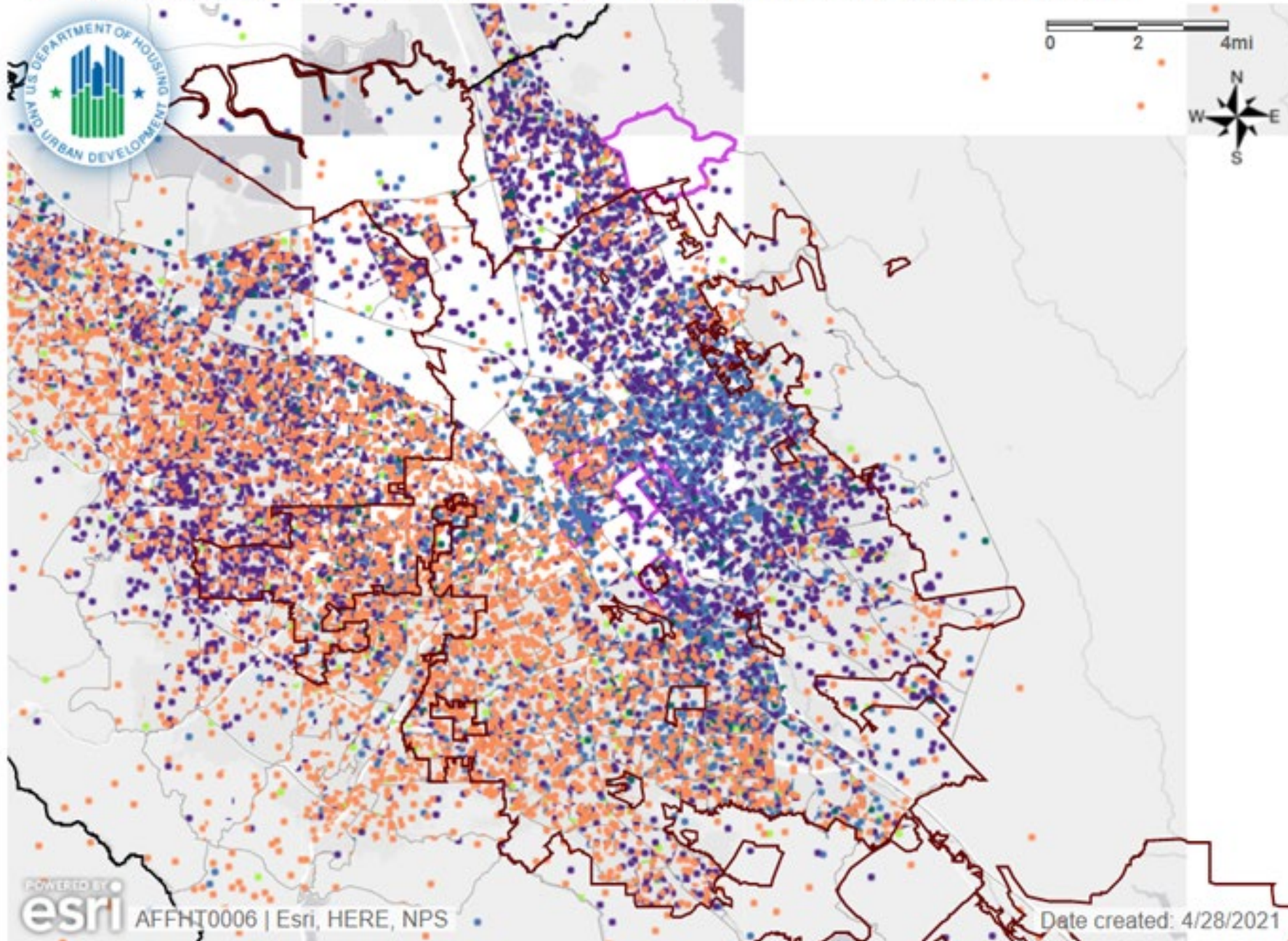
Maricela Lechuga
Santa Clara Airport Commissioner

Ruth Cueto
Supervising Planner, City of San José

Land Recognition – Muwekma Ohlone Tribe



HUD Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Data and Mapping Tool



- 1 Dot = 75
- White, Non-Hispanic
 - Black, Non-Hispanic
 - Native American, Non-Hispanic
 - Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic
 - Hispanic
 - Other, Non-Hispanic
 - Multi-racial, Non-Hispanic

TRACT

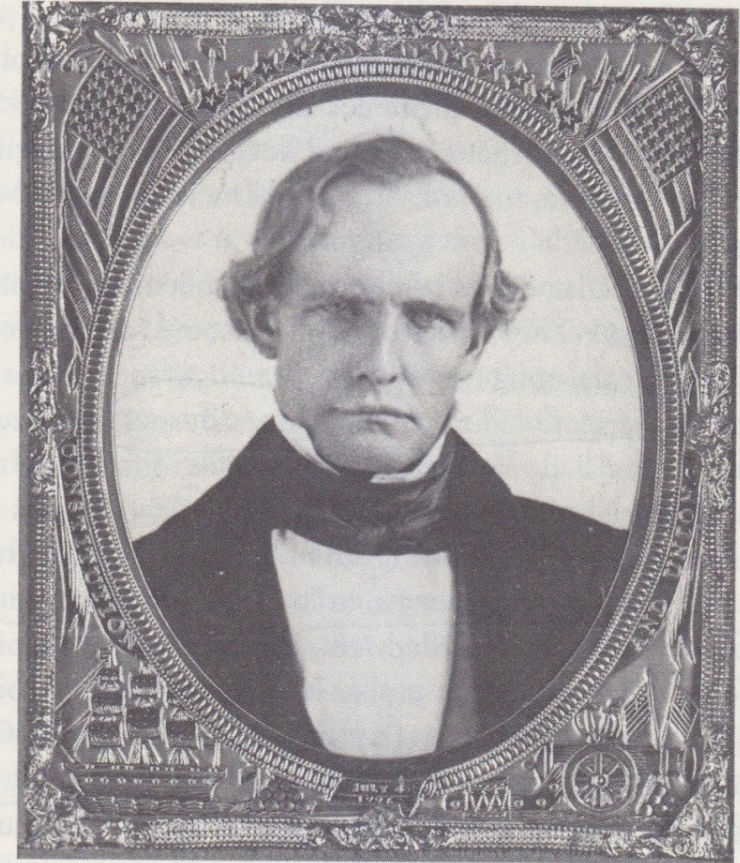


R/ECAP



Government Sponsored Genocide & Land Theft

Governor Peter Hardeman Burnett, in a second state of address in the state Capitol of San José, says, “That a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the races until the Indian race becomes extinct must be expected.”



In 1851, Governor Peter Burnett prophesied “That a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the races, until the Indian race becomes extinct” (Peter H. Burnett, “Governor’s Message,” in *California, California Legislature*, 1851, 15). Unknown artist,

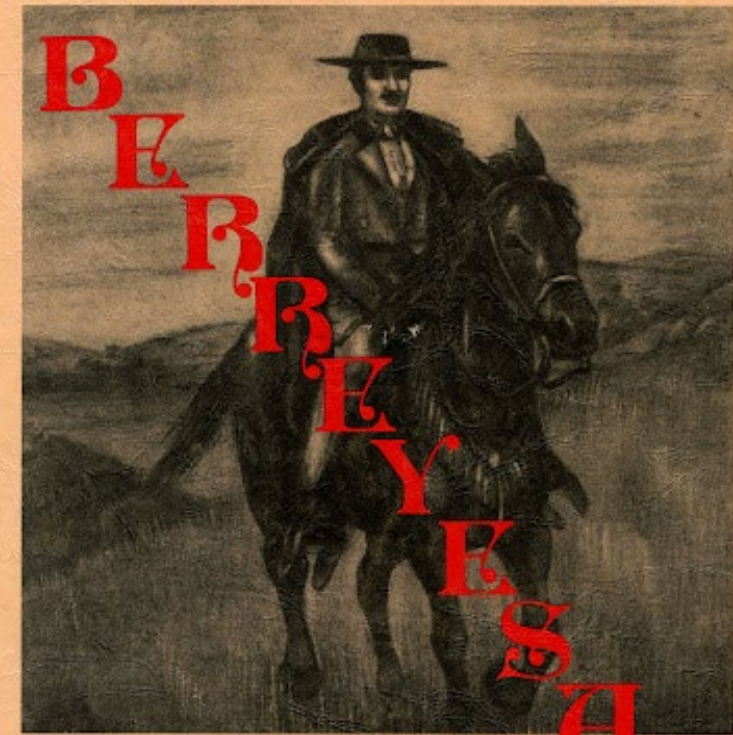
California, a “Free State” Sanctioned Slavery

The series of bills admitted California as a free state, while also granting concessions to the South, including the federal Fugitive Slave Act, which required government officials and white citizens in all states and territories to actively assist slaveholders to recapture formerly enslaved people who escaped from slave-holding jurisdictions.



Government facilitated Land Grab from Mexican Families

- Most Latinos experienced rapid economic and political disenfranchisement post the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848
- By 1860, only 20 men and 6 women in San Jose's ethnic Mexican community of over 900 held property in the county.
- "Of all the California families, perhaps ours can most justly complain about the bad faith adventurers and squatters and about the illegal activities of the American lawyers."
- Antonio Berryessa



The Rape of
The Mexican Land Grant
RANCHO CANADA de CAPAY
Eftimeos Salonites

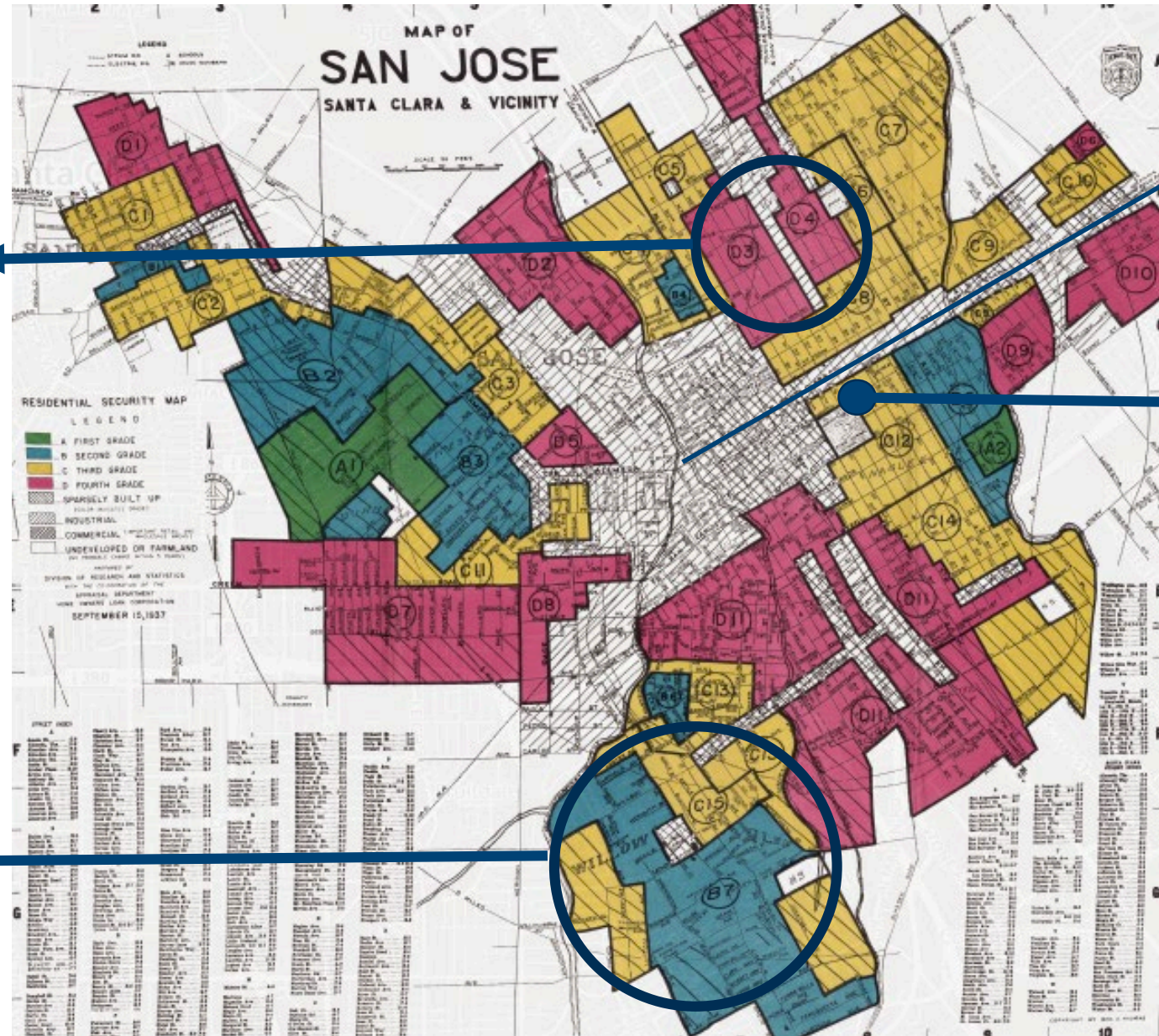


Alien Land Laws Prevented Asians from Owning Property

“In the matter of Chinese and Japanese coolie immigration I stand for the national policy of exclusion (or restricted immigration)...We cannot make a homogeneous population out of people who do not blend with the Caucasian race...Oriental coolieism will give us another race problem to solve, and surely we have had our lesson.” - President Woodrow Wilson

Northside
Neighborhood

Willow Glen



City
Hall



Post WWII policies and investments that contributed to segregation in San José

- Annexation
- Subdivision
- Federal underwriting of single-family home development
- Racially restrictive covenants
- Siting and funding of infrastructure (roads, freeways, utilities, etc.)
- Zoning/planning and land use siting
- Allocation and maintenance of parks, trees, community centers and other neighborhood amenities



Chinatown

Struggle to Find Home

Connie Young Yu

Burning of Second Market Street Chinatown 1887



(Courtesy of History San Jose)



Apology Ceremony September 29, 2021



(Courtesy of Connie Young Yu)



Young Soong Quong, 1881 & 1891



(Courtesy of Connie Young Yu)

Young family, Chinese New Year, Mercury Herald, 1914



5th Grade Grant School 1923



Heinlenville Parade 1920



Heinlenville 1932



(Courtesy of Connie Young Yu)



Young's storefront home, Japantown 1935



Heinlerville Excavation 2009



6th and Jackson Development



(Courtesy of Connie Young Yu)



Heinlenville Park Site



11/5/2021

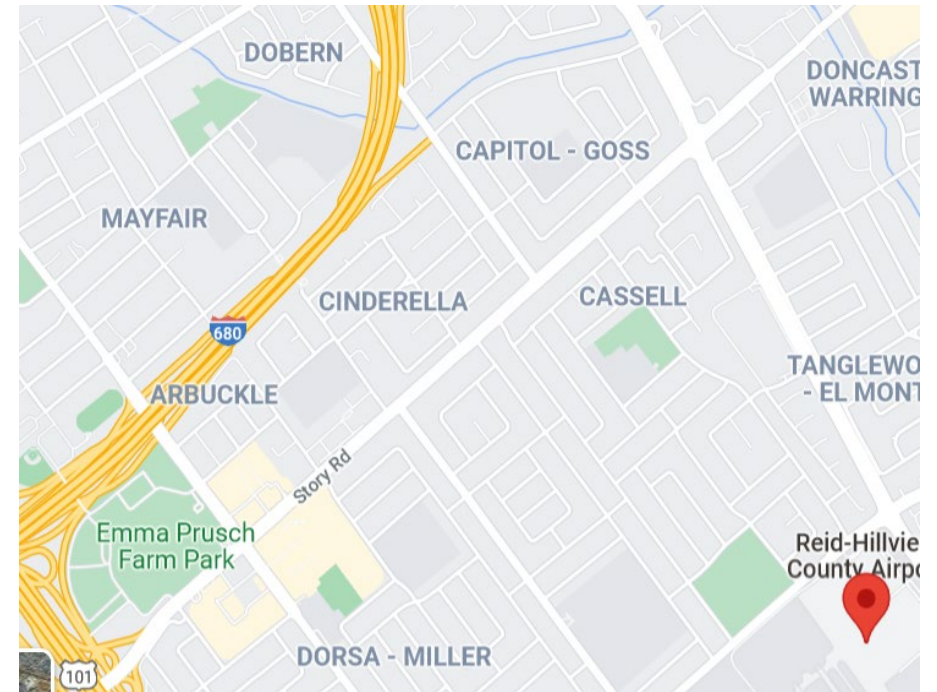
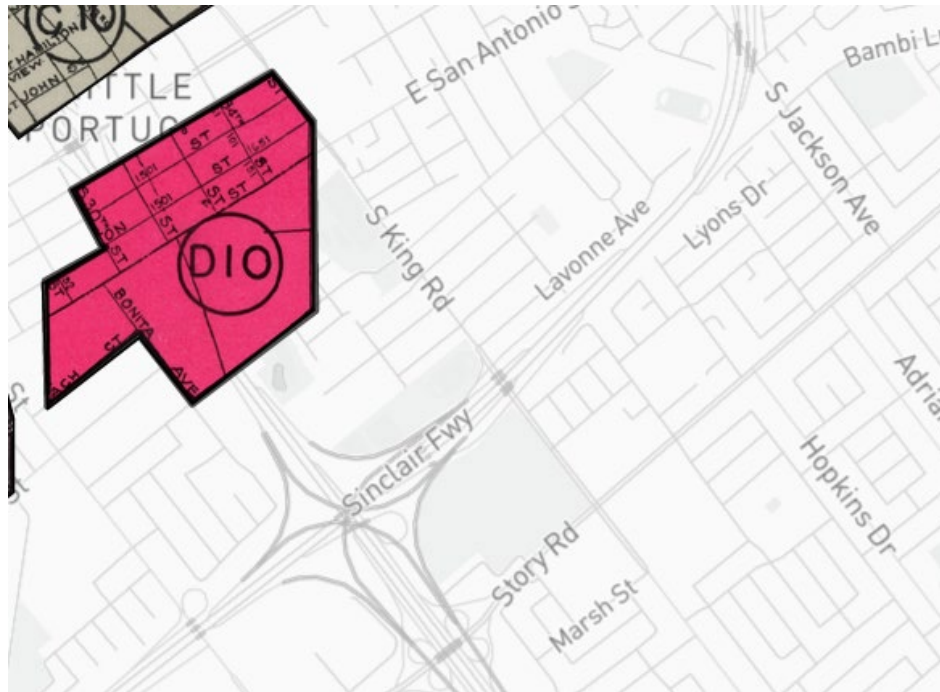
(Courtesy of Connie Young Yu)



Reid-Hillview Airport *Legacy*

Maricela Lechuga

Garden City Airport - 1935; RHV - 1937



Under investment in East San José



(Picture from Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Stanford University Libraries, Fred Ross Papers [M0812])



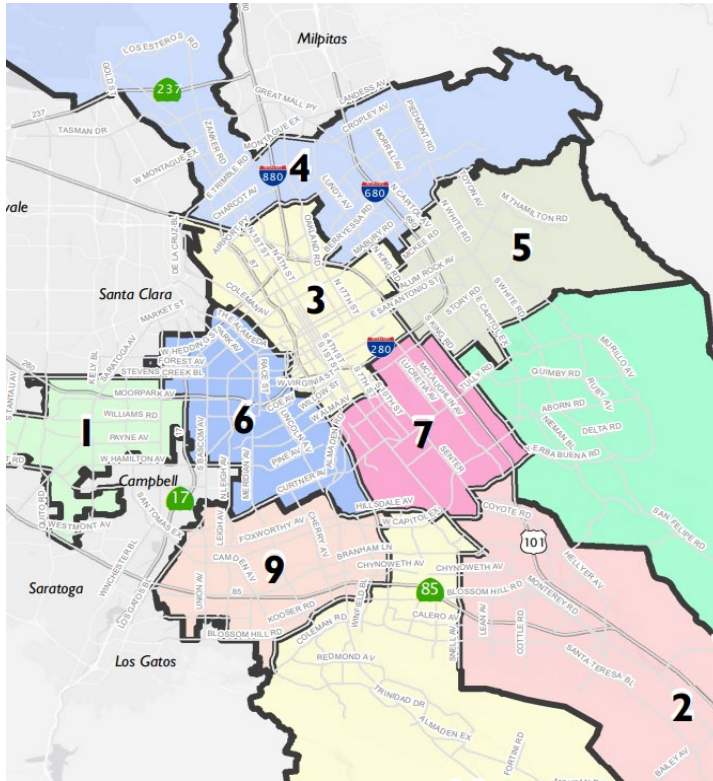
Abuses against Mexican Americans



(Picture of Bracero being Sprayed with DDT: <https://thebraceroprogram.weebly.com/dehumanization.html>)



Political Representation 1980



(Picture courtesy of Maricela Lechuga)



Reid-Hillview Airport Nuisance



Picture of Airport Noise Nuisance -

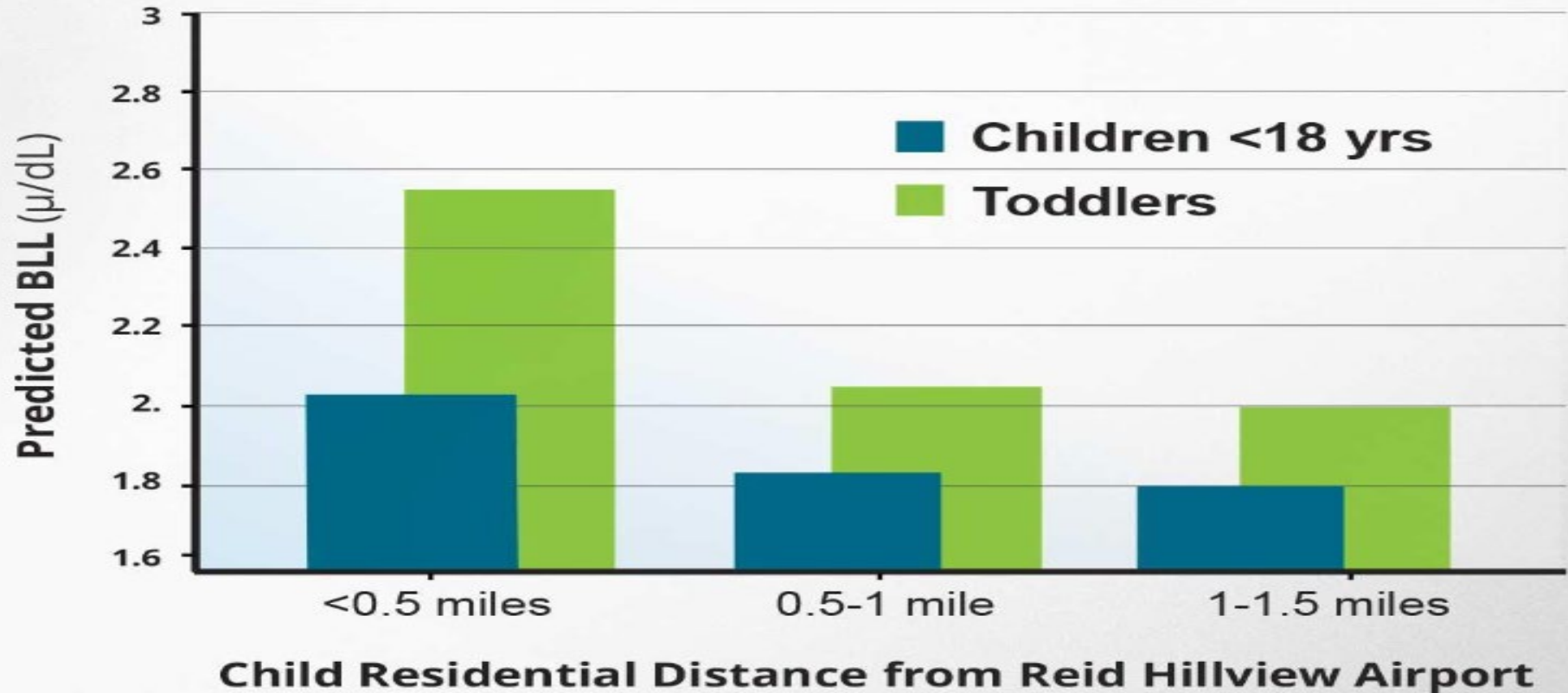
<https://www.arabnews.com/news/467255?page=1>

Picture of plane crash in home taken by Karl Mondon/Bay Area News Group



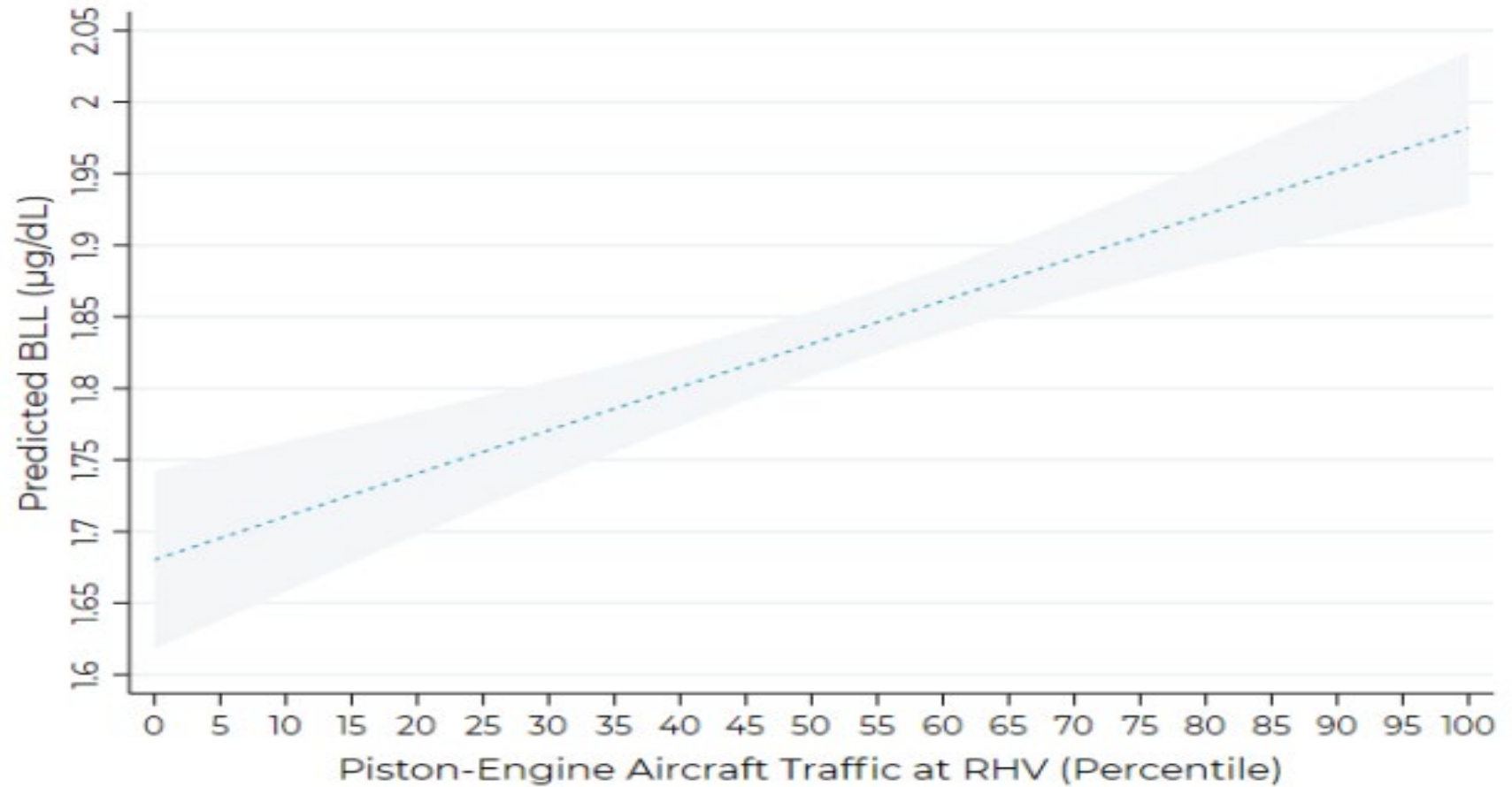
Reid-Hillview Airport Airborne Lead Study 2021

Residential Distance and Blood Lead Levels in Toddlers and Children <18 years

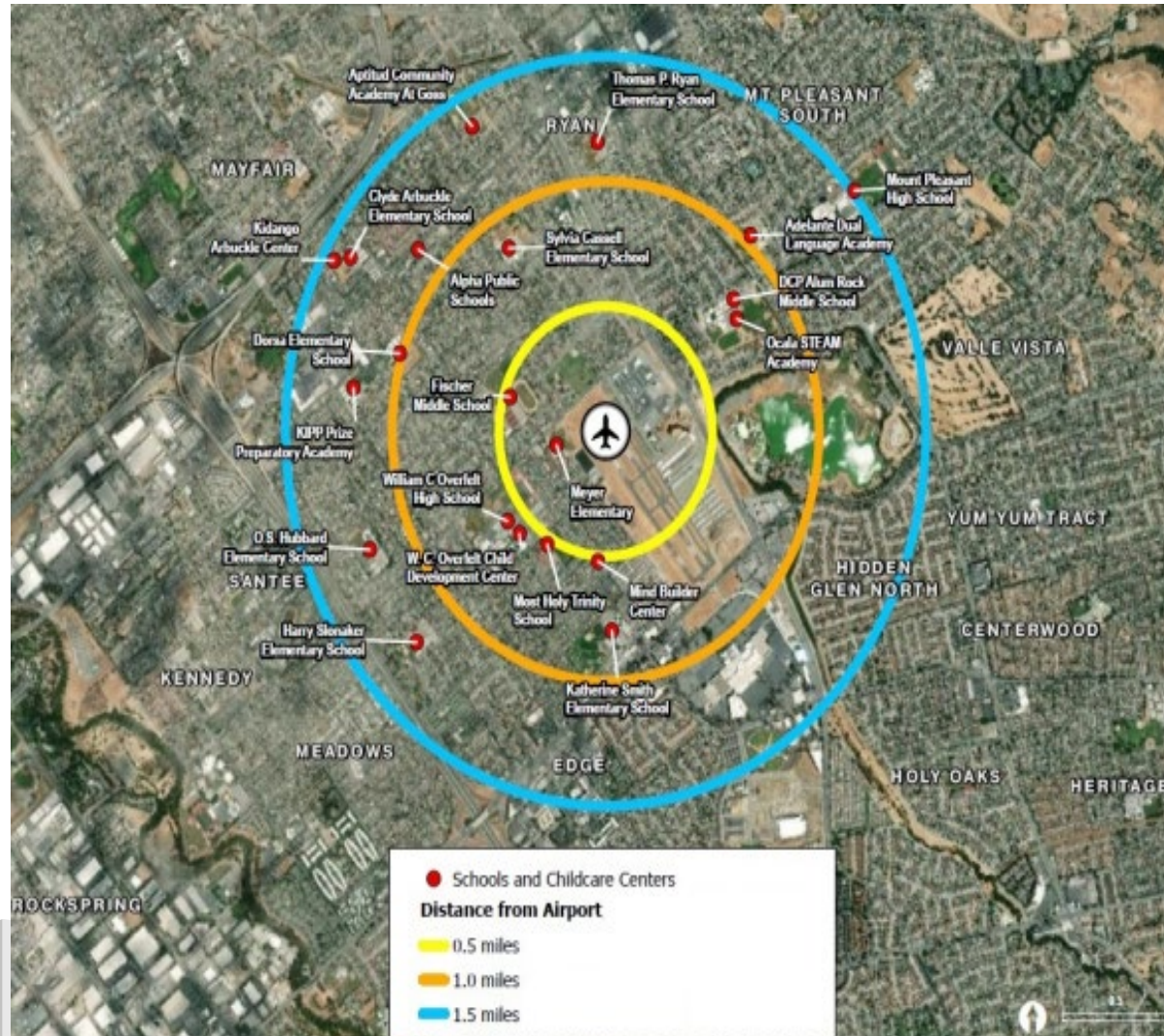


Reid-Hillview Airport Airborne Lead Study 2021

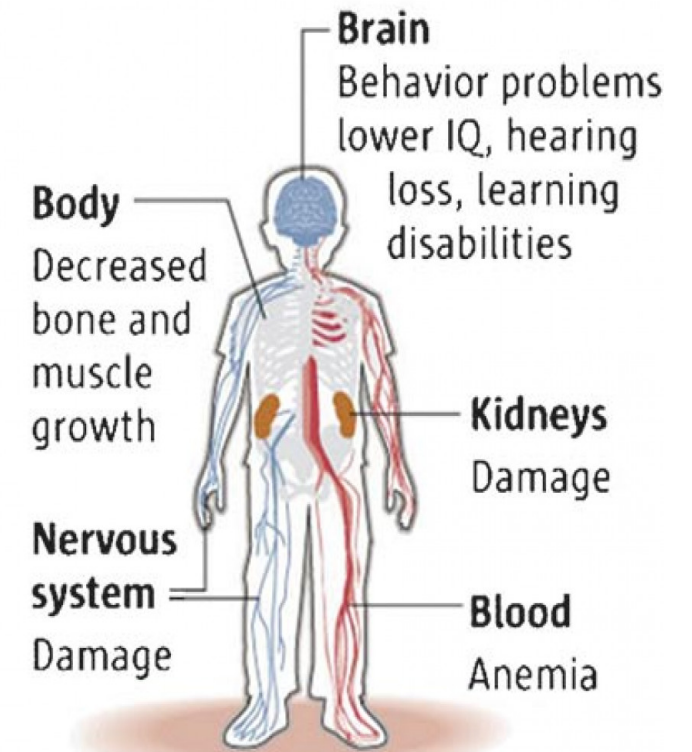
Piston-Engine Aircraft Traffic and Child BLLs



Effects of toxic lead-based fuel



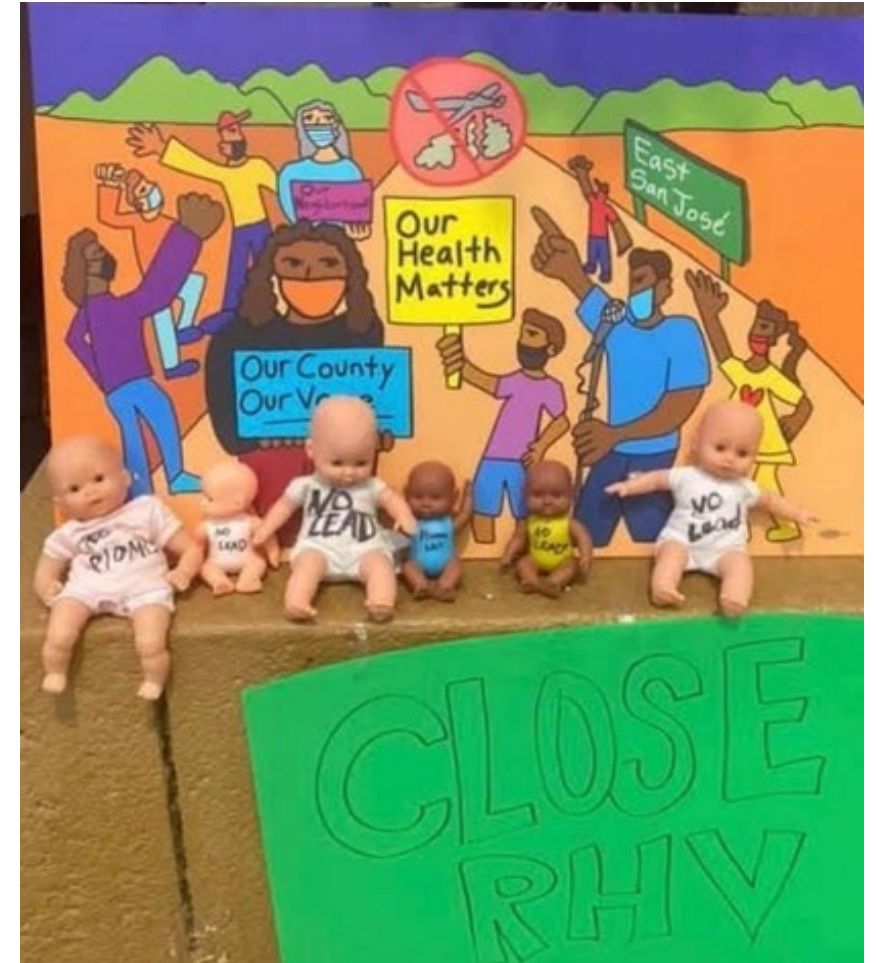
CHILDREN



Public Awareness Campaign



Community Organizing



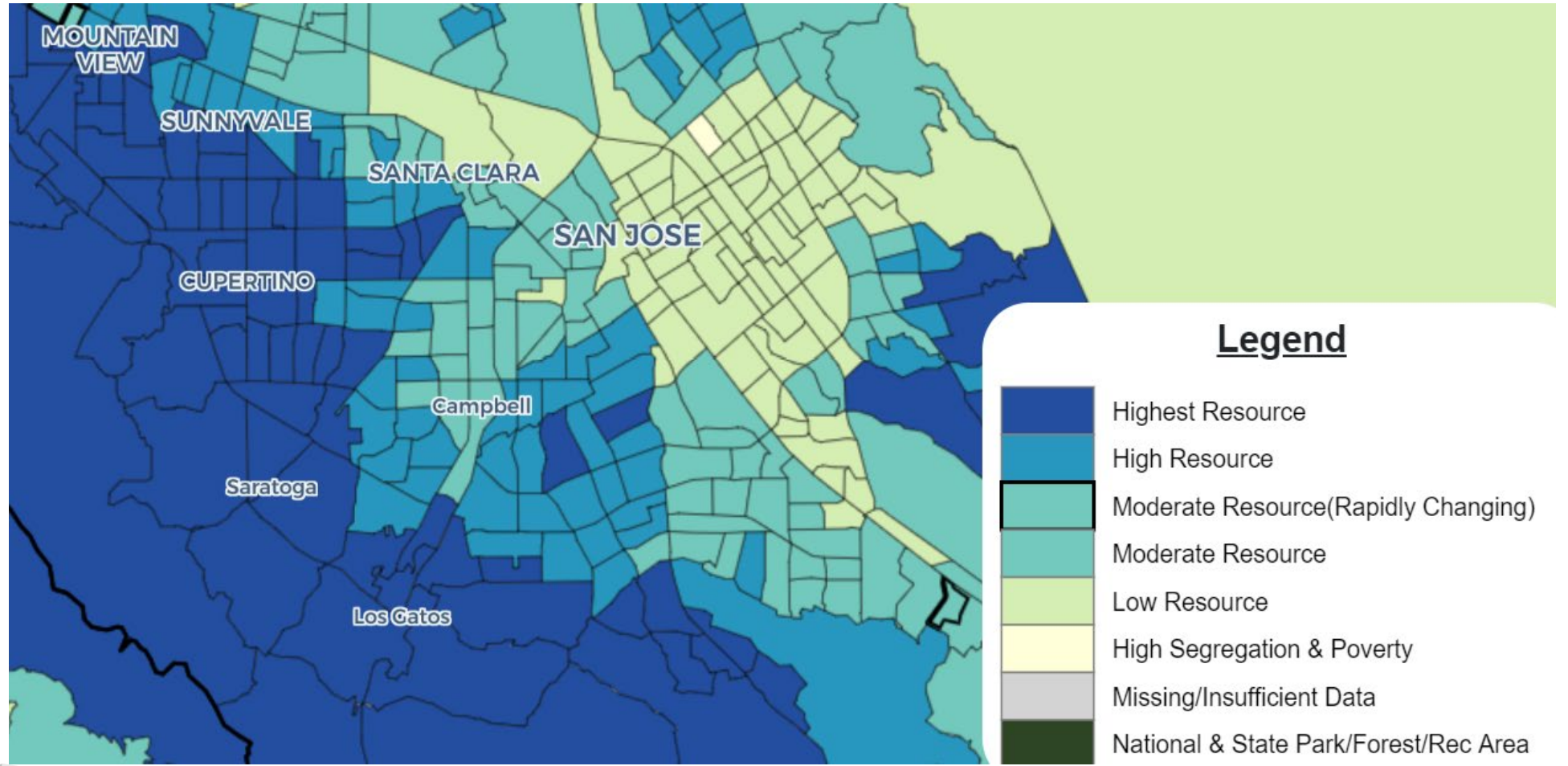
(Courtesy of Maricela Lechuga)



Historic vote on August 17, 2021



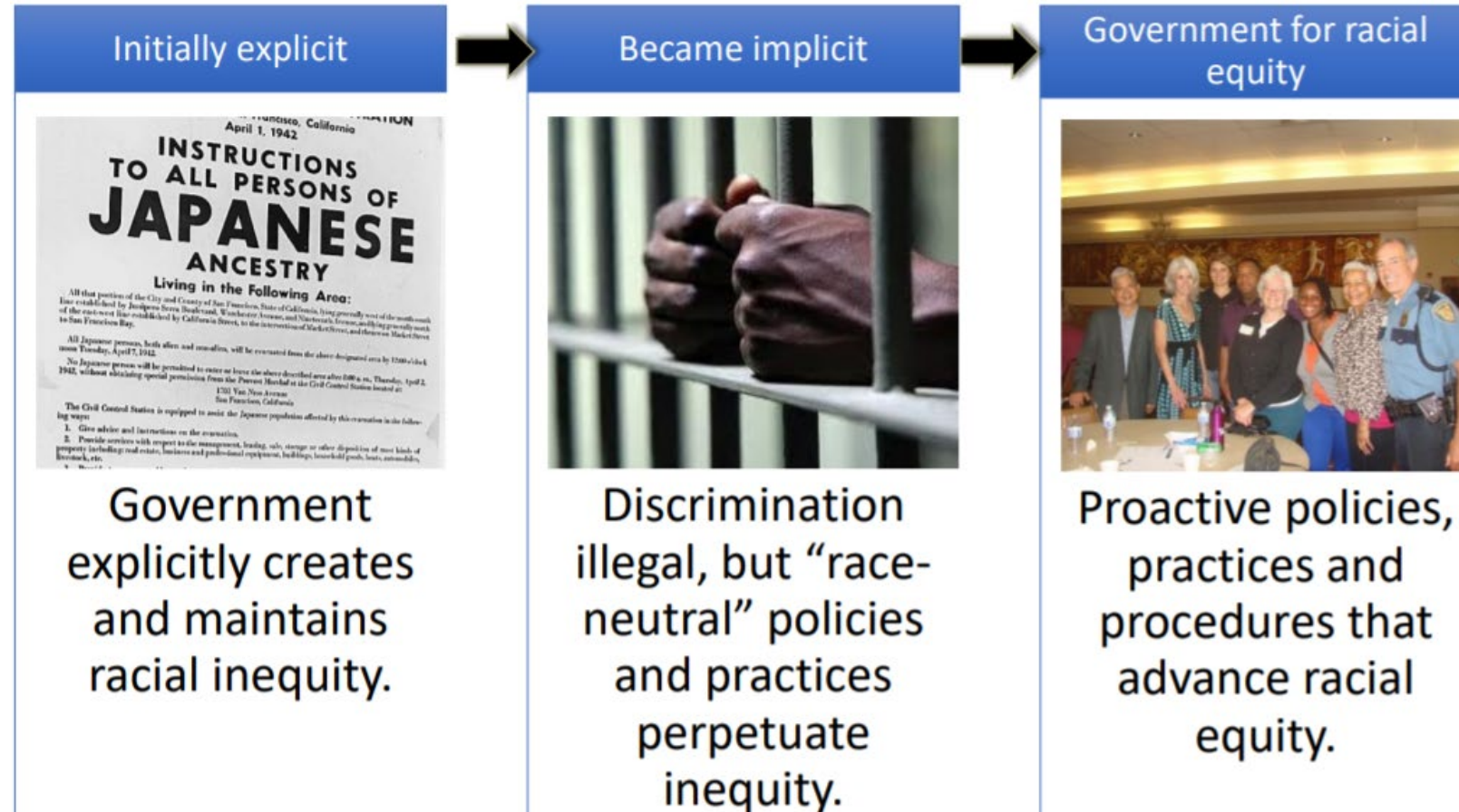
Hopes for the future



(California Tax Credit Allocation Committee TCAC/HCD Opportunity Area Maps 2021)



Need for Fair Housing



Need for Fair Housing

In 2018, California passed AB 686 as the statewide framework to affirmatively further fair housing; to promote inclusive communities, further housing choice, and address racial and economic disparities through government programs, policies, and operations.



Housing Element

- While local governments do not build housing, they do create the rules that shape where housing can be built, what types and how much
- It includes policies and programs that address housing needs for all types of households including those with special housing needs or at different income levels, and solutions
- **NEW:** Fair housing analysis, policies and programs.



Call to Action

- 🏠 Ways to get involved in the Housing Element update:
 - 🏠 Complete the Housing Goals & Needs survey
 - 🏠 Attend upcoming meetings (Dec. 2021: Fair Housing)
 - 🏠 Visit the website for resources and more info
 - 🏠 Sign up to receive updates

www.sanjoseca.gov/housingelementupdate



Questions



Resources

- 🏠 Color of Law by Richard Rothstein
- 🏠 The Devil in Silicon Valley: Northern California, Race, and Mexican American by Stephen J. Pitti
- 🏠 Segregation by Design
<https://www.segregatedbydesign.com/>
- 🏠 Gimme Shelter Podcast
<https://calmatters.org/category/multimedia/podcasts/gimme-shelter/>
- 🏠 Othering & Belonging Institute
<https://belonging.berkeley.edu/>



Resources

- 🏠 Chinese Historical and Cultural Project <http://www.chcp.org>
- 🏠 Chinatown, San José, USA by Connie Young Yu
- 🏠 Stanford Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project <https://marketstreet.stanford.edu>
- 🏠 Roots, Race, & Place - A History of Racially Exclusionary Housing in the San Francisco Bay Area
- 🏠 Hidden Histories of San José Japantown <https://hiddenhistoriesjtown.org/>



Resources

- 🏠 Reid-Hillview Airport Airborne Lead Study <https://news.sccgov.org/newsroom/reid-hillview-airport-airborne-lead-study>
- 🏠 TCAC/HCD Opportunity Area Maps <https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/ctcac/opportunity.asp>
- 🏠 RHV Community Organizers Website <https://sites.google.com/view/reid-hillview-airport/home?authuser=0>
- 🏠 Uninvited Neighbors: African Americans in Silicon Valley, 1769–1990, Herbert G. Ruffin II

