

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

GreenTown 2020 Innovative Policy Solutions: Minneapolis Green Zones

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Sustainability & Racial Justice

- Climate change and racism share the same root causes ... must be holistic solution.
- Recognizing the history of exclusiveness and oppression in environmental movement, and City policies generally
- We need EVERYONE to reach our goals
 - 100% Renewable Electricity
 - 80% greenhouse gas emission reduction by 2050
- Opportunities accessible to those with the most barriers and challenges are accessible to all

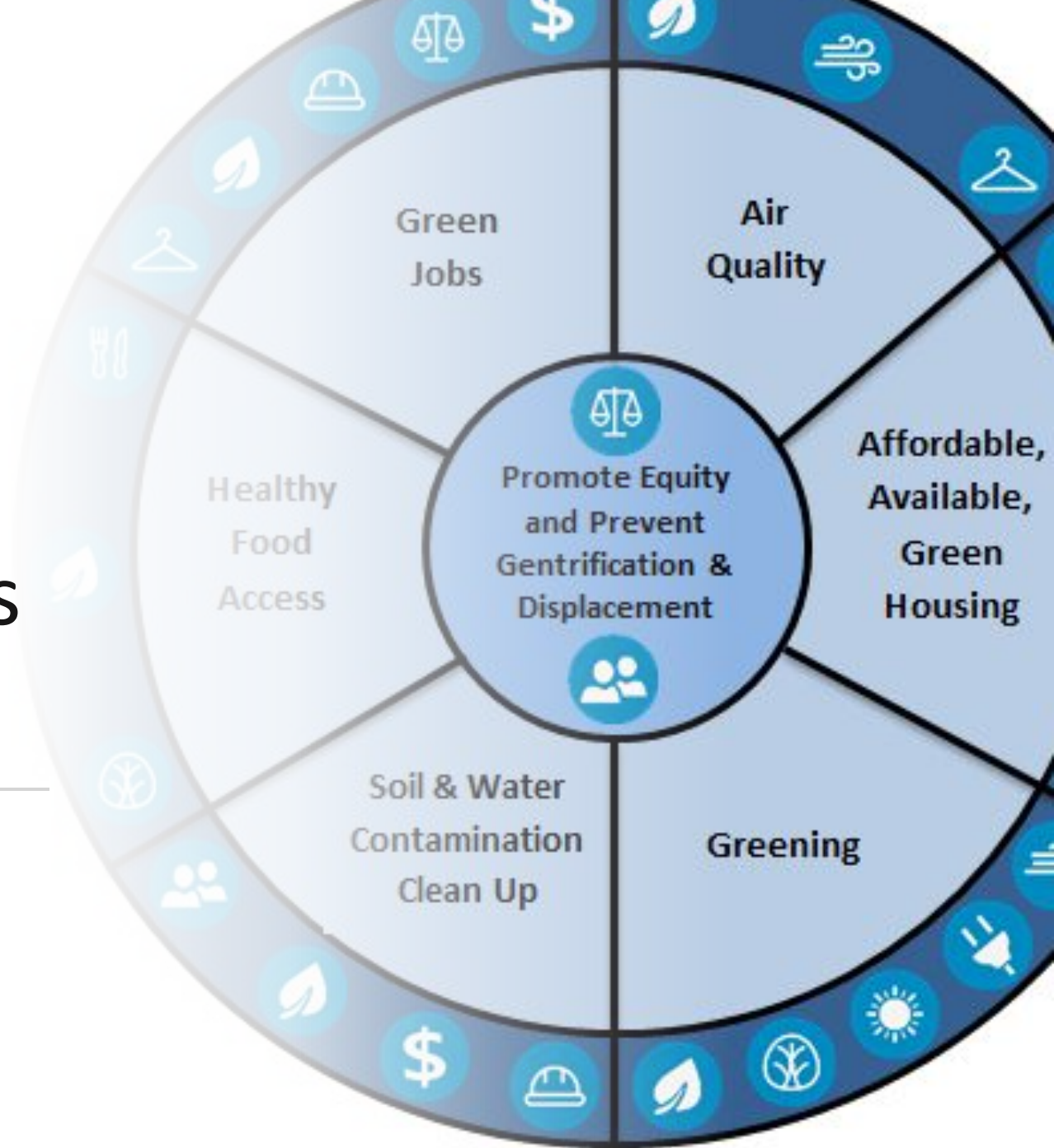
What is a Green Zone?

- **Place-based** policy initiative aimed at improving **health** and supporting **economic development** using **environmentally conscious** efforts in communities that face the **cumulative effects** of environmental pollution, as well as social, political and economic vulnerability.

What's different about Green Zones?

- Centers BIPOC, low-income and EJ community members' voices
- Relationship of City with community:
 - Community develops the content
 - City participates to share information/transparency
- Importance of City staff to hear concerns and ideas from community
- Transactional -> institutionalized change

Green Zones Goals



2017: Green Zone Designation Criteria

Environmental Evaluation

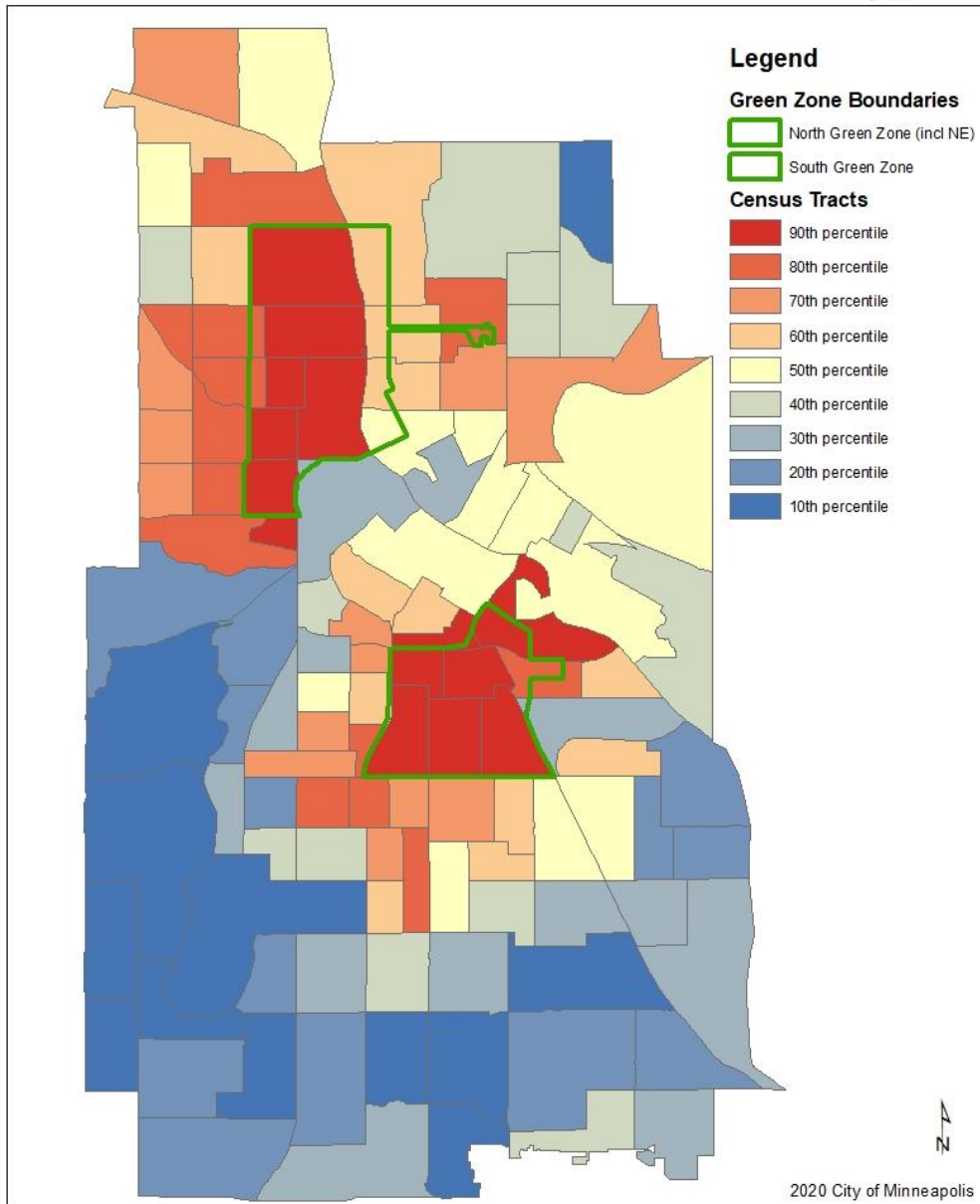
- + Air quality (MPCA modeled data)
- + Brownfields (brownfields & permitted sources)
- + Housing (rental tiers, affordability gap, cost burden)
- + Jobs (unemployment, proximity of jobs)
- + Greening (vegetation)
- + Food access (farmers' markets, grocery stores, food shelves, corners stores)

[Water Quality & Access]

Equity Evaluation

- + Health Outcomes (asthma, heart attack hospitalizations)
- + Lead risk
- + English proficiency
- + Disability status
- + Older adults (age 65+, nursing homes)
- + Youth (children <5, child care centers, schools)
- + Concentrated Poverty with majority People of Color and Indigenous People
- + Educational Attainment

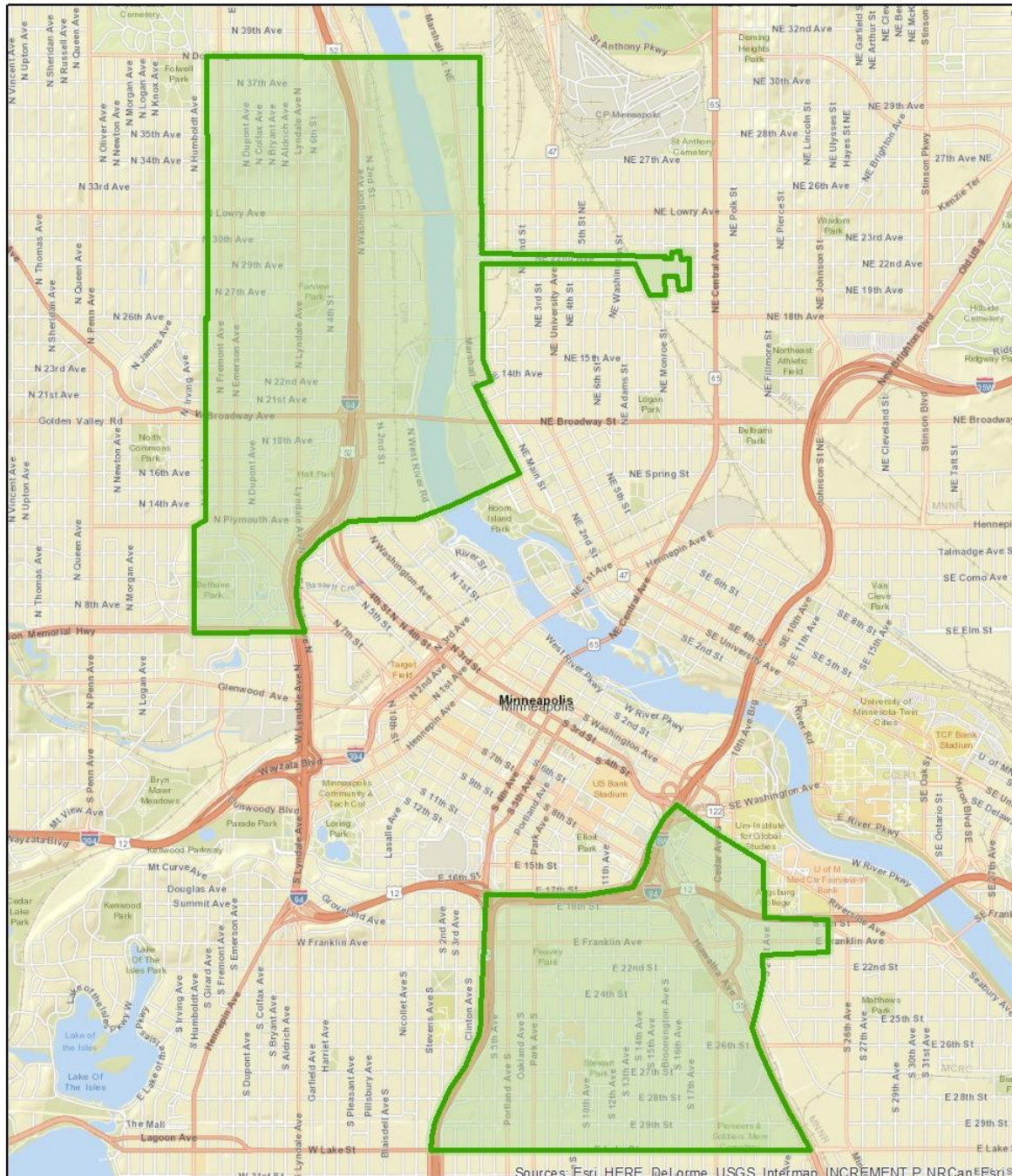
Minneapolis Green Zone Designations



Equity + Environment

- Equity category has equal weight as all the environmental variables combined

Minneapolis Green Zone Boundaries



Accomplishments

1. Both Green Zones have developed Work Plans with dozens of action items
2. Presentation on air pollution & COVID-19 to City Council in Sept 2020
3. Structural conversations about elevating racial justice work in Sustainability -> more focus on Green Zone priorities and actions [staff time, budget, etc.]
4. Northside Green Zone VISTA in Oct 2020

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is looking towards the left of the frame. She is wearing a dark purple top. The background is a blue wall with a black speaker and some cables. In the foreground, there is a blurred image of another person's head and shoulders, and a coffee cup on a table.

Questions?

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