

E.O. 246: Stakeholder Input Session #1
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 | 4:00 -6:00 p.m. ET

Purpose

- Share purpose of stakeholder engagement under E.O. 246.
- Share a draft list of the stakeholder items of interest heard to date, and ground those items of interest in context from EJ leaders from across the state.
- Receive feedback and public comment from meeting participants on priorities for advancing EJ.

Agenda

- 4:00 p.m. Instructions for Spanish Interpretation**
- Tilde, Language Justice Cooperative
- 4:03 p.m. Welcome and Framing**
- Jimmie Bellamy, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
- 4:08 p.m. Context and Level Setting**
(Dr. Maria Estrada and Vernice Miller-Travis, Metropolitan Group)
- Purpose of this consultation
 - Present opportunities to advance environmental justice
 - Stakeholder Items of Interest (see page 2)
- 4:15 p.m. Panel Discussion: Grounding in Current EJ Efforts in NC**
(facilitated by Dr. Maria Estrada)
- Ana Flores Dolbow, Health and Justice Organizer, Toxic Free NC
 - Belinda Joyner, Northeast Organizer, Clean Water for NC
 - Omega Wilson, Co-founder, West End Revitalization Association
- 4:45 p.m. Consultation Polling (facilitated by Sarah Malpass, Metropolitan Group)**
Participants will be asked to share their feedback on the Stakeholder Items of Interest list and other environmental justice priorities via live polling.
- 4:55 p.m. Summary of Next Steps for EJ Consultation (Dr. Maria Estrada and Sarah Malpass)**
- 5:00 p.m. Public comment session**
Participants who have signed up in advance to share public comment will be called on to share their remarks. Participants are asked to keep their comments focused on priorities and feedback regarding advancing environmental justice. To the extent possible, please speak slowly to allow for interpretation of your remarks.
- 5:55 p.m. Closing Remarks**
- Jimmie Bellamy, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
 - Dr. Maria Estrada, Metropolitan Group
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn**

Stakeholder Items of Interest - WORKING DRAFT

Background

On January 7, 2022, Governor Roy Cooper issued [Executive Order 246 - North Carolina's Transition to a Clean, Equitable Economy](#), which includes a priority on incorporating Environmental Justice and Equity considerations and benefits into the work of cabinet agencies. The goal of this stakeholder consultation is to identify and prioritize key issues and recommendations for advancing environmental justice (EJ) and equity in North Carolina. These issues and recommendations could be addressed through future executive action, immediate and future cabinet agency actions, and future legislative agenda items.

Stakeholder Items of Interest (working draft, not exhaustive)

The following are items of interest that the Governor's office has heard from environmental justice stakeholders. This list is a draft and is not exhaustive. The list will be updated based on feedback received through the stakeholder consultation process.

1. *Build clarity and capacity to advance EJ and equity through a whole of government approach.*
 - a. Clearly define EJ and equity terms used across state agencies.
 - b. Invest in consistent training across cabinet agencies to help bring awareness and embed EJ and equity considerations and principles in agency work.
 - c. Develop an inter-agency working group on Environmental Justice to coordinate environmental justice actions across cabinet agencies.
 - d. Develop a North Carolina Environmental Justice Advisory Board to receive guidance from environmental justice leaders.
2. *Incorporate EJ and equity considerations and benefits into cabinet agency strategic planning and decision-making processes.*
 - a. Require incorporating environmental justice & equity considerations & actions into statewide & agency planning efforts, such as the NC Clean Transportation Plan.
 - b. Conduct research into cumulative impacts (including EJEAB recommendations) to inform agency decision-making processes, programs and priorities.
 - c. Consider statutory basis to deny permits when cumulative impacts inform the decision-making.
 - d. Permit facilities based on monitoring requirements that center equal protection.
3. *Build out and strengthen EJ data and mapping tools.*
 - a. Conduct engagement, outreach, and partnership with communities to develop and/or improve data and mapping tools (e.g., NC DEQ community mapping tool, NC DHHS environmental health data dashboard).
 - b. Develop an integrated, inter-agency map tool that incorporates environmental impacts/exposures, vulnerable populations, and socioeconomic factors (e.g., EJScreen).
4. *Prioritize funding to communities that are most impacted.*
 - a. Develop a process to notify impacted communities of funding opportunities and technical assistance available to communities and Tribes.
 - b. Prioritize funding for underserved, disadvantaged and environmentally overburdened communities and Tribes.