



# **Tools for Getting the Entire Community Engaged**

**American Planning Association, Pennsylvania Chapter Conference**  
**October 21, 2019**

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

# Today's Presentation

- Reaching Communities
- History and Scope of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Justice (PADEP) Office of Environmental Justice
- Helpful tools for planners

# Reaching Communities

- Not enough attendees?
- Not the right attendees?
- The same attendees?



# Reaching Communities

- Is the community hearing your message?
- Is your message targeted to the community?



# Reaching Communities

## Standard Government Cycle



## Breaking the Cycle



# ➤ Outreach and Environmental Justice



# DEP Mission

To protect Pennsylvania's air, land, and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment. We will work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent pollution and restore our natural resources.

# What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice (EJ) is the **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



# Reaching Communities

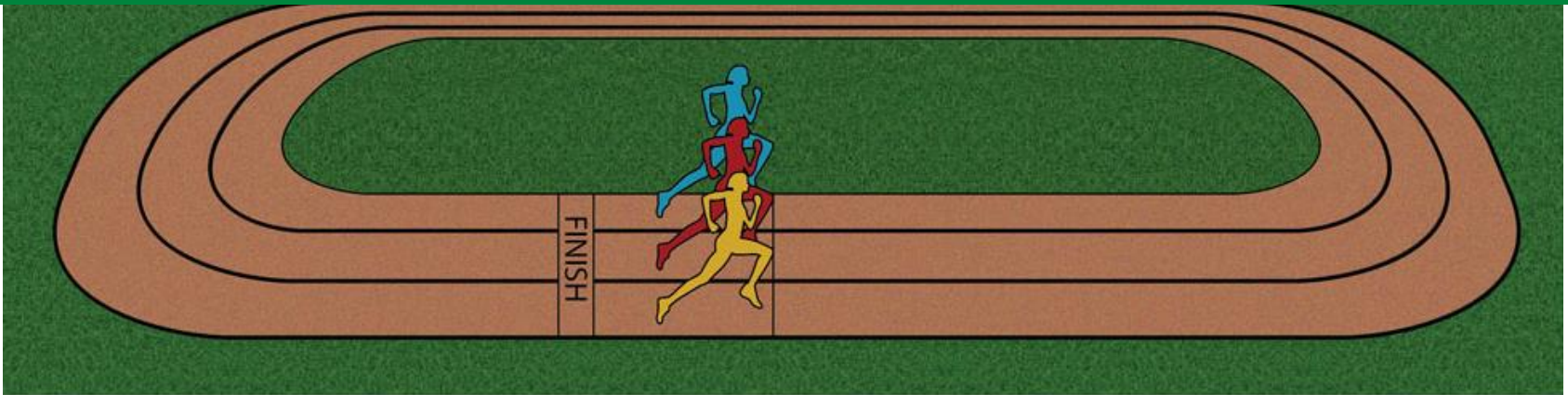
## Standard Government Cycle



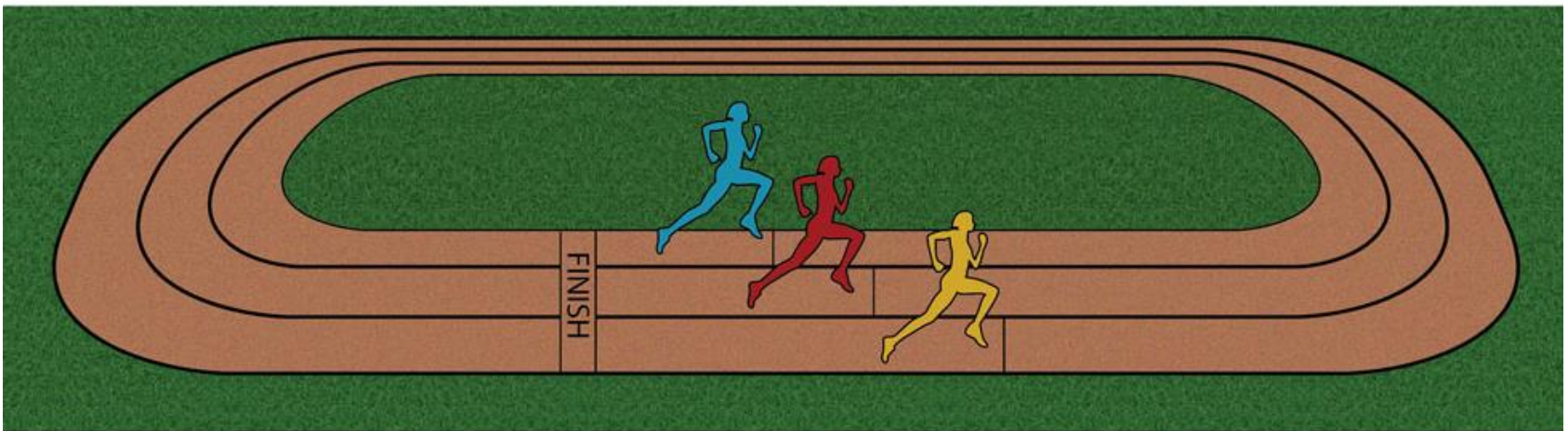
## Breaking the Cycle



# Equality and Social Justice



**EQUALITY**



**EQUITY**

# Equality and Social Justice



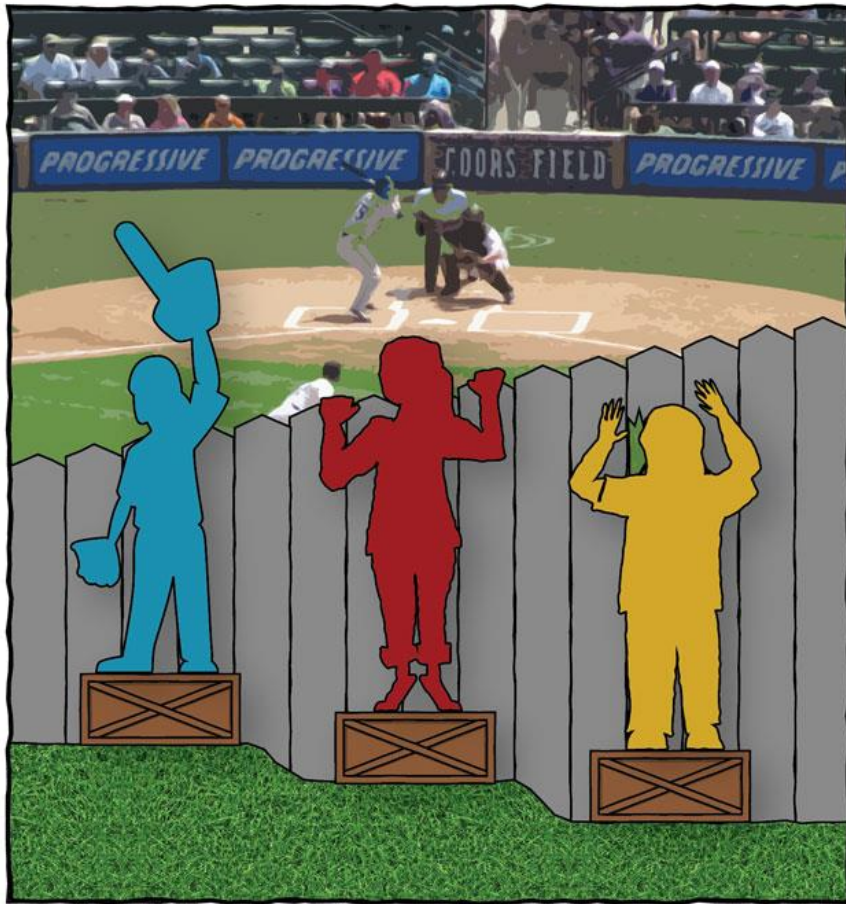
Equality



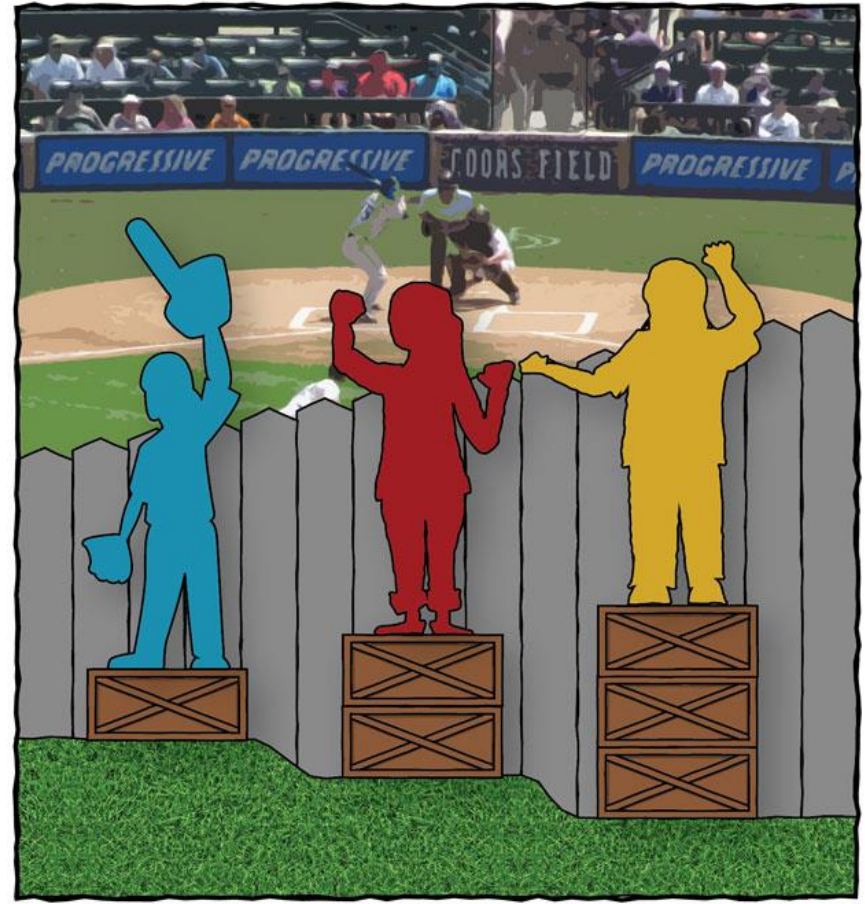
Equity



# Equality and Social Justice

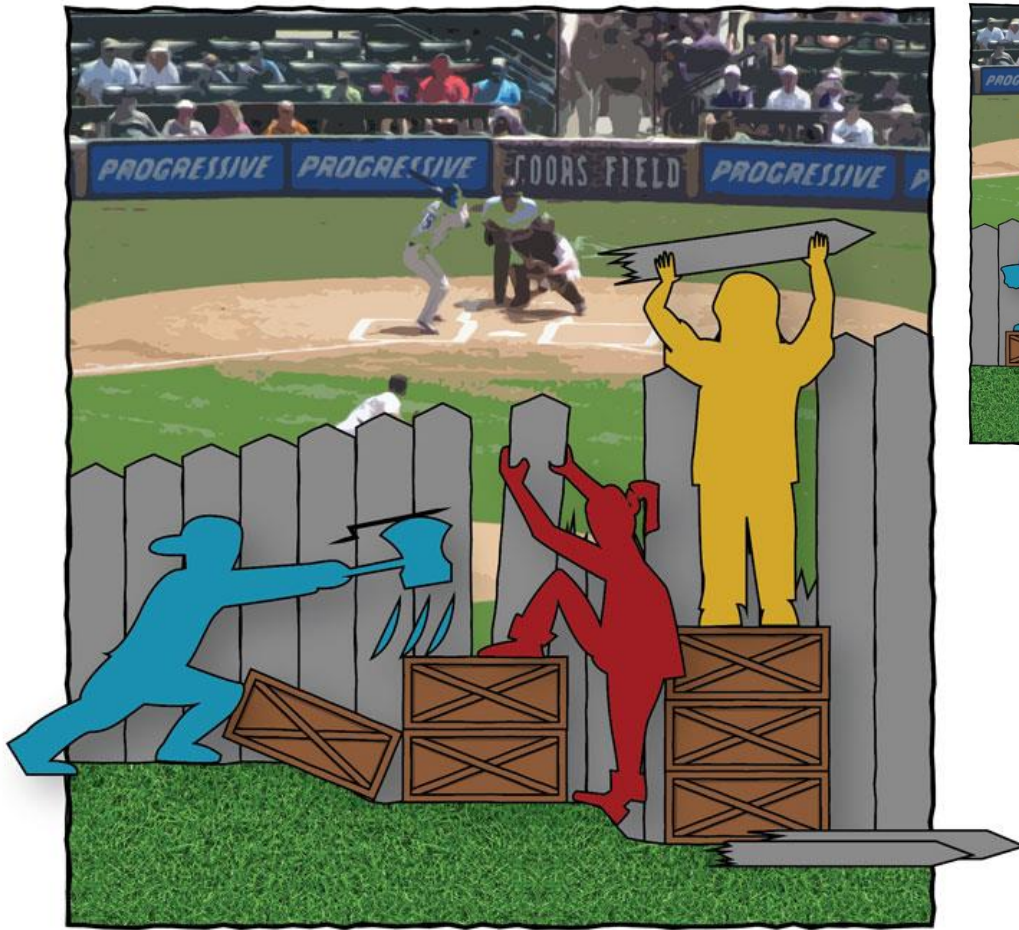


**EQUALITY**



**EQUITY**

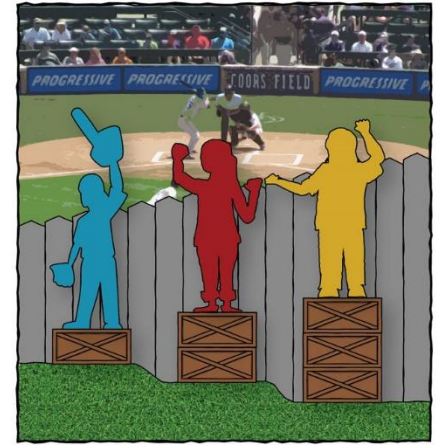
# Equality and Social Justice



**JUSTICE**



**EQUALITY**



**EQUITY**



# History of EJ

- Civil Rights and Environmental Movements of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s
- First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held in 1991
- Executive Order 12898 issued in 1994



# History of EJ in PA

- Chester Title VI Action Filed in 1996
- DEP Environmental Justice Work Group (EJWG) created in 1999
- EJWG Report and Recommendations released in 2001
- Office of Environmental Advocate (OEA) established in 2002 and the Environmental Justice Advisory Board (EJAB) in 2004
- Office of Environmental Advocate (OEA) was renamed the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) in 2015.

# ➤ Office of Environmental Justice Goals

- **Minimizing Adverse Environmental Impacts** - All communities are not unjustly and/or disproportionately burdened with adverse environmental impacts
- **Empowering Communities** - Ensuring citizens have meaningful involvement and a voice in decision-making process
- **Fostering Economic Opportunities** - Enable environmentally responsible economic development to and within EJ communities and in some cases build collaborations and relationships with the community and industry



# Reaching Communities

## Standard Government Cycle

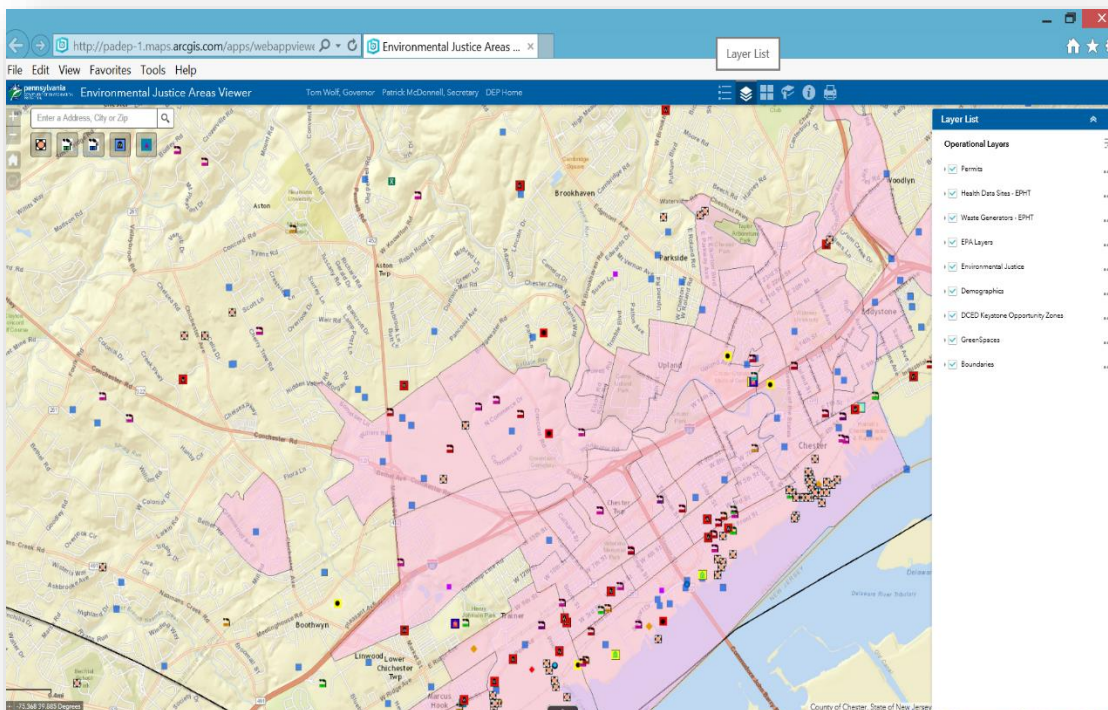


## Breaking the Cycle



# EJ Viewer

- Mapping tool identifying DEP permits in EJ Areas
- Capacity for searches by address
- Use for DEP and community partners



# Planners' Role in EJ





# Planners' Role in EJ



# Planners' Role in EJ





# Planners' Role in EJ





# Planners' Role in EJ



# ➤ Office of Environmental Justice Goals

- **Minimizing Adverse Environmental Impacts** - All communities are not unjustly and/or disproportionately burdened with adverse environmental impacts
- **Empowering Communities** - Ensuring citizens have meaningful involvement and a voice in decision-making process
- **Fostering Economic Opportunities** - Enable environmentally responsible economic development to and within EJ communities and in some cases build collaborations and relationships with the community and industry





# Office of Environmental Justice

Justin Dula

[jdula@pa.gov](mailto:jdula@pa.gov)

(484) 250-5820

Allison Acevedo, Director

[aacevedo@pa.gov](mailto:aacevedo@pa.gov)

(484) 250-5818

John Brakeall

[jbrakeall@pa.gov](mailto:jbrakeall@pa.gov)

(717) 265-3928

General Environmental Justice  
Comments & Questions

[RA-EPOEJ@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EPOEJ@pa.gov)