




**REIGNITE
YOUR
POTENTIAL**
FRPA | 2021

WELCOME!

CONFERENCE REMINDERS

- CEU attendance will be taken by the collection of Evaluations at the end of class. You **MUST** fill out an evaluation if you would like CEU credit
- The Evaluations help FRPA gather feedback for speakers and future education. Everyone is encouraged to complete one.
- Please leave seating in all classrooms and General Sessions as it is upon entry as these are in place per safety protocols.
- Follow current Conference mask, safety, and physical distance protocols at all times.
- Keep your personal pen handy to cut down on sharing writing devices (and germs!).
- Respect the comfort of others by judging your interactions based on what color wristband they have chosen.



Environmental Equity, Access and Justice

FRPA 2021 Conference – Panel Discussion

Panelists



■ Moderator –
Jennifer Cirillo,
Assistant Director,
PBC Parks &
Recreation



■ **Dondre McCrary**,
Community Forester
– Community
Greening, Inc.



■ **Jennifer Tisthammer**,
Chief of Conservation,
Miami-Dade County
Parks, Recreation and
Open Space

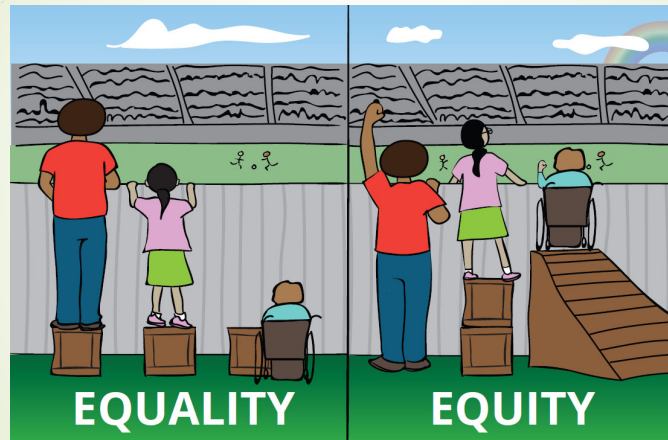


■ **Lester Abberger**,
Managing Partner B.L.
Abberger & Co.;
Chairman of FSU Leroy
Collins Institute,
College of Social
Science and Public
Policy; Chairman of
the Florida
Conservation
Campaign

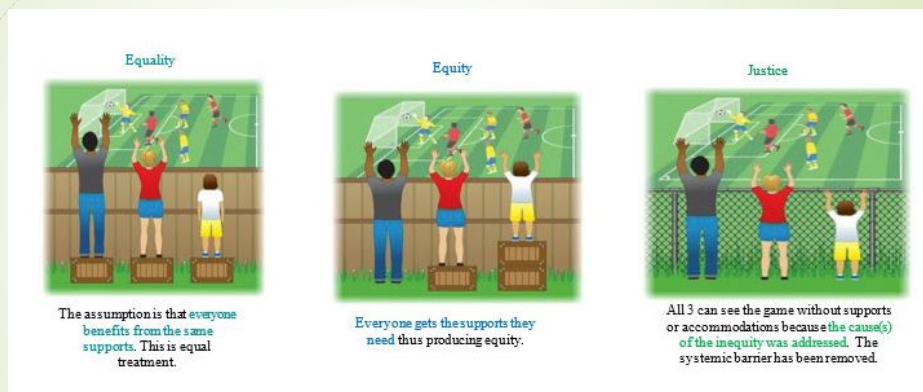
Environmental Equity, Access and Justice

FRPA 2021 Conference – Panel Discussion

Equity



Equality – Equity - Justice



Some Environmental Equity Indicators

- Policies and Systems (e.g. land development recreational element requirements and anti-displacement policies)
- Proximity and Access to Green and Blue Spaces
 - Locations
 - Barriers
 - Quality
- Pollutants and Exposure Mitigation
- Intersectionality
 - Health Impacts (e.g. Obesity, Chronic Disease, Life Expectancy)
 - Economic Impacts
 - Hunger
 - Education
 - Social Isolation
 - Etc...

Environmental Discrimination – Historical Context

- Funding policies – programs and services
- Redlining
 - Spatial isolation
 - Housing discrimination, etc...
- Siting of not so desirable infrastructure over and over in same neighborhoods
- Lack of environmental control measures & enforcement resources in some communities
- Equity and access to clean water and energy
- Assumptions about who does and does not engage in outdoor recreation activities
- Assumptions about who does and does not want to engage
- Etc...

Production of park inequity in the land use system



Selected Policies, Practices, and Procedures That Have Produced Inequities in Parks and Green Space. Adapted from: *Prevention Institute. Countering the Production of Health Inequities: An Emerging Systems Framework to Achieve an Equitable Culture of Health*

8 PREVENTION
INSTITUTE

Some visible ways environmental inequity presents

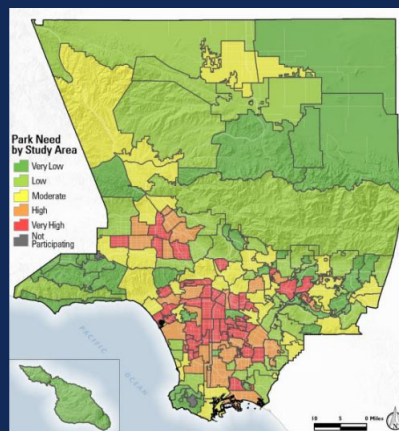
- Park deserts / Fresh food deserts
- Unsafe routes to school / parks
- Wildlife impacts and harm
- Contamination and pollution exposure
- Heat islands
- Storm water control capacity
- Nature deficit disorder
- Mental health and behavior disorder connections
- Growing economic gap
- Balancing finite resources with overuse
- Isolation
- Displacement
- Affordable housing is not necessarily desirable housing
- Any many other ways...

What this looks and feels like today.

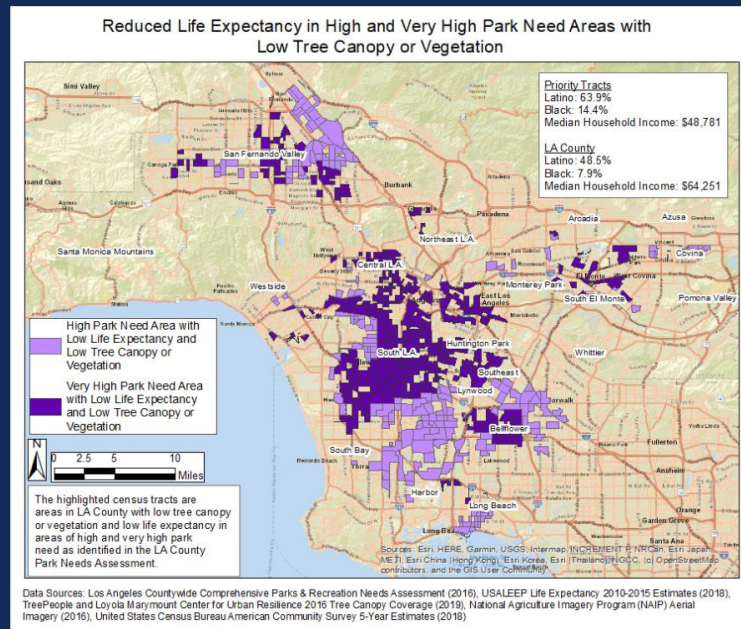
There are many ways environmental inequity and lack of access show up, but here are a few...

- According to Active Living Research, **70 percent of Black neighborhoods in the U.S. lack recreational facilities**, and the Aspen Institute estimates that just 35 percent of Black children ages six to 12 play sports on a regular basis.
- In PBC we do have park deserts and fresh food deserts. Children grow up within proximity to our natural resources such as the Atlantic Ocean, Lake O, and our natural areas but **have never visited these resources**.
- Health disparities and life expectancy vary greatly depending on which zip code you live in. Miami and Los Angeles have both conducted studies and in some park deserts, life expectancy drops by as much as **20 years**.
- **The United States ranks last – 38th out of 38 rich countries in the physical health of our children, and 32nd out of 38 countries in mental health and wellbeing** - Recent studies performed by UNICEF, the British Journal of Sports Medicine, and sporting marketing surveys. Ninety-three percent of children in the United States are not active according to CDC physical activity standards. **Sixty-two percent of all children in America cannot afford to play sports.**
- And many other examples...

Park Access is Not Equal Across Communities

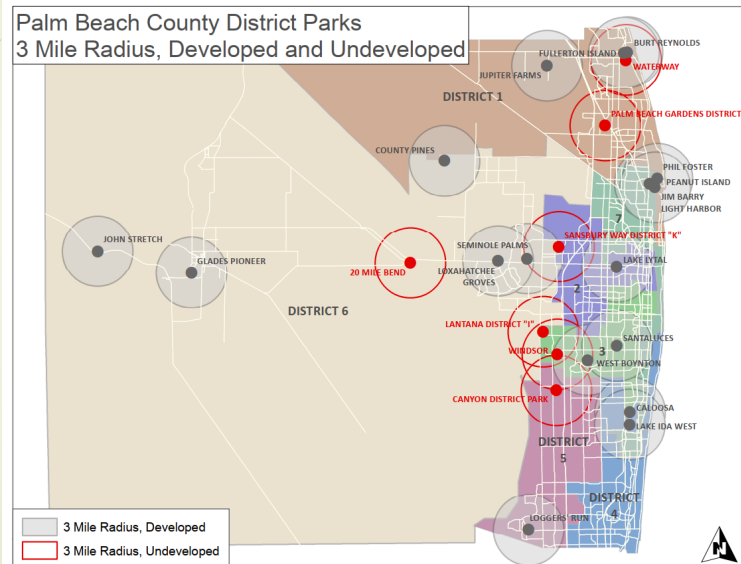


- African Americans and Latinos are likelier to live in areas that have less park space per capita compared to Whites and Asians
- Access to parks associated with:
 - ↑ physical activity, environmental benefits
 - ↓ asthma, stress, violence



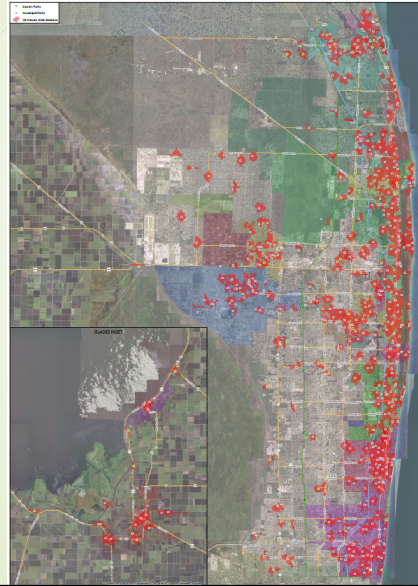
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Palm Beach County example



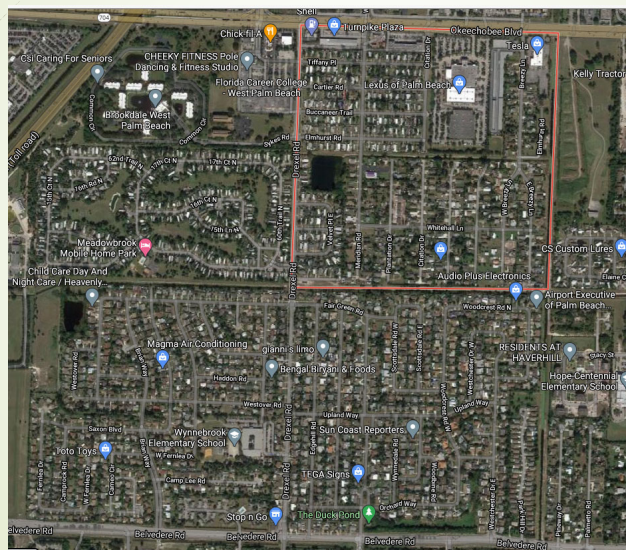
- 2015 map
- North County District Park (PBG) developed 2019
- Canyons District Park under design

Palm Beach County example




- Trust for Public Lands – Mayor's 10 minute walk challenge
- Red shading depicts all residents within a 10 minute walk of a park / natural area

One specific PBC example –



- Plantation neighborhood
- Okeechobee Blvd and Drexel Rd
- Adjacent green space (to the right) is old Town of Palm Beach debris site/dump
- No open green/blue space
- Although not ideal location, PBC & partners working to develop open park space to left behind Water Plant #8 as a public park




Environmental Equity, Access and Justice - PBC



Panel Discussion



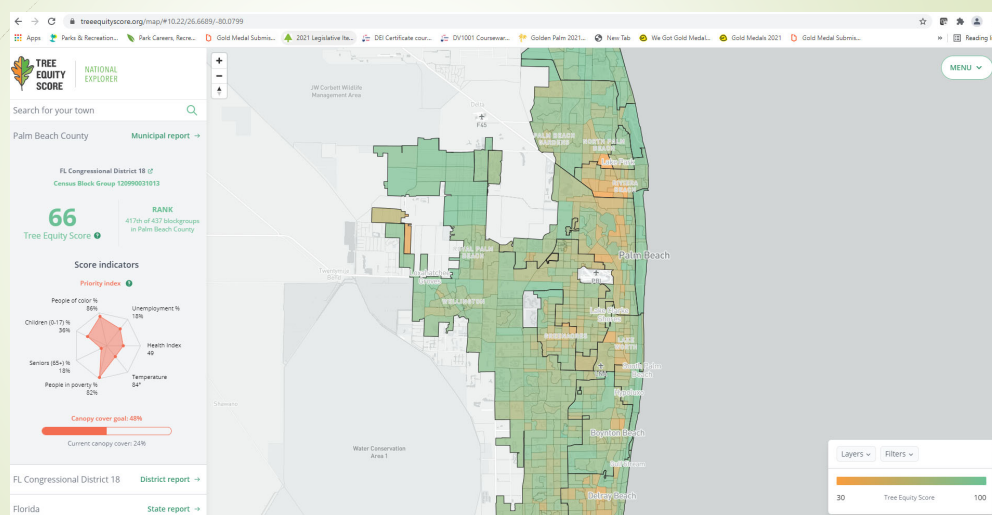
Wrap up - What can be done?

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- Seek further education and facts on this topic (we only scratched the surface today)
 - Support global, national and local partnerships for environmental equity
 - Champion investment without displacement policy
 - Grassroots volunteer work
 - Vote
 - Become involved on local boards and in elected office
 - Advocacy for environmental access and justice
 - Support pollinators and native species where you live
 - Join & stay connected with groups working on environmental justice *see next slide
 - Support companies with sustainable, ethical and equitable practices
 - Opt outside for your physical and mental wellbeing

Some Read/Watch/Listen/Follow Recommendations...

- Book: *The Sum of Us* by Heather McGhee
- Research: The Prevention Institute
<https://www.preventioninstitute.org/focus-areas>
- Join & stay connected with people and groups working on environmental justice issues: Here are just a few...
 - @frpagram @pbcparcs @communitygreening @miamidadeparks
 - @northend_rise @fau_urban_planning @girlswhohikefl @prevention_institute
 - @intersectionalenvironmentalist @pattiegonia cdc.gov/healthequityguide
- What recommendations do you have to share?

Tree Equity Score Tool - Resource





Questions?

