

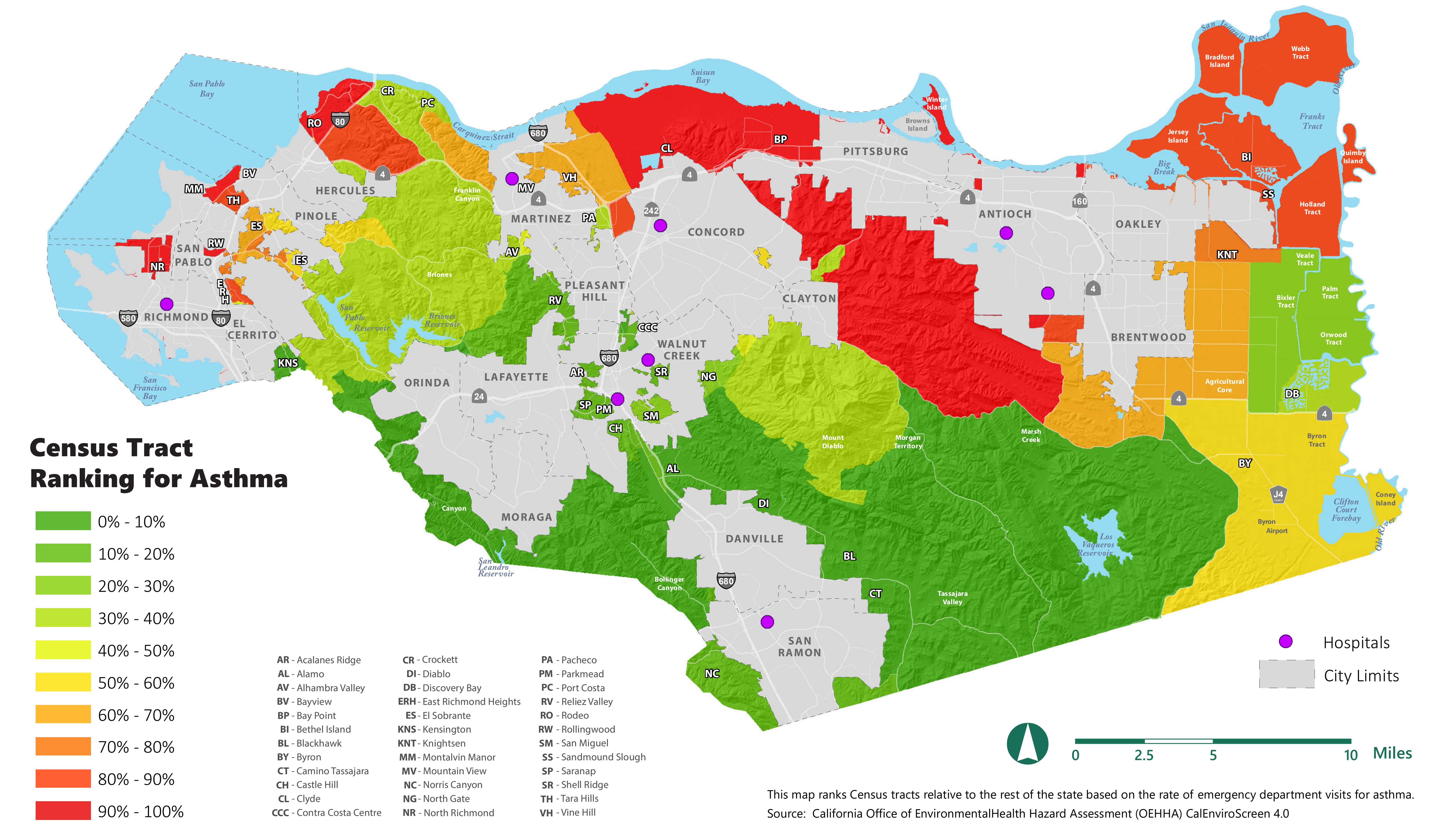
COMMUNITY HEALTH

Promoting public health and achieving healthy communities is a fundamental goal of the Draft 2045 General Plan. The layout of our communities, the designs of buildings and public spaces, and the effectiveness of our transportation networks affect whether residents can make healthy food choices, walk or bike to a destination, play outside, and breathe clean air. The map below shows how asthma rates in parts of the county are higher than the rest of the state, which can be affected by the built environment. The Draft 2045 General Plan recognizes that the most livable communities have high-quality public spaces that enhance community character, offer opportunities for formal and informal social interaction, and promote active recreation.



Key Components

- Healthy Lifestyles
- Vibrant Neighborhoods
- Health Care
- Safe Housing
- Healthy Air Quality



Healthy Lifestyles

The Draft 2045 General Plan supports the opportunity for everyone to lead healthy lifestyles, including through policies and actions that:

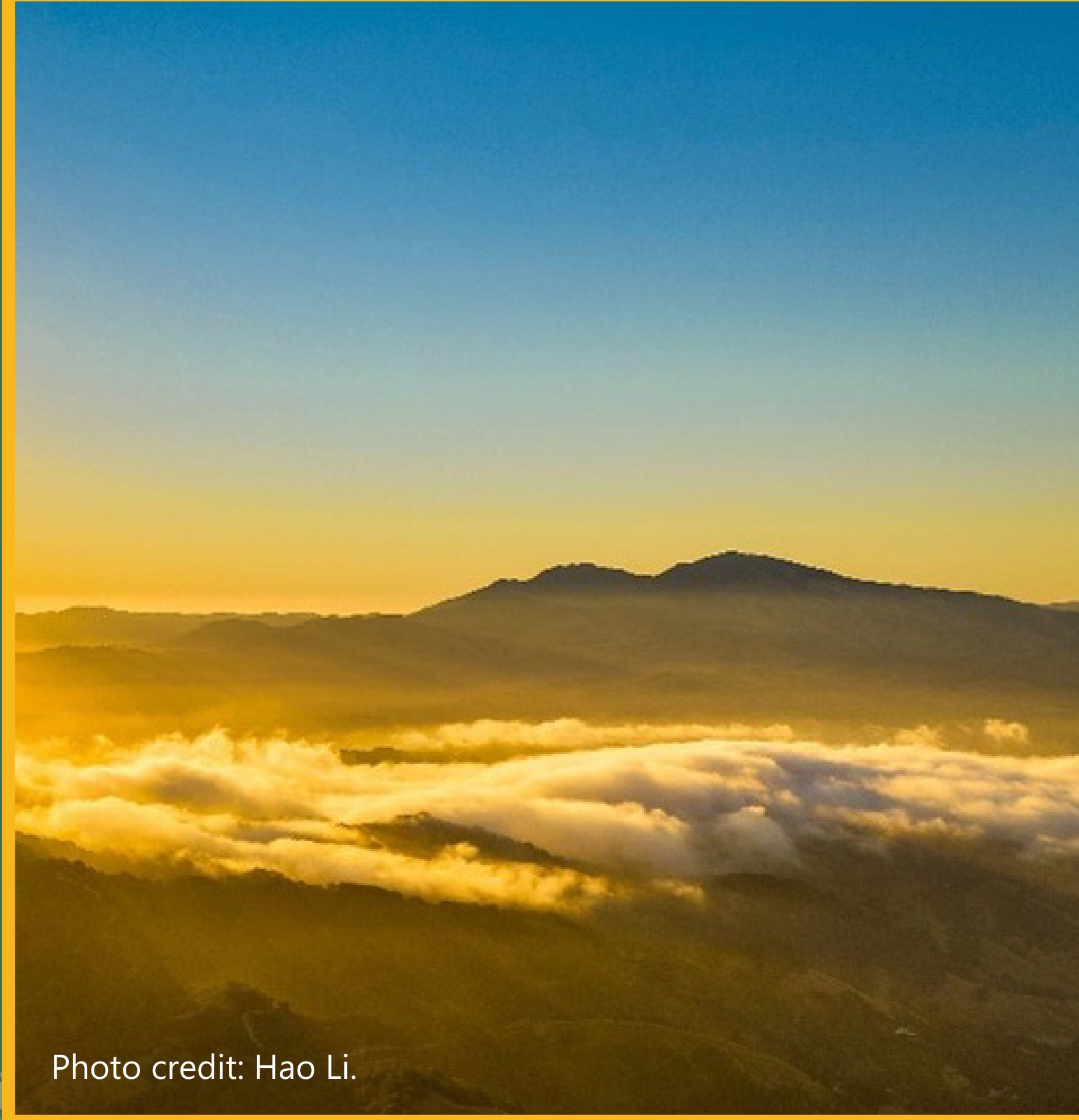
- Increase access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food, including by encouraging grocery stores, urban farms, community gardens, and farmers’ markets on vacant or underutilized land and at key transit stops.
- Require incorporation of community gardens into the design of certain types of projects.
- Streamline permitting and develop other incentives to attract grocery stores and markets in Impacted Communities and food deserts.
- Ensure there is a park within a safe ten-minute walk or five-minute drive of all communities.
- Support development of a comprehensive and interconnected network of trails.
- Prioritize construction of pedestrian, bicycle, and micro-mobility facilities and maintain them to the same standards as other transportation infrastructure.



Vibrant Neighborhoods

Vibrant neighborhoods that support social interaction and connection with neighbors have positive impacts on physical and mental health. The Draft 2045 General Plan celebrates and promotes vibrant and diverse neighborhoods, including through policies and actions that:

- Support cultural and community-driven events, such as art festivals, farmer’s markets, and community service days, that support social connections, neighborhood identity, and environmental stewardship.
- Promote the creation of community focal points and gathering places.
- Encourage land uses and activities that reflect and enrich the history and cultural heritage of each unincorporated community.
- Establish a public art requirement for new development and funding mechanisms to create and maintain public art.



Healthy Air Quality

The Draft 2045 General Plan aims to limit harmful emissions and support a healthy environment for all residents, including through policies and actions that:

- Require new industrial development to locate significant pollution sources as far away from sensitive populations as possible and to prepare a Health Risk Assessment that identifies appropriate mitigation measures.
- Increase the tree canopy on public property, especially in Impacted Communities and areas with a high heat index.
- Facilitate citizen-led air pollution reduction programs, including data collection, monitoring of pollution exposure, and identification and implementation of solutions.

Photo credit: Hao Li.