

# DVRPC Region



- **Population = 5.8 million people**
- **Employment = 3 million jobs**
- **Governance = 351 municipalities**
- **Daily Traffic = 112 million VMT**
- **Transit = 1.2 million trips / day**

# Who is DVRPC?

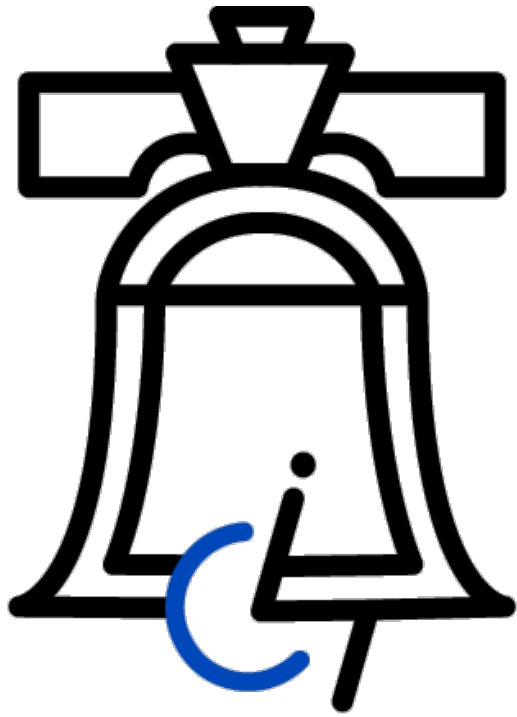
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the bi-state, 9-county Philadelphia region
- Created in 1965
- Well-established multi-modal transportation network



# Who is DVRPC?

- Home rule region: 352 municipalities
- Many layers of government (federal, state, county, municipal)
- Representative Democracy: 18-member board of local elected officials
- Issue areas – Transportation, Land Use, the Economy, and the Environment
- Help the region prioritize more than \$2 Billion in transportation funds a year





# **LIBERTY RESOURCES**

**INDEPENDENCE FOR EVERYONE**

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# About Liberty Resources:



**Liberty Resources, Inc. (LRI) is the Center for Independent Living for the Philadelphia area. LRI advocates for and works with Persons with Disabilities to ensure their civil rights and equal access to all aspects of life in our community. Majority of the employees are people with disabilities.**

“Independent Living is not doing things yourself; **it is being in control** of how things are done.”

– JUDITH HEUMANN



# Advocacy

Advocacy is a key part of LRI's mission to assist people with disabilities to obtain and maintain an independent lifestyle.

LRI provides individual support to help people with disabilities learn how to advocate for themselves for whatever they need or want.

LRI engages people with disabilities in systems advocacy efforts so that they may learn that nothing will change for the better until the system is changed to benefit all disabled people.



# Information & Referral

This service provides information about disability issues within Liberty Resources and within the Philadelphia community.

To get in touch with the on-call Independent Living Specialist with any other questions, please call 215-634-2000 Ext. 325.





# Peer Support

Peer Support is information or support from another person who has had similar experiences.

This can be individual peer support or group run peer support where people with disabilities plan and run groups with assistance from staff at LRI



# Skills Training

The Independent Living Skills Training Program offers classes on basic skills such as Money Management, Managing Your Personal Assistant, Health, Wellness, and Nutrition, Consumer Rights and Responsibilities and How to Use Public Transportation. The classes also offer Consumers the opportunity to learn from and share with other Consumers.



# Youth Transition

Youth Services ensures a successful transition of youth with disabilities into the workplace and adulthood. LRI does this through mentorship, peer support, and skills training.



# NURSING Home Transition

Ms. Melvina McSpadden is a fighter!

After becoming disabled in 2016, Melvina resided in a nursing facility but knew right away that she wanted the freedom to live in the community in a setting of her choice.

LRI's Housing Consultant and Nursing Home Transition Coordinator worked closely with Melvina to help her secure affordable, accessible and integrated housing, acquiring a security deposit, purchasing essential household items and connecting her to the necessary auxiliary services needed to maintain her independence.

Melvina's emancipation from the nursing facility took place on September 16, 2020

★ ESSENTIAL INDEPENDENCE ★



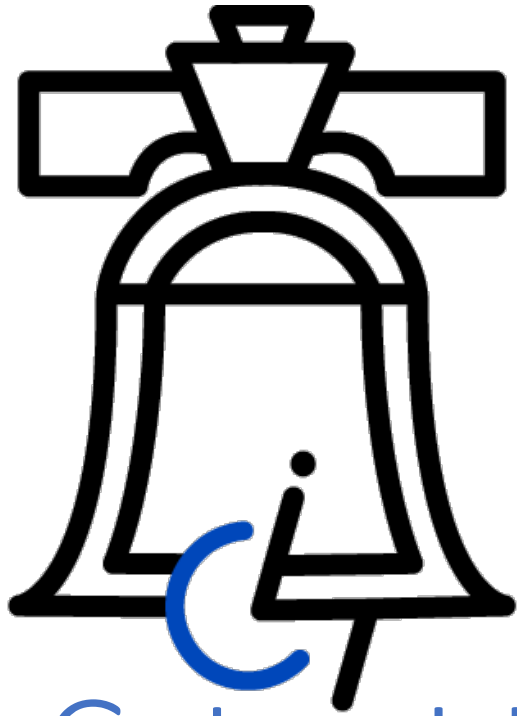
**Melvina McSpadden**

TRANSITION STORY



# How to Contact Liberty Resources

- Information and Referral Hotline: 215-634-2000 ext. 325
- Website: [www.libertyresources.org](http://www.libertyresources.org)
- E-Mail: [info@libertyresources.org](mailto:info@libertyresources.org)
- Lauren Alden, Manager of Independent Living Services  
215-634-2000 ext. 123 / [laurenalden@libertyresources.org](mailto:laurenalden@libertyresources.org)
- Morgan Hugo, Independent Living Specialist  
215-634-2000 ext. 124 / [morganhugo@libertyresources.org](mailto:morganhugo@libertyresources.org)
- Latoya Maddox, Independent Living Specialist  
215-634-2000 ext. 114 / [latoyamadox@libertyresources.org](mailto:latoyamadox@libertyresources.org)



# **LIBERTY RESOURCES**

**INDEPENDENCE FOR EVERYONE**

Get out the Vote Efforts and Food  
Project

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# LRI's REV UP CAMPAIGN

Register \* Educate \* Vote  
Use Your Power

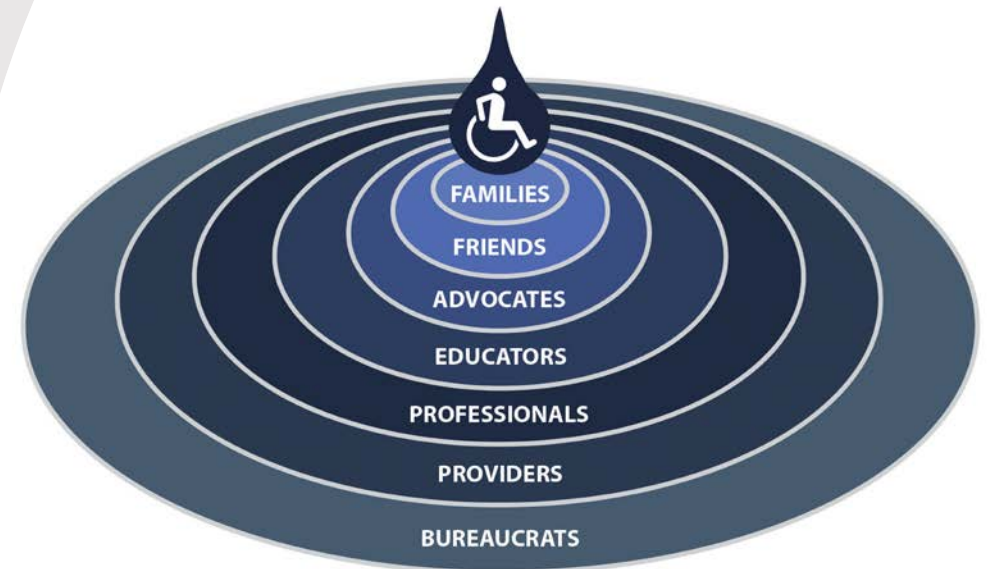
## Empower the Community

- A projected 38.3 million people with disabilities are eligible to vote in the November 3rd 2020 election- The number of eligible voters with disabilities has increased 19.8% since 2008!
- In 2016 voters with disabilities turnout to the polls was 6.3 percentage points **lower** than voters without disabilities

The logo for the REV UP! campaign. The word "REV" is in blue, and "UP!" is in red. The letter "V" is stylized as a blue checkmark with a white star at its top right tip.

# REV UP/LRI Outreach

- The pandemic has changed our outreach efforts significantly
- Getting our consumers virtual-Internet resources and donated laptops
- One on One support – virtually
- The LRI RevUp **Video:**  
<https://vimeo.com/469871213>
- 2020 Voter's Guide  
<https://bit.ly/2020PhillyRev>



THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF THE  
**DISABILITY VOTE**



# Food Distribution Project

- Saw immediate need for access for our community and quickly put a plan in place
- Took advantage of direct door access and added flyers and info to food boxes about Voting and Census
- Over 150 TONS of food delivered since April
- Over 9,000 deliveries completed since April
- Current waitlist: 500+

# Cleaner Air in Camden

*Recent environmental developments in Camden and New Jersey and how you can get involved*

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Benjamin Saracco, MLS, MAIT

Camden Shade Tree Advisory Board Member

Camden for Clean Air Volunteer

Research & Digital Services Librarian Cooper Medical School  
of Rowan University

# What's in the air in Camden, NJ?

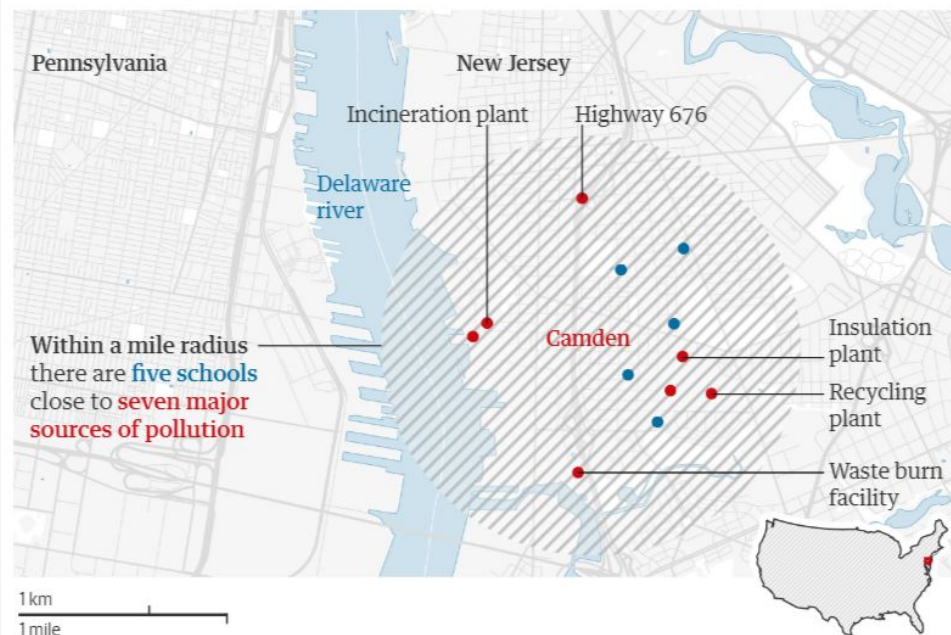


# Camden is overburdened with air pollution...

According to the EPA's National Emissions Inventory data 2020, the city of Camden is home to many of the top ten industrial air polluters in Camden County, including the number one industrial air pollution source the Covanta trash incinerator in South Camden. Other industrial sources of air pollution include:

- The Sapphire natural gas power plant.
- The Camden County Sewage Treatment Plant
- Two Cement Factories
- Several scrap operations
- The South Jersey Port
- Metal smelting operations

## Camden, New Jersey is the third most polluted school county in the US



Guardian graphic. © OpenStreetMap contributors

Image Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/feb/01/schools-across-the-us-exposed-to-air-pollution-children-are-facing-risks>

# Camden is overburdened with air pollution...

Camden is also home to multiple sources of mobile air pollution from highways, trucking operations between industrial sites and the port, and even diesel fumes from the New Jersey Riverline Light Rail system.

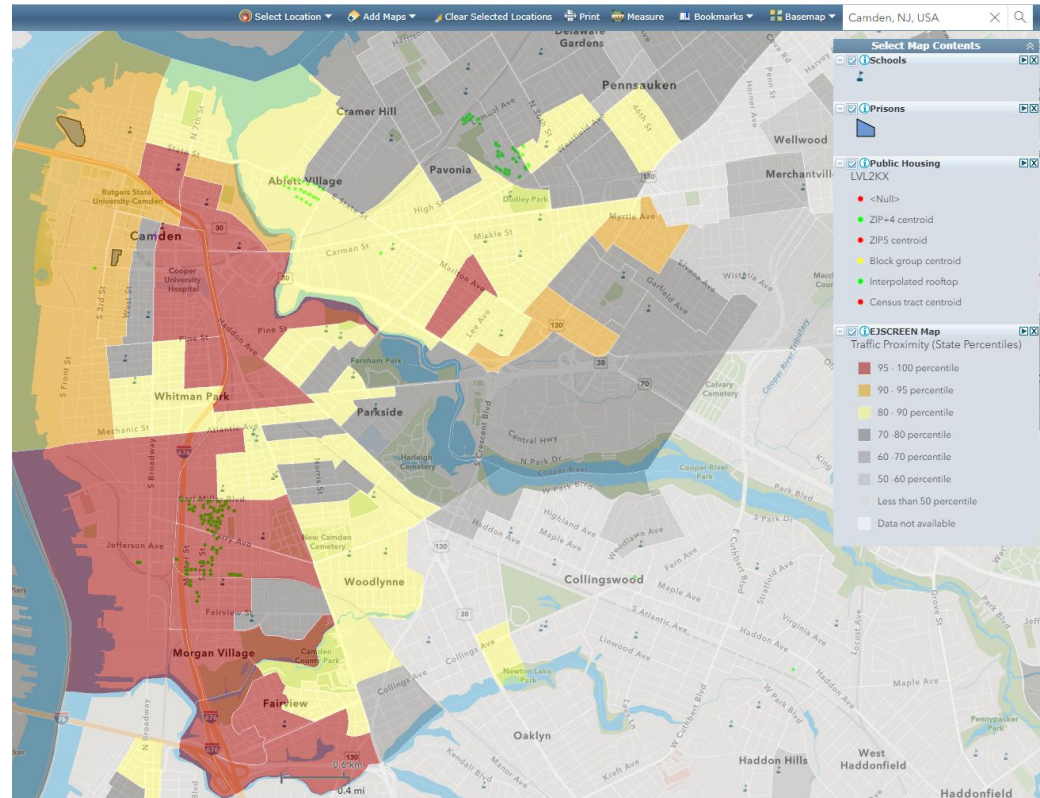


Image Source: EPA Environmental Justice Mapping tool Showing Traffic Proximity

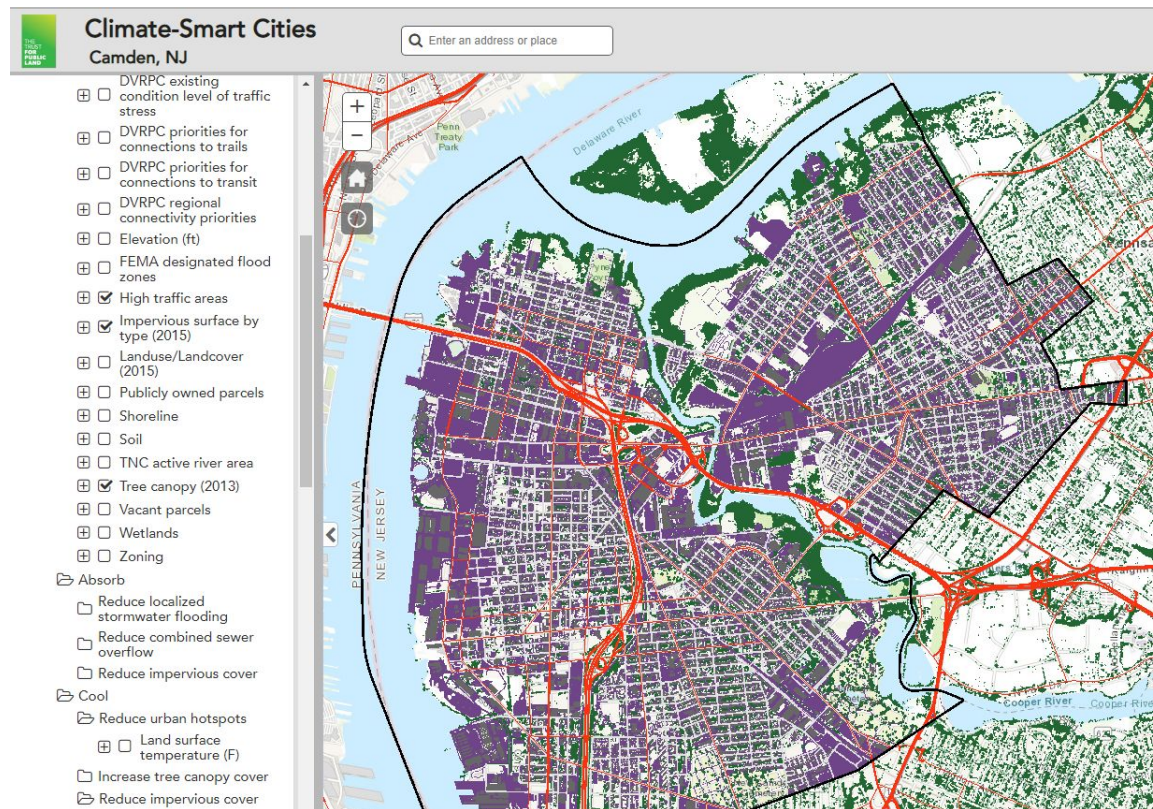
# Camden is overburdened with air pollution...

Other factors that exacerbate air quality in Camden include:

- Large amount of impervious surfaces
- Lacking in tree canopy

Together these factors create heat islands that exacerbate already poor air quality conditions

This map displays impervious surfaces (purple), tree canopy (green), high traffic areas (red lines).



**What is the air  
Camdenites  
breathe leading  
to...?**

**5x**

**Camden residents are almost 5 times more likely than your average NJ state resident to visit the emergency room for an asthma attack.**

*Source: NJ Department of Health Asthma Profile report  
[https://www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/chronic/documents/asthma\\_profiles/camden.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/chronic/documents/asthma_profiles/camden.pdf)*



# 3rd Worst

**A 2018 study featured in an online Guardian news report found that Camden's school district was the third worst in the entire country for levels of air pollution.**

*Sources: Guardian Article*

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/feb/01/schools-across-the-us-exposed-to-air-pollution-hildren-are-facing-risks>

*Study cited:* Grineski SE, Collins TW. Geographic and social disparities in exposure to air neurotoxicants at US public schools. Environmental research. 2018 Feb 1;161:580-7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2017.11.047>

# #1

**Out of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protections 15 Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5) monitoring sites across New Jersey, Camden's site had the highest average levels of PM2.5 of any site, 9.17  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}$ . A recent Harvard study has found that even a very small increase in PM2.5 pollution in the air was enough to cause a 15% increase in death from COVID-19.**

Sources: 2019 DEP Air Quality Report <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/airmon/pdf/2019-nj-aq-report.pdf> Harvard Study: <http://www.grist.org/justice/study-even-the-tiniest-amount-of-air-pollution-makes-covid-19-more-deadly/>

**What is being  
done about it?**

**New NJ State  
Environmental Justice  
Cumulative Impact  
Bill S232**

# What is this new bill? An EJ holy grail?!

- It is the first of its kind in the country. (lawmakers have introduced the environmental justice bill every year since 2008, but the legislation always succumbed to industry opposition.)
- It allows the state DEP to deny permits for power plants, incinerators, landfills, large recycling facilities and sewage treatment plants in certain minority and impoverished neighborhoods if the projects pose health and environmental risks in conjunction with the threats those communities already face.
- Rules still need to be written for how this bill will be implemented...

Source: <https://www.politico.com/states/new-jersey/story/2020/08/27/new-jersey-legislature-sends-groundbreaking-environmental-justice-bill-to-governors-desk-1313030>



The Ironbound section of Newark, a four-square-mile neighborhood in New Jersey's largest city that includes an incinerator and more than 100 brownfields. | Seth Wenig/AP Photo

## How a long-stalled 'holy grail' environmental justice bill found its moment in New Jersey

By SAMANTHA MALDONADO | 08/27/2020 04:36 PM EDT | Updated 08/27/2020 05:21 PM EDT



In a groundbreaking win for the environmental justice movement, New Jersey lawmakers on Thursday passed legislation that aims to limit new pollution sources in neighborhoods already shouldering a disproportionate burden.

# Get involved in the implementation of S232

The screenshot shows the official website of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). At the top, it identifies the site as the 'OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY' and lists the Governor as Phil Murphy and the Lt. Governor as Sheila Oliver. The main header is for the 'Department of Environmental Protection' and the 'Office of Environmental Justice'. A navigation menu includes links for Home, About OEJ, EJ at DEP, EJ at NJ State Agencies, EJ Advisory Council, Law, Policy and Regulation, Resources, Take Action, and Contact Us. A large banner image depicts a diverse group of people, with a woman in the foreground speaking into a microphone. Below the banner, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Take Action' and the main heading is 'Take Action'.

- The NJ DEP EJ office is holding Public Rulemaking Information Sessions to allow YOU to help decide how this law will be implemented in New Jersey (public planners are especially welcome 😎). Visit <https://www.nj.gov/dep/ej/action.html> to learn more.
- Learn about when new air permits are coming up for initial application or renewal moving forward and request a public hearing! Email DEP Division of Air Quality staff member Danny Wong and ask to be placed on his air permitting email list: [Danny.Wong@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Danny.Wong@dep.nj.gov)

# Clearing the Air: Educating the Camden Community about Air Quality and Respiratory Health

- The purpose of this project is to provide the people of Camden, NJ with environmental health information that will help them learn more about the links between the air quality in their community and their respiratory health.
- The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) Library is planning a community outreach program that educates members of the public about the impact that air quality has on health in general, and its specific role in triggering asthma and other respiratory diseases. This health information will be presented in easy-to-understand, user-friendly ways that will make it accessible to all: The centerpiece of the project will be a free, public website that showcases National Library of Medicine information resources such as MedlinePlus and Tox Town.



Search MedlinePlus

GO

About MedlinePlus What's New Site Map Customer Support

Health Topics

Drugs & Supplements

Genetics

Medical Tests

Videos & Tools

Español

## COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

Get the latest public health information from CDC: <https://www.coronavirus.gov>

Get the latest research information from NIH: <https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>

Home → Health Topics → Air Pollution

## Air Pollution

### On this page

#### Basics

- Summary
- Start Here
- Prevention and Risk Factors

#### Learn More

- Related Issues
- Specifics

#### See, Play and Learn

- No links available

#### Research

- Statistics and Research
- Clinical Trials
- Journal Articles

#### Resources

- Find an Expert

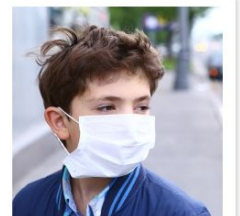
#### For You

- Teenagers

## Summary

Air pollution is a mixture of solid particles and gases in the air. Car emissions, chemicals from factories, dust, pollen and mold spores may be suspended as particles. Ozone, a gas, is a major part of air pollution in cities. When ozone forms air pollution, it's also called smog.

Some air pollutants are poisonous. Inhaling them can increase the chance you'll have health problems. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at greater risk from air pollution. Air pollution isn't just outside - the air inside buildings can also be polluted and affect your health.



## Stay Connected

Sign up for the My MedlinePlus newsletter

Enter email or phone number

GO

# Clearing the Air: Educating the Camden Community about Air Quality and Respiratory Health

Workshops on:

Recognizing and reporting environmental issues in your neighborhood, learning more about respiratory health, and citizen projects utilizing tools used to measure odor and PM2.5.

## Environmental Emergencies & Non-Emergencies

### For Environmental Emergencies:



The Department has a toll-free telephone hotline number you can use to report environmental incidents, abuses, and complaints in New Jersey or impacting it. The **1-877-WARNDEP** number can be used in the continental United States.

**To report life-threatening and/or environmental emergencies, call 9-1-1, local police or the DEP Hotline.**

### For Environmental Non-Emergencies:

Try NJDEP's mobile application WARN NJDEP



The pilot app utilizes GPS technology for pinpoint location of environmental incidents and also allows users to submit photos as part of their reports to the DEP.

**Use the pilot app to report non-emergency environmental incidents only. Report life-threatening and/or environmental emergencies by calling 9-1-1, local police or the DEP's hotline: 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337).**

Workshops will be taking place online, this upcoming Spring 2021 geared towards Camden residents and will be captioned in Spanish.



**Air pollution doesn't  
respect borders or  
boundaries. It goes  
where the wind  
takes it.**

# Take action in your community

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Learn about pollution sources, consider cumulative impacts, learn how to report environmental issues, get involved in how local laws are written and enforced in your city, state, and region.

# List of resources in order of appearance:

1. EPA EJSCREEN: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool  
<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>
2. Trust for Public Land Mapping Tool  
[https://web.tplgis.org/camden\\_csc/](https://web.tplgis.org/camden_csc/)
3. NJ DEP Division of Air Quality and Air Monitoring web page  
<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/airmon/>
4. Links to the WARNDEP Application  
<https://www.nj.gov/dep/warndep.htm>
5. NJ DEP Division of Environmental Justice web page  
<https://www.nj.gov/dep/ej/action.html>



# Community Engagement to Shift Power Beyond the Ballot Box

Presentation to DVRPC's Public Participation Task Force - 10/28/20



Hello!

**I am Marisa Jones.**

I am the Policy and Partnerships Director  
at the Safe Routes Partnership

I live in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where I  
live a multi-modal lifestyle

You can reach me at  
[marisa@saferoutespartnership.org](mailto:marisa@saferoutespartnership.org)

## MISSION

The mission of the Safe Routes Partnership is to advance safe walking and rolling to and from schools and in everyday life, improving the health and well-being of people of all races, income levels, and abilities, and building healthy, thriving communities for everyone.





## WHAT WE DO

We lock in change by **advancing policies and increasing funding** for active transportation and **healthy, equitable communities** at the federal, state, and local levels.

We provide **one-on-one consulting and coaching** to organizations and local agencies seeking to advance walking, biking, and **equitable, active communities**.

We support **Safe Routes to School program development and implementation** through partnerships with **local advocates, community leaders, neighborhood residents, and coalition partners**.

We **share our deep expertise and learn from the field** to provide solutions through webinars, reports, fact sheets, toolkits, and relevant resources that are **accessible to everyone**.





## Community Engagement to Shift Power in Active Transportation Advocacy

- Build the capacity of public agencies to meaningfully engage their communities (power over)
- Build capacity of community members to fully engage and participate – even during a pandemic (power to)
- Lead or support community-led efforts to untangle bureaucracy (power with)
- Trust and cultivate youth leadership (power within)







## Build capacity of community members to fully engage and participate - even during a pandemic

- Park access and comprehensive planning processes were underway as the pandemic took hold
- Rather than pushing forward as if times were normal, Tuolumne River Trust surveyed and spoke with community residents about their ability and capacity to participate in virtual planning
- Surveys revealed that people had computer/tablet access, but needed to develop skills/knowledge to use the internet & connect virtually
- POWER TO





## Build the capacity of public agencies to meaningfully engage their communities

- Hosted a virtual workshop focused on how city departments can work together to meaningfully and authentically engage with the community members they are trying to serve.
- Living Streets Alliance then invited project managers from the city and an engineering firm on a bike ride with neighbors from Pueblo Gardens to discuss a potential Prop 407 greenway project
- Shift Power Over



Break down bureaucratic barriers to public participation,  
and create a model for future community-led efforts



Brought to  
Hawaii by



<https://www.facebook.com/bzpmmmm/videos/1542367729232444/>

Video Credit: Blue Zones Hawaii



Photo Credit: Blue Zones Hawaii



# Safe Routes for Youth

We asked D.C.'s young people to help us design strategies for keeping people safe as they walk, roll, and ride around the city. Youth leaders shared their ideas with peers, District officials, community members, and local organizations working to improve street safety.







Students used their products to start an important conversation around safety. They encouraged their peers to stay alert while walking (phones down, eyes up!) and urged drivers to slow down.



## Pop-Up Shops

Student business owners sold their uniquely crafted designs at an after school pop-up shop. Products included t-shirts, jackets, fanny packs, phone cases, sweatbands, slide sandals, and gym bags. Each product contained an apparel tag with the hashtag #SlowDownDC.





The Vision Zero campaign culminated with a glow-in-the-dark dance party.

**OPEN**  
Party **24** HOURS Away

**BUY GLOW GEAR TODAY!**  
Just \$2 for Wristbands, LED Rings & more!





# YOUTH TRAFFIC TOWN HALL

SAFETY

COMA



# Safe Routes

**PARTNERSHIP**  
*Active Paths for Equity & Health*



Shifting power  
through  
community  
engagement  
leads to  
creativity,  
innovation, and  
can help create  
a more just and  
equitable  
world



# Resources

- [Safe Routes for Youth: Supporting and Empowering Teen Leaders in Vision Zero](#)
- [Facilitating Community Engagement During Safe Routes to Parks Visioning Activities](#)
- [At the Intersection of Environmental Justice and Safe Routes to School in Muscoy, CA](#)
- [Safe Routes Community Engagement Cards](#)

