



**AIR WORKING GROUP
2022 ACTION PLAN**

GOAL				
To improve the overall air quality in Camden through upstream level policy-making, research, infrastructure improvements, and community empowerment.				
BENCHMARKS FOR SUCCESS				
Increase residents awareness of WARN DEP tool and utilize it when necessary; Decreasing trends for air quality (air quality index and air quality monitoring station); Increasing the amount of local air quality data sources, reduce the Urban Heat Island effect, influence air quality policy to be more strict and equitable				
EVALUATION PLAN				
Track # of participants for community meetings; Track # of policies/ordinances revised/created; track air quality index (annual increase/decrease); # of submission to WARN DEP for air quality complaint; track air quality monitoring station results, track # and location of new tree plantings				
EDUCATION AREAS				
How to use WARN DEP hotline, EnviroFlash, EPA Air Now site, Purple Air Monitors; Walter Rand Transportation Center upgrade project; NJ Transit bus electrification project; indoor air quality improvement measures				
STRATEGIC ACTION/DESCRIPTION	RESOURCES REQUIRED	POTENTIAL CHALLENGES	DESIRED OUTCOME	PROGRESS
Environmental Justice: Monitor Implementation of NJDEP Environmental Justice rules; raise alarms when needed	None	Keeping abreast of other cities' implementations	Frequently and equitable implemented EJ rules.	
Environmental Justice: Investigate possibility of re-establishing environmental commission	Existing Environmental Commission resolution/ ordinance and 5-7 residents interested in serving	Political will: identification of commissioners, other leaders in the community	Camden re-establishes Environmental Commission and joins Association of NJ Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)	
Environmental Justice: Hold educational workshops for the community (how to use WARN DEP, EnviroFlash, EPA Air Now site, Purple Air Monitors, indoor air quality improvement measures, etc.)	Person power to run the workshops, ability to garner interest of residents	disinterest from residents; communications	Camden residents have a full understanding of the environmental concerns which they face and have a clear idea of how to mitigate health risks and fight for environmental justice	
Traffic Management: Advocate for road designs that reduce car dependency, thus reducing impact of vehicular travel on air quality	Info on projects underway.	Keeping abreast of numerous projects underway by multiple agencies and organizations.	Future infrastructure projects provide net positive environmental air impacts.	
Traffic Management: Support efforts to identify, create (if required), and enforce truck routes	Existing truck routes ordinances; existing prosecution methods for truck routes; identify problem truck route areas.	Truck route research; City & County owned roads; Camden County PD prioritizes for enforcement	City adopts/strengthens truck route ordinance to protect Camden neighborhoods; County adopts/strengthens truck route ordinance to protect Camden neighborhoods	
Air Quality: Provide expertise, when available, to assist residents with understanding plans, permits, etc. that impact air quality	DEP Air Program assistance	Keeping abreast of all pending projects/permits	Residents are informed to fully participate in decision-making for projects that impact air quality.	

Air Quality: Increase protections that preserve natural resources, bolster Tree Shade Advisory Board, keep an eye on the proposed SHADE Act	Rutgers students? Funding, municipal support			
Air Quality: Support neighborhood tree planting to reduce urban heat island effect, prevent tree removal	Marketing partnerships, Data from DVRPC/ Urban Forestry Plan, research tree removal prevention ideas	Finding the money to realize the Urban Forestry Plan	CCI members host, participate and market tree planting events for residents.	
Air Quality: Address indoor air quality concerns through community education and support an initiative to fund home improvements which improve indoor air quality	Funding, trust with residents, target neighborhoods/ initiatives	Funding, communications	Camden residents have a full understanding of the importance of indoor air quality and have a clear idea of how to mitigate health risks	
CCI: Develop benchmarks for success.	Data.	Data.	Benchmark established.	
CCI: have organization specific goals for each CCI member	Commitment by organizations	Commitment by organizations	Engaging and productive CCI meetings which are action oriented rather than update oriented	
CCI: Increase resident engagement in working group, especially of long-time Camden activists	Meeting assistance (facilitation, note taking), relationships with "community ambassadors" who have influence over and the trust of their neighbors, get sponsors for evening meetings with food	Virtual limitations; getting the word out; scheduling	Increased resident participation in regular and special CCI meetings	