

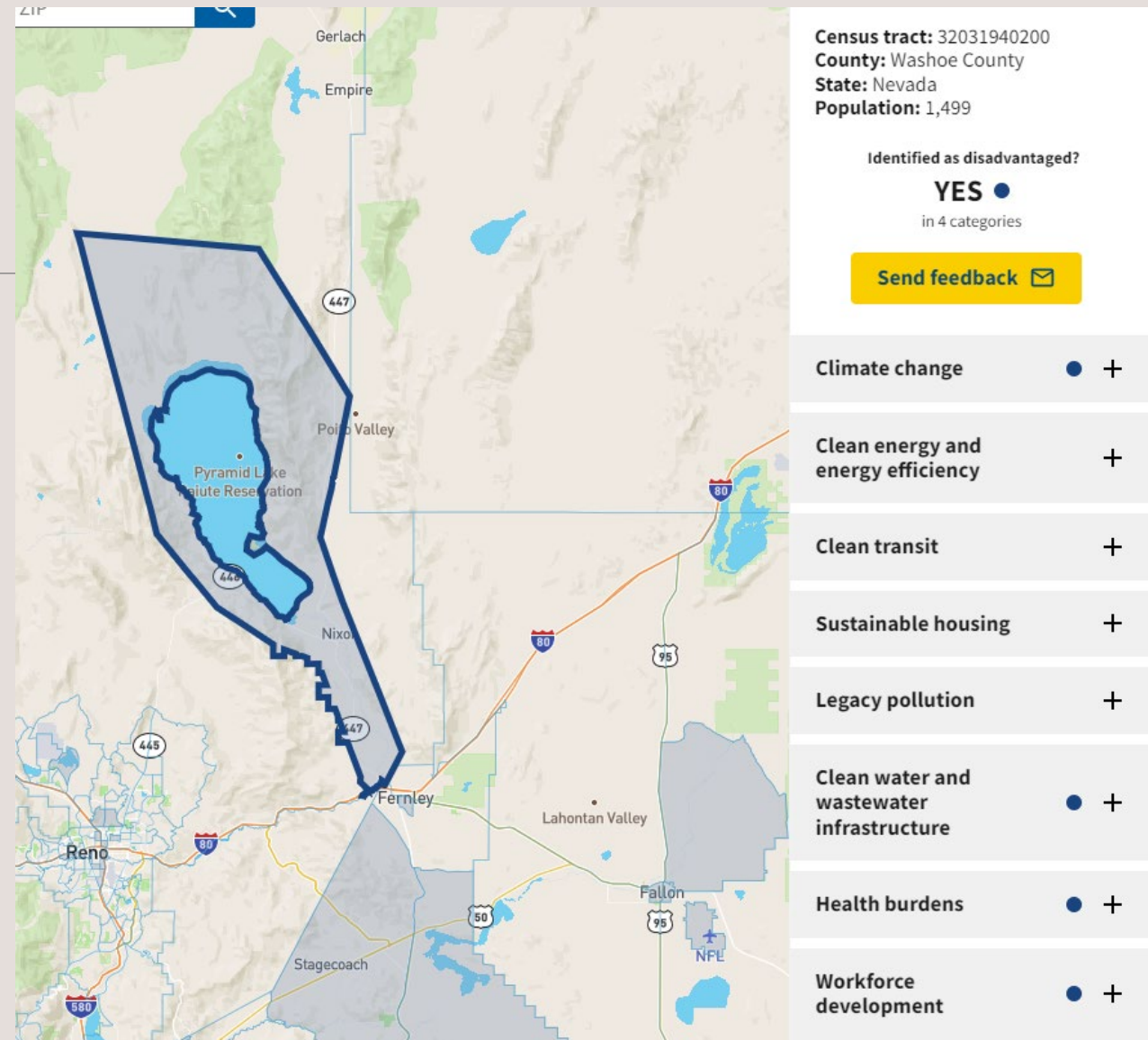
Environmental Justice (EJ) Breakout

Summer 2022 RTOC

Justice40 Initiative and
EJ Grant Updates

Justice40

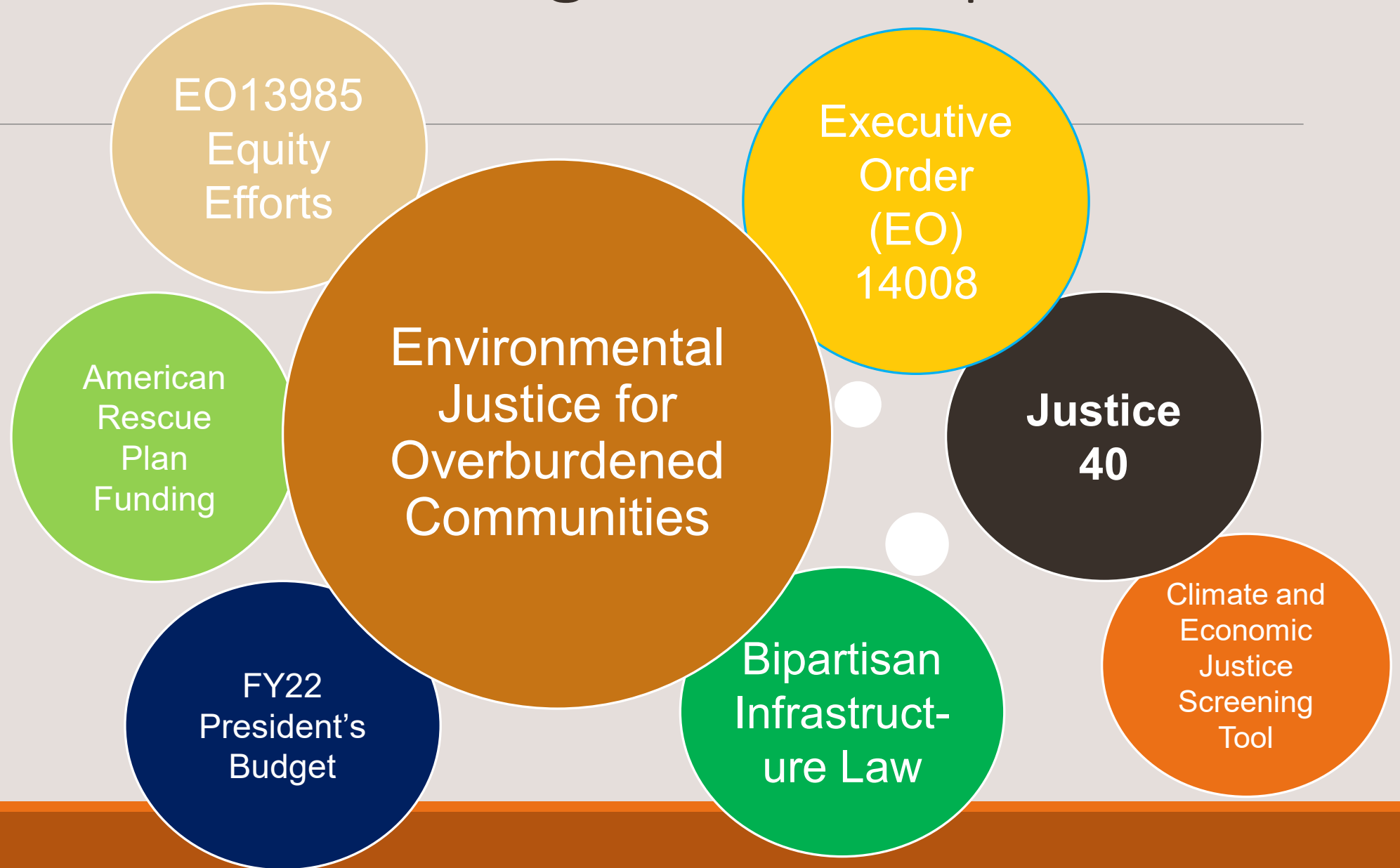
Justice40 is the Biden-Harris Administration's goal to deliver at least 40% of overall benefits from certain federal investments to disadvantaged communities ([Section 223 of EO 14008](#)).



Justice40

- There is no specific Justice40 funding and it is not a grant.
- As written in EO 14008, the goal of 40% is not for any one agency or program.
- CEQ and United States Digital Services (USDS) [released the beta version of the Climate Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#) in February 2022 and held a comment period which drew thousands of comments.
- Answers to J40 questions may be found in the [OMB Interim Guidance](#).

Justice40 is Part of a Larger Landscape



Justice40 at EPA

EPA has released a [listing of 72 Justice40 covered programs](#)

EPA has a goal to exceed the Executive Order that 40% of benefits of our Justice40 programs flow to disadvantaged communities.



More Information on Justice40

White House:

[Fact Sheet on Executive Orders](#)

[The Path to Achieving Justice40](#)

[Delivering on Justice40](#)

[White House Fact Sheet: A Year Advancing Environmental Justice](#)

Helpful Website Links

[White House on Environmental Justice](#)

[White House on Justice40](#)

[White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(WHEJAC\) meetings](#)

[National Community Engagement Calls](#)

[National Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(NEJAC\) meetings](#)

[EPA on Environmental Justice and Tribes](#)



Future EJ Grant Program Planning

2022 - 2023

FY 22 - 23 EJ Grants

Approximately \$40 million for EJ grants

- Context: In 2021, \$18.4 million was distributed for EJ Grants and in 2020 it was \$3.5M

Expanded grant authority for implementation activities

Short Turnaround – all funds must be awarded by September 30, 2023

New Implementation Authority

Previously, EJ grant activities were limited to:

- Research
- Demonstrations
- Training, and/or
- Education activities

Now, EJ grant activities have been expanded to include implementation activities:

- Small scale construction
- Refurbishment and Mitigation
- Hazardous Waste Disposal and general Clean ups
- Installations

Distribution into Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) Funding Opportunities

\$10 million for Small Grants

\$10 million for EJ Collaborative
Problem Solving (CPS)

\$20 million for State EJ
Cooperative Agreement (SEJCA)

- States/Local Govt = ~\$10 million
- Tribes = ~\$10 million

Restructuring of EJ Small Grants Subaward Model



Funders

Key Details (EJ Small Grants)

- **Anticipated Request For Applications:** End of Summer 2022
- **Award:** Cooperative Agreements (3 – 5-year project period)
- **Eligibility:** Nonprofits (large), Colleges/universities, & Intertribal Consortia
- **Target:** 70 – 80% of total funding be sub-awarded to communities
- **Flexibility:** Funder may be encouraged to use a hybrid compete/non compete process for selection of Subawardee communities

Communities/Subgrantees

Key Details (EJ Small Grants)

- **Funds per Sub-Award:** up to \$100K for one-year project
- **Eligible Sub-Awardee Entities:** Nonprofits and Tribal governments

Things to Consider (EJ Small Grants)

Benefits

- Easier Application process for communities
- Funds can get to communities quicker
- Reduces cost on EPA staff and resources
- Potential general support subawards for communities/orgs who have little to no capacity
 - Some orgs can be selected for subawards that will pay them to develop a workplan and build partnerships

Things to Consider (EJ Small Grants)

Voiced Concerns

- Lack of EPA Project Officer and EPA staff involvement with the subaward communities
- Without sufficient oversight, subaward model could perpetuate the existing systems of inequity
 - Worried about the bias from larger orgs selecting smaller orgs.
 - Worries that 1-2 universities across the US would lack local/regional connections with the communities they serve
- High % of funds going to a university's indirect costs / overhead
- Concerns about outreach and wide-reaching notice to communities about sub-award opportunities

Addressing
Concerns
(Subaward
Model)

**Subaward Model Expedites Funding
Process**

This is a Pilot

Connection/History with Communities

Indirect Costs/Overhead Cap

**Direct Involvement/Oversight/Scoring
by EPA**

Cooperative Agreements

EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS)

State/Local/Tribal Govt EJ Cooperative Agreement Program (SEJCA)

- Continue to be managed directly by EPA
- Project Periods will likely be increased to 3 - 5 years
- Eligibility

Nonprofits and US Territories (EJCPS)

States, local governments, Tribes, and US Territories (SEJCA)

2022 – 2023 Total Budget: ~\$10 million

20 awards (two \$500K cooperative agreements per EPA Region)

Timeline: EJCPS RFA is targeted for release by October 2022

Eligibility: nonprofits and US Territories

Special Considerations

Projects addressing Climate, Disaster Resiliency, and/or Emergency Preparedness

Projects focusing on performing health impact assessments (HIAs)

Projects focused in rural areas

EJCPS Program Updates

2022 – 2023 Total Budget: ~\$20 million (~\$10M for Tribes)

20 awards (\$500K-1M with at least 1 award per EPA Region)

Timeline: SEJCA RFA is targeted for release by November 2022

Eligibility: Tribes, states, and local governments

Requirement: Subawards to Community Groups (20% of funds per project)

Special Considerations

Projects focusing on performing health impact assessments (HIAs)

Projects focused in rural areas

SEJCA Program Updates

Discussion and Feedback on EPA EJ Funding Plans

EPA is seeking feedback on the EJ Funding Opportunity plans:

What are your general impressions of the small grants subaward model and funding breakdowns for EJCPS and SEJCA?

What general concerns do you have about these funding levels and structure?

Feel free to provide written feedback (general impressions and concerns) to this email address: OEJGrants@epa.gov

Thank You!

Questions?

Alan Bacock
USEPA Region 9
GAP Project Officer
bacock.alan@epa.gov
415-947-4195

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. You can also follow us on Twitter: @EPAEnvJustice