


Environmental Justice

Making the Connection

 **Citizens' Climate Lobby**
Presented 02/13/21, CCL Tucson Chapter



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What is Environmental Justice?



It's the equitable distribution of all environmental risks and benefits.

Photo by Ehimetalor Akhere Unuabona on Unsplash

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How will Environmental Justice happen?

With the fair and meaningful participation in environmental decision making by those who are impacted by it.

Photo by Julian Wan on Unsplash



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Why should it matter to CCL members?

Broad support for climate solutions will only happen with the equitable distribution of their risks and benefits.



Photo by Kenrick Mills on Unsplash

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What does EJ mean for CCL goals?



CCL's goals and those of Environmental Justice communities are complementary.

We are more likely to achieve them if we work together.

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So what's the problem?

Our laser-focus on carbon fee and dividend means we overlook Environmental Justice issues.

We are not trusted partners (yet).

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How can I help?



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Reach out to local Environmental Justice organizations.

Ask them to be early and long-term participants in work.

Ask for input and/or attend their meetings.

Learn to understand their unique perspectives.

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How should I prepare?



Understand the urgency to resolve past injustices.

Leave your agenda behind.

Practice active listening.

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How should I prepare?



Become familiar with the intersectionality of:

- Health
- Housing
- Economic opportunity
- Transportation
- Discrimination
- Quality of life

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How should I prepare?



Grow your understanding of Environmental Justice issues.

Start here:

<https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/153>

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How should I prepare?

Grow your understanding of Environmental Justice issues locally/regionally.

Continue here:
haury.arizona.edu/community-partner-directory *(just a start!)*

Photos: SERI, Tucson Foodie, TFS



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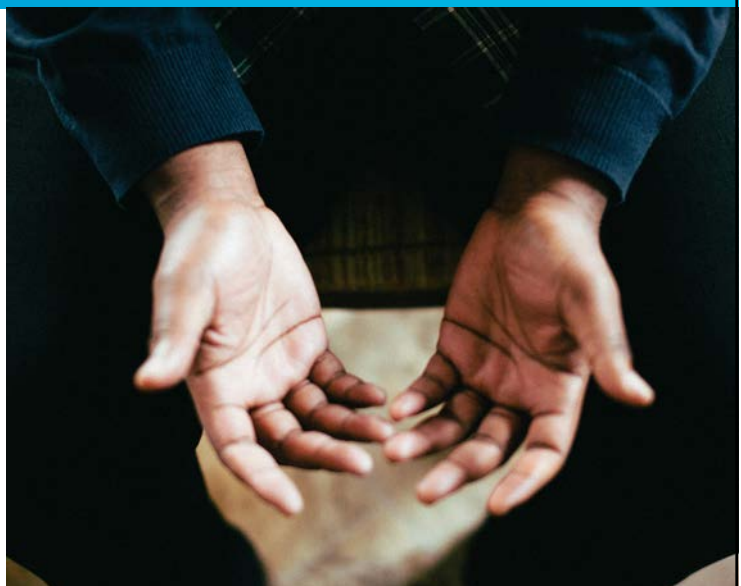
How should I interact?

**Be curious.
Be respectful.
Build trust.**

Find common ground.

**Lend support to a local
Environmental Justice
effort.**

Photo by Jeremy Yap on Unsplash



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How should I interact?

**Those suffering injustice
know it best.**

**Let them lead the
conversation.**

It's okay just to listen.

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How should I interact?

**Don't prioritize support
for a carbon fee and
dividend.**

**Focus on building
a relationship.**

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Next steps?



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Learn more about environmental and climate justice.

Share what you learn with friends, colleagues and the CCL community.

Open minds.

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What if I need help?



Contact me at:
ahspitz@seriaz.org

Reach out to the CCL Climate and Environmental Justice Action Team


<https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/home/953>

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