

Attachment B

Race and Equity Pocket Questions

What are the racial and equity impacts?

The risk of soil and water contamination from the existing underground storage tanks has the potential to impact the lower-income residents of the Kingswood apartments in Chapel Hill, downstream of Carrboro Public Works, particularly considering Morgan Creek's potential for flooding. While not an enormous risk, it is one that would be alleviated by replacing the existing out-of-date underground tanks with aboveground tanks.

Who is experiencing or will experience community burden?

In the short term this project will burden the staff at Public Works as their ability to use the yard will be impeded by the ongoing construction. There are no anticipated community burdens associated with the work, no disruption of town services to the community will occur.

Who is or will experience community benefit?

Those who live near Public Works will benefit from facing a lower risk of soil and water contamination than from the existing tanks. Public Works itself will benefit in the long term by having an easier-to-maintain fuel system. The reduction in fueling capacity at Public Works and associated adoption of the WEX Card system will also benefit residents townwide by allowing vehicles that provide vital services to fuel up, and therefore operate, more efficiently.

What are the root causes of inequity?

Generations of racial discrimination through government policy as well as in the real estate and rental markets have resulted in less desirable (immediately adjacent to a highway, prone to flooding, etc.) places to live being disproportionately occupied by people of color.

What might be the unintended consequences of this action or strategy?

It is possible that reducing the on-site fuel capacity could lead to gas stations in town receiving a greater volume of traffic from Town vehicles that increases wait time and limits their accessibility for residents. Occasionally PW staff schedule meetings with the public at the PW conference room, during the construction, those meeting may need to be scheduled elsewhere.

How is your department planning to mitigate any burdens, inequities, and unintended consequences?

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Should the issue of gas station congestion manifest itself then the Public Works Department could implement policies to reduce the conflict between employees and everyday users of gas stations.

If a meeting needs to be scheduled and the PW conference room is unavailable due to construction activities another meeting room will be selected in Town.