

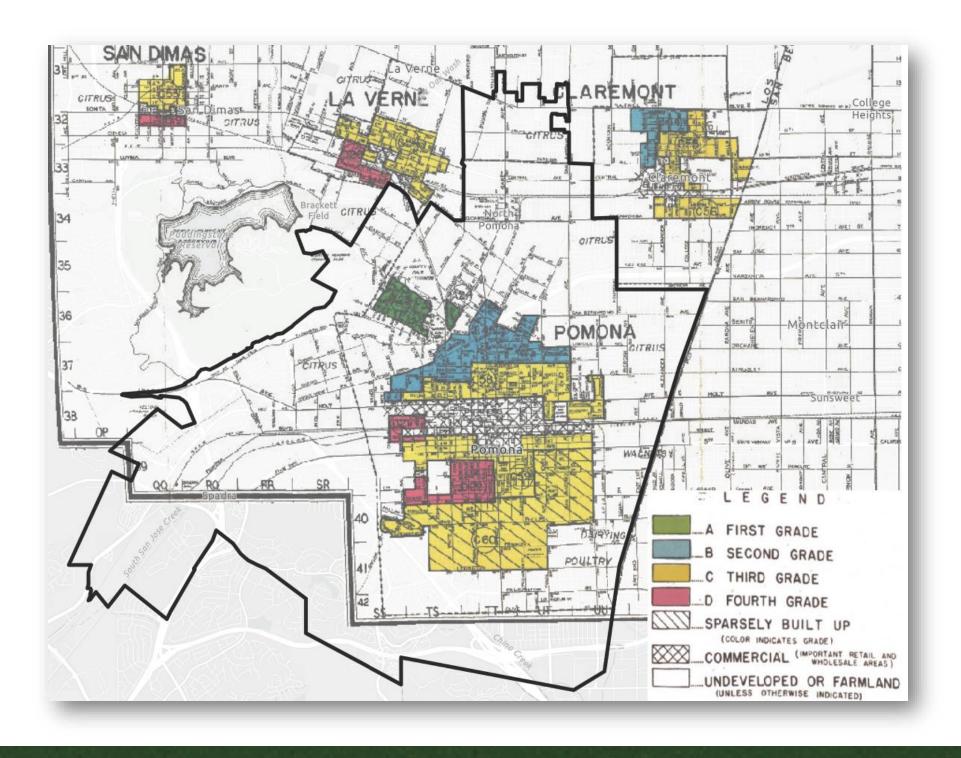
# Fight for Environmental Justice in Pomona



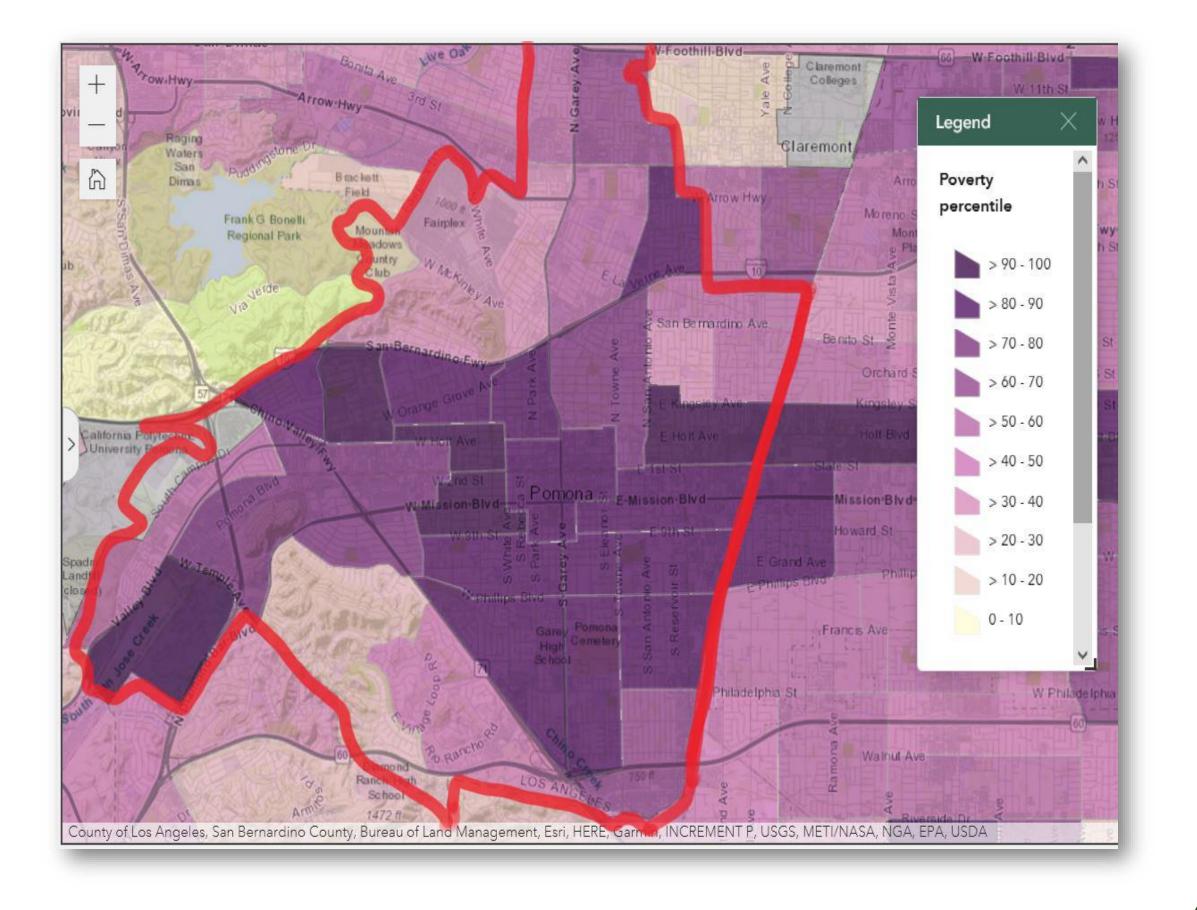
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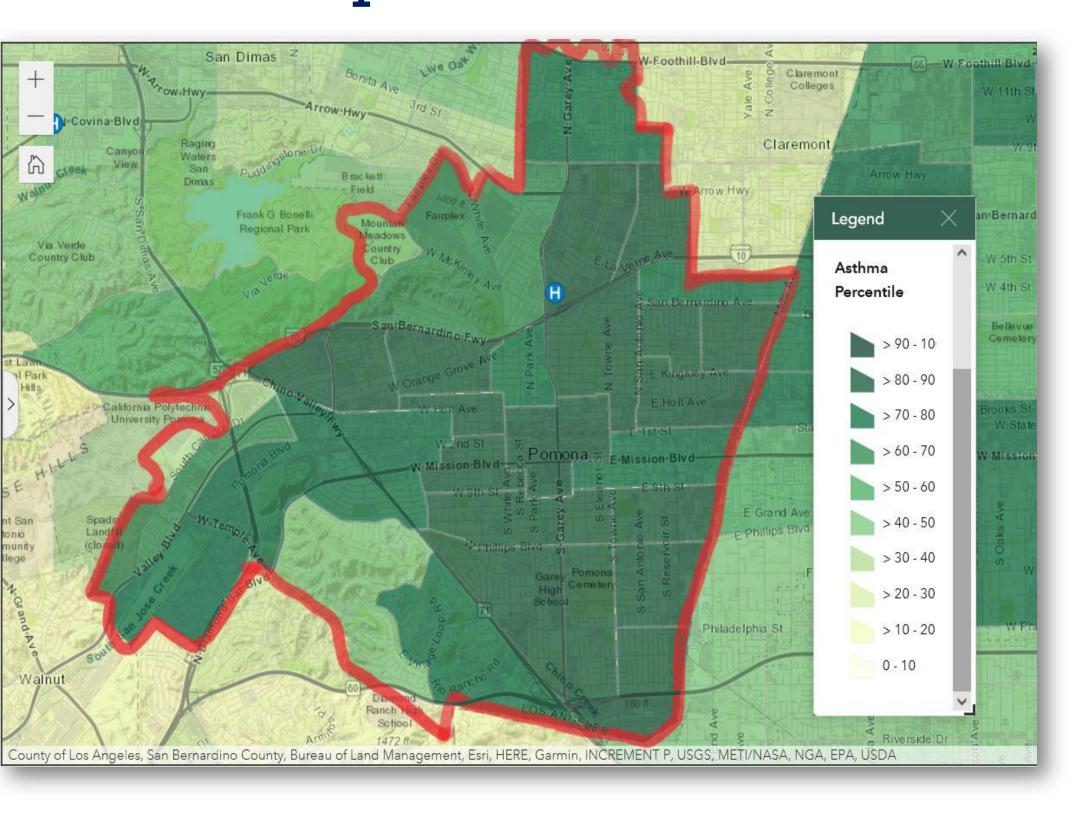
# Map of Redlining in 1930s Pomona<sup>1</sup>



# Poverty Population Characteristics<sup>2</sup>



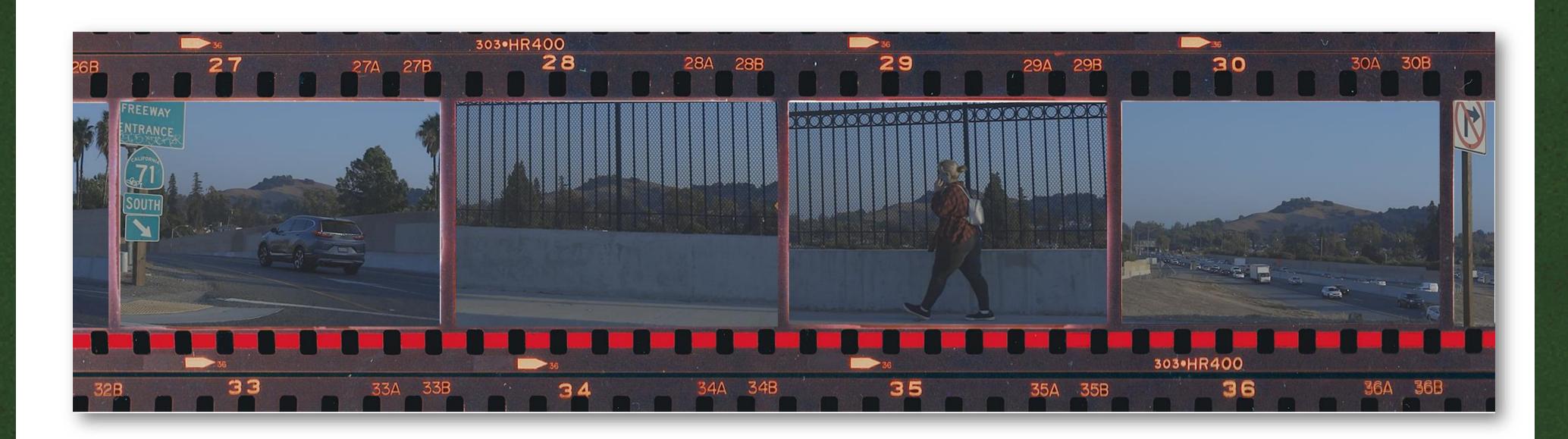
# Asthma Population Characteristics<sup>3</sup>



#### Background

Environmental Justice is defined by the state of California as "...the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and income with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies." This is still a pressing issue in the city of Pomona as much of its population falls in the ninetieth percentile of prevalent asthma rates in the state of California as a result of highly polluted areas. Historical and ongoing acts of environmental racism as seen in redlining influence how healthy communities are to this day. This project uses the medium of documentary filmmaking to examine how community organizations have taken steps to fight for environmental justice in Pomona to ensure a healthier future.

#### Documentary Filmmaking in Pomona



## Political Discourse and Documentary Filmmaking

For my Kellogg Honors College Senior Capstone, I chose to highlight social issues that I have studied and researched during my time in Cal Poly Pomona in a way that engages an audience outside of academia by producing a short documentary with the skills and storytelling techniques acquired from the Political Discourse and Documentary Filmmaking course. During the duration of the course, my cohorts and I were challenged with learning the dynamics of storytelling to create compelling documentaries so to examine the causes and consequences of social problems and using what we learned to produce short documentaries. A select few cohorts, including myself, went on to a study abroad trip to Palm Desert where we applied what we learned as we interned with three different Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) addressing social issues in the Coachella Valley. We went on to produce a documentary on their impact in making positive social change in the community. During this Capstone project, I hope to create an engaging film utilizing a similar concept, highlighting organizations working to create environmental justice in Pomona.

#### Community Powered Change



### Showcasing Community NGOs

The organizations I interviewed are varied in their approaches to achieving environmental justice. Some of these tactics include organizing protests against polluting factories, collaborating with state taskforces, and creating green spaces. In their work, the organizations are participating in the political process and influencing the government to create environmental justice solutions suited to their city.

#### References

<sup>1</sup>Robert K. Nelson, LaDale Winling, Richard Marciano, Nathan Connolly, et al., "Mapping Inequality," *American Panorama*, ed. Robert K. Nelson and Edward L. Ayers, accessed February 3, 2023, https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/Pomona

<sup>2</sup>CalEPA.SB, CalEnviroScreen 4.0 *Indicator Maps, Poverty*. 2022 oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40

<sup>3</sup>CalEPA.SB, CalEnviroScreen 4.0 *Indicator Maps, Asthma.,* 2023 https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40

<sup>4</sup>California, Legislature Code Section 65040.12 (AB 1628)

Leglislative Information, 2019

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\_displaySection.xh

tml?sectionNum=65040.12.&lawCode=GOV.

## Acknowledgments

Thank you to representatives from Clean & Green Pomona, United Voices of Pomona for Environmental Justice, Latino/Latino Roundtable, and Lopez Urban Farm and Cal Poly Pomona for being interviewed and to Dr. Reese for teaching the value of emphasizing NGOs that propel social change and create hope.