



# **Health Impact Assessment:** Southside Recycling Permit Application

Public Engagement Session #1: Screening, Scoping, Assessment (Part I)

# Session Objectives

- Understand the **purpose and process** of health impact assessment (HIA).
- Describe how we are **applying the HIA process** to evaluate the Southside Recycling permit application.
- Identify potential **community burdens and benefits**.
- Discuss current **environmental, health, and quality of life conditions** on the Southeast side.
- **Compare these conditions** to the city of Chicago and Lincoln Park.



# Agenda

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER(S)
5:00	Welcome: Introductions & Icebreaker	MaKara Rumley, Hummingbird
5:15	What is a Health Impact Assessment (HIA)?	Kate McMahon, CDPH
5:30	How are we applying the HIA process to the Southside Recycling permit application?	Melissa Buenger, CDPH Megan Cunningham, CDPH
6:00	Current conditions on the Southeast Side	Kirsti Bocskay, CDPH Kathryn Siegel, U.S. EPA
6:30	Questions & Answers	All
6:50	Closeout & Next Steps	Renante Marante, CDPH MaKara Rumley, Hummingbird

## ★ We...

- **embrace** different communication styles, especially ones farther apart from ours.
- **are mindful** of speaking time to avoid a few people dominating a meeting.
- **listen** with an open mind.
- **give and receive feedback**, criticism, and questioning.
- **seek** multiple points of view.
- **check for** diversity gaps (who is missing) and propose solutions.
- **actively pursue** engagement of less vocal members.
- **assume** good faith.
- **respect** this space as a place to work candidly during the process .





# Q&A Reminders

- There will be **opportunities for input throughout** the meeting.
- **Ask** questions in the “**Q&A**” **box**. Provide comments in the “Chat” box.
- If you would like to **ask your question verbally**, enter your question in the “Q&A” box, and **indicate** that it is a “**verbal question**.”
- For the most part, **questions will be answered** in the **order** in which they are received. However, **we want to prioritize** the voices of **residents** from **East Side, Hegewisch, and South Deering**.
  - If you are from these communities and would like your question prioritized, **include the name** of your neighborhood when you **submit** your question. We will also prioritize those who have not had a chance to ask a question.
- Be mindful that what you write in **the chat will be monitored**, and **ALL** inappropriate comments will be removed.

# ★ Welcome: Introductions & Icebreaker



## Icebreaker

1. How well do you **understand a Health Impact Assessment** and its components?
2. On a scale of 1 - 10 (1 being no trust, 10 being 100% trust), how much would you **trust** that the HIA process can **make a difference?**

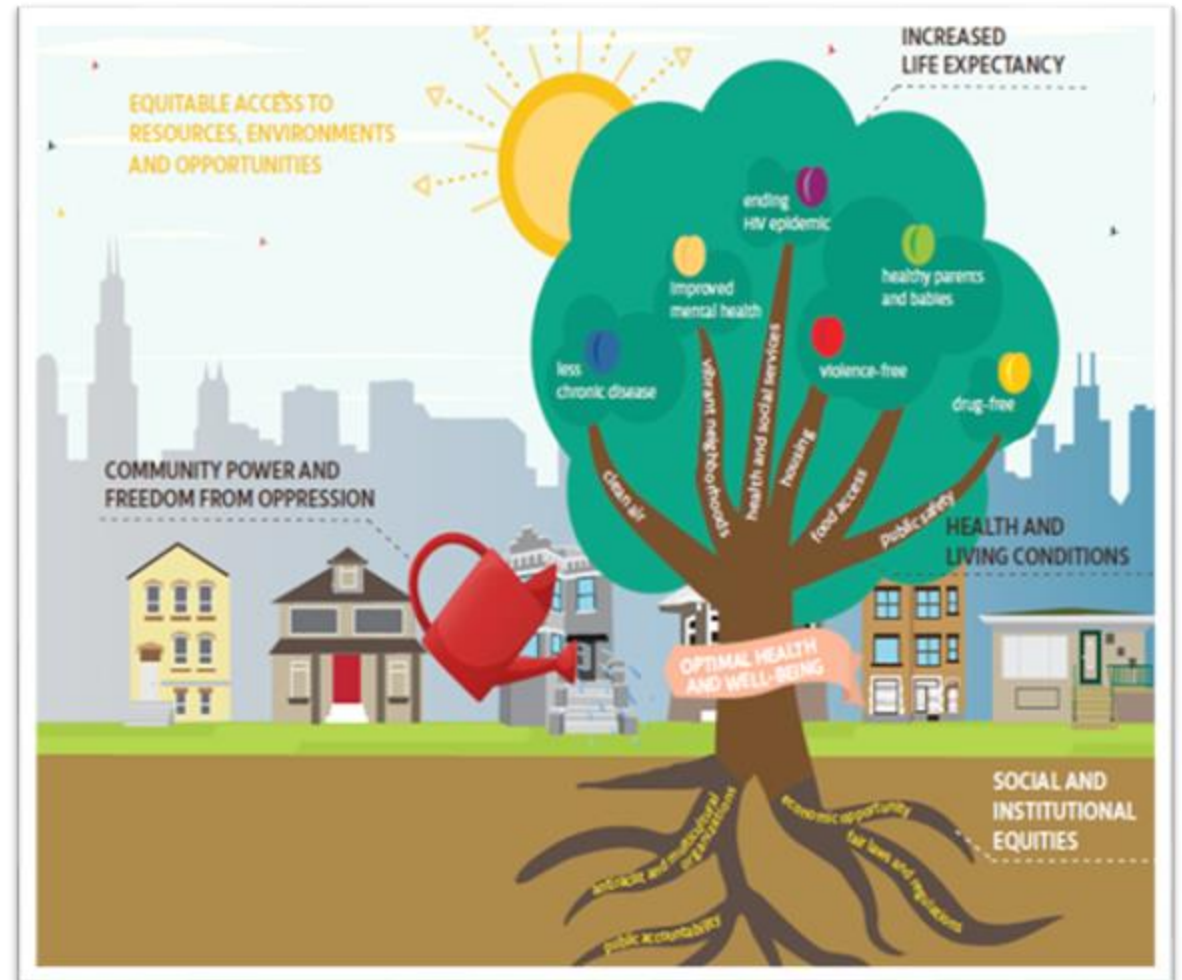


# **What is a Health Impact Assessment?**



# ★ Living Conditions and Underlying Inequities Impact Health

- Health is a state of complete **physical, mental, and social well-being**; not just the absence of disease.
- Many factors influence how long and how well we live.
- It is important to consider health when **making decisions that affect living conditions**, including the **environment**.





## 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

### 1. Screening

Determines if an HIA is needed or valuable

### 2. Scoping

Identifies the community impacted, potential health effects and key stakeholders

### 3. Assessment

Uses qualitative and quantitative methods to assess current health conditions and potential impacts

### 4. Recommendations

Provides solutions to lessen or enhance health effects

### 5. Reporting

Disseminates findings to key stakeholders, community members and decision makers

### 6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Tracks changes in health risks, health outcomes and changes in decision making

# What is a Health Impact Assessment?

A health impact assessment is a process that helps determine the **potential effects** of a **proposed policy, plan, or project** on health.

# ★ Community & Stakeholder Engagement

- Stakeholders are **individuals or organizations who may gain or lose** from a decision or process.
- **Community members** are important stakeholders in the health impact assessment process.



# Embedding Health and Race Equity

Equity is both an **outcome** and a **process** that results in fair and just access to opportunity and resources that provide everyone the ability to thrive.

- **Define** the problem/opportunity
- **Acknowledge** history
- **Look** at numbers and narratives
- **Shift** power
- **Measure** the benefits and burdens
- **Embrace** accountability and commit to action





# What a Health Impact Assessment IS and What It is NOT

## What it IS...

- It is **forward looking**.
- It **engages key stakeholders** and uses data to identify **benefits and burdens**.
- It considers **many factors that influence health** and assesses **short and long-term impacts**.
- It explores **trade-offs** involved with different decisions.

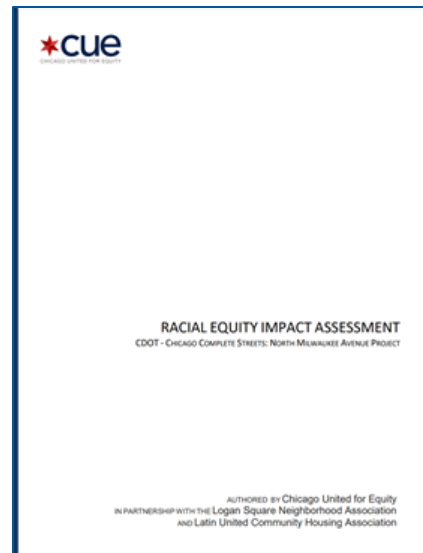
## What it is NOT...

- It is not an **evaluation** of impacts once a decision has been implemented.
- It is not the **final action required to implement** recommendations.
- It does not **alter existing authorities**, though it can inform how authority is applied and future changes.

# ★ Health Impact Assessment in Action

HIAs can...

- **Improve understanding** of the health impacts of decisions
- **Increase participation** in decision-making
- **Make recommendations** for changes to the proposal under consideration





# Discussion Question

Based on the information presented,  
in what ways could an  
**HIA benefit a community?**





**How are we applying the HIA process to the Southside Recycling permit application?**



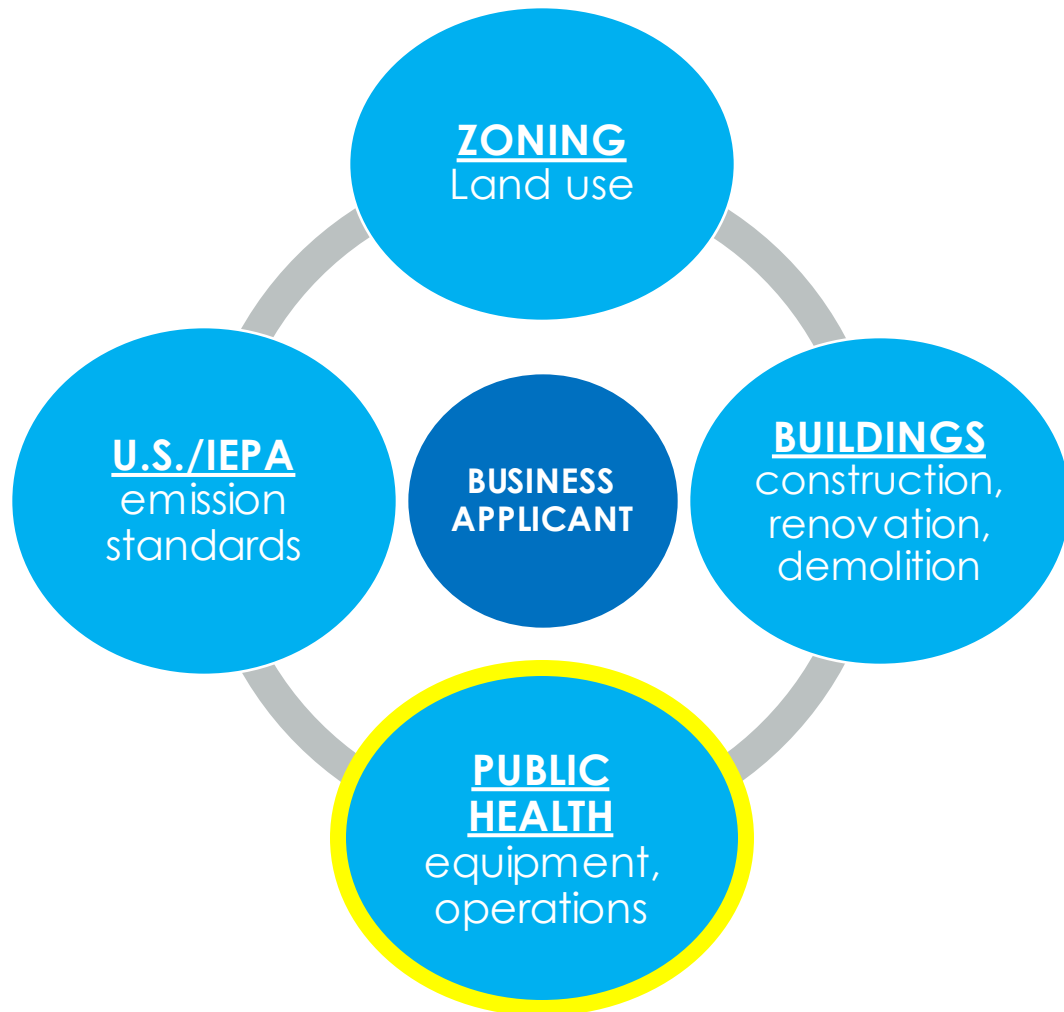
# ★ Background: RMG/Southside Recycling

- Reserve Management Group (RMG) is an **Ohio based metal recycling company**
- Purchased General Iron, then operating in Lincoln Park, in 2019
- Seeking permit for Southside Recycling at 11600 S. Burley
  - **Planned Manufacturing District (PMD) 6**
  - **Calumet Industrial Corridor**
- Has operated recycling facilities in the ward for **30+ years**
- Would accept scrap metal, including end of life vehicles, for **processing and recycling**





# ★ Background: Permitting Authorities & CDPH Role



- RMG/Southside Recycling requires two permits from CDPH:
  - **Air Pollution Control (APC) permit**
  - **Large Recycling Facility (LRF) permit**
- Only issued if zoning and environmental requirements are met.
- Cannot operate until CDPH approves both permits.
- CDPH can require special conditions.

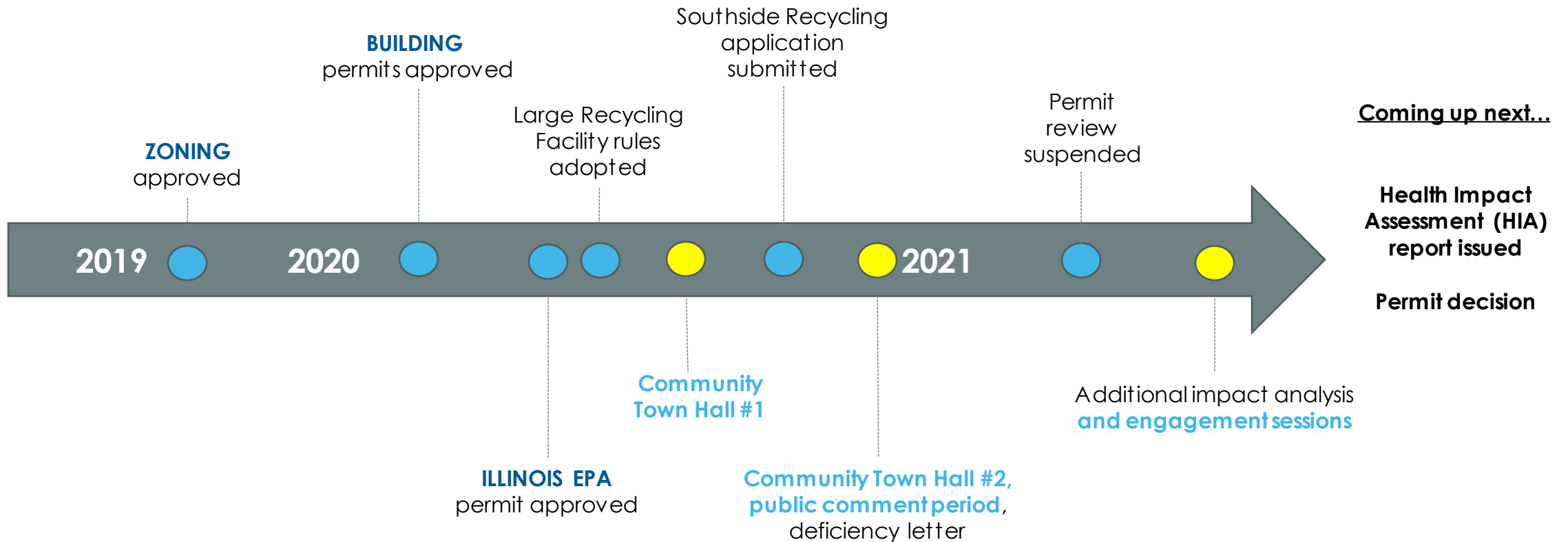
# ★ Background: Large Recycling Facility Rules



- **First-ever** rules for large recycling facilities in Chicago
- Received **31 written comments** on draft rules; made **changes** due to input
- **More extensive requirements** than state and federal rules



# Background: Permitting & Engagement Timeline





# Background: Stakeholder Input Received to Date

- **RMG application and supplemental materials, independent validation**
- **Public input from:**
  - 2 community meetings
  - Over 4,000 written comments, 15 organizations
  - Media coverage
- **Illinois EPA** permit documents and comments
- **U.S. EPA** expertise on HIA process, methods

## Public Comments

The public comment period on the application closed on January 29, 2021. CDPH is currently reviewing all comments and may reach out to commenters for additional information from the company. Note that some personal information may have been redacted to protect commenters' privacy.

### Comments Received

- ① Comments Received 11.30.20 through 12.8.20
- ① Comments Received 12.9.20 through 12.10.20
- ① Comments Received 12.11.20 through 12.14.20
- ① Comments Received 12.15.20 through 12.21.20
- ① Comments Received 12.22.20 through 1.5.21
- ① Comments Received 1.6.21
- ① Comments Received 1.7.21 through 1.13.21
- ① Comments Received 1.14.21
- ① Comments Received 1.15.21
- ① Comments Received 1.16.21 through 1.23.21
- ① Comments Received 1.25.21
- ① Comments Received 1.26.21 through 1.28.21
- ① Comments Received 1.29.21
- ① Comment from 10th-Ward Alderwoman 1.29.21

### Comments from Organizations

- ① Comment from Respiratory Health Association 12.10.20
- ① Comment from Chicago Audubon Society 1.11.21
- ① Comment from The Nature Conservancy 1.13.21
- ① Comment from Alliance of the Southeast 1.14.21
- ① Comment from East Side Chamber of Commerce 1.14.21
- ① Comment from ELPC 1.14.21
- ① Comment from Friends of the Parks 1.14.21
- ① Comment from Metropolitan Planning Council 1.14.21
- ① Comment from NRDC 1.14.21
- ① Comment from South Deering Manor Cmty Assoc 1.14.21
- ① Comment from Southeast Environmental Task Force 1.14.21
- ① Comment from ELPC 1.29.21
- ① Comment from SSCBP 1-1.29.21
- ① Comment from SSCBP 2-1.29.21
- ① Comment from Washington High LSC 1.26.21
- ① Comment from NRDC 1.29.21
- ① Comment from SETF and PCR 1.29.21

# ★ What We'll Do Today

- **HIA Step 1: Screening**

- Determine whether an HIA is **needed/valuable**.

- **HIA Step 2: Scoping**

- Identify **potential community burdens and benefits**.

- **HIA Step 3: Assessment, Part I**

- Review **current environmental, health, and quality of life conditions** on the Southeast side.
- **Compare these conditions** to Lincoln Park and the city overall.

## 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

1. Screening

2. Scoping

3. Assessment

4. Recommendations

5. Reporting

6. Monitoring & Evaluation



# HIA Step 1: Screening

## Is an HIA needed/valuable?

SCREENING QUESTION	RESPONSE
What is the decision target?	RMG/Southside Recycling permit application
Why is an HIA warranted?	To address environmental justice and equity concerns
Who are decision-makers?	Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Who is involved?	CDPH, U.S. EPA, local stakeholders, other public agencies as needed
When will the decision be made?	By January 2022
How will the HIA be used?	To assess environment, health, and quality of life impacts on the surrounding community and to make recommendations on the permitting decision

### 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS



# HIA Step 2: Scoping

## What impacts, for whom?

SCOPING QUESTION	RESPONSE
What communities are most impacted?	East Side, Hegewisch, South Deering
Who are the key stakeholders?	People who live/work in these communities
What questions will the HIA answer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current conditions</li><li>• Potential impacts (environment, health, quality of life, equity)</li><li>• Who benefits, who's burdened</li><li>• How to minimize burdens and maximize benefits</li><li>• Ways to improve City policies, processes, and practices</li></ul>

### 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

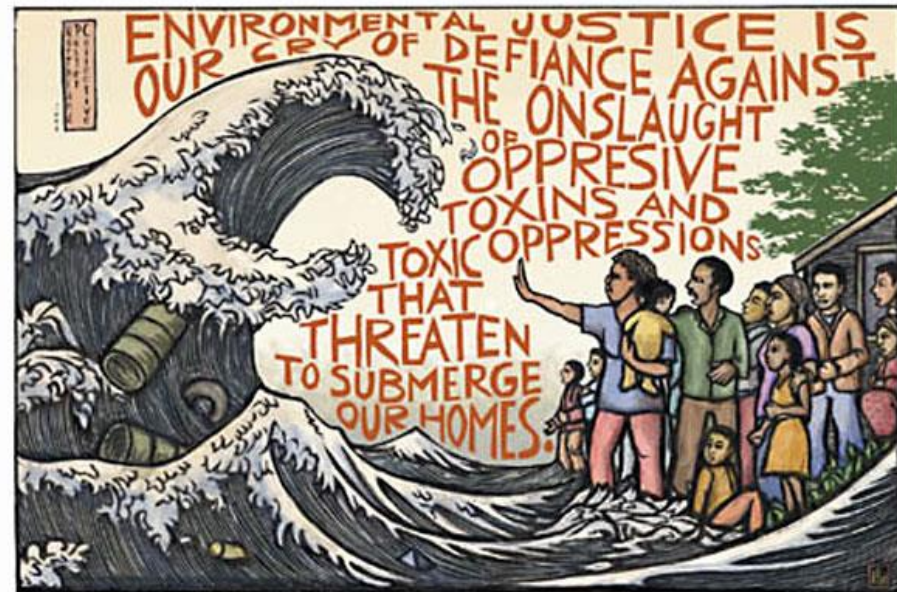




# HIA Step 2: Scoping

## Centering Environmental Justice (EJ) & Racial Equity

- **Compare conditions** on the Southeast Side to City overall and other non-EJ community areas
- **Facilitated, culturally and linguistically responsive** stakeholder engagement
- Methods are **transparent**, with all data and related materials posted online
- Assessment will also address **racial equity considerations**



Source: Illustration by Ricardo Levins Morales



# ★ What Goes into the HIA?



# ★ Hearing Your Voices



"RMG is putting our communities at risk by allowing dangerous pollution (PM 10 & PM 2.5) to be released so close to residences, schools, and parks."



Ayesha T Qazi-Lampert 🌱🌱 @QaziLampert · Mar 4

We all gathered today to collectively say NO to environmental racism

It is our duty as Chicagoans to speak up for our neighbors & community at large. No child, parent, elder, community member should worry about their health

#StopGeneralIron #DenyThePermit

Good Afternoon,

We the members of the South Deering Manor Community Association write to express our concerns regarding the RMG Expansion to 11600 S. Burley on the Southeast Side of Chicago.



Your Neighborhood School  
Where College is the Mission

College Prep | Performance | Community

3535 E. 114th Street Chicago, IL 60617 PH: 773.535.5725

George Washington H.S. Local School Council  
Resolution in Opposition to Southside Recycling's Metal Shredder

Sponsored by Teacher Reps Donald Davis and Chuck Stark

EAST SIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

3501 EAST 106<sup>TH</sup> STREET • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60617  
VOICE: (773) 721-7948 • FAX: (773) 721-7446  
EMAIL: EASTSIDECHAMBER@SBCGLOBAL.NET



"As a business owner myself in the 10th Ward, I would question why a city that is losing revenue and population daily would not be supporting a local business that has been in this community for over 29 years, they provide a living wage that feeds and supports local families and children."

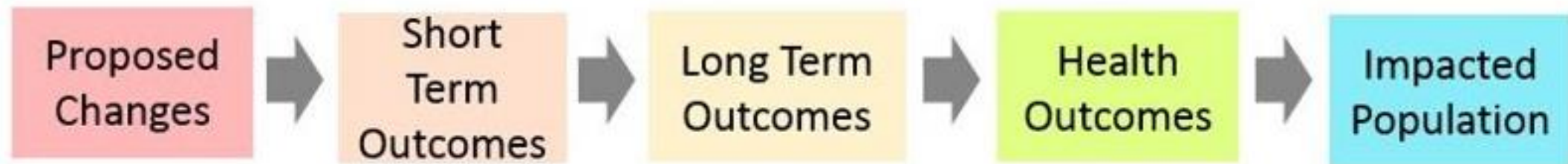
"Recycling obsolete metal contributes to environmental sustainability by reusing resources instead of discarding metal waste in landfills, and it conserves energy and natural resources."



# ★ HIA Step 2: Scoping Identifying Potential Impacts

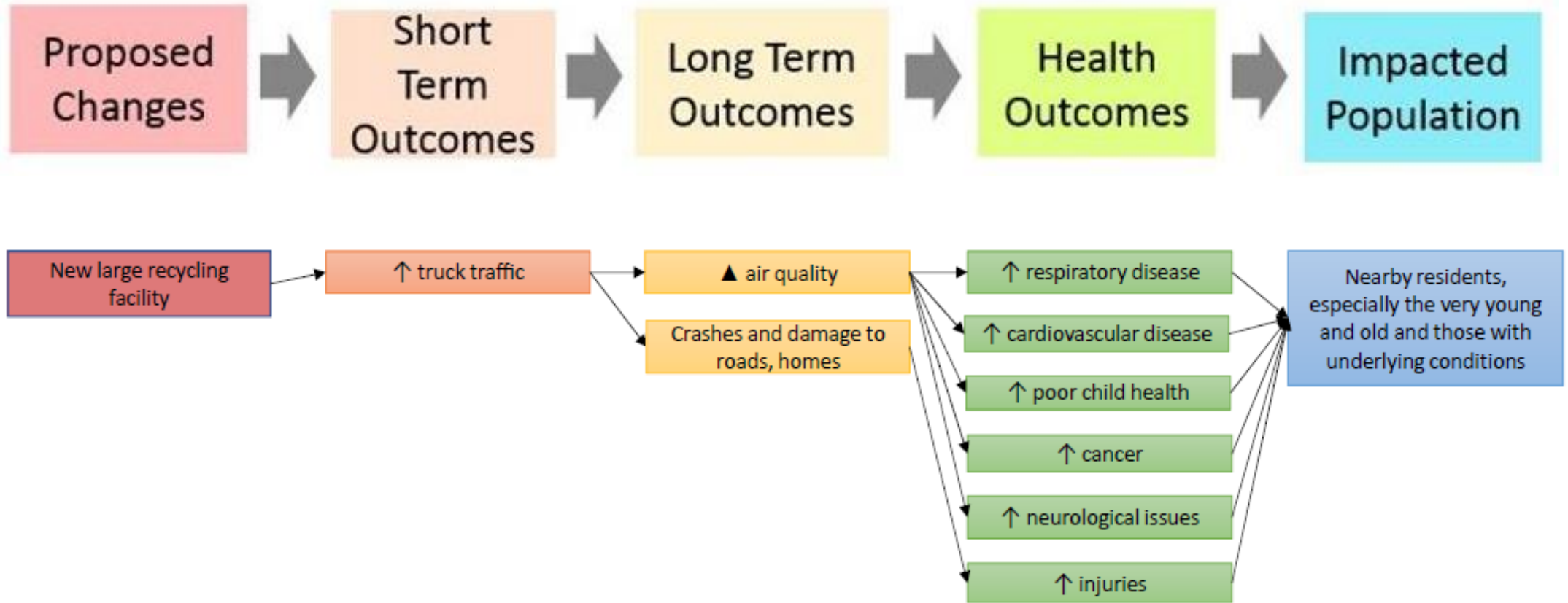
Based on input so far, CDPH has started to:

- **identify potential impacts** of interest/concern to stakeholders
- **connect them to health outcomes** that we will continue to analyze





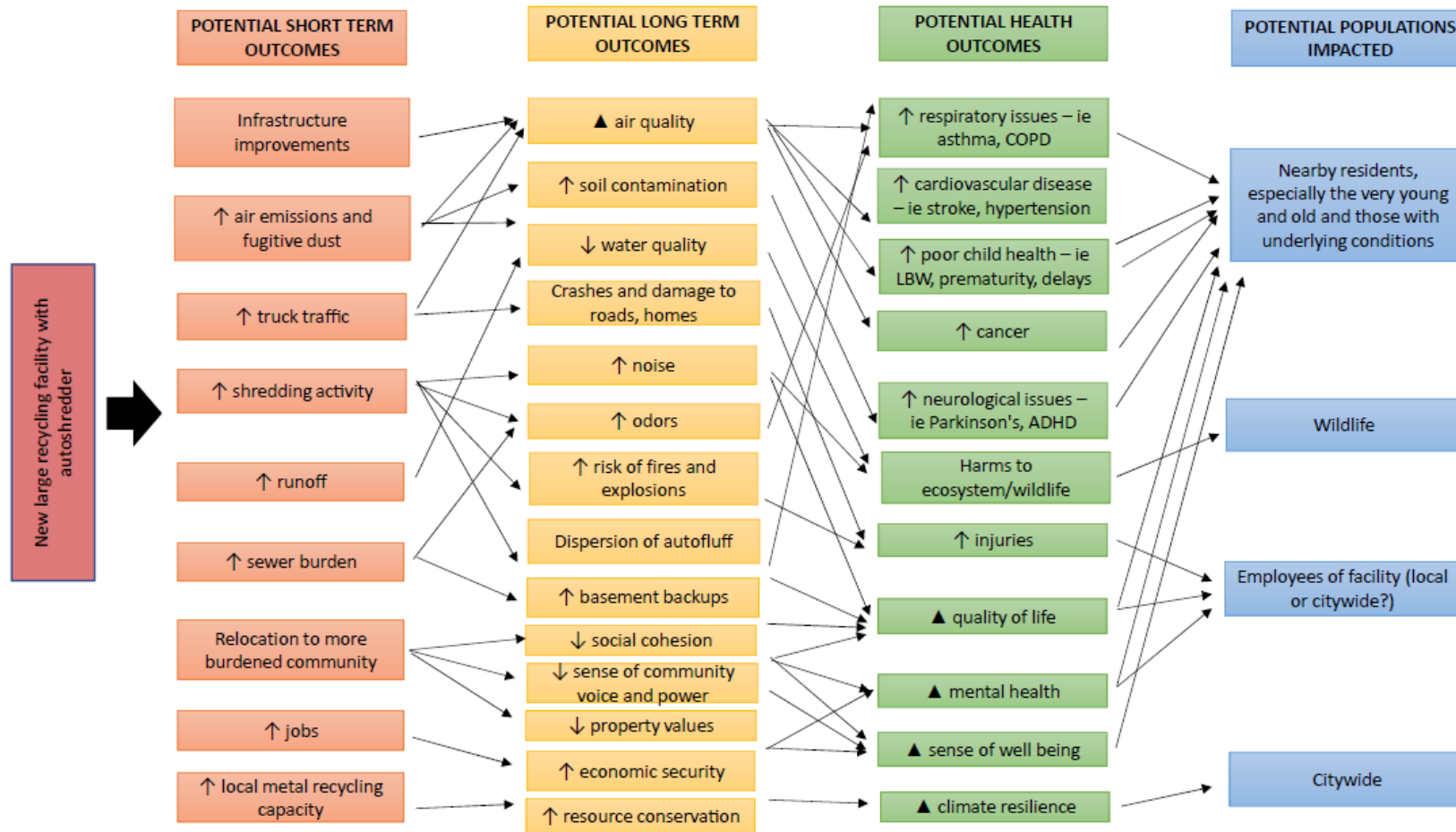
# HIA Step 2: Scoping





# HIA Step 2: Scoping

## DRAFT Impact Pathways



# ★ Discussion Questions

Impacts – What We Heard	
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Air pollution</li><li>• Water pollution</li><li>• Soil contamination</li><li>• Recycling capacity</li><li>• Infrastructure improvements</li></ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respiratory disease</li><li>• Cardiovascular disease</li><li>• Cancer</li><li>• Injuries/crashes</li></ul>
<b>Quality of Life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noise</li><li>• Odors</li><li>• Truck traffic</li><li>• Jobs/economic opportunity</li></ul>
<b>Racial Equity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community voice and power</li></ul>

- Which of these impacts (+/-) are **most important** to you?
- What impacts (+/-) are **missing** that should be considered?



# Current conditions on the Southeast Side



# ★ HIA Step 3: Assessment

- The assessment step will include:
  - Part I (today): A profile of **baseline conditions**
  - Part II (next session): An **evaluation of potential impacts**

## 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

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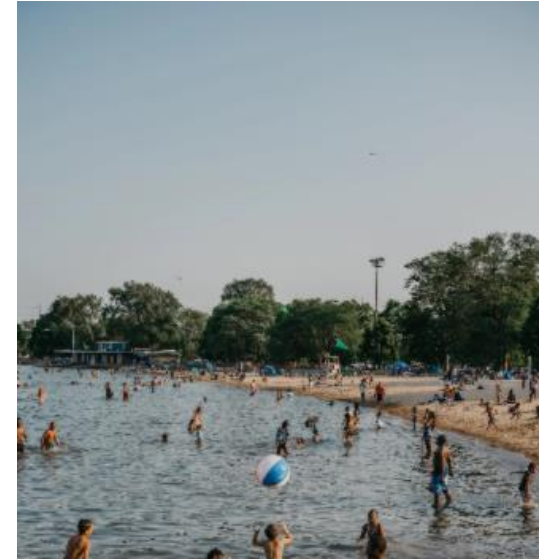
# ★ HIA Step 3: Assessment

*The Washington Post*  
*Democracy Dies in Darkness*

Climate & Environment

## To stop a scrapyard, some protesters in a Latino community risked everything

The facility relocated from Chicago's affluent North Side to its working-class Southeast Side, igniting a controversy marked by race, class and politics.



"It's about the fact that you can take something from a community where it's not wanted, for all the reasons it's not wanted there, and build [it] here. We **don't have a voice about that, but they do**. That's why it's insulting ... and that's why we're opposed to it."

– Peggy Salazar



# U.S. EPA Southeast Chicago Air Monitoring Analysis

November 4, 2021



# U.S. EPA Air Monitoring Report

## Southeast Chicago Ambient Air Quality Analysis



U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Air and Radiation Division  
October 2021

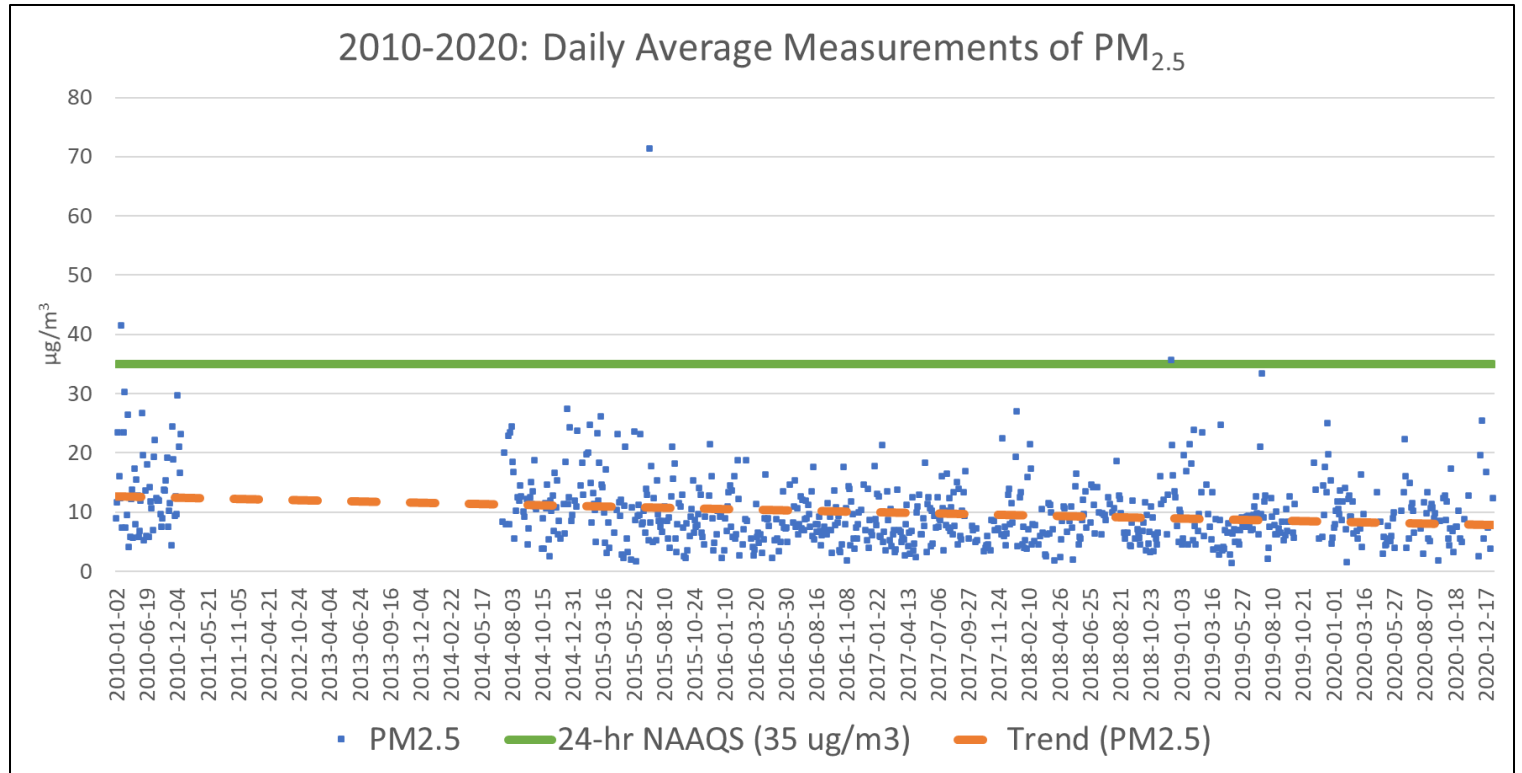
Photo: Washington High School Air Monitors

- EPA released report on October 21, 2021
- You can visit the [website](#) to read the full report
- EPA began this analysis in April 2021
- This report is just one input into the HIA



# Report Findings

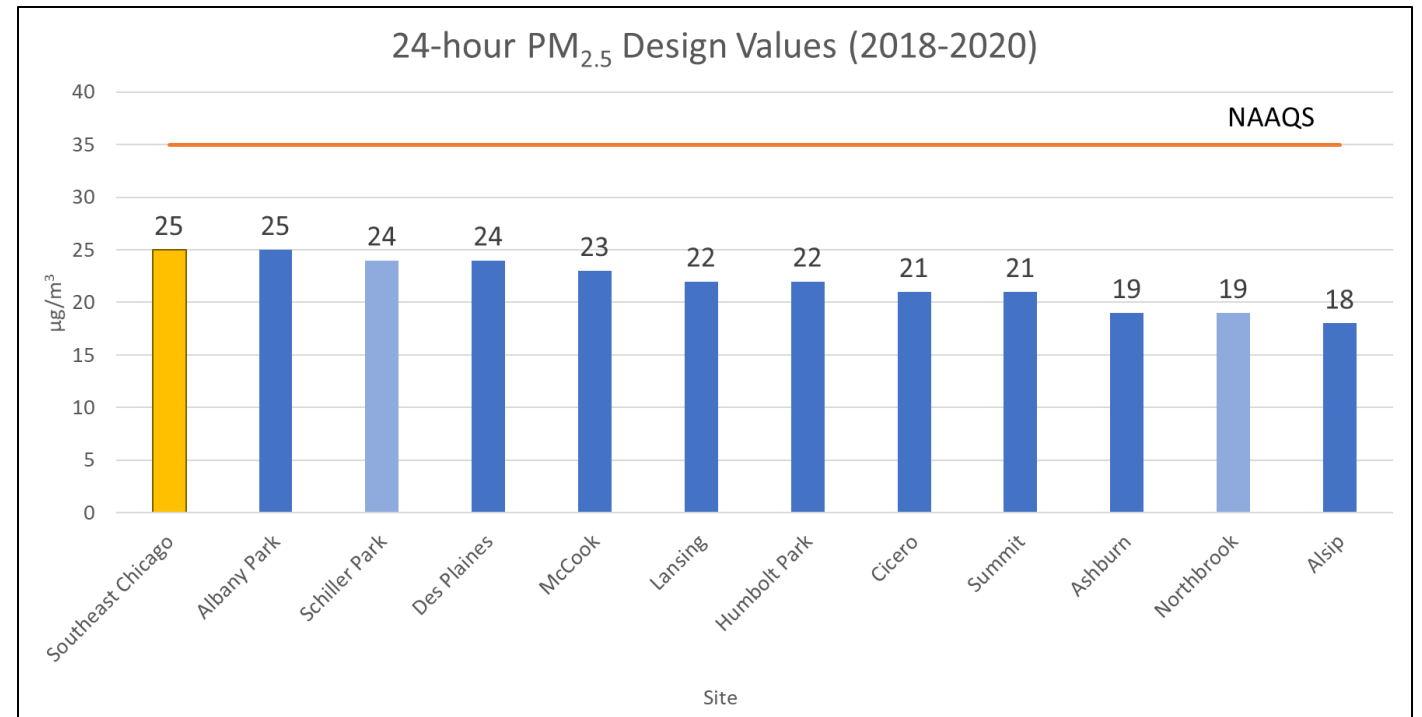
- Concentrations of pollutants measured at George Washington High School:
  - have either decreased or remained the same over the past 10 years
  - have either decreased or remained the same—with the exception of coarse particulate matter—over the past 3 years
- Over the last 10 years, annual averages of all metals—like lead and manganese—have been below the long-term health benchmarks





# Report Findings

- When compared to similar data collected in the Chicago area, Southeast Chicago is:
  - tied for highest daily fine particulate matter but below the standard
  - in the middle for annual fine particulate matter (6<sup>th</sup> highest out of 12)
  - in the middle for annual coarse particulate matter (2<sup>nd</sup> highest out of 3)
- The most recent 12-month rolling averages of manganese near facilities, where EPA required special monitoring, are all below the long-term health benchmark





# Key Takeaways

## Southeast Chicago Ambient Air Quality Analysis



U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Air and Radiation Division  
October 2021

Photo: Washington High School Air Monitors

- ✓ Report uses a data-driven approach to understand trends in the community
- ✓ EPA's report is just one input into the HIA
- ✓ EPA will continue to engage with the community and partners on improving air quality

# ★ Additional Community Conditions

## Other Environment

- Industrial land use
- Environmental permits
- Traffic
- Proximity to potentially polluting sites
- Risk of cancer and non-cancer health effects due to air toxics

## Health

- Cancer incidence and mortality
- Cardiovascular disease prevalence, incidence and mortality
- Respiratory disease prevalence, incidence and mortality

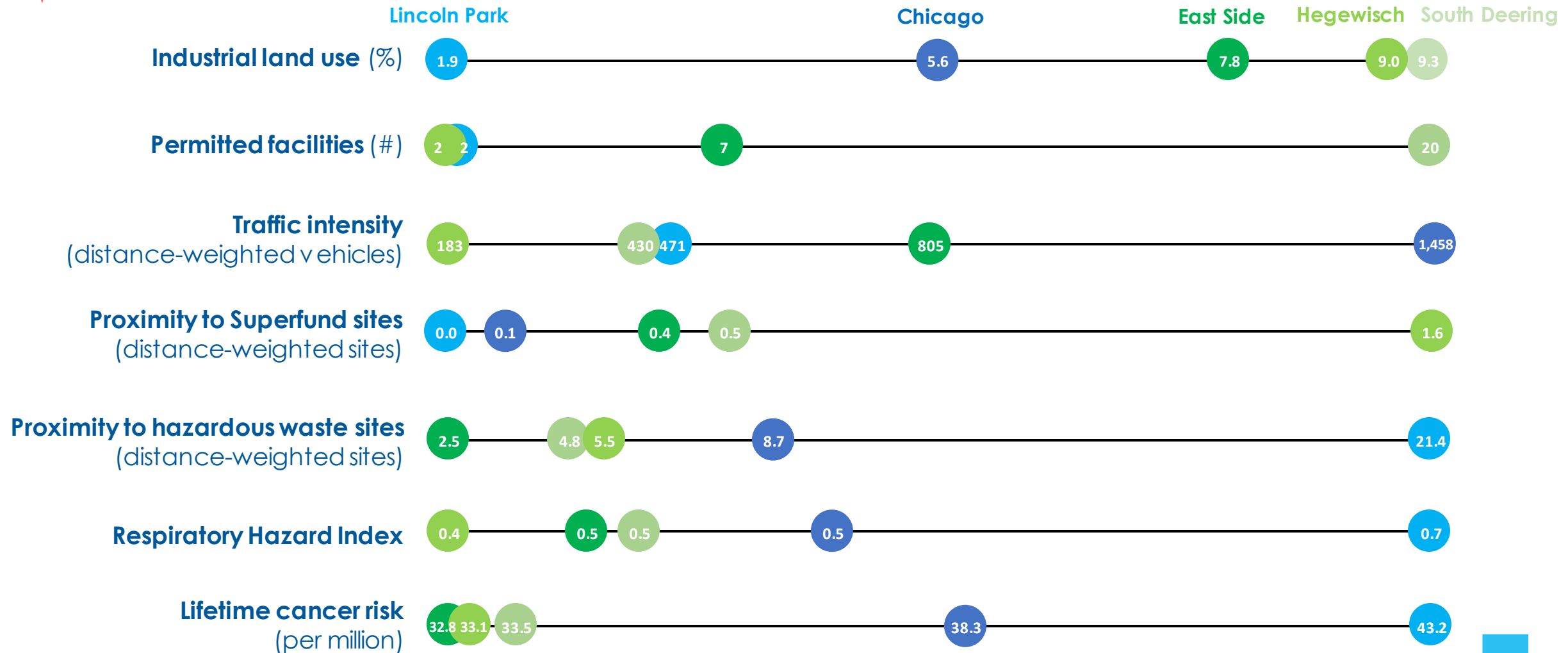
## Quality of Life

- Life expectancy
- Overall health
- Physical health
- Mental health

## Social Factors

- Social Vulnerability Index
- Race-ethnicity
- Language
- Socioeconomic
  - Income
  - Education
  - Employment
- Access to care

# Other Environment





# ★ Key Findings

Compared to Lincoln Park, the Southeast Side community areas experience...

## Other Environment

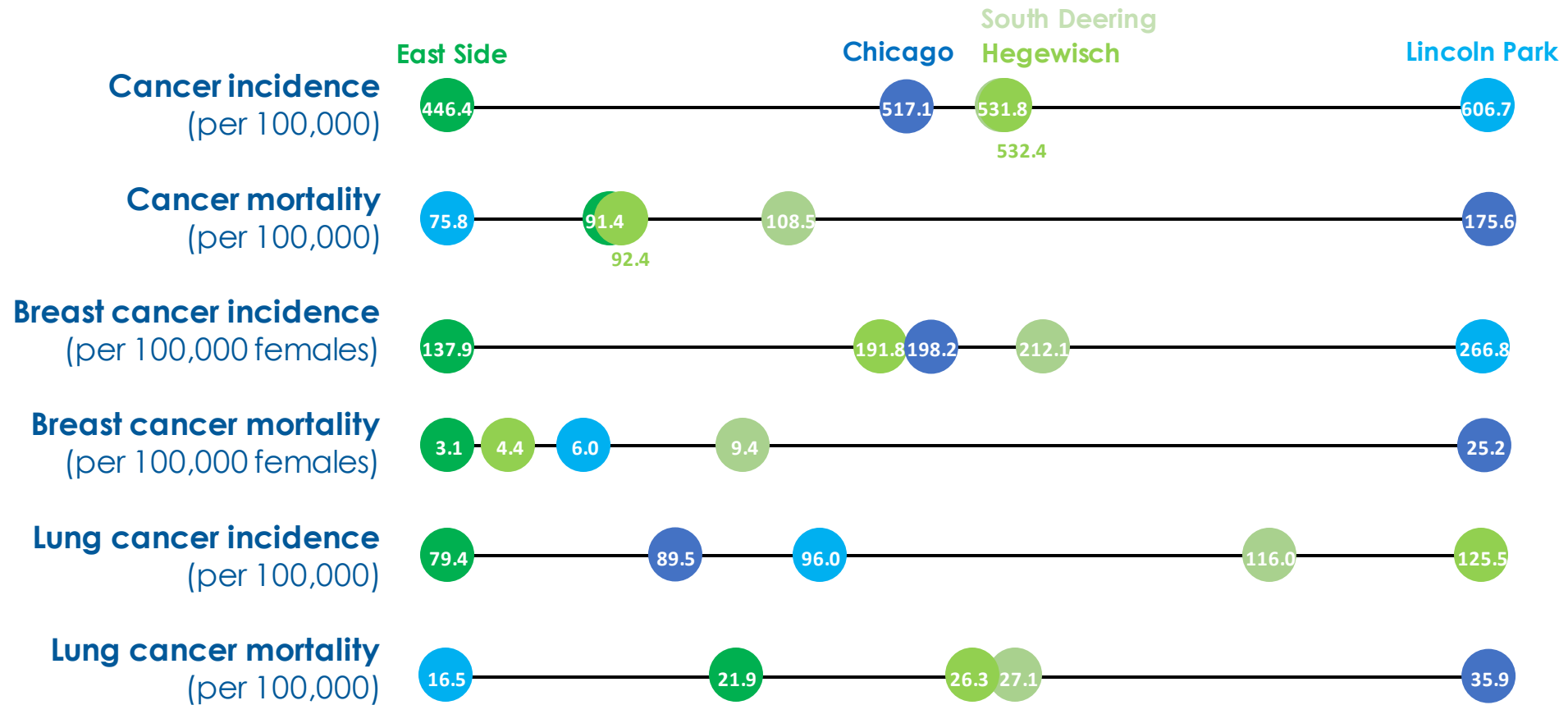
- **more** industry
- **closer** to Superfund sites
- **less** lifetime risk of health effects due to air toxics

## Health

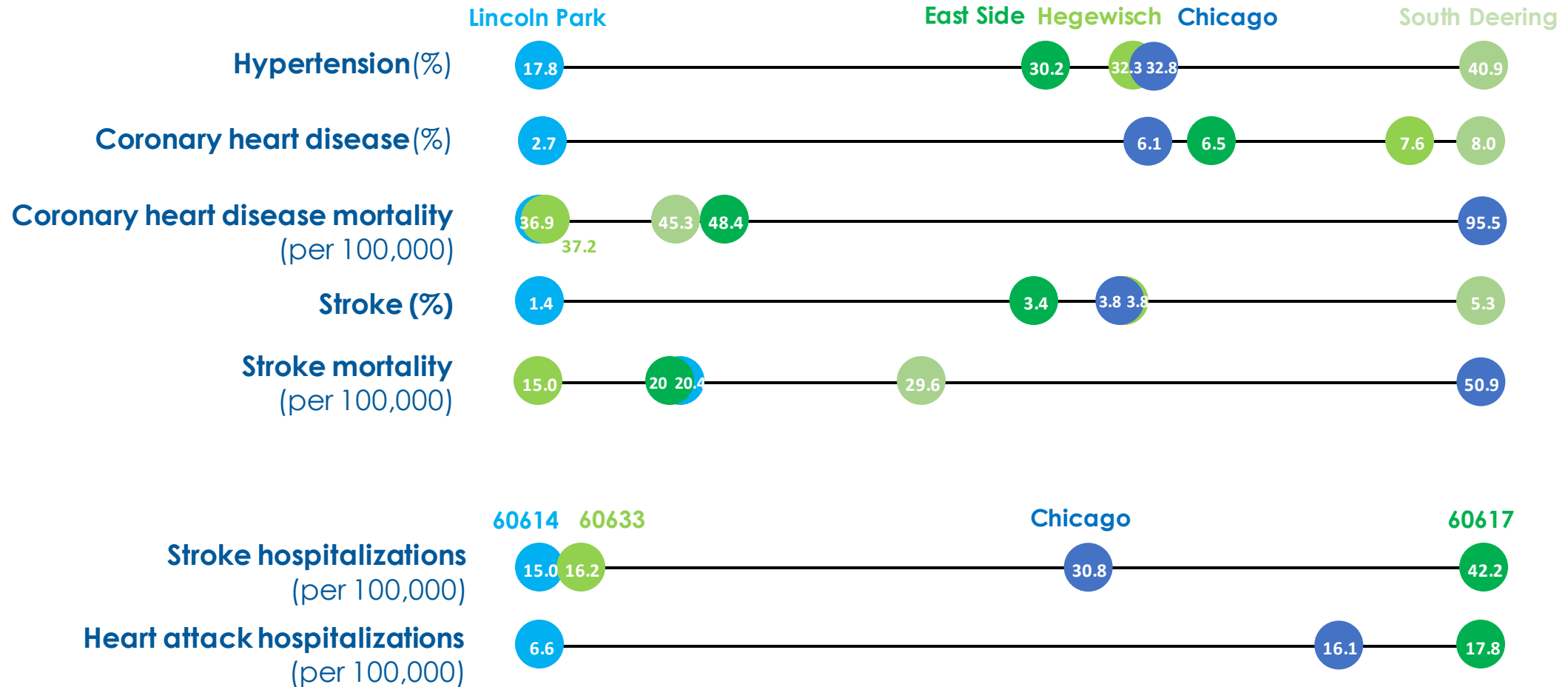
## Quality of Life

## Social Factors

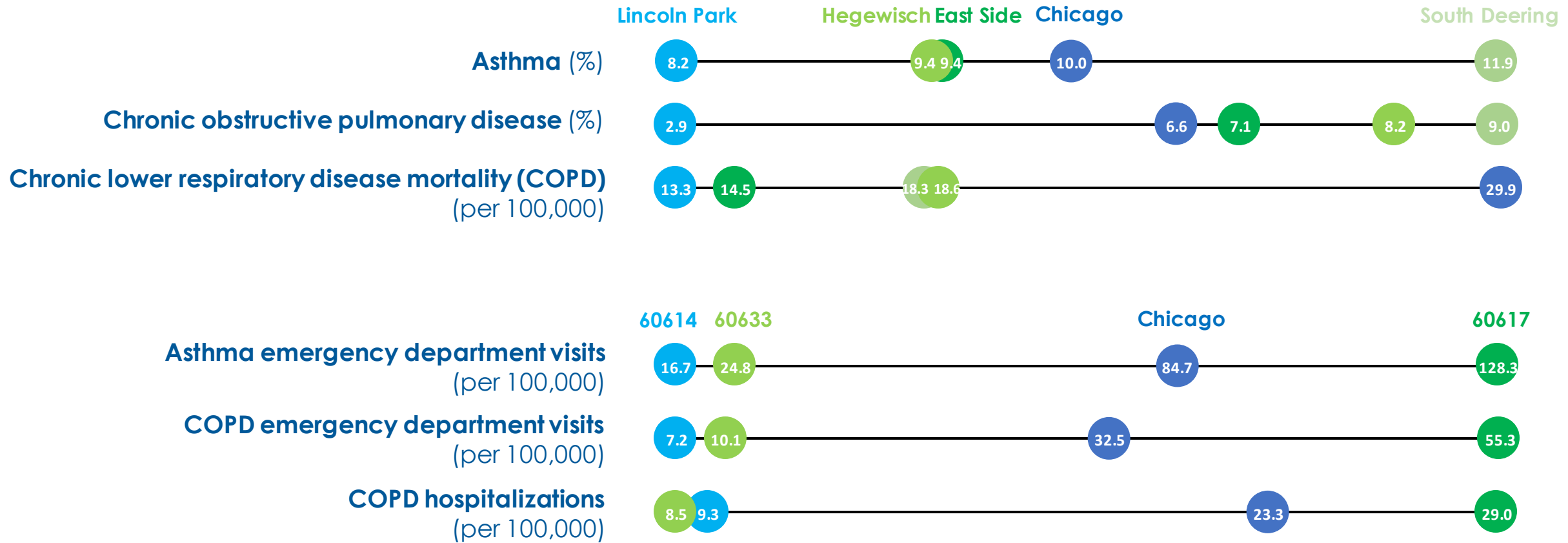
# Health: Cancer



# Health: Cardiovascular Disease



# Health: Respiratory Disease



Data Sources: PLACES, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, CDC (2018); Death Certificate Data Files, Illinois Department of Public Health (2014-2018); Hospital Discharge Data, Illinois Department of Public Health (2017)

# ★ Key Findings

Compared to Lincoln Park, the Southeast Side community areas experience...

## Other Environment

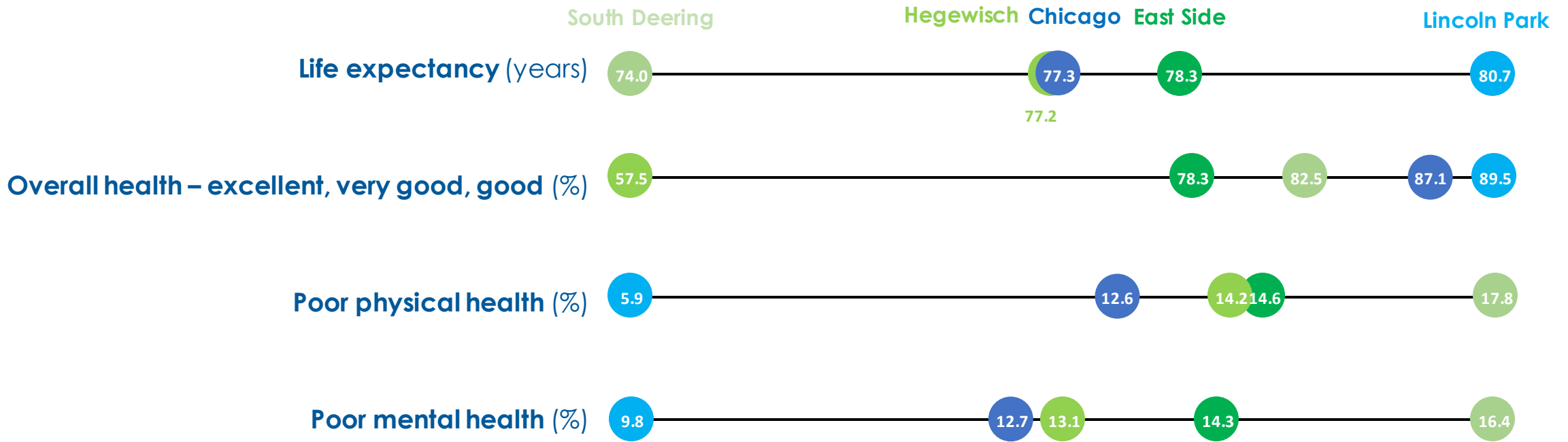
## Health

- **more** cardiovascular and respiratory disease
- **lower** overall cancer incidence, but **higher** cancer mortality

## Quality of Life

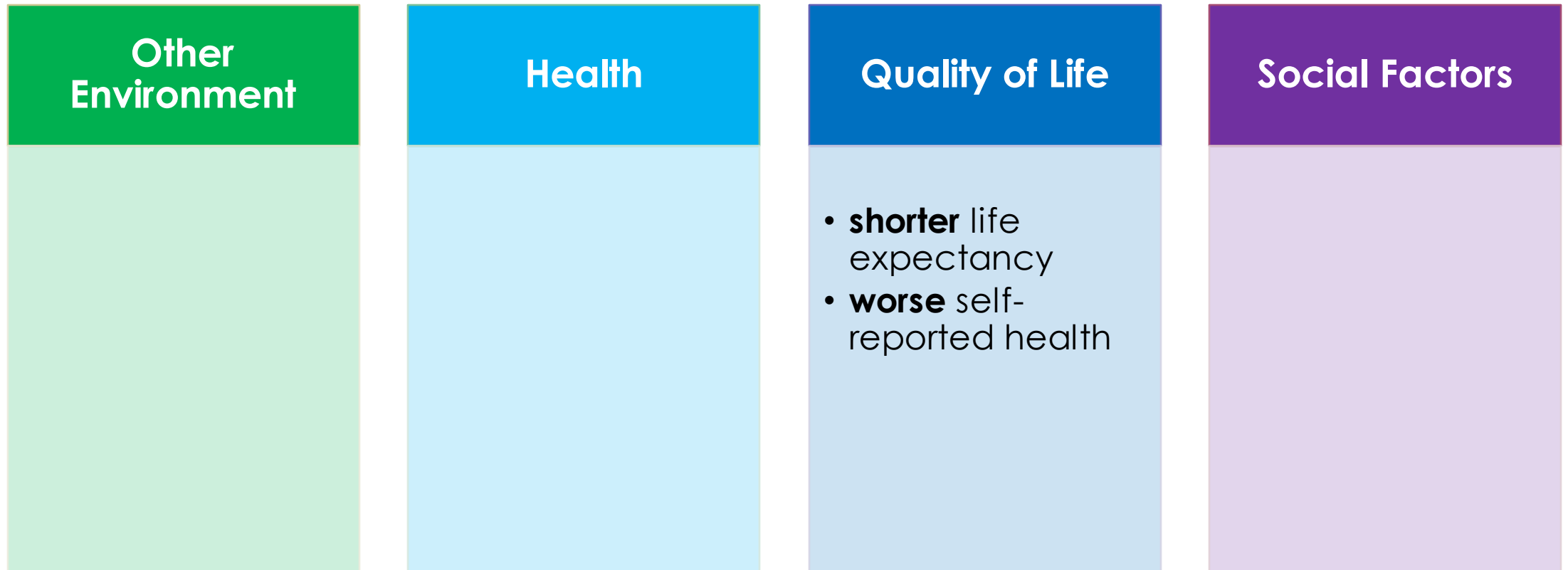
## Social Factors

# Quality of Life

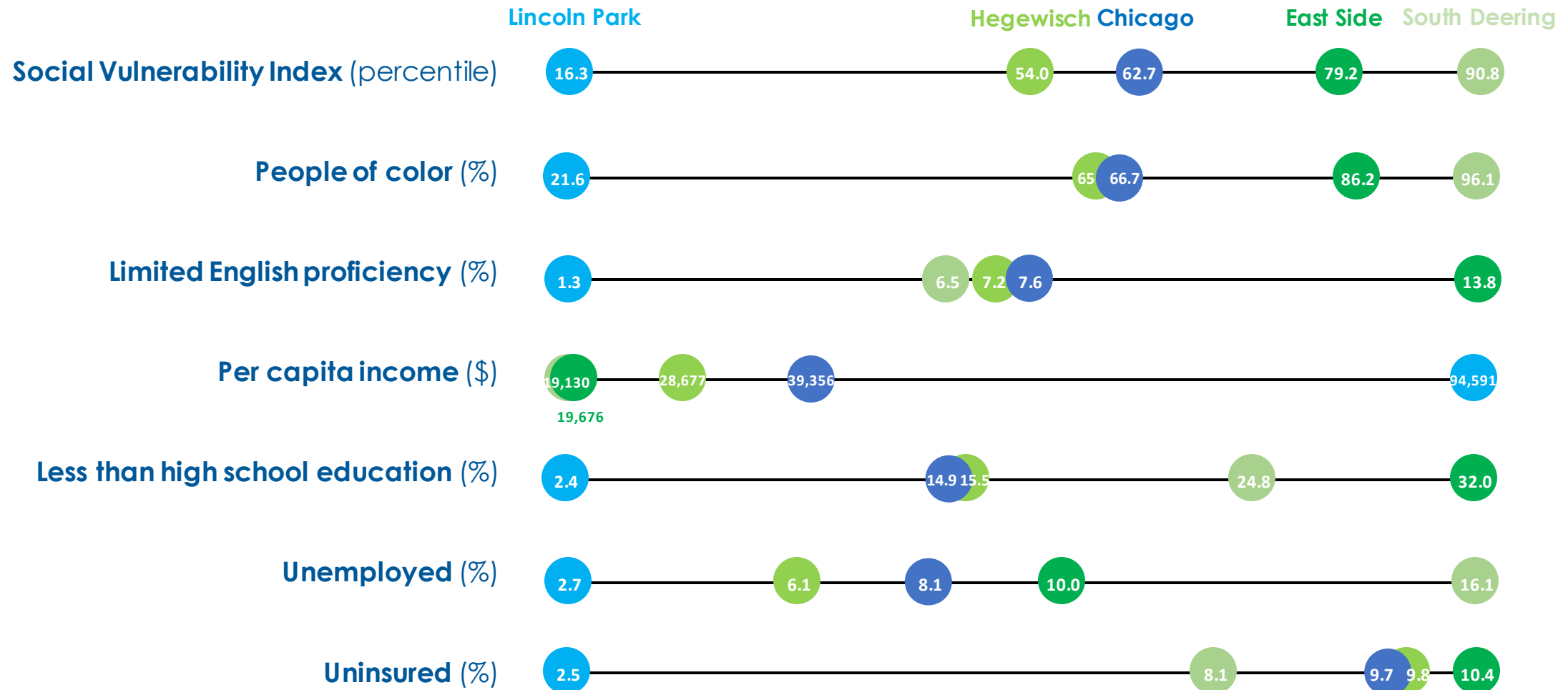


# Key Findings

Compared to Lincoln Park, the Southeast Side community areas experience...



# Social Factors





# Key Findings

Compared to Lincoln Park, the Southeast Side community areas experience...

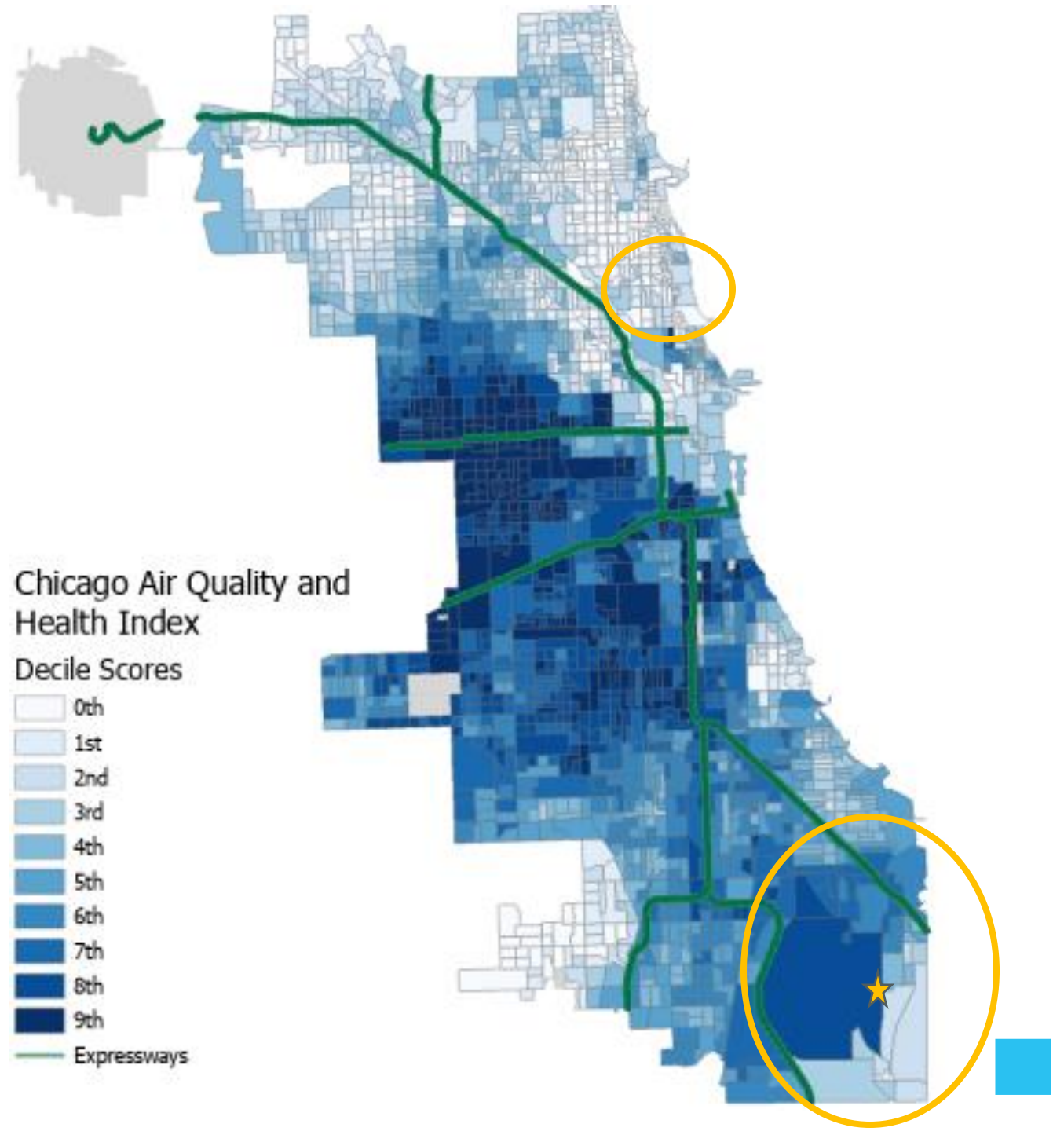




# Air Quality & Health Index

Combines community-level data on **air pollution, health, and social factors** to identify the areas in our city that are **more vulnerable** to the effects of air pollution.

More vulnerable areas are shown in **darker blue**.



# Data Considerations

- Data lag
- Small numbers/events
- Methods to ensure precision and accuracy



# ★ Key Findings

Compared to Lincoln Park, the Southeast Side community areas experience...

## Other Environment

- **more** industry
- **closer** to Superfund sites
- **less** lifetime risk of health effects due to air toxics

## Health

- **more** cardiovascular and respiratory disease
- **lower** overall cancer incidence, but **higher** cancer mortality

## Quality of Life

- **shorter** life expectancy
- **worse** self-reported health

## Social Factors

- **less** resiliency against the effects of environmental stressors



# Discussion Question

Does anything **surprise you**  
about these findings?  
Why or why not?





# General Q&A





# Closeout & Next Steps



# ★ What We Did Today

- Reviewed the **purpose and process** of health impact assessment.
- Described how we are **applying an HIA** to evaluate the Southside Recycling permit application.
- Identified potential **community burdens and benefits**.
- Discussed current **environmental, health, and quality of life conditions** on the Southeast side.
- **Compared these conditions** to Lincoln Park and the city overall.

## 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

1. Screening

2. Scoping

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5. Reporting

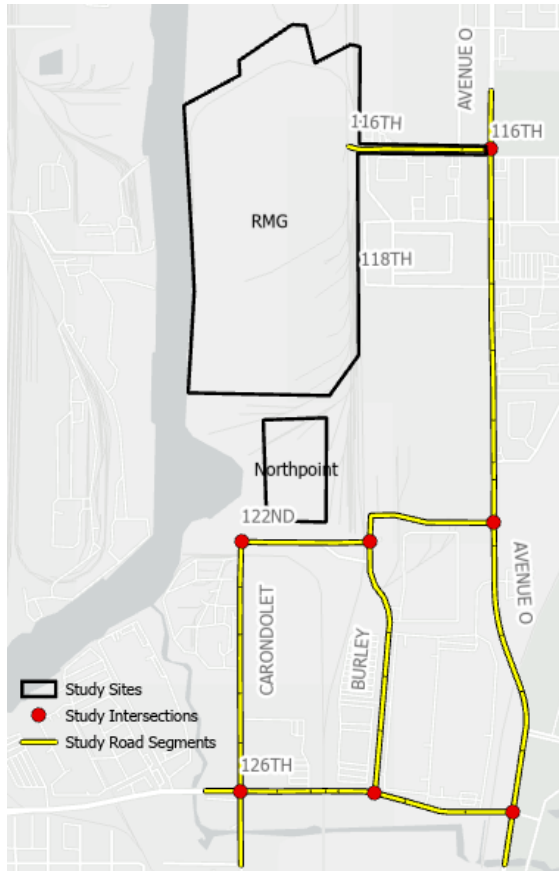
6. Monitoring & Evaluation





# Next Steps: Assessment, Part II

## Potential Impacts of Southside Recycling



- **Modeling and analysis to determine:**
  - Additional air pollution
  - Additional pollution in surrounding neighborhood
  - Whether pollution exceeds standards/guidelines
- **Human Health Risk Assessment Protocol (HHRAP)**

### 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

1. Screening

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# Next Steps: Recommendations

For the next session, think about...

- How could we **maximize benefits** and **mitigate burdens** that we discussed today?
- What **changes to policies or processes** should the City consider based on this experience?

## 6 STEPS OF THE HIA PROCESS

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# Next Steps: Feedback

Help us improve our next session...

1. What's **one big takeaway** you have from today's session?
2. What **worked well** in today's session?
3. What could we do **differently** next time?





# Next Steps: Stay Involved

- **HIA Session #2: Assessment & Recommendations**
  - **Thursday, December 2nd from 5-7 p.m.** Details will be shared by email
- Today's session and related materials are posted on our [website](#)
- If you have feedback on today's session, email [envcomments@cityofchicago.org](mailto:envcomments@cityofchicago.org)