

RECOMMENDATIONS: CLEAN AIR

Improve indoor and outdoor air quality to reduce harmful effects to health.



Sandra Turner-Handy (MEC) at U.S. Social Forum Detroit Incinerator Protest

Courtesy: Langelie/Global Justice Ecology Project

PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH IN ZONING POLICIES AND DECISIONS

- Ensure distance and pollution buffers along highway and industrial zones, particularly near residential area
- Ensure that the zoning ordinance accounts for cumulative air impacts from concentration of pollution sources

REDUCE POLLUTION FROM FACILITIES

- Work with companies to implement “Best Available Control Technologies” to prevent pollution at its source
- Work with state and federal regulators to address cumulative air impacts when reviewing permit applications
- Be an advocate for local air quality and work with regulators to enforce air permits and address violators

REDUCE POLLUTION FROM TRUCKS AND DIESEL EQUIPMENT

- Enforce the 2010 anti-idling ordinance, a city law that prohibits trucks from idling for more than five minutes
- Designate and enforce truck routes in the city, and clearly publicize the information so that residents know where trucks can and can't go
- Pursue federal Clean Diesel Initiative funding to upgrade diesel equipment for cleaner emissions

CREATE MECHANISMS FOR COMMUNITIES TO HELP MONITOR FACILITIES AND TRUCKS

- Develop a phone hotline, online tracking system, and/or mobile app for residents to report and track the status of violations (e.g., Code for America has developed an online blight violations tracker for New Orleans: <http://blightstatus.nola.gov/>; Code for America Chicago has established an online 311 service tracker system: <http://servicetracker.cityofchicago.org/requests/13-00332586>)
- Update City website to properly inform residents how to report violations to the appropriate authority, and include phone numbers