

NDDOT's COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

What is Environmental Justice (EJ)?

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to government agency programs, policies, or activities. In this case, we are concerned with a NDDOT project.

Identify Environmental Justice Area

The EJ Study area is the geographic area where the proposed project has potential for human health or environmental effects. The study area for the EJ analysis was determined by applying a 0.25-mile buffer to the project limits, including any required detours.

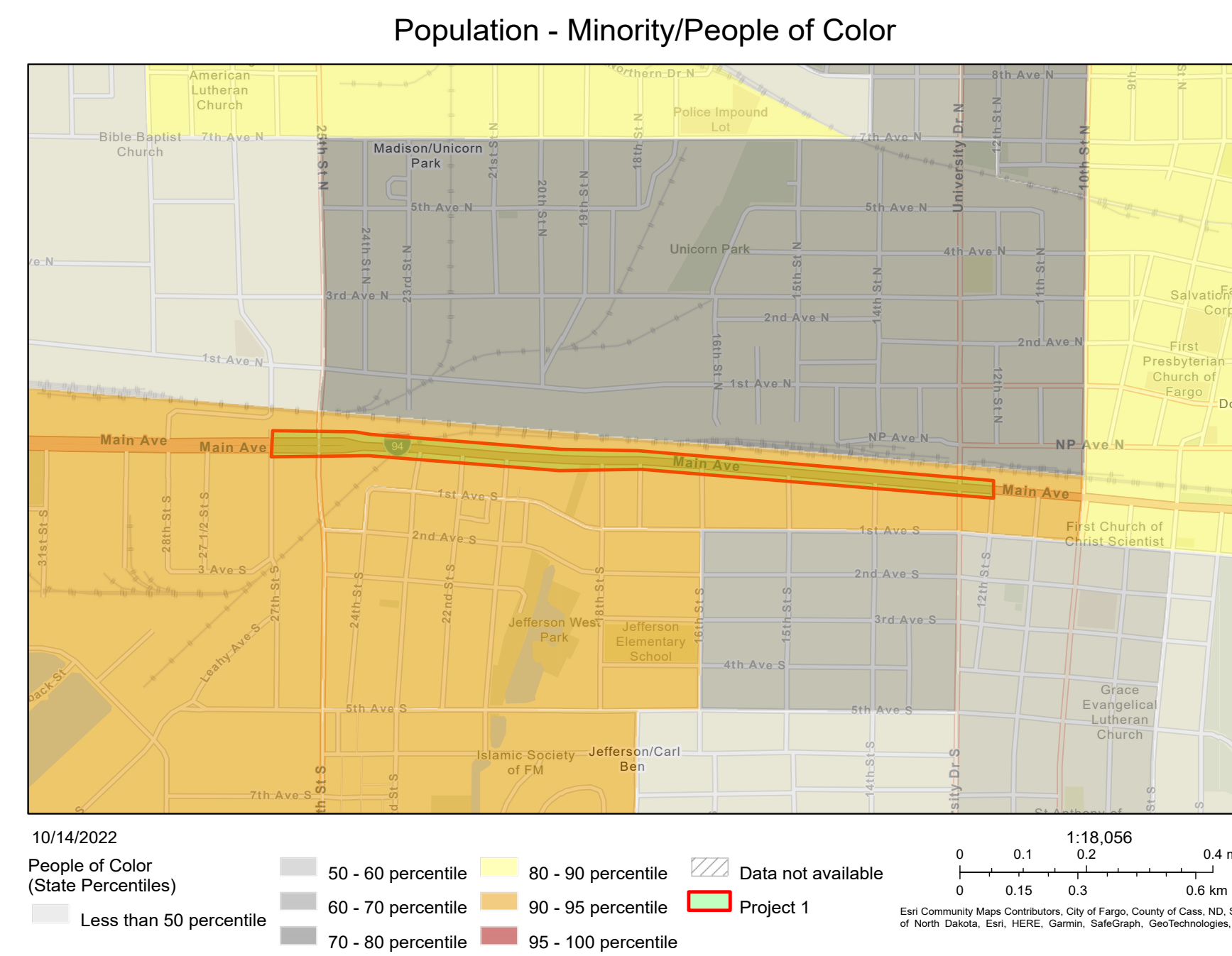
Are Readily Identifiable Minority or Low-Income Populations within the Study Area?

Yes. The EJ study area was investigated for the presence of readily identified low income and/or minority populations, community facilities that serve low income and/or minority populations, and businesses that are owned by, employ, and/or serve low income and/or minority populations. The following were identified in or adjacent to the study area:

- 6 - Multifamily Assisted Facilities
- 6 - Low Income Housing Tax Credit Facilities
- 1 - Public Housing Authority
- 8 - Public Housing Facilities
- 1 - Public Housing Development
- 1 - Housing and Urban Development Office
- Several readily identifiable businesses owned by, and/or serving minority and/or low-income populations
- Several community facilities that provide service to minority and/or low-income populations. An example is the New Life Center, which provides services for the homeless population, and is located approximately 1/4 mile north of Main Ave. along 3rd Ave N.

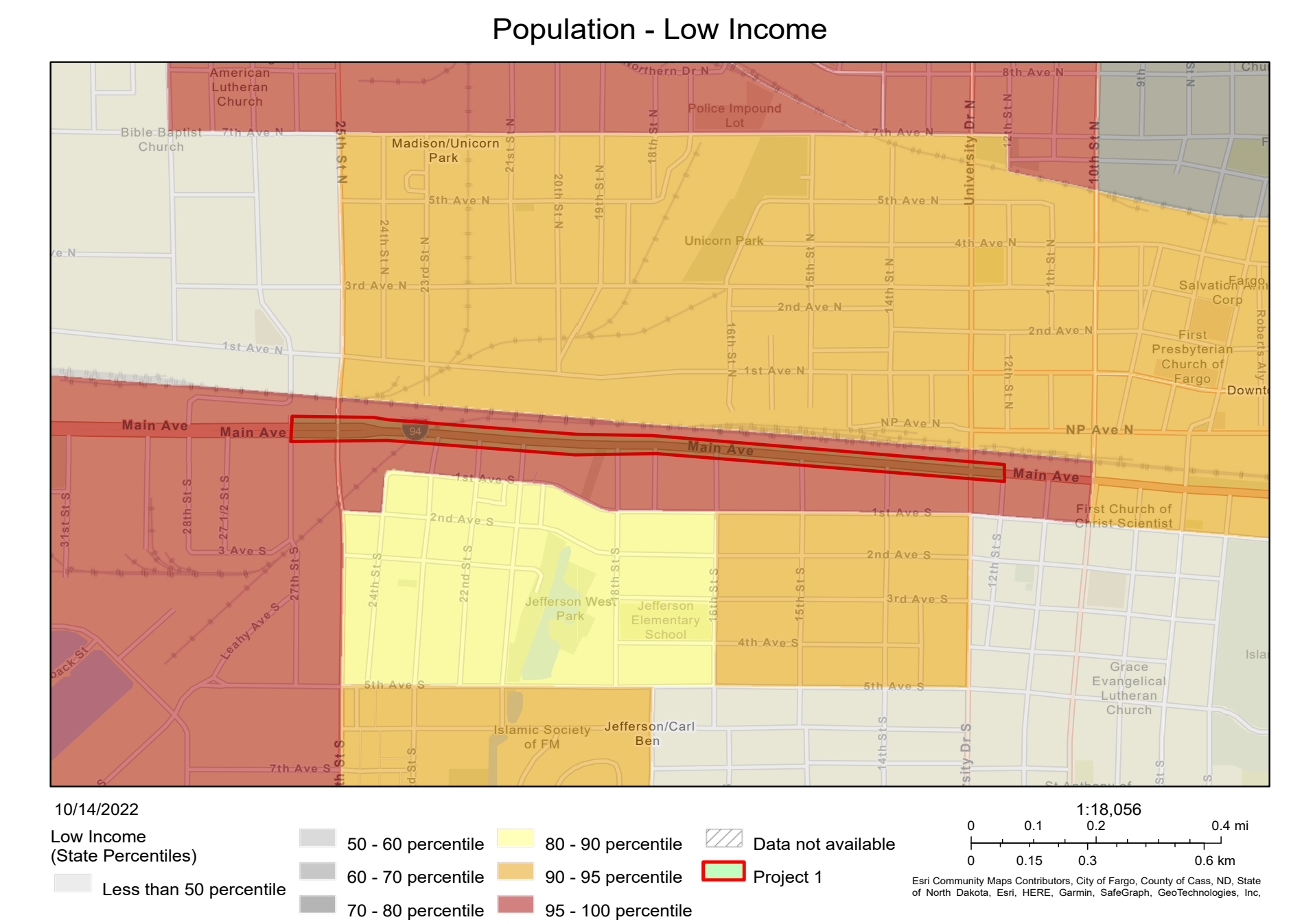
How will an Environmental Justice Study influence Decision-making?

The presence of low income and/or minority populations within the project area requires an evaluation of potential project impacts and the need to ensure that any impacts are sufficiently addressed through avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and/or benefits such that there are no substantial adverse impacts to any populations.



Compared to state of North Dakota, the population living adjacent to Main Ave. is more diverse.

Demographic	Project Study Area (Including 0.25 mile buffer)	City of Fargo	North Dakota
Minority Population	20%	17%	16%
Low-Income Population	44%	30%	25%



Compared to the state of North Dakota, the population living adjacent to Main Ave. is disproportionately low income.

Project impacts relative to EJ populations in the area will be evaluated to understand what impacts may exist and how any impacts can be mitigated. Within the study area the minority population is 3 percentage points higher than the city average and the low-income population is 14 points higher than the city average. Note that additional EJ-related indicators may be present in the area, such as populations of young children, elderly, or limited english speakers.



Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations, dated February 11, 1994, directed "each federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States. The proposed project has federal funding and federal permit requirements and is considered a federal project for purposes of compliance with the Executive Order." FHWA Order 6640-23A FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations establishes policies and procedures for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to use in complying with Executive Order 12898. FHWA issued Order 6640-23A on June 14, 2012.

