Local Leadership Workgroup Quarterly Meeting – May 18, 2021
Montgomery County DEP Equity and Inclusion Mapping

DEPARTMENT OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY • MARYLAND

Montgomery County Advancing Racial Equity:

- Established an Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ)
- Appointed a Chief Equity Officer
- Requires all employees receive Racial Equity training
- Requires that each department appoint a Racial Equity and Social Justice point person/lead
- Require each Department and Office to establish an Equity and Inclusion Core team and RESJ Action Plan
- Require The Office of Legislative Oversight(Council) to submit a RESJ impact statement for each bill
- Established a Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee

Advancing Racial Equity

- RACIAL EQUITY MEANS … Closing the gaps so that race does not predict one's success, while also improving outcomes for all.

- TO CLOSE THE GAPS … we center communities of color to target improvements for those most burdened by racial inequity

- MOVING BEYOND "SERVICES" to transform policies, institutions, and structures (i.e. systems)

DEP's Equity and Inclusion Core Group

The Equity and Inclusion Work Group is a team of DEP staff (approximately 20 members) tasked with:

- Create a safe space to discuss equity and inclusion issues(training and education).
- Review internal and external programs to ensure that our department becomes more proactive to engage historically underrepresented and marginalized communities in our county.
- Ensure that voices of these populations are "at the table" (inclusion).

Equity, Environmental Justice, and Watershed Restoration Projects

- Suitability modeling/map application to prioritize areas for pursing restoration projects

- Integrating Environmental Justice and Equity into our stormwater restoration project selection

Equity Assessment Map

GOAL
- Develop a demographic index and mapping tool to identify areas within the County that are characterized by low income and a high percentage of people of color

APPLICATIONS
- Recently released CIP RFP targets projects based equity assessment map and guides the development of outreach and engagement for each project

- Conducted an analysis past program performance based on the equity assessment map.

- Assess future program performance. and assessment
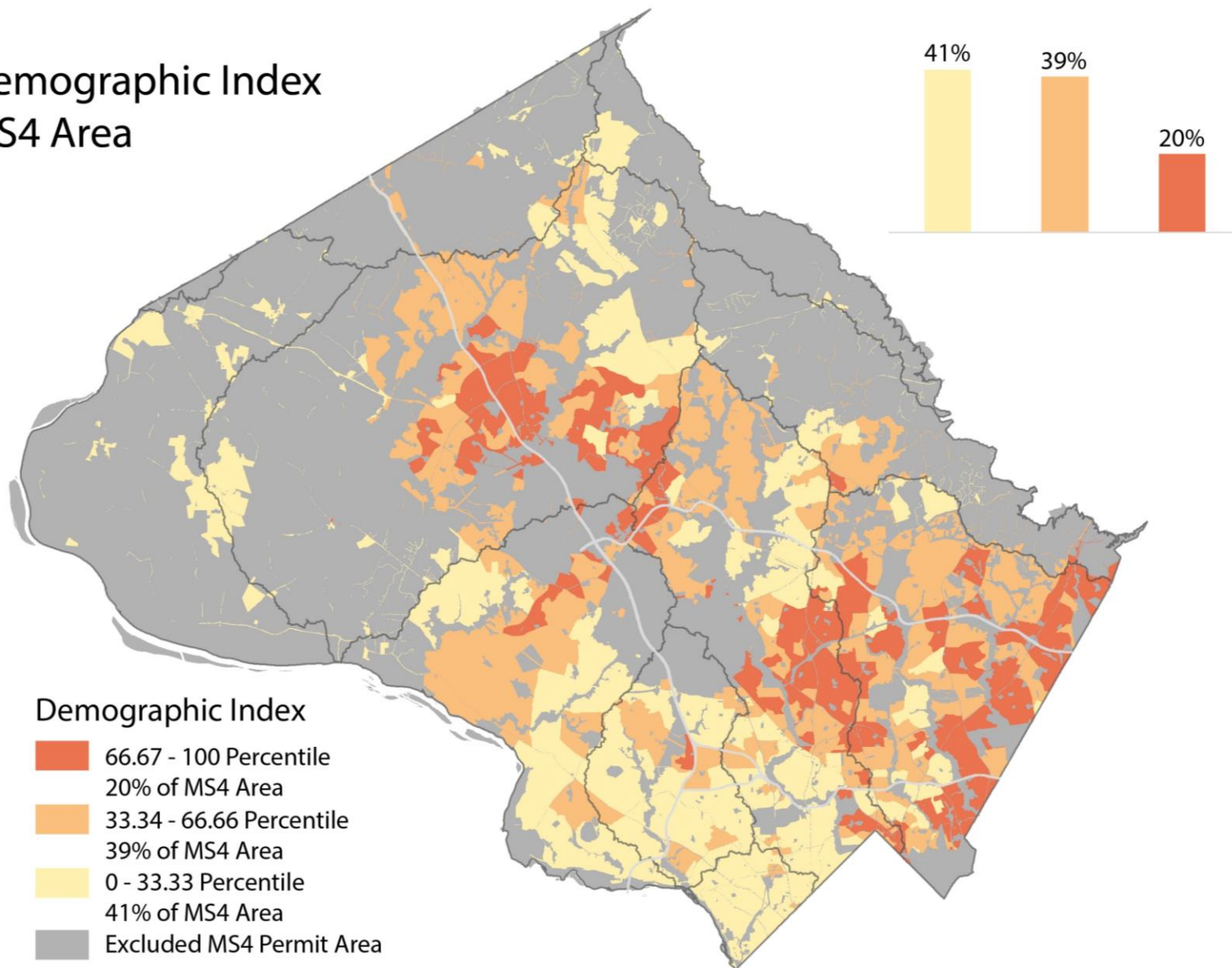
Watershed Restoration CIP Outreach

- Assess CIP program outreach policies and procedures to ensure that they are equitable and inclusive (ongoing).

- During engagement with communities identify where community needs/interests and DEP programs intersect and develop pilot implementation programs with community leaders.

- Ensure fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development and implementation of Watershed Restoration Projects.

- Ensure communities have equal access to the decision-making processes to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

Demographic Index

- Used EPA EJ Screen to develop demographic index

- Demographic Index = (% POC + % low income)/2

- Percent People of Color (POC): Percent of individuals in a block group who list their racial status as a race other than white alone and/or list their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

- Percent Low Income: Percent of a block group's population in households where the household income is less than or equal to twice the federal "poverty level"

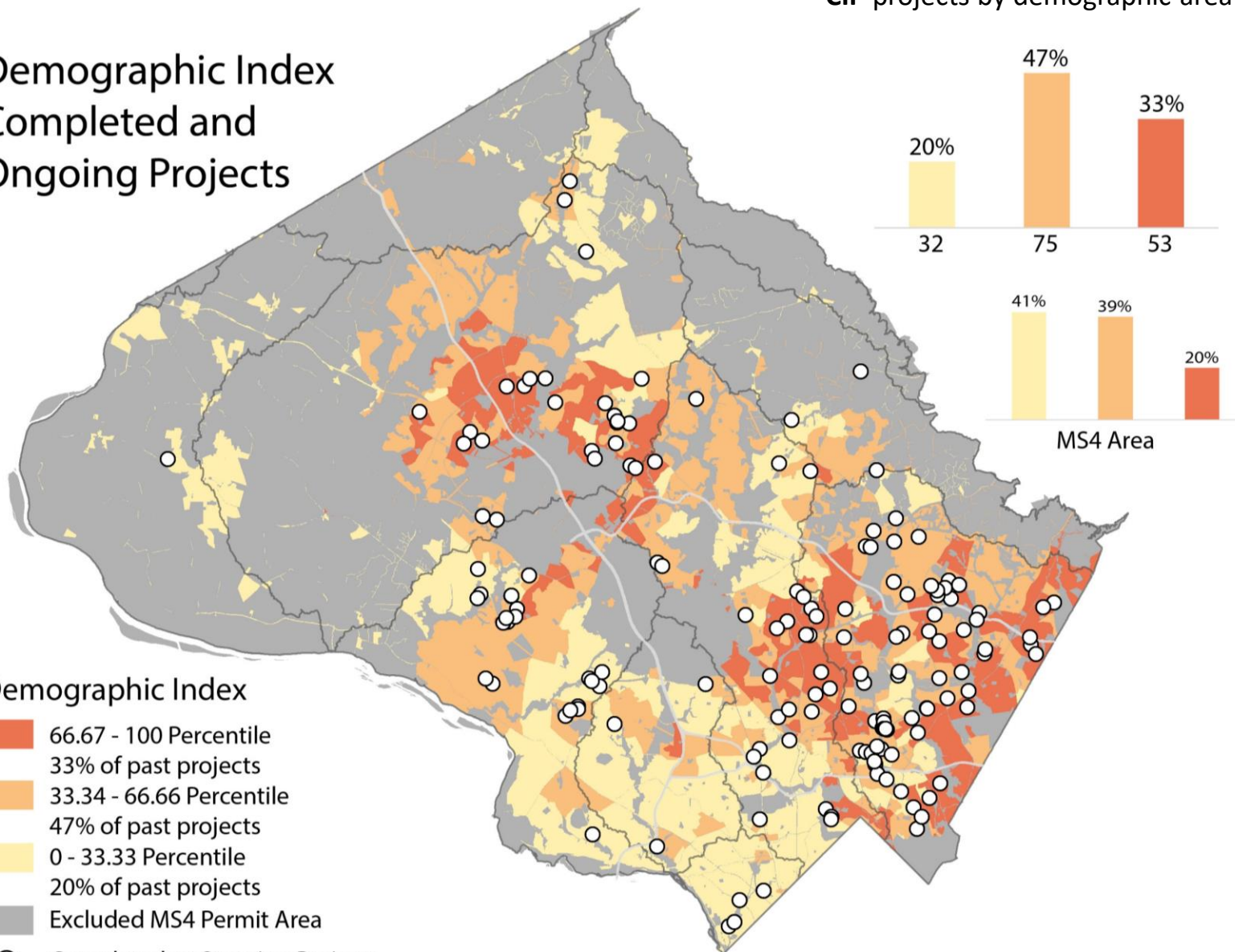- Represented as a percentile for the County
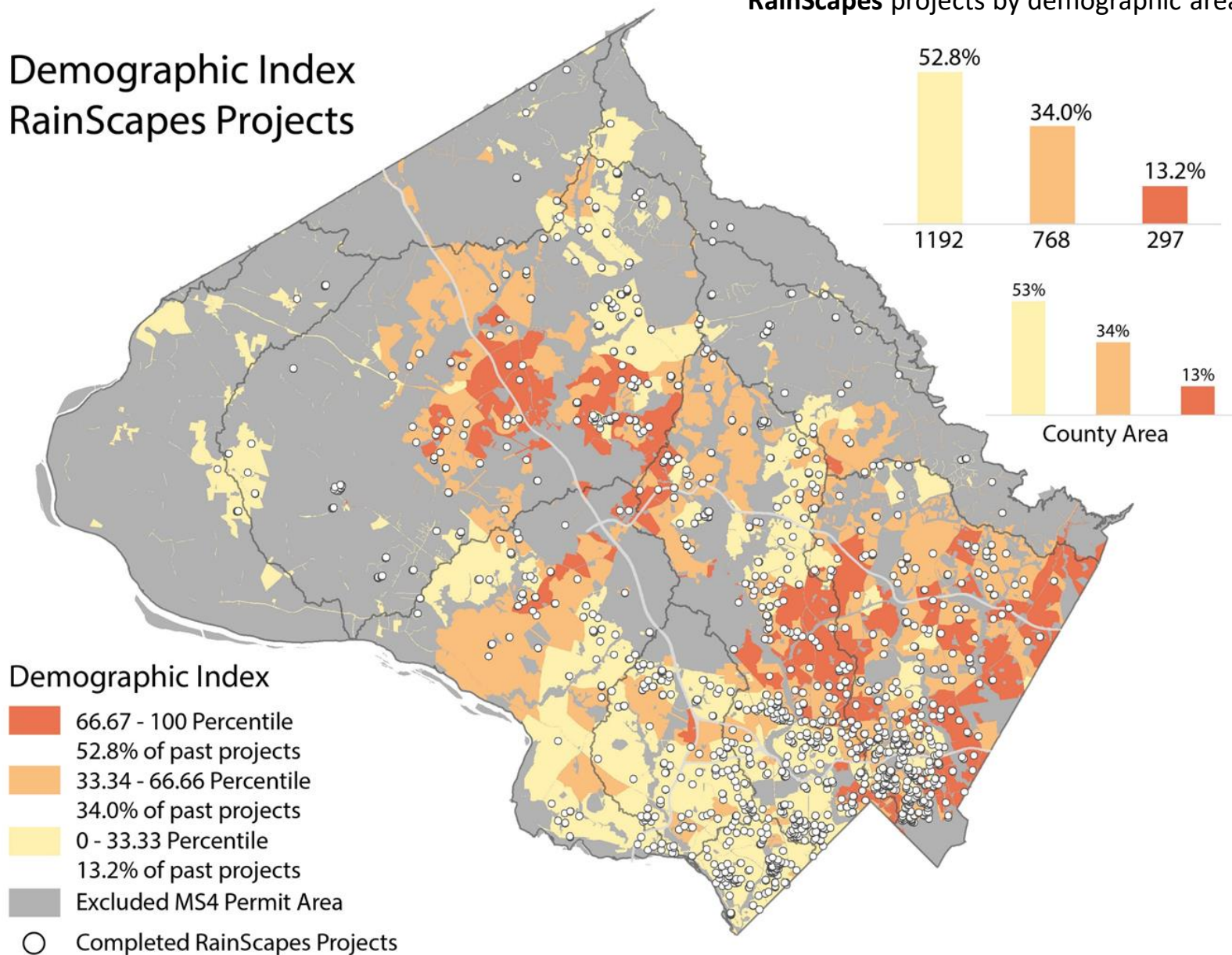
Demographic Index
MS4 Area

Demographic Index

- 66.67 - 100 Percentile
  20% of MS4 Area
- 33.34 - 66.66 Percentile
  39% of MS4 Area
- 0 - 33.33 Percentile
  41% of MS4 Area
- Excluded MS4 Permit Area

CIP projects by demographic area

Demographic Index Completed and Ongoing Projects

47%

20%

33%

32   75   53

41% 39%

20%

MS4 Area

Demographic Index

66.67 - 100 Percentile
33% of past projects

33.34 - 66.66 Percentile
47% of past projects

0 - 33.33 Percentile
20% of past projects

Excluded MS4 Permit Area

○ Completed or Ongoing Projects

RainScapes projects by demographic area

Demographic Index RainScapes Projects

Demographic Index
- 66.67 - 100 Percentile 52.8% of past projects
- 33.34 - 66.66 Percentile 34.0% of past projects
- 0 - 33.33 Percentile 13.2% of past projects
- Excluded MS4 Permit Area
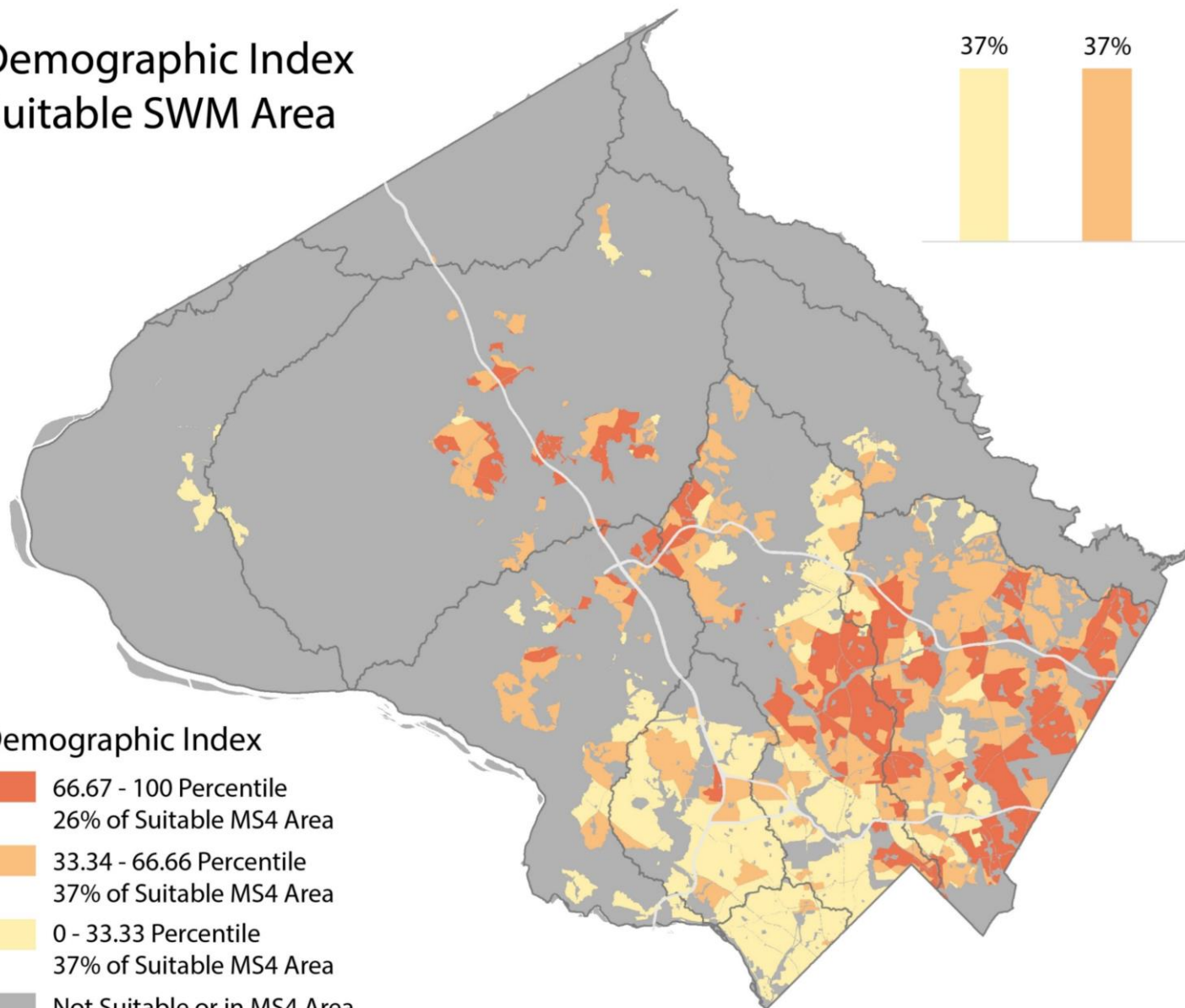- ○ Completed RainScapes Projects

Tree Montgomery projects by demographic area

Demographic Index
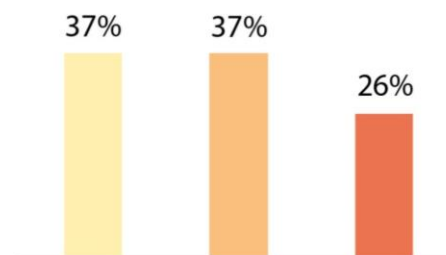Tree Montgomery,
Highlighting Zipcodes
20814 and 20817

45.7%
10%
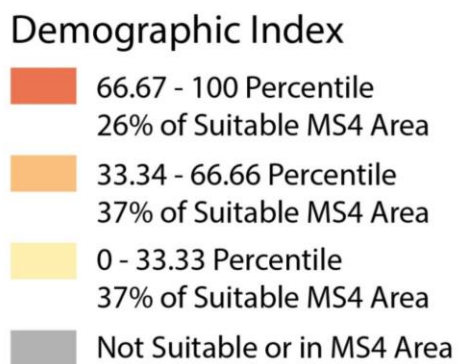36.5%
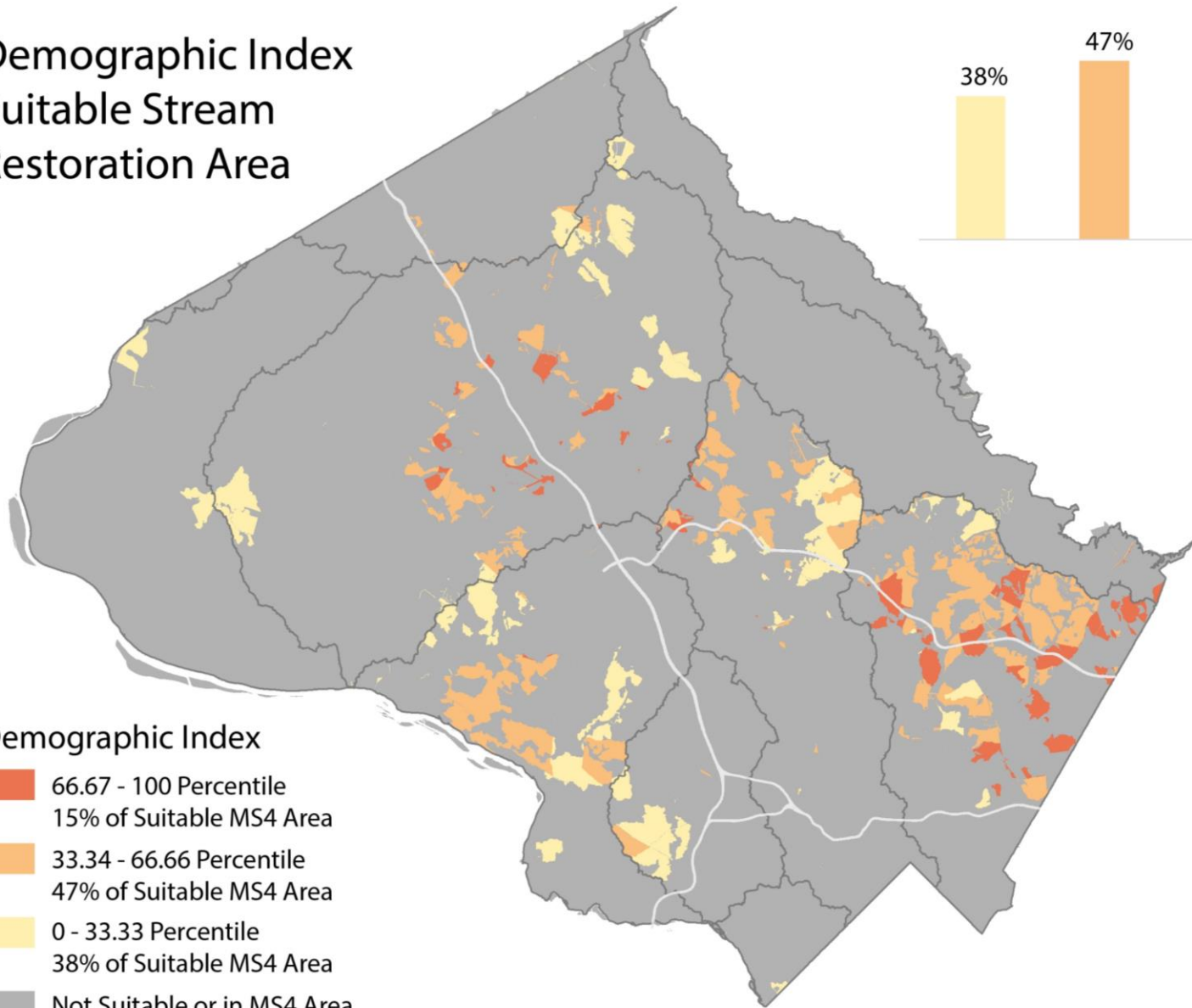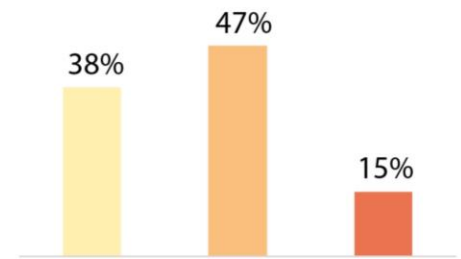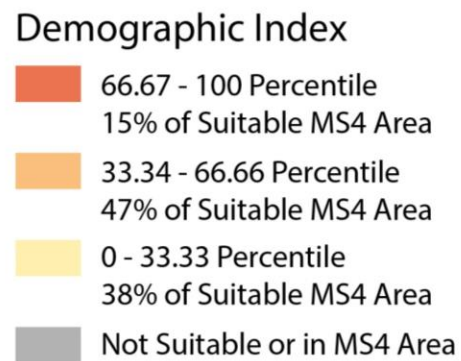2%
17.8%
1%
1701   1359   662

53%
34%
13%
County Area

Legend

66.67 - 100 Percentile
45.7% of trees planted
33.34 - 66.66 Percentile
36.5% of trees planted
0 - 33.33 Percentile
17.8% of trees planted
Excluded MS4 Permit Area
Zipcodes 20814 and 20817
○ Tree
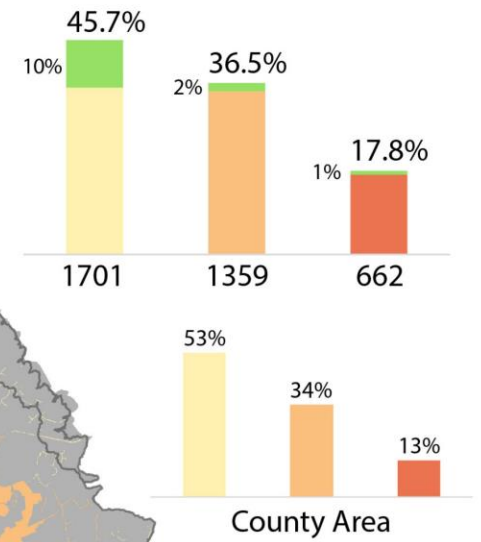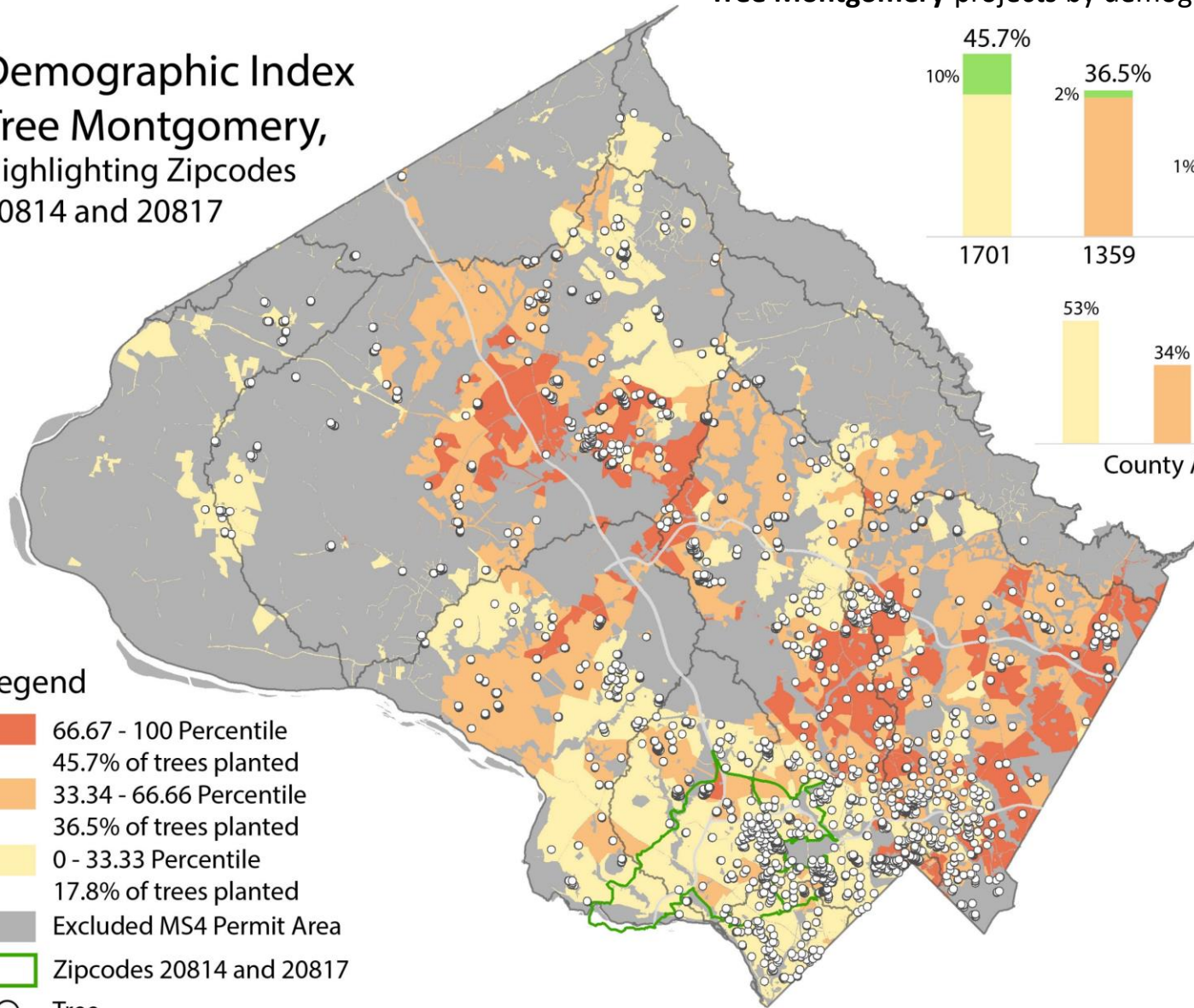
Demographic Index
Suitable SWM Area

Demographic Index

■ 66.67 - 100 Percentile
26% of Suitable MS4 Area

■ 33.34 - 66.66 Percentile
37% of Suitable MS4 Area

□ 0 - 33.33 Percentile
37% of Suitable MS4 Area

■ Not Suitable or in MS4 Area

Demographic Index
Suitable Stream
Restoration Area

Demographic Index

66.67 - 100 Percentile
15% of Suitable MS4 Area

33.34 - 66.66 Percentile
47% of Suitable MS4 Area

0 - 33.33 Percentile
38% of Suitable MS4 Area

Not Suitable or in MS4 Area

Suitability and Equity Assessment Maps

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/restoration/equity.html

Questions?

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