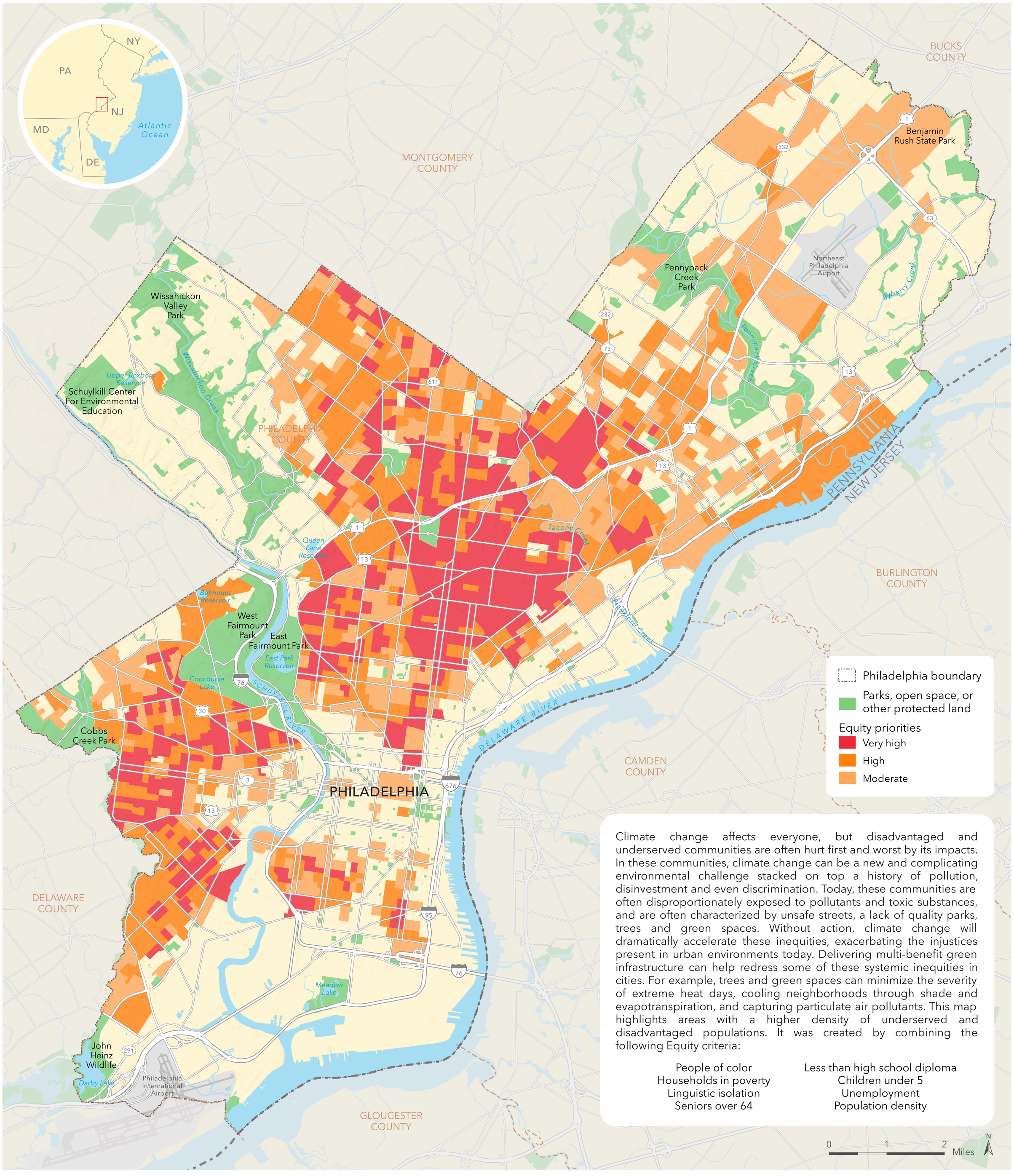

Climate change affects everyone, but disadvantaged and underserved communities are often hurt first and worst by its impacts. In these communities, climate change can be a new and complicating environmental challenge stacked on top a history of pollution, disinvestment and even discrimination. Today, these communities are often disproportionately exposed to pollutants and toxic substances, and are often characterized by unsafe streets, a lack of quality parks, trees and green spaces. Without action, climate change will dramatically accelerate these inequities, exacerbating the injustices present in urban environments today. Delivering multi-benefit green infrastructure can help redress some of these systemic inequities in cities. For example, trees and green spaces can minimize the severity of extreme heat days, cooling neighborhoods through shade and evapotranspiration, and capturing particulate air pollutants. This map highlights areas with a higher density of underserved and disadvantaged populations. It was created by combining the following Equity criteria:

People of color	Less than high school diploma
Households in poverty	Children under 5
Linguistic isolation	Unemployment
Seniors over 64	Population density

Supporting equity

CLIMATE-SMART CITIES™: PHILADELPHIA - **EQUITY PRIORITIES**

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