



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Board of Supervisors
Department No.:
For Agenda Of: June 11, 2020
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Chair Gregg Hart, 2nd District
Director(s) Supervisor Das Williams, 1st District
Contact Info: Ethan Bertrand, 2nd District Office – ebertrand@countyofsb.org,
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SUBJECT: Hearing on Racial Equity & the Criminal Justice System

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

Recommended Actions:

- a) Provide an opportunity for public input on racial equity and criminal justice issues in the wake of the tragic death of George Floyd; and
- b) Provide direction to staff as appropriate; and,
- c) Determine that the action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) because the hearing is an administrative activity that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

Summary Text:

Over the past several weeks, thousands of Santa Barbara County residents and millions of Americans have expressed outrage over systemic racism and called for change. On May 25, 2020, George Floyd was tragically killed by police officers in Minneapolis. This occurred within weeks of other tragic, high-profile deaths of Black Americans, including Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery. These tragedies have especially highlighted issues of racial equity within the criminal justice system. Many demonstrations have taken place in our community, led by black community members and supported by allies.

Recognizing that the County of Santa Barbara has a role to play in confronting systemic racism and advancing equity in our communities, the Board of Supervisors has convened this public hearing. This is an opportunity for community members to make their voices heard at this pivotal moment for our community and nation. With community input, the Board of Supervisors will be able to give direction to staff about actions that the County can take that are within the Board's purview. The Board of Supervisors may also forward questions and recommendations to the Sheriff, District Attorney, and other agencies that have authority over our County's criminal justice system.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Fiscal Analysis:

N/A

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