

**From:** Eric Cardenas <ec@ericcardenas.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 3:48 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Admin Agenda A-5, Racial Equity Funds

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To members of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you to the County of Santa Barbara, and to you, the Board of Supervisors, for showing leadership on issues of critical importance to our community – in this case, issues of racial justice vis a vis the County's Racial Equity Grant Program. As President of the Fund for Santa Barbara's Board of Directors, I would personally like to thank you for entrusting The Fund for Santa Barbara with developing and executing on this grant making process. I truly believe there is no other funding entity locally who engenders the same level of trust from the intended grant recipients as the Fund.

At this time, I would simply like to encourage you to **fully support the recommendations** made by the Fund's participatory-grant making committee. This committee has established an intentional process to assist the County with the identification, selection, and funding of local organizations committed to the very principles behind the establishment of this grant program. I believe the recommendations before you today have been thoughtfully considered and deserve your full support.

Again, I applaud the Board of Supervisors for making the decision to support the Racial Equity Grant Program and urge you to support the recommendations in front of you today, along with continued funding of this important program.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Cárdenas,  
Fund for Santa Barbara, President of the Board