

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

**From:** Patricia Fancher <fancher.patricia@gmail.com>  
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Dear Board of Supervisors,

I have been a resident of Santa Barbara County for 7 years and am writing both in support of your intention for the resolution on racism as a public health crisis and also with concerns about the purpose and impact of the language in the current resolution.

"Resolution" is defined as a firm decision to do or not do something. In the current language, I see vague agreement that racism is a problem. I do not see the BOS making a first decision. I do not see action. And I do not see commitment to change. I ask that the resolution be revised to be more resolute.

In particular:

- We would like to see the resolution have more specific language, actionable and measurable commitments, far-reaching scope across all sectors of the county, and supportive infrastructure in the form of anti-racism training and accountability structures.
- Ensure that BIPOC folks' lived experiences qualify them as subject matter experts on racism. They have understandings of the complexities of racism that white people don't
- The Board of Supervisors should invest in the health of all community members by reallocating funds from the County's Public Safety budget, particularly the Sheriff, into BIPOC led community-based organizations, collectives, and individuals. Every dollar of the County's budget must be examined through an anti-racist lens.

Cheers,  
 Trish Fancher

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