

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM: 3.71  
(ID # 13199)**

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, August 04, 2020


**FROM:** SUPERVISOR CHUCK WASHINGTON AND SUPERVISOR V MANUEL PEREZ:


**SUBJECT:** SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON AND SUPERVISOR PEREZ: Adoption of Resolution No. 2020-179 - Declaring Racism and Inequity as a Public Health Crisis; All Districts [\$0]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. That the Board of Supervisors Adopt Resolution No. 2020-179 declaring racism and inequity as a public health crisis resulting in disparities in family stability, housing, education, employment, transportation, criminal justice and social determinants of health and mental wellness and creating significant barriers to achieving health equity.

**ACTION:**

  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, Supervisor 3rd District 7/31/2020

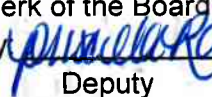
  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Chairman 7/31/2020

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Washington, seconded by Supervisor Perez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: August 4, 2020  
xc: Supvr. Washington, Supvr. Perez

Kecia R. Harper  
Clerk of the Board  
By   
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The County has identified that systemic racism creates inequity in many areas that affect the health and overall well-being of all residents, especially communities of color. We will work to identify and implement solutions to create governmental awareness and increase equity, diversity, and public health.

The Board of Supervisors, through the County Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant County Executive Officers will work with the Department of Public Health, all County Departments and other community partners to assess and apply an equity lens to internal policies and practices, adopt preventive measures, support the creation of a Riverside County task force and develop initiatives and programs to fight systemic racism and implicit bias to further health, wellness and equity in all aspects of community life.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-179**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE DECLARING RACISM AND INEQUITY AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

WHEREAS, the County is dedicated to improving health and wellness, eliminating health disparities and achieving health equity for all residents; and

WHEREAS, the County is deeply saddened by the tragic deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and countless Black Americans and other people of color who have been the victims of racially motivated violence; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism causes persistent racial discrimination in housing, education, employment, transportation, and criminal justice and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism is a social determinant of health and a significant barrier to achieving health equity; and

WHEREAS, communities of color are disproportionately impacted by the negative effects of the social determinants of health, such as increased exposure to lead, poor air quality, lack of safe places to walk, bike or run, and unequal access to safe, stable housing; and

WHEREAS, living with the threat of discrimination and violence creates toxic stress for communities of color and that continued exposure to threatening situations can have lasting negative effects on health, development, well-being and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. National Institutes of Health reports that multiple studies suggest that experiences of racism or discrimination raise the risk of emotional and physical health problems, including depression, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and even death; and

WHEREAS, racism can manifest in different ways ranging from violent attacks, to implicit bias, to differential access to resources and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, racism operates on systemic, institutional, and interpersonal levels, all of which resonate throughout time and across generations;

WHEREAS, racism has resulted in the development of systems and institutions, including those within government, that perpetuate inequities through policies and practices, and

WHEREAS, systemic racism and the resulting inequities threaten the health and well-being of Black Americans and other communities of color; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside that Riverside County, including all County departments and agencies, will:

- A) Assert that racism, with its resulting health inequities, is a public health crisis affecting our entire society; and
- B) Work to create an inclusive, well-informed governmental organization that is conscious of injustice and unfairness through robust trainings and continuing education to expand the understanding of how racial discrimination affects individuals and communities most impacted by inequities; and
- C) Actively seek to increase diversity across the County workforce and in leadership positions; and
- D) Review all policies, procedures and practices to ensure racial equity is a core element of Riverside County, and work to eliminate those policies and practices that facilitate discrimination and violence against specific populations; and
- E) Prioritize the investment of time and treasure in promoting equity to address social determinants of health; and
- F) Identify and implement solutions to eliminate systemic inequity in all external services provided by the County including, but not limited to, the following sectors: Health; Social Services; Housing; Homelessness and Workforce; Business and Community; Public Works; Land Use and Environment; Finance and Government; and Public Safety; and
- G) Enhance public education and messaging efforts to increase understanding and awareness around systemic inequity from a public health perspective, with special attention given to the experiences of communities of color; and
- H) Implement community-based alternatives to address harms and prevent trauma; and
- I) Advocate for relevant local, state, and federal policies that improve health and wellness in communities of color, and support local, state, and federal initiatives that advance racial equity, while also encouraging individual employee advocacy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors, through the County Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant County Executive Officers, will work with the Department of Public Health, all County Departments and other community partners to assess and apply an equity lens to internal policies and practices, adopt preventive measures, support the creation of a Riverside County task force and develop initiatives and programs to fight systemic racism and implicit bias to further health, wellness and equity in all aspects of community life.

2 **RESOLUTION 2020-179**

3 **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF**  
4 **RIVERSIDE DECLARING RACISM AND INEQUITY AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

5 ADOPTED by Riverside County Board of Supervisors on August 4, 2020.

6 **ROLL CALL:**

7 Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
8 Nays: None  
9 Absent: None

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12 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of  
Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

13 KECIA R. HARPER, Clerk of said Board

14 By: 

15 Deputy

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22 08.04.2020 3.71  
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**Maxwell, Sue**

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**From:** COB  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:47 AM  
**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG); Young, Alisa; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG); District2; District3; District5; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org)  
**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Kristyna Mendez)

Good morning,

Forwarding a Public Comment received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

This is filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant  
Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071  
Mail Stop #1010  
[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)  
website: <http://rivcocob.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Kristyna Mendez <kristynamendez@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 2, 2020 9:10 PM  
**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>  
**Subject:** Public comment—support agenda items 3.1 and 3.71

Hello Riverside board of supervisors!

I wanted to send this email to ask that we bring these agenda items into action. I am beyond excited that we are actually having the conversation about mental health and considering it be a right rather than a privilege. This is another step we are taking toward creating a sustainable life for everyone, health, housing, and education is a right everyone is entitled to. Let's vote yes on agenda items 3.1 and 3.71 and raise our human rights standards to one that is livable.

Thank you,

Kristyna Mendez



**From:** COB

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:17 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Renee Foster)

Good morning,

Forwarding Public Comments received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant  
Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071  
Mail Stop #1010  
[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)  
website: <http://rivcocob.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Renee Foster <[renee@arise2destiny.com](mailto:renee@arise2destiny.com)>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 2, 2020 12:38 PM

**To:** COB <[COB@RIVCO.ORG](mailto:COB@RIVCO.ORG)>

**Subject:** Public Comment-Support Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71

Good Morning Mayor and City Council Members,

MY name is Renee Foster, a 501© non-profit organization, ARISE 2 DESTINY Restoration Center (homeless).

SUPPORT Agenda Item 3.1

I urge our county leadership to vote in favor of item 3.1 on today's agenda. The time is long past due for us to have a real transparent conversation About systemic racism and how it impacts communities of color in Riverside County. While I am encouraged by this plan for upcoming listening And study sessions. Thank you Supervisor Jeffries and Perez for bringing this item, and I ask the County to vote yes on agenda item 3.1.

Support Agenda Item 3.71

I urge our county leadership to vote in favor of item 3.71 on today's agenda. Racism has long been a public health crisis in Riverside County, and The Board's official acknowledgement of this fact is significant. This resolution serves a critical stepping stone towards anti-racist policy and Budget reform. I look forward to seeing how the Board commits to actualizing the values laid out in this resolution. Thank you Supervisor Perez and Washington for bringing this resolution to the Board, and again, I ask the County to vote yes on agenda item 3.71.

Thank you,

Renee Foster

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

8/4/20 3.71

**From:** Sharon Geiser <[sharkgei.2015@gmail.com](mailto:sharkgei.2015@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 10:07 AM

**To:** COB <[COB@RIVCO.ORG](mailto:COB@RIVCO.ORG)>

**Subject:** Re: Board comments web submission

I may not be able to attend the meeting, if so, can you read my message out loud to the attendees?

On Tue, Aug 4, 2020 at 6:37 AM [rdhenderson@rivco.org](mailto:rdhenderson@rivco.org) <[rdhenderson@rivco.org](mailto:rdhenderson@rivco.org)> wrote:



First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Geiser

Address (Street, City and Zip): 1689 Quiet Creek, Beaumont 92223

Phone: 4062614652

Email: [sharkgei.2015@gmail.com](mailto:sharkgei.2015@gmail.com)

Agenda Date: 08/04/2020

Agenda Item # or Public Comment: Racism is a public health crisis

State your position below: Support

Comments: I am a 77-year-old White grandmother and I am tired of seeing Black people oppressed in so many ways. I went to a high school in Indiana That had separate lunch rooms, separate drinking fountains and separate restrooms even though our classes were integrated. I never could understand why the Black people were treated so differently. This racism must stop if we are to survive as a country.

**Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID # 202-181-857. Password is 3403124. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the eting.**

--  
*Sharon Geiser*  
406-261-4652

8/4/20 3.71



**From:** COB

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:19 PM

**To:** Sharon Geiser <sharkgei.2015@gmail.com>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Board comments web submission on Agenda Item No 3.71 on Racism (Sharon Geiser)

Dear Ms. Geiser,

Although the County building is currently closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you may participate via the [cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org) website (to which you submitted your comment below) and request to speak.

Due to the number of comments received, they are not read aloud but are filed with the official Board Hearing records.

Our constituents' opinions and suggestions are important and valued.

Thank you kindly, and please stay well and safe,

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
4080 Lemon Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 127  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 955-1060 Fax (951) 955-1071  
Mail Stop #1010  
[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)

website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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## Maxwell, Sue

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**From:** COB  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 3:16 PM  
**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG); Young, Alisa; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG); District2; District3; District5; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org)  
**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Item 3.71 Public Comment (Gilberto Esquivel)

Greetings,

Forwarding Public Comment received via COB email in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item No 3.71 on Racism.

This is filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant  
Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071  
Mail Stop #1010  
[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)  
website: <http://rivcocob.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Gilberto Esquivel <gilberto2939@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 10:54 AM  
**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>  
**Subject:** Support Agenda item 3.71

Honorable Members of Riverside County Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned resident of the county of Riverside I highly recommend the adoption of Resolution number 2020-179- declaring Racism and Inequity as a Public Health Crisis.

Many of us have lived with and suffered the the consequences brought about due to these disparities. Recognizing that Racism and Inequity are a Public Health Crisis, is simply not enough to solve the problem. Establishing firm policies that require violators to be disciplined, fined or fired for such activity is the least you can do to assure all county residents that human rights are a priority in our county.

Thanks to Supervisors Washington and Perez for submitting such resolution.

Sincerely,  
Gilberto Esquivel  
2939 Floral Ave.  
Riverside CA 92507

**From:** COB

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:38 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; Perez, Juan <JCPEREZ@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Items 3.1 and 3.71 - Public Comments (Olivia Gleason)

Greetings,

Please see email comments below received via COB for August 4, 2020 Items 3.1 and 3.71.

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071  
Mail Stop #1010

[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)

website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Olivia Grace Gleason <OGleason7347@scrippscollege.edu>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:14 AM

**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

**Subject:** Public Comment- Support Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71

Dear Board of Supervisors,

SUPPORT Agenda Item 3.1

I urge Riverside county leadership to vote in favor of item 3.1 on today's agenda. The time is long past due for us to have a real and honest conversation about systemic racism and how it impacts communities of color in Riverside County. While I am encouraged by this plan for upcoming listening and study sessions, I also encourage the County to commit to more than two listening sessions. Thank you Supervisors Jeffries and Perez for bringing this item, and I ask the County to vote yes on agenda item 3.1. Please use your role as supervisors to help promote and center the voices of community members who have dealt with systemic racism and other issues and who know these issues best. This is how change for the better is created, passing this agenda item is essential to ensuring that we are listening and acting in the best interest of the people.

SUPPORT Agenda Item 3.71

I urge our county leadership to vote in favor of item 3.71 on today's agenda. Racism has long been a public health crisis in Riverside County, and the Board's official acknowledgement of this fact is significant. This resolution serves as a critical stepping stone towards anti-racist policy and budget reform. I look forward to seeing how the Board commits to actualizing the values laid out in this resolution. Thank you Supervisors Perez and Washington for bringing this resolution to the Board, and again, I ask the County to vote yes on agenda item 3.71. Although blatant and explicit acts of police brutality and violence are what spark most attention, violence in the form of lack of healthcare, housing, jobs, education, clean air, good food, etc. harms people every single day. In order to make changes and give people the proper care they need, we must recognize that we have an issue. Please use your power to pass this agenda item.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. Please use your power for good and vote in favor of these 2 agenda items.

Olivia Gleason

8/4/20 3.1

**From:** COB

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:28 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Deana Romo)

Good morning,

Forwarding Public Comment email received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (Workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071

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website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Deana Romo <romodeana@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 12:03 AM

**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

**Subject:** Public comment- Support agenda items 3.1 and 3.71

Greetings Board of Supervisors,

I want to thank Supervisors Perez, Jeffries, and Washington for bringing items 3.1 and 3.71. I want to submit this public comment in favor of these items.

Item 3.1 is an opportunity for the people to have their voices heard and share their experiences with leaders of our county. I urge you all to vote in favor of this item and take the time to listen. Real and honest conversation is a start for meaningful change. And though I'm in support of this item, I also wish that it continues past the two sessions listed in the details. This is only a start and we can do better from here.

Item 3.71 to declare racism a public health crisis in the county of Riverside is long overdue. Recently, Riverside City Council passed Councilwoman Placencia's item declaring racism a public health crisis in the City. Racism surrounds us on every corner and has been affecting BIPOC physically and mentally for literally hundreds of years. I hope this resolution brought to the board by Perez and Washington creates a change towards anti-racist policy and budget reform. I also hope that the promises within the items are followed by real action. Our county depends on its leaders to support them no matter the color of their skin. Skin color should never have to negatively affect a person's access to resources for a better, healthier life.

Again, thank you Supervisors Perez, Jeffries, and Washington for bringing items 3.1 and 3.71. I urge the rest of the Board of Supervisors to support these item and vote in favor of them.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Deana Romo

8/4/20 3.71

**From:** COB

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:37 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Camaryn Crisantes)

Good morning,

Forwarding Public Comments received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

***Sue Maxwell***

Board Assistant

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071

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website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Camaryn Crisantes <[camarync@gmail.com](mailto:camarync@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:54 AM

**To:** COB <[COB@RIVCO.ORG](mailto:COB@RIVCO.ORG)>

**Subject:** Public Comment- Support Agenda items 3.1 and 3.71

Item 3.1: Thank you Supervisors Jeffries and Perez for bringing this item. I ask that the county votes yes on agenda item 3.1. I commend the idea of opening conversations and studying the issue regarding systemic racism. My hope is that this is not limited to 2 events and becomes a common habit within the county. I believe for real growth and healthy change to happen it is important to engage in the conversation of systemic racism and the impact it presently, and previously, has affected the communities of color within Riverside County. Thank you and I once again ask for a yes vote in item 3.1.

3.71: Thank you Supervisors Perez and Washington for being item 3.71. I ask that there be a yes vote in item 3.71. Other counties have recognized Racism has a public health issue and with great reason. The acknowledgement of this is an important step in addressing the necessary budgetary and policy changes that are needed to rectify the disparities within our system. Thank you again for presenting 3.71 on the agenda and I urge a yes vote.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Camaryn Crisantes

8/4/20 3.71



**From:** COB

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:51 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Zara Hurtado)

Good morning,

Forwarding Public Comments received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071

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website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



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**From:** Zara Hurtado <zarahurtado95@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:38 AM

**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

**Subject:** Public Comment: Support Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71

Good morning,

My name is Zara Hurtado. I am submitting this public comment in regards to the support of agenda items 3.1 and 3.71.

I urge our leadership to vote in favor of Agenda item 3.1 because it is the LEAST our supervisors can do to address the systemic racism within Riverside. Rather than continually increasing the Sheriff's Department's budget (against the will of the community), I urge our supervisors to attempt some form of restorative justice and give our communities of color the respect they deserve. As a woman of color myself, I do not feel that Riverside's BOS exists to serve people like me. That being said, Agenda item 3.1 is one small step in the right direction.

Secondly, I strongly urge county leadership to vote in favor of item 3.71. Racism has been a public health crisis in Riverside county however, the fact that Riverside currently denies that fact is an insult to the families who have lost a loved one due to a racist hate crime, such as the case of Massai Cole in 2020. I urge riverside to follow San Bernardino's lead and declare racism a public health crisis. This resolution will move Riverside one step closer towards anti-racist policies that will create a happier, safer community than the one we have now.

I am a life-long Riverside resident and I find myself concerned about the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting. I have been following each BOS meeting since March and have been incredibly disappointed to see that our trusted supervisors continually vote against the best interest of their community and actively oppose actions the community has repeatedly asked for.

I hope you find it in your conscious to pass agenda items that protect the most vulnerable members of your county.

Thank you,  
Zara Hurtado

8/4/20 3.71



**From:** COB

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:45 AM

**To:** George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

**Subject:** August 4, 2020 Agenda Items 3.1 and 3.71 Public Comments (Julissa Toledo)

Good morning,

Forwarding Public Comments received via COB in support of August 4, 2020 Agenda Item Nos 3.1 (workshops) and 3.71 (Racism).

These are filed with Agenda back-up.

With best regards,

**Sue Maxwell**

Board Assistant

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(951) 955-1069 Fax (951) 955-1071

Mail Stop #1010

[cob@rivco.org](mailto:cob@rivco.org)

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TOGETHER, Everybody Counts!



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**From:** Julissa Toledo <[julissatoledo2016@gmail.com](mailto:julissatoledo2016@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:57 AM

**To:** COB <[COB@RIVCO.ORG](mailto:COB@RIVCO.ORG)>

**Subject:** Public Comment- Support Agenda Item 3.1 and 3.71

To the Board of Supervisors,

Hello my name is Julissa Toledo and I am a constituent of Eastvale (7456 Sungold Ave. Eastvale CA 92880).

I strongly encourage the Board Members to vote in favor of Agenda Item 3.1 and 3.71. Our community has yet to have open conversations about how its people have been affected by systemic racism. Why must we wait for another person of color to die for us to have these discussions? Massai Cole was murdered by white supremacists on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. White supremacists have been spewing hate in Norco. After witnessing a KKK ring on a hand of a counter protester in a video taken place at a protest in Norco, it is evident that KKK members are here to cause harm to our communities. It is better late than never to talk about how racism is harming and has harmed people of color in our county and that is why I thank Supervisors Jeffries and Perez for being willing to bring attention to this crisis. Acknowledging that it is the problem is the first step and that is why the board must vote yes to declare racism and inequity a public health crisis. This is only the beginning of working to eradicate racism and I hope to see more policy changes reflecting this. Thank you and again I ask the Board to vote yes on Agenda item 3.1 and 3.71.

Thank you,

Julissa Toledo

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

8/4/20 3.71

**Maxwell, Sue**

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**From:** Debbie Franklin <DebbieFranklin4U@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** COB  
**Subject:** racism

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**DO NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My request is for Supervisor Hewitt to vote yes in support of this matter

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**Maxwell, Sue**

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**From:** Jordanna Wong-Omshehe <jordanna@startingoverinc.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:57 PM  
**To:** COB  
**Cc:** Vonya Quarles  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Agenda Item 3.71- Support

Good Afternoon,

I was on hold to speak for agenda item 3.71, but wasn't called. I was able to provide my comment on item 3.1 over the phone, but I wanted to ensure my comment for 3.71 was on the record as well. Please submit the following for the record:

Good morning County,

My name is Jordanna Wong-Omshehe and I am a resident of district 2, a policy associate for Starting Over Inc and a member of riverside chapter of all of us or none. I want to thank Supervisor Washington for his hard work to bring this agenda item to the County. When we talk about systemic racism we are not only speaking on long standing discriminatory policies, but we are also talking about the fact that the people that are trained to carry out these policies are just that, people. They are people that have internalized racism and anti-blackness as we are socialized to do from the minute we step foot into our US social atmosphere. Here in Riverside Black people make up just 6% of the population but are overrepresented in the number of arrests in our county accounting for 29% of all arrests. Our pain is not recognized in more ways than one. Our physical pain, our emotional pain and the ongoing trauma of systemic racism and the ways in which it is perpetuated within the criminal justice system leads to generational trauma and adverse child affects. I am encouraged by agenda item 3.71 and the call to create a task force. In relation to criminal justice, I hope this task force can help inform and carry out responsibilities of a civilian oversight committee for law enforcement and recommend this oversight committee be given real independence and power to create long term systemic change around public safety within our community. I recommend the committee to be an investigative-focused model, by NACOLE standards, just as we've seen in Oakland and San Francisco with the subpoena power, access to police records and the ability to provide independent investigation of complaints and officer misconduct. This is how we can address racism in the criminal justice system. I urge you all to vote yes on 3.71.

Thank you,

--

**Jordanna Wong-Omshehe**

pronouns: she/her/Ms.

Public Policy Associate

Starting Over Inc/ RAOUON

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Advocating for holistic re-entry and public safety

**From:** Alison Sisco <alison.lynnco@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:51 PM

**To:** COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

**Subject:** Re: Board comments web submission

RECEIVED AFTER  
HEARING CLOSED

Hello,

My name is Alison Sisco. I was just on the line for 3.71, but it was concluded without my name being called. I did speak for 3.1 as well, but I did submit my comments for both items yesterday before 9am.

I just hope we can all get the chance to speak when we holding on the line for this long.

I am glad to see that it passed at a 5-0.

Thank you.

On Tue, Aug 4, 2020 at 11:56 AM [rdhenderson@rivco.org](mailto:rdhenderson@rivco.org) <[rdhenderson@rivco.org](mailto:rdhenderson@rivco.org)> wrote:



First Name: Alison  
Last Name: Sisco  
Address (Street, City and Zip): 1161 Woodburn Cir  
Phone: 9098094267  
Email: [alison.lynnco@gmail.com](mailto:alison.lynnco@gmail.com)  
Agenda Date: 08/04/2020  
Agenda Item # or Public Comment: 3.71  
State your position below: Support  
Comments: Hello again!

Agenda item 3.71, a resolution declaring racism and inequity a public health crisis in this County, demands your YES vote today. Racism has long been a public health crisis in Riverside County, and to have an official recognition from the Board is pivotal, as this resolution serves as a critical stepping stone towards anti-racism policy and budget reform. The future of the Inland Empire requires inclusion of all residents and their stories. We have nothing to lose by opening our ears to the wrongs that exist in our very communities. Supervisor Perez, on May 12, 2017 you swore an oath and said the following: "I am humbled and excited; We have a lot of work to do together as a district. I will be reaching out to all communities...". We are here today. Supervisor Hewitt, in 2018, you were elected for the Fifth District, at the time representing over 2.4 million residents. You must have been listening then. Now, we need you to demand justice for Massai Cole, as the family is pushing for hate crime charges. Supervisor Washington, when I googled your name, this headline from Mar 12, 2015 comes up: Unprecedented: Chuck Washington Becomes First African-American Riverside County Supervisor - We are listening to you. Supervisor Spiegel, you saw what happened in Norco at the end of June this year. The past two board meetings displayed disbelief in some, concerning the validity of racism and police brutality in the IE. I gathered some notes from the 2016 study Hate Crime in California, published by California AG Xavier Becerra. It says hate crimes recorded in Riverside and SB County were on par with the total cases recorded in Orange County that year. It also reported hate crimes within almost every California sheriff's department. Additionally, the study noted hate crime involving racial bias increased by 21.3% from 2015 to 2016... before MAGA. We are waiting for your actions. Uphold the US constitution and the commonwealth of the people in Riverside County and California. For the future development of the citizens of the Inland Empire, I ask the Board to vote YES on agenda item 3.71. Thank you again, Supervisor Jeffries and Perez. **Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID # 202-181-857. Password is 3403124. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.**

Allison Sisco

8/4/20 3.71