

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS I**  
**Office of the City Clerk**

**City Council of the City of Napa**  
**Regular Meeting**

**September 15, 2020**

**FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:**

**EVENING SESSION:**

**14. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**14.A. Latino Heritage Month.**

- Statement from Ricky Hurtado, President of Napa County Hispanic Network (NCHN), received via email on 9/14/2020. \*

**16. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**16.A. Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis.**

- Attachment 1 to Staff Report – Corrections made to Resolution noted in redline.
- 1) Email from Adriana Montanez received on September 11, 2020.
- 2) Email from Audra Chapman received on September 11, 2020.
- 3) Email from Leslie and Marc Hauser received on September 11, 2020. \*
- 4) Email from Kate Graham received on September 13, 2020. \*
- 5) Email from Dina Greenberg received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 6) Email from Janice Hougland received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 7) Email from Kathleen Whiteaker received on September 14, 2020.
- 8) Email from Kara Harrington received on September 14, 2020.
- 9) Email from Cecily Greenberg received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 10) Email from Mary Makowski received on September 14, 2020.
- 11) Email from Joshua Murillo received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 12) Email from Emily Schmidt received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 13) Email and attachment from Lynne Baker on behalf of Napa Climate NOW!/350 Bay Area Steering Committee received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 14) Email from Pete Shaw received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 15) Email from Stephen Corley received on September 14, 2020. \*
- 16) Email from Megan Gardner received on September 15, 2020.
- 17) Email from Gabriela Fernandez received on September 15, 2020.
- 18) Email from Alicia Amaro Streblov received on September 15, 2020.
- 19) Email from Bernie Jensen received on September 15, 2020.
- 20) Email from Megan Bonilla received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 21) Email from Beth Nelsen received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 22) Email from Angelina Schmidt received on September 15, 2020.
- 23) Email from Alexa Heinemann received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 24) Email from Madison Van Zandt received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 25) Email from Kara Brunzell received on September 15, 2020.
- 26) Email from Olivia Prado received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 27) Email from Jenny Shully received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 28) Email from David Campbell received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 29) Email from Anne House received on September 15, 2020.
- 30) Email from Amy Little received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 31) Email from Katherine Fleming received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 32) Email from Nasser Abulaban received on September 15, 2020.
- 33) Email from Tracy Lamb received on September 15, 2020.
- 34) Email from Jeni Olsen received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 35) Email from Marco Caro received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 36) Email from Daisy Zamora received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 37) Email from Michele Grupe, on behalf of Cope Family Center, received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 38) Email from Rebecca Webster received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 39) Email from Julia Allen received on September 15, 2020.
- 40) Email from Eric Winters received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 41) Email from Erin Gulbransen received on September 15, 2020. \*

- 42) Email from Kerry Ahearn received on September 15, 2020.
- 43) Email from Daniel P. McQueeny received on September 15, 2020.
- 44) Email from Brooke Casey received on September 15, 2020.
- 45) Email from Ian M. Stanley Posadas received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 46) Email from Bob Massaro received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 47) Email from Leslie Lew received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 48) Email from Gerardo Martin received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 49) Email from Lori Stelling received on September 15, 2020.
- 50) Email from Geoff Ellsworth, St. Helena Mayor, received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 51) Email from Ines DeLuna, President of Napa County Latinx Democratic Club, received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 52) Email and attachment from Rubi Pelayo received on received on September 15, 2020. \*
- 53) Email from Eye Ryser received on received on September 15, 2020. \*

***\*EMAIL OR HANDWRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD BY CITY STAFF  
DURING THE MEETING.***

## **14. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

### **14.A. Latino Heritage Month.**

- Statement from Ricky Hurtado, President of Napa County Hispanic Network (NCHN), received via email on 9/14/2020. \*

Dear City Council, City Manager, and Staff:

On behalf of the Napa County Hispanic Network (NCHN) Board of Directors and the Latinx Heritage Committee, I, Ricky Hurtado, President of the Napa County Hispanic Network, thank you for marking September – November 2020, Latinx Heritage Month, making this our 9<sup>th</sup> annual year in doing so. Although I wish to be accepting this important proclamation in person, It is important to abide by the current rules and regulations set in place by the State and County of Napa with respect to the current pandemic.

The Latinx community is diverse and complex that has helped make this country, our state, this valley, and our city what it is today. The Latinx community is not just music, cultures, foods, but people who work hard as farmworkers, janitors, trades-people, teachers, business and nonprofit leaders and owners, and so much more – These are people that have contributed/continue to contribute to the fabric of this place we call home.

The Latinx Heritage Month serves as an important reminder for Latinos to take pride in our rich culture/s. However, it also serves as a moment for other people and institutions (governmental and non-governmental) to not only educate themselves about Latinx history, but also to take **concrete actions** that uplift our community. This has been done, and this can continue to be done through partnerships with our Latinx service agencies - Most importantly, however, we need to continue an open dialogue and communication between our institutions and our Latinx community.

Again, thank you for your time, energy, and effort in proclaiming Sept – Nov. 2020 Latinx Heritage Month. Si Se Puede!

Sincerely,

Ricky Hurtado  
President,  
NCHN

RESOLUTION R2020-\_\_

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AFFIRMING THAT DISCRIMINATION AND SYSTEMIC RACISM IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS THAT RESULTS IN DISPARITIES IN FAMILY STABILITY, HEALTH AND MENTAL WELLNESS, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPERIENCE, AND HOUSING

WHEREAS, discrimination and systemic racism manifests in distinct ways across many social intersections, including race, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, disability, immigration status, and age; and

WHEREAS, the adverse impacts of discrimination and systemic racism are well documented and these impacts accelerate aging and disproportionately burden Black and other minority populations with diseases, such as heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Napa community is not immune to these adverse impacts, and members of marginalized communities here are more likely to experience economic insecurity, experience language barriers in accessing health care, and have higher drop-out rates among other issues; and

WHEREAS, Black and other marginalized communities, including Indigenous people, women, Latinx, LGBTQ+, immigrants, and people with disabilities, are also more likely to be subjected to unjust treatment in the criminal justice system especially where training is inadequate and supervisors are not committed to equal treatment of all persons; and

WHEREAS, as public officials, it is the City Council's duty to use its legal and moral authority to protect all members of the Napa community, to foster a community free of fear, intimidation and violence — a community in which people are not targeted or hurt unnecessarily by law enforcement or vigilantes and to provide equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to create additional pathways where all are comfortable and feel secure in accessing government services and assistance, making reports of misconduct and/or criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, the adverse impacts of discrimination and systemic racism on health are well-documented; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of these issues, which affect a large number of people, threatens health over the long-term, and requires the adoption of largescale solutions, constitute a public health crisis; and

## ATTACHMENT 1

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2020, the City of Napa Police Chief detailed recommendations that include updated defensive tactics training, additional cultural and ethnicity awareness training, continued and expanded community engagement programs for the Police Department, and the establishment of a Community Police Advisory Committee to review Police Department policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has directed the creation of a multi-year, multi-phase training program for employees of the City to address diversity, equity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager will endeavor to create and strengthen partnerships with other government entities, non-profit agencies and community groups and to seek and obtain regular feedback from employees and community members to identify areas of discrimination or systemic racism that may exist within the City government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Napa will view all future policy decisions with an equity lens to ensure our marginalized communities including Black, Latinx, women, LGBTQ+, Indigenous people and other populations and potential impacts to them are considered; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is acting to affirm its commitment to serving all members of the community and helping to erase barriers to quality education, healthcare, safe housing, food security, and employment opportunities to allow for a healthy and successful life for each citizen; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered all information related to this matter, as presented at the public meetings of the City Council identified herein, including any supporting reports by City Staff, and any information provided during public meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Napa, as follows:

1. The City Council hereby finds that the facts set forth in the recitals to this Resolution are true and correct, and establish the factual basis for the City Council's adoption of this Resolution.
2. The City Manager is hereby directed to seek and obtain regular input from the public to identify potential areas of discrimination or systemic racism that may exist within the City government, focusing on City employment, training and development, and housing programs. The City Manager will obtain guidance on the resolution of such issues, present Council with future action recommendations, and work to strengthen and establishing partnerships with other community agencies to determine opportunities to make impactful use of City resources.

## ATTACHMENT 1

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Napa at a public meeting of said City Council held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tiffany Carranza  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Barrett  
City Attorney

RESOLUTION R2020-\_\_

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AFFIRMING THAT DISCRIMINATION AND ~~SYSTEMATIC-SYSTEMIC~~ RACISM IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS THAT RESULTS IN DISPARITIES IN FAMILY STABILITY, HEALTH AND MENTAL WELLNESS, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPERIENCE, AND HOUSING

WHEREAS, discrimination and ~~systematic-systemic~~ racism manifests in distinct ways across many social intersections, including race, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, disability, immigration status, and age; and

WHEREAS, the adverse impacts of discrimination and ~~systematic-systemic~~ racism are well documented and these impacts accelerate aging and disproportionately burden Black and other minority populations with diseases, such as heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Napa community is not immune to these adverse impacts, and members of marginalized communities here are more likely to ~~live below the self-sufficiency standard~~experience economic insecurity, experience language barriers in accessing health care, and have higher drop-out rates among other issues; and

WHEREAS, Black and other marginalized communities, including Indigenous people, women, Latinx, LGBTQ+, immigrants, and people with disabilities, are also more likely to be subjected to unjust treatment in the criminal justice system especially where training is inadequate and supervisors are not committed to equal treatment of all persons; and

WHEREAS, as public officials, it is the City Council's duty to use its legal and moral authority to protect all members of the Napa community, to foster a community free of fear, intimidation and violence — a community in which people are not targeted or hurt unnecessarily by law enforcement or vigilantes and to provide equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to create additional pathways where all are comfortable and feel secure in accessing government services and assistance, making reports of misconduct and/or criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, the adverse impacts of discrimination and ~~systematic-systemic~~ racism on health are well-documented; and

## ATTACHMENT 1

WHEREAS, the magnitude of these issues, which affect a large number of people, threatens health over the long-term, and requires the adoption of largescale solutions, constitute a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2020, the City of Napa Police Chief detailed recommendations that include updated defensive tactics training, additional cultural and ethnicity awareness training, continued and expanded community engagement programs for the Police Department, and the establishment of a Community Police Advisory Committee to review Police Department policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has directed the creation of a multi-year, multi-phase training program for employees of the City to address diversity, equity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager will endeavor to create and strengthen partnerships with other government entities, non-profit agencies and community groups and to seek and obtain regular feedback from employees and community members to identify areas of discrimination or ~~systematic-systemic~~ racism that may exist within the City government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Napa will view all future policy decisions with an equity lens to ensure our marginalized communities including Black, Latinx, women, LGBTQ+, Indigenous people and other populations and potential impacts to them are considered; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is acting to affirm its commitment to serving all members of the community and helping to erase barriers to quality education, healthcare, safe housing, food security, and employment opportunities to allow for a healthy and successful life for each citizen; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered all information related to this matter, as presented at the public meetings of the City Council identified herein, including any supporting reports by City Staff, and any information provided during public meetings.

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## ATTACHMENT 1

Council with future action recommendations, and work to strengthen and establishing partnerships with other community agencies to determine opportunities to make impactful use of City resources.

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AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tiffany Carranza  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Barrett  
City Attorney

## ATTACHMENT 1

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Friday, September 11, 2020 2:02:34 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Adriana Montanez [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** **Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**  
**Date:** September 11, 2020 at 2:00:57 PM PDT  
**To:** "[mluros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mluros@cityofnapa.org)" <[mluros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mluros@cityofnapa.org)>

[EXTERNAL]

Hello City Council Member Mary Lueros,

My name is Adriana Montanez. I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as

much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

In Solidarity,

Adriana Montanez

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Friday, September 11, 2020 4:26:47 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Audra Chapman [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** **Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**  
**Date:** September 11, 2020 at 4:23:27 PM PDT  
**To:** [mlueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mlueros@cityofnapa.org)

[EXTERNAL]

My name is Audra Chapman, I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our

Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

Warmly,

Audra Chapman

**From:** [Leslie Hauser](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Jill Techel](#); [Doris Gentry](#); [Scott Sedgley](#); [Mary Luros](#); [Liz Alessio](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for 9/15/20 meeting - please read  
**Date:** Friday, September 11, 2020 5:29:07 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

In regards to Agenda Item 16A, I urge you to vote in support of the proposed resolution declaring that racial discrimination and system racism is a public health crisis.

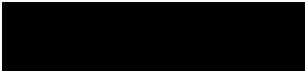
As a resident of Browns Valley, and parent of a 7th grade student at River, we have lived in a privileged space. In 2020, with the health pandemic and economic pandemic caused by COVID-19 and the police brutality and mistreatment of justice in the murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Daniel Prude, among so many others over many, many years, we see that the decisions of those before us and the decisions of our current generation disfavor our BIPOC brothers and sisters.

While we are thankful to have a police chief in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, Napa must do more to protect the rights and the health of our community, especially those who are healthcare workers, emergency care workers, restaurant and hospitality workers, and agricultural workers. The history of redlining to exclude BIPOC community members from neighborhoods continues to have effects on our entire community. The history of not having full access to health care, to job security and fair hiring practices, and to education from preschool to college is not fair and I appreciate that the City Council is introducing this resolution to start making real change.

As our elected city council leaders, I urge you to represent the entire Napa population, especially communities not directly represented on the current council, to support this resolution.

Many thanks and much respect for your service,

Leslie and Marc Hauser



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**From:** Kate Graham [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 1:15 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ

**Categories:** Domain in Review

[EXTERNAL]

My name is Kate Graham, and I am writing to address agenda item 16A. I am a City of Napa resident, and I work for a national non-profit organization. I am also a Partner at Dirty and Rowdy Family Winery and a mother of two small children (ages 1 and 4).

I am writing to ask the council to pass the resolution affirming that discrimination and systemic racism is a public health crisis, which results in disparities in: family stability, health and mental wellness, education, employment, economic development, public safety, criminal justice experiences, and housing. This vote is a key first step for Napa towards dismantling the system of racism that as defined by the American Public Health Association assigns value, “based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources.”

County and national statistics affirm these inequities. 34% of the County’s population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid-19 cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid-19 as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women.

Racism is a serious long-term threat that requires being treated as such, and its impact on the wellbeing of residents in Napa needs to be a top priority. I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council but also to watch the council continue to engage with and commit to anti-racist policies and actions to back this resolution. It’s time our Latinx and BIPOC community members experience the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live in Napa.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kate Graham

Partner

Dirty and Rowdy Family Winery

dirtyandrowdy.com

<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdirtyandrowdy.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cclerk%40cityofnapa.org%7C703a2a8a939d431bc0e608d85821a455%7C7c2235c73aee4099a6c4bde6470cfa85%7C0%7C0%7C637356249258976114&sdata=cxXOY4yfYi8j5BEKcfKjWJuJsuzliYI3UEotdwJWEgQ%3D&reserved=0>>



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Clerk; Jill Techel; ssedgley@cituoofnapa.org; Doris Gentry; Mary Luros; Liz Alessio](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to council for September 15 2020 meeting- please read  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 11:13:32 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

City Council Members, Mayor of Napa;  
(Agenda item 16A)

I speak on behalf of Napa neighbors and friends that came together to discuss the topic of systemic racism as a health crisis in our town of Napa, after tears of sadness and strength, we collectively wrote this response.

People want safety and security, which includes food, housing and healthcare, as well as a more empathetic community. But they're concerned that social media can be divisive and that people are polarized, inhibiting their ability to hear one another, which gets in the way of achieving those aspirations. As people talk about those concerns, they talk specifically about safety for people of color, income inequality and access to healthcare. They believe we need to focus on having more representation of excluded groups in policy making, taking personal responsibility for microaggressions and learning about Napa's racial history. If the Community Foundation, the People's Collective for Change and the Napa County Hispanic Network played a part in those actions they would be more likely to trust the effort and step forward themselves. If in six months to a year policies were in place to identify inequities that have a negative impact to health of our community and if there was Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training in schools, governments, nonprofits and local businesses then we will know things are starting to change.

Thank you  
Dina Greenberg

**From:** [Janice Hougland](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15, 2020 Meeting--Please Read  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 11:19:16 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

In support of Agenda item 6A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis:

My name is Janice Hougland, I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

**From:** [Kathleen Whiteaker](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Systemic Racism is a Public Health Issue  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 12:21:45 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Please pass the resolution to address the systematic racism that is a Public Health Issue in in Napa. Kathleen Whiteaker

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: YES to declaring racism as a public health crisis!  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 2:33:42 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kara Harrington <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** YES to declaring racism as a public health crisis!  
**Date:** September 14, 2020 at 2:33:03 PM PDT  
**To:** Kara Harrington <[REDACTED]>

[EXTERNAL]

Dear City Council Member,

My name is Kara Harrington, and I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)


The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on

Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kara

Kara Harrington  
Listen. Strategize. Design.



**From:** [Cecily Greenberg](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15 2020 meeting- please read  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:29:13 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

City council members, Mayor of Napa;  
(Agenda item 16A)

Systemic racism is real. It definitely is a health crisis for anyone of color in America, including Napa. To be honest I'm disappointed that this needs to even go to a vote, that there even needs to be a discussion about this issue, when this shouldn't be an issue in the first place. The facts show that people of color are affected over 40% more than white citizens when it comes to health. We have all seen this the whole world so clearly in regards to covid-19. Systemic racism exists. Indoctrination and oppression exist, and it's long past due for them to be squandered and uprooted. They say "make America great again", but was it every really great? The United States was built on slavery. The utopia people believed it was only excited if one was white. "The land of the free" they said, but only if you were white and male. This agenda item needs to voted through. Change needs to happen!

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Resolution recognizing racism as a public health crisis  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:30:33 PM

---

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mary <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Resolution recognizing racism as a public health crisis  
**Date:** September 14, 2020 at 3:28:03 PM PDT  
**To:** [mlueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mlueros@cityofnapa.org)

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Mary,

*I would like to ask you to vote yes on this resolution tomorrow night. I am on the board at NEWS, and at NEWS, we believe that every person should have the right to safety regardless of the color of their skin, for that reason I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the Napa City Council [on Tuesday, the 15th of September](#), but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling of racism needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.*

Thank you for your time and efforts in your service to Napa.

Sincerely,  
Mary Makowski

[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Joshua Ryan Murillo](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 4:47:30 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Regarding Agenda Item 16.A, and the resolution attached.

I would simply like to voice my full, and unqualified, support to the adoption of this resolution.

Thank you,  
Joshua Murillo



**From:** [Emily Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to the Council for 9/15/2020 Meeting-PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 5:12:16 PM

---

[EXTERNAL]

Re: 16A 289-2020 Resolution R2020

Dear Mayor Techel and City Council Members,

I support and urge you to vote for and pass the  
Discrimination and Racism Resolution!

There are many fine points that I encourage you and  
the City Manager to act upon and implement when it is  
passed.

Thank you for your time and attention,  
Emily Schmidt

**From:** [Lynne Baker](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Christina Benz](#); [Lynne Baker](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ - RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 6:35:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [NCN Racism and Public Health Letter to City Council 091420.pdf](#)

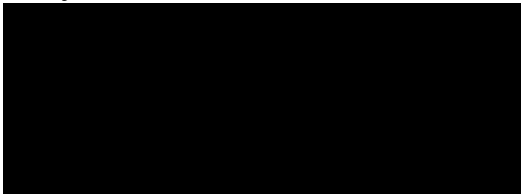
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[EXTERNAL]

Please see the attached letter of request re: racism as a public health issue. Remarks are forwarded on behalf of Napa Climate Now/350 Bay Area to be read at Tuesday evening's City Council meeting.

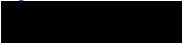
Thank you,

Lynne Baker



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~~~~~  
*Lynne Baker, RN,MS*





*Advocating for smart climate action based on the latest climate science*

September 14, 2020

Dear Members of the City Council,

My name is Lynne Baker, I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you on behalf of the Napa Climate Now/350 Bay Area Steering Committee because we strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. We ask that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

Statistics tell the story: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of COVID cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during COVID as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities – e.g. Criminal justice, education, health care, housing and more - we need all hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as is COVID. We need to treat racism with just as much urgency and as many resources.

We look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, September 15, and more importantly, to watch it come to fruition. It is time our Latinx/BIPOC community receives the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynne Baker".

Lynne Baker, RN  
On behalf of the NCN/350BA Steering Committee  
Chris Benz, Dave Kearney-Brown, Eric Murray

**From:** [Pete Shaw](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 7:25:08 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Napa City Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 2020

**Subject: Email in Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**

Dear Napa City Council Members,

Thank you for your leadership and for listening to my opinion. My name is Pete Shaw. I am the pastor of CrossWalk Community Church here in Napa. This year we are celebrating our 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have very deep roots in this community, and we are trying hard to serve Napa with everything we can offer.

The ethical code, “Do not do unto others what you would not want done to yourself,” has been a central principle of personal and corporate conduct for thousands of years that truly spans the globe and is widely quoted across cultural and religious lines. Jesus, a Jewish Rabbi and the center figure for Christianity, modified it from the negative to the positive, from passive to active: “Do unto others what you would want them to do to you.” Such common sense. It seems so obvious. Makes you wonder why we actually needed someone to write it down.

Yet that is the genius of these ancient codes. What we codify is automatically brought to our awareness. What we codify provides a basis for measure. What we codify allows for honest appraisal. What we codify opens up the possibility, if needed, to correct our course.

I am asking you to codify something that seems so obvious, so common sense, that one might wonder why it’s necessary to write it down. Why make a formal statement declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis? Because when we do, we notice, we measure, we honestly appraise, and we course correct.

As a white male, I am largely immune to discrimination and systemic racism. Many – if not most – people who look like me don’t see systemic racism and may even doubt or deny its existence. We are the fish, who, when asked about the water we are swimming in, simply respond, “What water? I don’t know what you are talking about.” The declaration I hope you will make simply recognizes what so many have been saying: discrimination and systemic racism exists and has and will continue to disproportionately, negatively affect people of color while people who look like me carry on unawares.

Such a callous response to such inequality and inequity runs counter to timeless wisdom and denies the Judeo-Christian tenet of ethical behavior that provided foundation for our country’s code of conduct.

Thank you for considering such an obvious – yet courageous – declaration for the well-being of all Napans.

Sincerely,

Pete

Rev. Dr. Peter R. Shaw, Senior Pastor  
CrossWalk Community Church  
2590 First St., Napa, CA 94558

--

Dr. Peter R. Shaw  
[www.CrossWalkNapa.org](http://www.CrossWalkNapa.org)

*In essentials unity, in nonessentials liberty, and in all things, charity...*

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This email message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient of the message, please contact the sender immediately and delete this message and any attachments. In addition, CrossWalkNapa.org emails are subject to review for staff accountability and protection. Thank you.

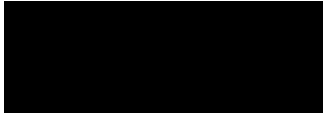
**From:** [Stephen Corley](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2020 8:54:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to City Council - Sept 15, 2020v2.docx](#)

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[EXTERNAL]

Stephen

Stephen A Corley



# Stephen A Corley

My name is Stephen Corley. I am a long-time resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis.

My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item.

This could be the City of Napa's first official step on the path to dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

Consider important local statistics:

34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of COVID cases; and 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the COVID pandemic compared to 25% of white families.

Nationally, police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3 times more likely to die during childbirth than white women.

The real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism likely alarm you. But as city officials enlightened with insight into the effects of racism, you must take action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist.

Systemic Racism affects almost every aspect of our day-to-day life. COVID has cracked open the system to more fully reveal disparities in the systems within the system - ex. criminal justice system, education system, health care system, public and affordable housing systems and more.

We need all aspects of our Napa Community on hand to shrink the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC – A critical aspect of our Community is the City of Napa's governance.

Racism is as much of a public health crisis as COVID is, so we need to treat it with just as much diligence, urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch how it comes to fruition.

It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt City of Napa solidarity as we all work together to aid and support and be 'with', and actively dismantle the systemic barriers so those that currently live in discomfort will find comfort in their home of Napa.

Thank you for your time.



**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Agenda Item 16A- Please Declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 8:52:28 AM

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Mary Lueros  
[MLueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:MLueros@cityofnapa.org)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Megan Gardner [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 8:33:40 AM PDT  
**To:** Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Lueros <MLueros@cityofnapa.org>, Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>, Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 16A- Please Declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis

[EXTERNAL]

Hello City Council Members,

I am writing to ask that you support the resolution on agenda item 16A today declaring racism as a public health crisis here in Napa.

COVID 19 has disproportionately affected our Latinx population in Napa. Thirty four percent of our population in Napa identify as Latinx but 56.5% of the COVID cases are in Latinx folks. This means they are the folks that can't work from home, they are picking our grapes, working in our restaurants, cleaning hotels and homes, putting their lives and the lives of their families at risk for us.

The Latinx community is keeping our community going-- please pass this resolution to show that we see this disparity, and take the first step in taking a stand against racism and inequity in Napa County.

Gratefully,  
Megan Gardner



**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Your Vote - Pass 16A: Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 8:52:48 AM

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Mary Lueros  
[MLueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:MLueros@cityofnapa.org)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gabriela Fernandez [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 8:47:50 AM PDT  
**To:** Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Lueros <MLueros@cityofnapa.org>, Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>  
**Subject:** Your Vote - Pass 16A: Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis

[EXTERNAL]

My name is Gabriela Fernandez, I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. **My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item.** This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.) More importantly, passing this resolution will ensure that we are tackling the heavily seeded racism that exists here in Napa Valley. To assume and believe it does not exist is dangerous and will continue to minimize the experiences black, indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+, and more have had to endure. I personally have been a victim of the racism that exists here in Napa Valley. Born and bred in St. Helena, I was harassed and assaulted by an officer who assumed I was gang affiliated because I wore the color red. Little did he know I was decked out in red because it was spirit day at school and my class was told to wear red. Here is an innocent 15-year old Latina, with no knowledge of gangs, who is now being stopped, searched, and harassed by an officer who is supposed to protect and uphold the law. He took one look at my beautiful, brown melanin skin and placed his own biases on me. This is not how anyone needs to treat *kids*. That is who I was, a *kid*. This is only one of the many examples that come to mind, and it should be enough to make you think and acknowledge that *we must do better*. Our elected officials have a responsibility to do better, for me and for all of us in this community. This year alone we've had law enforcement radiowaves hacked with racist comments and messaging, in addition to NVUSD's meeting hacked with further racist messaging. The temperature is heating up and boiling and we must

*act now.*

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. For that, I ask you to *embrace courage over comfort*.

Thank you for your time.

All my best,

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 8:53:02 AM

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Mary Lueros  
[MLueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:MLueros@cityofnapa.org)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Alicia Amaro [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 8:48:58 AM PDT  
**To:** Mary Lueros <[MLueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:MLueros@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** **Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**

[EXTERNAL]

My name is Alicia Amaro Streblow, I'm a Latinx resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa.

Thank you for your time.

Alicia Amaro Streblow

**From:** [Mary Luros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Vote Against Systemic Racism  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:09:23 AM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Bernie Jensen [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Vote Against Systemic Racism  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 8:58:51 AM PDT  
**To:** [mluros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mluros@cityofnapa.org)

[EXTERNAL]

Good morning, Councilmember Luros -

I hope you are supporting the initiative to fight systemic racism that is up for vote tonight.

Positive action at the local level is the most effective means of making real changes to the community we all live in. Systemic racism and biases are hard to define and recognize – that's what makes them so insidious and important to act against.

Please use the power of our local government to support everyone in our town. This resolution does not hurt anyone. The people that are opposed to it feel a threat to their world view, a view that excludes. Napa includes!

Thanks –

Bernie Jensen  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Megan Bonilla](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15, 2020 Meeting - Please Read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:25:27 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Good morning,

Here is my public comment for Agenda item 16A:

“As you consider how to cast your vote, keep in mind that for marginalized communities, the notion that racism and discrimination are a public health crisis, is an undisputed fact, it is their lived reality. As you consider voting to ensure that all policy decisions are viewed through an equity lens, please know that this action is needed and necessary to ensure that no additional harm is done to marginalized communities. This is your chance to let Napa’s marginalized communities know that you value their lives and are committed to addressing barriers to equity.”

Best regards,  
Megan Bonilla

**From:** [Beth Nelsen](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL September 15, 2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:31:33 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hi Clerk (maybe Tiffany?), please read the following:

I urge you to pass the proclamation on racial equity. Acknowledgment is an important step. I would also urge you to please set aside any interpersonal conflicts and understand we are in the time many have warned of: we are in the time where anything less than everything we can do on all fronts will no longer serve us and even harm us. Racism is something we must tackle now as we head into more challenges that highlight racial disparities, like climate change and global pandemics. All of this is connected. The formal recognition between physical and mental health will only strengthen.

Visibility for LGBTQ+ and abolishing the Indian mascot have been growth. We do not need to reinvent the wheel to do more. In addition to working together, I would urge you to call upon our leaders who work outside of elected office. We have experienced people who understand policy and have been working in the areas of human rights for decades. Charlie Toledo and Xulio Soriano who have both attended the United Nations as advocates come to mind. Look to the CEDAW model for Napa. Work with your community.

As someone who was singled out as a child for being different I can also speak to the personal effects of racism upon health. Feel free to ask me. Napa has grown since then and we have a much bigger population of Brown folk but we also still have a large population of those who move to Napa with their biases in search of the quote, "Napa lifestyle." In the 1990's, my father taught me about "white flight." Some of you knew my father, Dr. Kendall Nelsen, Napa's beloved pediatrician for over 40 years, serving the children other private physicians refused. His retirement is the reason Clinic Ole has grown its population. I remember him telling me white parents were pulling their white children from his practice because they did not want to be in the same waiting room as the brown families.

Think about why you are doing this job or why you came to Napa. I've spoken to you in the past about our need to acknowledge the healing that needs to be done as we live on stolen land where our largest commodity also gives way to our quietly accepted closeted alcoholism. My father was a man who did his job because it was what he loved to do. He was not seeking public accolades and never attended the "who's who in Napa" parties that I've seen some of you reference. All of our residents, including our undocumented, are sacred life and this proclamation is an important way to say to Napa that yes, we are indeed ready to deep dive into the work that is long overdue.

I am hopeful for all the good that collaboration will bring and I thank you for saying Yes to this work.

Beth Nelsen

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Beth Nelsen

**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: support of resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:43:42 AM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Angelina Schmidt [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** support of resolution  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 9:45:25 AM PDT  
**To:** Mary Lueros <[mlueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mlueros@cityofnapa.org)>

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I am writing to request that you vote to declare racism a public health crisis for the City of Napa. I was born and raised in Napa. I am of Mexican and Amah Mutsun Native American tribe descent.

My Grandparents moved to Napa in 1950 and bought a home in Westwood. They worked in agriculture and raised six children including my mom here in Napa.

I attended Westwood Elementary, Silverado Middle School and graduated from Vintage High School.

I married and have two children of my own, one now attends Napa High School.

I feel very strongly that Napa needs to make critical changes to its education and community policy in order to create a future more inclusive of people who represent Napa.

This will only enrich Napa culturally and ethically for the future. This will put into place infrastructure that can bring benefits to all citizens.

I am proud to say I am from Napa and look forward to a future that includes all communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Angelina Schmidt

**From:** [Alexa Heinemann](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15, 2020 Meeting - Please Read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:44:25 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hello members of the Napa City Council,

I would like to show my support for declaring racism as a public health crisis, agenda item 16A. I think it is so important that our city views policy decisions through a lens of equality to ensure all people, including marginalized communities, black, latinx, women, LGBTQ+, indigenous people and all populations who live here are considered. It will be so beneficial for us all if the City identifies areas of systematic racism and takes action to change these unfair ways of thinking and being. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope we will soon have a town who views racism as a public health crisis.

Alexa Heinemann



**From:** [Madison Van Zandt](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for Sept 15, 2020 Meeting - Please Read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:47:52 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

My name is Madison Van Zandt. I am a life long Napa resident from District 2. In regards to agenda item 16A, Napa MUST declare racism a public health crisis. With COVID-19 alone we are seeing the ravaging disparities related to race and class in the valley. 34% of Napa's population is Latinx, yet Latinx people account for over 56.5% of COVID cases. Additionally, 45% of Latinx or Black Indigenous People of Color parents are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID-19, compared to only 25% of white parents in Napa County. These issues were present before the pandemic, with 55% of Latinx and 28% of Black families living below the self-sufficiency standard in 2018, compared to only 16% of white families, and will only continue to get worse if we do not act as a community. Thank you for taking the time to hear these deeply troubling statistics and giving Napa the opportunity to set an example for dismantling the oppressive systems of white supremacy that have been ingrained in our laws and lives.

Madison

**From:** [Kara Brunzell](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 16A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:14:58 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Please adopt Agenda Item 16A declaring racism a public health crisis. This acknowledgment of the the severity of the problem will be a first step toward treating racism as the crisis it is for our local community. Thank you for your attention to this matter that is essential to our collective future health.

Kara Brunzell



**From:** [Olivia Prado](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:21:54 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

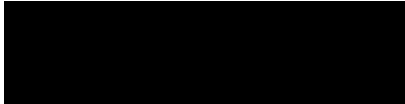
Hello,

My name is Olivia Prado and I grew up in Napa and still call Napa my home.

I am writing to urge the City of Napa Council to declare racism a public health crisis. There is no ambiguity in this. Even here, in Napa County, CA, where many people would like to believe that we are anti-racist liberal safehaven, LatinX people are disproportionately affected by COVID-19. We cannot ignore the facts presented and cannot ignore that this crisis is caused by racism: personal, structural, and societal. **I demand that my hometown, the city of Napa, acknowledges that racism is present in Napa, and that it is a public health crisis FOR ALL.**

Please reach out with any questions.

Olivia Prado



**From:** [Jennifer Shully](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:42:24 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hi, this is a public comment for tonight's meeting, agenda item 16A, Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

In order for an issue to be a true public health crisis, it must affect large numbers of people, and it must threaten their health over the long-term. I would like to argue that this is unequivocally true for people of color in the United States. It affects all of them, and their health for the entirety of their lives.

As the wife and mother of Black people in this country, this county, and this town, I can tell you that systemic racism is a health concern for my family every single day. We worry about the disparity my husband and daughter face not only in the care they may receive, but their general safety every time they step out the door of our home. Literally every time.

I have the numbers of prominent civil rights lawyers saved in my phone because I want to always be prepared if my Black husband is injured or killed due to the color of his skin.

This is not normal.

This is not what anyone should have to think about.

I've witnessed my family deal with racism and discrimination many times in the two years we've lived in Napa. From being followed in stores to being pulled over for no reason to comments about "big messy hair" in school, it is a pervasive part of our lives. We love our home and our community, but this treatment is not acceptable here, or anywhere.

Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis is necessary, critical, and overdue. I am hopeful to see the actions our council and community may take in combatting these issues.

Thank you.

Jenny Shully

**From:** [David Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: TO BE READ ALOUD. AGENDA ITEM 16A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:28:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT 2020-09-15.docx](#)

---

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Caitlin,

I have just discovered two errors that need to be corrected in the email I sent earlier (that > than & adding a dropped word at the end.) The corrected version is on the attached file; I'll highlight the changes in red so you can easily see them.

I hope this is OK and I apologize for my careless proofreading.

Best wishes,

David

When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love has always won. There have been tyrants and murderers and for a time they seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall – think of it, always. ***Mahatma Gandhi.***

*Go Green! Think before you print.*

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---

**From:** Clerk <clerk@cityofnapa.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:14 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: TO BE READ ALOUD. AGENDA ITEM 16A

Greetings David,

The Clerk's Office is confirming receipt of your comments below. Your email will be read into the record at the evening session of the September 15, 2020 City Council meeting.

Thank you,

## Caitlin Saldanha

### Deputy City Clerk

City of Napa – City Hall – City Clerk's Office  
955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559

**Phone** (707) 258-7870

**Email** [csaldanha@cityofnapa.org](mailto:csaldanha@cityofnapa.org)

**Website** [www.cityofnapa.org](http://www.cityofnapa.org)



---

**From:** David Campbell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:02 AM  
**To:** Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT: TO BE READ ALOUD. AGENDA ITEM 16A

[EXTERNAL]

Madam Mayor, Members of City Council,

My name is David Campbell and I live and work in Napa.


I strongly urge you to adopt the resolution declaring systemic racism in Napa to be a public health crisis.

We know that marginalized communities are suffering the effects of COVID-19 at far higher levels than the White community. What is less well publicized are the disparities that occur in the areas of health deliveries and outcomes that intersect with racial, ethnic and, gender and sexual identities. Structural racism results in higher infant mortality rates, higher maternal mortality rates, lower life expectancies and generally poorer health. Services that are available to the White community are denied, through systemic discrimination, to BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ communities. The rates of un-insurance and underinsurance in BIPOC communities far, far exceed those in White communities. And the list goes on.

As a matter of social justice we need to dismantle the structural racism that is imbedded in our healthcare system and in our society in general. And this means we must search out and change racist policies. A small first step to achieving the equity we so need is to pass the resolution declaring racism as a public health crisis. With this resolution Napa will be in a far better position to ensure that future policy decisions are viewed through the lens of racial equity where all of our marginalized communities are considered.

I urge you to adopt this resolution and to do so loudly, proudly and enthusiastically.

David Campbell



When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love has always won. There have been tyrants and murderers and for a time they seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall – think of it, always. **Mahatma Gandhi.**

*Go Green! Think before you print.*

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PUBLIC COMMENT: TO BE READ ALOUD. AGENDA ITEM 16A

I strongly urge you to adopt the resolution declaring systemic racism in Napa to be a public health crisis.

We know that marginalized communities are suffering the effects of COVID-19 at far higher levels **than** the White community. What is less well publicized are the disparities that occur in the areas of health deliveries and outcomes that intersect with racial, ethnic and, gender and sexual identities. Structural racism results in higher infant mortality rates, higher maternal mortality rates, lower life expectancies and generally poorer health. Services that are available to the White community are denied, through systemic discrimination, to BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ communities. The rates of un-insurance and underinsurance in BIPOC communities far, far exceed those in White communities. And the list goes on.

As a matter of social justice we need to dismantle the structural racism that is imbedded in our healthcare system and in our society in general. And this means we must search out and change racist policies. A small first step to achieving the equity we so need is to pass the resolution declaring racism as a public health crisis. With this resolution Napa will be in a far better **position** to ensure that future policy decisions are viewed through the lens of racial equity where all of our marginalized communities are considered.

I urge you to adopt this resolution and to do so loudly, proudly and enthusiastically.

David Campbell

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of David Campbell.



**From:** [David Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT: TO BE READ ALOUD. AGENDA ITEM 16A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:02:36 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

Madam Mayor, Members of City Council,

My name is David Campbell and I live and work in Napa.

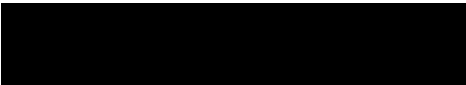
I strongly urge you to adopt the resolution declaring systemic racism in Napa to be a public health crisis.

We know that marginalized communities are suffering the effects of COVID-19 at far higher levels than the White community. What is less well publicized are the disparities that occur in the areas of health deliveries and outcomes that intersect with racial, ethnic and, gender and sexual identities. Structural racism results in higher infant mortality rates, higher maternal mortality rates, lower life expectancies and generally poorer health. Services that are available to the White community are denied, through systemic discrimination, to BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ communities. The rates of un-insurance and underinsurance in BIPOC communities far, far exceed those in White communities. And the list goes on.

As a matter of social justice we need to dismantle the structural racism that is imbedded in our healthcare system and in our society in general. And this means we must search out and change racist policies. A small first step to achieving the equity we so need is to pass the resolution declaring racism as a public health crisis. With this resolution Napa will be in a far better position to ensure that future policy decisions are viewed through the lens of racial equity where all of our marginalized communities are considered.

I urge you to adopt this resolution and to do so loudly, proudly and enthusiastically.

David Campbell



When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love has always won. There have been tyrants and murderers and for a time they seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall – think of it, always. **Mahatma Gandhi.**

*Go Green! Think before you print.*

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*sender and permanently delete the original and any copy of this message and its attachments. Thank you.*

**From:** [Steve Potter](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support of Resolution Declaring Discrimination and Racism as a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:40:08 AM

---

**From:** House, Anne <ahouse@collabriacare.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:28 AM  
**To:** Steve Potter <spotter@cityofnapa.org>  
**Subject:** Support of Resolution Declaring Discrimination and Racism as a Public Health Crisis

[EXTERNAL]

My name is Anne House, I'm a resident of Napa and an Employee of Collabria Care. On behalf of myself and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committed of Collabria Care, I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. My ask is that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of Covid cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during Covid as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as Covid is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

Anne

**Anne House**  
**Volunteer Services Manager**



**Collabria Care**

*We're here for you*

414 South Jefferson St, Napa, CA 94559

Office 707-254-4172 | Mobile 707-815-7065

Fax 707-258-0937

[ahouse@collabriacare.org](mailto:ahouse@collabriacare.org)

[www.collabriacare.org](http://www.collabriacare.org)



**From:** [Amy Little](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15, 2020 Meeting – Please Read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:52:06 AM

---

[EXTERNAL]

Regarding agenda item 16A, I ask members of the Council to publicly recognize that discrimination and systematic racism is a public health crisis and commit to a resolution that will promote equal treatment and representation of all persons in Napa. As a Napa resident and parent, I am holding you accountable to serve all members of the community and address barriers to quality education, healthcare, safe housing, food security, and employment opportunities. I expect more, our children especially deserve more, and the time is now. Thank you for your support.

Amy Little

**From:** [Katherine Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:56:18 AM

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[EXTERNAL]

For Agenda Item #16A:

Dear Napa City Council Members,

I am writing to express my support and urge your support of the Resolution Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis. As a long time Napa resident, I firmly believe that we can only begin to fix problems which we acknowledge. Therefore, I was encouraged to see this item on the agenda as an important first step in what will be a long but very crucial process. Confronting systemic racism and discrimination is a task which can be daunting to undertake, and does not have any set end point, but rather is a lifelong opportunity for learning, growth and improvement.

Thank you for supporting this and for committing the City of Napa to this important task.  
--Katherine Fleming

**From:** [Nasser Abulaban](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Jill Techel](#); [Scott Sedgley](#); [Doris Gentry](#); [Mary Luros](#); [lallessio@cityofnapa.org](mailto:lallessio@cityofnapa.org)  
**Subject:** Re: Comment to Council For September 15, 2020 Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 12:26:14 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I would like to rescind my previous comment you received from me and submit the following comment:

Hello, I am commenting regarding agenda item 16A. I want to express my support publicly that members of the city council recognize racism as a public health crisis. This is an issue nationwide, but as a Napa resident I am asking you address systemic racism, as it affects all aspects in life. This includes access to education, healthcare, safe housing, food security, and employment opportunities. This is a crucial point in history and we all need to be on the right side of it. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Nasser Abulaban

On Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 12:15 PM Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)> wrote:

Greetings Nasser,

The Clerk's Office is confirming receipt of your email below and your written comments will be provided to City Council and City Staff for the September 15, 2020 City Council Meeting. Your written comments will be made a part of the record.

Thank you!

**Caitlin Saldanha**

**Deputy City Clerk**

City of Napa – City Hall – City Clerk's Office

955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559

**Phone** (707) 258-7870

**Email** [csaldanha@cityofnapa.org](mailto:csaldanha@cityofnapa.org)

**Website** [www.cityofnapa.org](http://www.cityofnapa.org)



---

**From:** Nasser Abulaban [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Jill Techel <[jtechel@cityofnapa.org](mailto:jtechel@cityofnapa.org)>; Scott Sedgley <[SSedgley@cityofnapa.org](mailto:ssedgley@cityofnapa.org)>;  
Doris Gentry <[dgentry@cityofnapa.org](mailto:dgentry@cityofnapa.org)>; Mary Lueros <[mlueros@cityofnapa.org](mailto:mlueros@cityofnapa.org)>;  
[lallessio@cityofnapa.org](mailto:lallessio@cityofnapa.org); Clerk <[clerk@cityofnapa.org](mailto:clerk@cityofnapa.org)>  
**Subject:** Comment to Council For September 15, 2020 Meeting

[EXTERNAL]

Regarding agenda item 16A, I ask members of the Council to publicly recognize that discrimination and systematic racism is a public health crisis and commit to a resolution that will promote equal treatment and representation of all persons in Napa. As a Napa resident and parent, I am holding you accountable to serve all members of the community and address barriers to quality education, healthcare, safe housing, food security, and employment opportunities. I expect more, our children especially deserve more, and the time is now. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Nasser Abulaban



**From:** [Tracy Lamb](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** comment to council  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 12:00:10 PM

---

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I would like to provide public comment on the racial justice item at tonight's meeting.

Thank you.

Tracy Lamb

*My name is Tracy Lamb, and I am the Executive Director at NEWS, domestic violence and sexual assault services in Napa. I am reaching out on behalf of NEWS staff, our board, but most importantly, the people that we serve at NEWS. I strongly support the City of Napa declaring systemic racism as a public health crisis, and I ask that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be Napa's first step towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value based on the social interpretation of how one looks, that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous people, and unfairly advantages white people; while sapping the strength of the whole society as established in the American Public Health Association's definition of racism.*

*While domestic violence and sexual assault affects people of all races, and socioeconomic status, and the effects of trauma are long lasting for most victims; women, children and men of color face added disproportional challenges in their path to recovery from abuse. Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) often struggle to survive with a lack of adequate affordable housing, access to health care services, mental health treatment, living wages, food security, and employment opportunities. Our fellow BIPOC neighbors may be headed down a path of life-long suffering when they become victims of domestic violence as a result becoming a single parent household, searching for housing with often minimal income and other challenges as they try to rebuild their lives. All of this as result of a system that has put them at a disadvantage because of their race.*

*At NEWS, we believe that every person should have the right to safety regardless of the color of their skin, for that reason I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the Napa City Council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling of racism needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.*

**Tracy Lamb, Executive Director**

1141 Pear Tree Lane, Ste. 220 Napa CA 94558 ½ 707.252.3687



**From:** [Jeni Olsen](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 12:36:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[Jeni Olsen public comment - racism public health crisis.docx](#)

---

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

Please read my public comment at tonight's city council meeting during agenda item 16A.

Thanks very much,

Jeni



**Jeni Olsen, Prevention Director**

---

Napa's Center for Mental Health Services

main 707/255.0966 • email [jolsen@mentisnapa.org](mailto:jolsen@mentisnapa.org)

<http://www.mentisnapa.org>



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September 15, 2020

Thank you, Mayor Techel and Napa City Councilmembers, for taking the time to read my letter.

My name is Jeni Olsen and I am writing to ask you to vote in favor of declaring Discrimination and Systemic Racism a Public Health Crisis. Through my work with youth over the last several years, I have been in the trenches actively listening and learning about issues that affect teen mental health and wellness. What I've learned echoes data that shows that youth who experience racial and/or sexual discrimination are more likely to suffer from poor mental health.

Last year, The American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement summarizing "The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health". The statement outlines evidence describing how discrimination increases stress, anxiety and depression, erodes self-confidence, affects developmental milestones and can ultimately lead to chronic diseases. The policy statement includes recommendations about how pediatricians can address the issue of racism, starting with building a medical practice *where everyone feels welcome*.

Tonight, I am asking you to continue taking action to build a city *where everyone feels welcome*. I was part of the group who asked for the City of Napa to fly the rainbow flag in May of 2019, and I watched in awe as our entire county follow your example and flew rainbow flags in support of our diverse community. I cannot describe how much this meant to me, and to our young people in Napa. It gave many the confidence to speak out about issues affecting their wellness. It inspired many to build their emotional resilience through therapeutic activism, which promotes both personal and community healing.

I am in full support of the City of Napa declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis, of leading the way in creating a more equitable and inclusive community, as a first step in ultimately developing policies that shape equitable social and economic access for all.

Thank you,

Jeni Olsen



**From:** [Marco Caro](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15th, 2020 Meeting- Please Read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 12:41:00 PM

---

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

My name is Marco Caro, this is a public comment for Agenda item 16A.

Comment:

The City of Napa must join the other 14 California cities in declaring racism as a public health crisis. Racism hurts the health of our community by preventing people the opportunity to attain their highest level of well-being. Racial discrimination affects access to safe and affordable housing, healthcare, education, and employment; all essential aspects of health.

Addressing racism as a public health issue allows jurisdictions to utilize their resources to address this problem as other threats to public health have been addressed over time. These resources can include strategic initiatives in policies, practices, enforcement, education, and support services.

I hope the City of Napa does not see this declaration as final step, but instead the start of a journey to eradicate and diminish the prejudice, discrimination and fear toward black, Indigenous and people of color in our community. We must listen to these individuals, and empower their voices.

Racism does not exist in vacuum, it's a problem that crosses city, county, and state lines. As we aspire to eliminate racism, we must start the change locally.

Thank you.

--

Marco A. Caro

**From:** [Daisy Zamora](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING- PLEASE READ Agenda Item (16A)  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 12:48:41 PM

---

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa Mayor and City Council Members,

My name is Daisy Zamora, I am 18 years old and I was born and raised here in Napa. I am sending this email to talk about Agenda Item (16A). **I am asking you to please vote yes on the resolution declaring systematic racism in Napa to be a public health crisis.** I am Mexican-American, and as much as I would like to say that I have not seen or experienced racism, that would be dishonest. My mom is Mexican, she has lived here in Napa for over 25 years, has her work permit, CA license, pays her taxes every year, she is an overall kind and loving person to our community. She has survived domestic-violence and part of that experience she would call the Napa police to get support and make sure she and her kids would be safe. However whenever I ask her about her experience with the Napa police she has said that instead of feeling safe she feels as if she was being talked down to and she feels guilty. Although my mom is following the rules of the road, obeying the laws, and doing nothing wrong, she feels guilty because she is Mexican. She is afraid and anxious because she knows that because of the racism that lives, there is an assumption that she's doing something wrong or she is guilty, even though she's not. I know that my mom and I aren't the only ones who live in Napa who have experienced racism, unfortunately racism happens often and in many places in our community. Racism is embedded into many of our systems, and as you are the leaders of Napa, I ask you to change that. I want to not only be proud of my community, but also feel safe and supported. **Please vote yes on the resolution declaring systematic racism in Napa to be a public health crisis.**

Thank you,

Daisy Zamora

**From:** [Michele Grupe](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Liz Alessio](#); [Jill Techel](#); [Scott Sedgley](#); [Mary Luros](#); [Doris Gentry](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING AGENDA 16A – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:22:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [9.15.2020 RacismPublic Health.dotx](#)

---

[EXTERNAL]

City Clerk, Mayor Techel and Council Members,

Please find my public comment for Agenda Item 16A attached to be read at today's meeting.

Thank you,  
Michele



First Stop for Families

707 Randolph Street  
Napa, CA 94559

PH 707.252.1123  
FAX 707.256.3175  
[www.copefamilycenter.org](http://www.copefamilycenter.org)

September 15, 2020

Dear Mayor Techel and City Council Members,

As a Napa resident, mother, Executive Director of Cope Family Center, and co-chair of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Napa County, I am writing in support Agenda Item 16A, the resolution declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis.

Many of the families served by Cope Family Center are impacted by systemic racism as they work to navigate programs to support the healthy development of their children. Did you know that in Napa County:

- Covid-19 disproportionately affects LatinX people in our community – data shows that 34% of the County's population is Latinx but account for over 56.5% of COVID cases.
- 45% of Latinx/BIPOC parents listed that they were experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID in comparison to 25% of white families.
- 27% of Latinx/BIPOC parents said they were having difficulty meeting the basic needs of their families in comparison to only 7% of white parents.
- Latinx Families in Napa County are much more likely to live below the self-sufficiency standard than white families. Of the families who live below the standard in Napa County, 55% of them are Latinx, 28% of them are Black and 16% are White.

Impacts of systemic racism meet all four CDC criteria for something to be considered a public health problem: (1) it places a large burden on society that continues to increase, and (2) it impacts certain parts of the population more than others; (3) there is evidence that preventative strategies could help, but (4) this has not happened yet.

**Declaring "Racism is a Public Health Crisis"** is a way for the City of Napa to make a statement that racism and discrimination need to be treated with the same kind of urgency and resources used for tackling opioid addiction or, as we're presently witnessing, the coronavirus pandemic. And that the City of Napa will view all future policy decisions with an equity lens to ensure our marginalized communities are considered.

I strongly encourage you to support this resolution and lead the way in our county to make a statement that racism will not be tolerated in our community.

Regards,

Michele Grupe  
Executive Director



**From:** [Webster, Rebecca L](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Dana Codron](#); [Smith, Teresa S](#); [Tou, Michael P](#); [Abushawish, Jordan A](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ - Agenda Item 16 A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:38:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

[EXTERNAL]

Good afternoon. My name is Rebecca Webster and I'm a Community Health Investment Senior Program Coordinate for Queen of the Valley Medical Center. I'm writing to express our support of the City of Napa's efforts to confront racism, discrimination and inequities and urge the City Council to pass agenda item 16A, a resolution declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis.

At Providence St. Joseph Health, our vision of Health for a Better World is based on a belief that health is a human right. We believe that every person, regardless of their skin color, has the right to live a happy and healthy life. To help us achieve this vision, we recognize that racial disparities permeate every facet of American life and resolve to stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable members of our community.

The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on people of color illustrates the shocking health inequities we must address now. Providence St. Joseph Health is committed to investing in our communities to improve health equity throughout our regions. This includes prioritizing at-risk groups for testing, treatment and vaccinations. In Northern California, we are committed to partnering closely with local community groups and civic organizations to help ensure every person including Black, LatinX, Indigenous, other people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ, and people with disabilities, has access to care.

Confronting racism, discrimination and inequities; standing in solidarity with the most vulnerable among us; and working hard to remove the causes of oppression are embedded in our legacy. The Sisters of Providence and the Sisters of St. Joseph have a long history of advocating for justice and dignity in the face of racism, and they endured personal harassment and intimidation as a result of their work. At Queen of the Valley Medical Center, we look forward to continuing this legacy and are committed to working with the Napa City Council to create a just society where people of color are treated equally and have the opportunity to live a healthy and happy life.

Thank you for your considering this request.

Rebecca Webster, MPH

SENIOR COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR



3448 Villa Lane, Suite 102 Napa, CA 94558

T: (707) 806-0653 F: (707) 257-7898

[www.stjoe.org](http://www.stjoe.org)

**From:** [Julia Allen](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT for 9/15/20, Racism Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:39:53 PM  
**Attachments:** [Julia Allen Public Comment-racism public health crisis.docx](#)

---

[EXTERNAL]

Please find my letter attached.

Thank you!

Julia

**Folia**  
DESIGN

JULIA ALLEN | Founder - Creative Director  
she / her / hers  
F O L I A Design | NAPA , CALIFORNIA  
707 259 0390  
[julia@foliadesign.com](mailto:julia@foliadesign.com)  
[www.foliadesign.com](http://www.foliadesign.com)

My name is Julia Allen, a resident of Napa for 18 years, but originally from Chicago, my birthplace and home of 30 years prior to my move here.

Sight unseen, one would think I am of Caucasian descent, given my name. I still get that look... that noticeable double take on my name and face, where the assumed outcome was by marriage. It is not.

Race is defined as an arbitrary classification of modern humans, based on any or a combination of various physical characteristics, as skin color, facial form, or eye shape, and genetic markers in blood groups.

Racism is prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against a person or people on the basis of their membership in a particular racial or ethnic group, typically one that is a minority or marginalized.

Fact: We are one, and that is human race. Our cultural differences, heritages and variety in appearances should all be acknowledged, honored, respected and celebrated. No one, is better than the other.

I'll keep it simple.

If you vote against declaring Discrimination and Systemic Racism a Public Health Crisis, you are Pro-Racism. There is no in-between. There is nothing "divisive" about being "anti-racist." Being racist is marginalizing a group of persons to which future opportunities are given to another. Being quiet about your stance is also choosing to maintain the status-quo. I repeat, there is no in-between.

I look around our community, and see the people who do standup, vocalize, peacefully protest for Equality, Inclusivity and Opportunity for all. I stand with them, vocalize and peacefully protest for the same.

The growth of our town in the last 18 years has been exponential, but the fact remains, we owe so much to our Latinx workforce for being a big part of creating such an exceptional place to live, specifically 35% of our population. Flash forward to the present moment as we face pandemic times, the Latinx population accounts for over 50% of the COVID cases in Napa County. They are still working the fields, harvesting our farmlands and vineyards, during wild fires no less. Stop to think about that for a moment.

In those 18 years, I became a mother, and now have a 15 year old, who has witnessed so much around him with regards to inequity and racial justice issues in our nation and here in Napa. I won't lie, he's expressed deep frustration at the inequities of our community. I and others are supporting our youth to help empower them to become future leaders in our community and world, and one where being anti-racist is chosen and acted upon.

I ask each of you, Mayor Jill Techel and City Council to vote in favor of passing the resolution of declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis. Let's make Napa County a place where everyone can be supported in a more equitable and inclusive community providing economic opportunity, education, healthcare and housing.

Thank you,  
Julia Allen



**From:** [Erin Winters](#)  
**To:** [Tiffany Carranza](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Tonight's Meeting re: Racism is a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:50:55 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

Please have the following statement read as a public comment during tonight's meeting.

Fellow Napa Residents and City Council Members,

There is an unfortunate sentiment that implies that small-town politics don't matter- that's it's only the big cities that can have a big impact on social issues. Those of us that work in education, community organizing, and social work know otherwise.

A variety of researchers across multiple fields have published on the link between racism and poor health outcomes. This isn't new research- it's been part of conversations within medicine, public health, and epidemiology for over a decade (Pratcher et al., 2009, Johnstone et al., 2010, etc.). People of color are not only more likely to experience violence in interactions with police, they're more likely to die during more "conventional" public health crises like COVID-19. To say otherwise is willfully ignorant and dangerous not unlike "there is no evidence for climate change".

Declaring racism a public health crisis opens up new avenues for funding and community programming to help the people we live with and see every day fulfil the same potential as their White neighbors. The calls to action by the Rainbow Action Network and PCC, to create 1) a public art installation for Black Lives Matter, 2) building a Human Rights Commission to advise the City Manager and Council on changes towards being a more equitable government, and 3) developing strong partnerships with other systems in our community that need equity work are reasonable, achievable goals that the City of Napa can make a reality. I can hear some people claim that the art installation doesn't mean anything- but research has shown the positive impacts of representation across a variety of spaces (Pitts, 2005; Buhlmann, 2012; Fan, 2019). We had similar conversations in previous sessions about flying the Pride Flag in Napa. By having the city of Napa declare racism as a public health crisis we can be seen as part of the solution and be an example for other smaller communities trying to make a difference.

This is our duty as a community to better serve the people that live here, and humanity as a whole.

Erin Winters, MEd.

--

Erin Winters, MEd.  
she/her/hers

PhD Student, Learning and Mind Sciences- Psychometrics  
School Of Education

Graduate Student Researcher  
Center for Educational Effectiveness

University of California, Davis

**From:** [Errr Gee](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Napa City council meeting 15 Sept. 2020. public comment Re: Item 16A Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:54:56 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

permission to read aloud:

I'm writing today to urge all members of Napa City Council to vote yes/aye on item A16 or r2020.

This Resolution recognizes that Our City of Napa is not immune to racial bias and recognizes long entrenched systematic disparities that our agricultural and hospitality driven city benefits from.

It states that, "discrimination and systematic racism is a public health crisis that results in disparities in family stability, health and mental wellness, education, employment, economic development, public safety, criminal justice experience, and housing."

It also puts a focus on intersectionality, which is too frequently overlooked or downplayed in broad conversations about racial justice. "Discrimination and systematic racism manifests in distinct ways across many social intersections, including face, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, disability, immigration status, and age".

We are at a critical juncture in our democracy, and it is past time we take the first step towards recognizing this crisis that has been perpetuated since before our Country's inception. Act locally. Be the change. history has its eyes on you.

Again I urge a yes vote on agenda item 16A R2020:

Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis

Erin Gulbransen 94559



**From:** [Kerry Ahearn](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Napa City Council to Vote on Racism Resolution Email  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:00:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis .docx](#)

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[EXTERNAL]

Please see the attached support letter for the resolution regarding Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis.

Thank you,  
Kerry



Kerry Ahearn, LCSW  
Chief Executive Officer  
Aldea Children & Family Services  
1546 First Street | Napa, CA 94559  
(707) 224-8266 | [www.aldeainc.org](http://www.aldeainc.org)

*Creating bright futures for all through mental health, child welfare and support programs.*





1546 First Street, P.O. Box 841, Napa, CA 94559  
info@aldeainc.org \ 1-888-99ALDEA \ [www.aldeainc.org](http://www.aldeainc.org)

## **Template Email in Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**

My name is Kerry Ahearn, I'm a resident of Napa and the CEO of Aldea Children & Family Services. I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. I ask that you vote in favor of this agenda item. This could be the city's first stepping stone towards dismantling the system of racism that assigns value "based on the social interpretation of how one looks (race), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities (Black, Latinx, Indigenous people), unfairly advantages other individuals and communities (white people), and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." (American Public Health Association's definition of racism.)

The statistics don't lie to back this up: 34% of the County's population is Latinx, yet this community accounts for 56.5% of COVID cases; 45% of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous families said they were experiencing financial difficulties during COVID as opposed to 25% of white families; police brutality kills Black Americans at 2.5 times the rate of white Americans; and Black women are 3x more likely to die during childbirth than white women. This sliver of information regarding the real-life, harmful, and fatal effects of racism should not only alarm you, but also call you to action to ensure the City of Napa does everything in its power to be actively anti-racist. As racism is a system, and almost every aspect of our day-to-day life has racial disparities - ex. Criminal justice, education system, health care system, housing and more - we need all possible hands on deck in shrinking the health, financial and well-being gap between white people and Latinx/BIPOC. Racism is as much of a public health crisis as COVID is, so we need it to be treated with just as much urgency and resources.

I not only look forward to seeing this agenda item passed by the council on Tuesday, the 15th of September, but also to watch it come to fruition. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you for your time.

**From:** [Daniel P. McQueeney](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** 16A R2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:12:41 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

I'm writing in support of 16A R2020: Affirming Discrimination and Systemic Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

Daniel McQueeney

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** [Brooke Casey](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Doris Gentry](#); [Jill Techel](#); [Liz Alessio](#); [Mary Luros](#); [Scott Sedgley](#)  
**Subject:** Meeting tonight  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:02:04 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Good evening,

I would like to state my support for the City of Napa declaring that racism and discrimination are a public health crisis. We are at an important crossroads as a country and have an opportunity as a community to unequivocally commit to addressing racism as it exists through structural and systemic inequities.

As a mental health provider I know that discrimination and inequity have an impact on emotional wellbeing at the individual, family and community level. I believe we should address these injustices with the same fervor, attentiveness, and resources, we would any other threat to public health.

As a parent of two children of color, I hope for my kids to grow up in a valley that demonstrates its unwavering commitment to cultivating a just and sustainable community through word, action and policy.

Thank you for your service, and for your time and consideration on this matter.

Respectfully,  
Brooke Casey

**From:** [Ian Stanley](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment regarding AGENDA ITEM 16A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:06:29 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

To be read at the 6:30p City Council meeting: Comment regarding AGENDA ITEM 16A

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I am grateful that our Council has this opportunity to proclaim racism a public health crisis, to take time to listen to the community and to respond appropriately. As a white man raised in Napa, I believe this is long overdue. Something I did not hear much when growing up was that racism is something that affects all of us, even those of us who are not people of color.

I can tell you many local stories of racism and discrimination, both subtle and overt:

- Overhearing store clerks talk with customers about how they wish their Mexican neighbors would just go back to their country
- Friends harassed in the street or at school with anti-Latino and anti-Arab put-downs
- In school, hearing other students say that NAPA stands for “no African people allowed”

My list could go on. I believe the staff report, the resolution, and other speakers will share statistics and figures about how insidious and pervasive racism is.

However, a personal experience of mine stands out to me as telling. Growing up, my neighbor moved to Napa in 1990 because of the war and invasion of Kuwait. We quickly became good friends and did the usual things like bike rides around town and dinners with each others' families. After years of hanging out daily in middle school and high school, his family decided to move to Rohnert Park and I was devastated. He explained that he couldn't wait to get out of Napa because it was so racist. Not until he opened up--and I opened my eyes and ears, did I realize how different our experiences were.

As community members, it's our responsibility to care about our neighbors. That's what being in community is all about. And it starts with listening and not missing opportunities to take action.

This subject is definitely within the purview of the city, as government agencies have the ability to help or hinder, especially in regards to their approaches to hiring, community

relations and communications, services, ordinances and important partnerships. Disasters like the pandemic and recent fires have only heightened the need to to pay attention and do something.

I have spoken with this council before about inclusion and LGBTQ--and am grateful for your leadership in voting to display the rainbow flag and also to have the city take actions to back up that symbol of inclusion. You now have another opportunity for inclusion before you. I urge you to do the same: listen to your residents, especially to the experiences of our people of color, and then take action to make a difference. If we want our community to be a place that people don't have to leave to find care and connection, it's an important start.

Ian M. Stanley Posadas  
Napa

**From:** [Bob Massaro](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:15:00 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Re: Resolution **declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Napa City Council.

Perhaps I have an interesting prospective on this matter. I was married to a Latina for 24 years. We were blessed to adopt a bi-racial new-born son many years ago. Now for the past 25 years we have all been proud citizens of the City of Napa. I came to Napa having practiced Public Health in Los Angeles, after leaving U.C.L.A. with a degree in Public Health many years ago. Now, for almost 40 years I have practiced public health in the built environment through our company, Healthy Buildings. Public Health is important to me, as it should be to every citizen. Eliminating racism and discrimination should be equally important, if not more so.

Unfortunately during our many years in Napa we have encountered systemic racism and discrimination on multiple occasions. It is disturbing, very sad, quite ugly and does not belong in our community. However it does exist, and it is a part of a multi-layered public health crisis that reaches well beyond Napa.

When I was informed of this resolution I was upset and thrilled. Upset that in 2020 we would still have to fight this battle, and thrilled that our City Manager and Staff have brought forward this resolution for action by the Council.

Madam Mayor and Council Members you should be honored to approve this resolution. It is what true leaders would do. It is the right thing to do.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Massaro  
BS, MPH  
CEO, The Healthy Buildings Companies.

**From:** [Leslie Lew](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to Council for September 15 - Please Read / Agenda Item 16A  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:55:34 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Good evening,

My name is Leslie Lew. I am writing today regarding agenda item 16A.

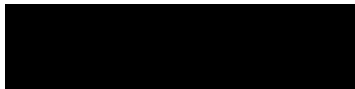
Thank you so much for taking up this important resolution.

As your staff report so clearly states, systematic racism is a public health crisis that results in disparities in family stability, health and mental wellness, education, employment, economic development, public safety, criminal justice experience and housing.

Please pass this resolution.

Sincerely,

Leslie Lew



**From:** [Juan Carlos Mora](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 4:21:30 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

Gerardo Martin



My name is Gerardo Martin, I'm a resident of Napa and I am reaching out to you because I unequivocally support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. I ask is that you vote in favor of this long overdue agenda item. This will be our city's first step in dismantling the systemic racism and actively work to be anti-racist.

Criminal justice, education, health care, housing and more are critical components to ensuring we have a thriving Black, Latinx, and Indigenous community. The City of Napa must acknowledge racism as the life-threatening virus that we know it to be.

I look forward to seeing this agenda item passed. It's time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the help and support needed to live comfortably in their community. Thank you.



**From:** [Mary Lueros](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Budget Conscious Climate Actions + Racism Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 4:57:13 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Lori Stelling [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 15, 2020 at 4:55:29 PM PDT  
**To:** Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>, Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <SSedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Lueros <MLueros@cityofnapa.org>  
**Subject:** Budget Conscious Climate Actions + Racism Resolution

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa City Council Members,

I very much enjoyed watching Napa Climate NOW!'s presentation on Budget Conscious Climate Actions from home today, between work meetings. As a parent who cares deeply about the future of my 13 year old son and all youth, as someone with a health conditioned that is worsened by the pollution impacts of climate change, and as someone who has had a life-long love of the great outdoors, I cannot urge you more strongly to move forward on climate action now. As a local meditation teacher, I bear witness to the impact of climate crisis on our community every day. I encourage you to spend staff time on this critical issue, partnering with local organizations who are ready and willing to help, for the health and well-being of our community and the wider world.

I also encourage you to support the Racial Discrimination Resolution, sending a strong message to our community that we are committed to ending systemic racism, step by step. I am off to another meeting, so I'm unsure at what point on the agenda this item arose.

Thank you for your time and your dedication to your community.

Sincerely,  
Lori Stelling  
Napa Climate NOW! Working Group Liaison  
20+ year Napa Resident

**From:** [Tiffany Carranza](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Item 16. A - Napa City Council - Sept. 15 2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:09:34 PM

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**From:** Geoff Ellsworth <GEllsworth@cityofsthelena.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:06 PM  
**To:** Tiffany Carranza <tcarranza@cityofnapa.org>  
**Cc:** Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>; Sedgley, Scott [REDACTED] Steve Potter <spotter@cityofnapa.org>  
**Subject:** Item 16. A - Napa City Council - Sept. 15 2020

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Tiffany, I hope you can distribute this to the Napa Council for tonight's session.  
It is very much appreciated.  
Best, Geoff

Dear Mayor Techel and Napa City Council,

As the Mayor of St. Helena I want to express my overwhelming support of the Napa City Council for consideration of passing a resolution declaring discrimination and systemic racism a public health crisis. Nationwide and locally we have all witnessed systemic racism and systemic bias in our communities and at large. Great leadership is demonstrated by a governmental body willing to recognize these inequities; we can begin to address these injustices through policy and reform as a legislative body. A resolution recognizing the significance of these issues helps pave the way to achieve an inclusive society rooted in tolerance and a social policy committed to acceptance and inclusion. This is an opportunity for a more peaceful and just future and I appreciate your leading the way on it as we work forward to bring this type of message and policy to all of the jurisdictions within Napa County and beyond.

With Gratitude

Mayor Geoff Ellsworth

St. Helena

**From:** [Napa County LDC](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Jill Techel](#); [Doris Gentry](#); [Scott Sedgley](#); [Liz Alessio](#); [Mary Luros](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING Agenda Item 16A – PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:25:35 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

**Template Email in Support of Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**

I am writing today on behalf of the Napa County Latinx Democratic Club.  
We are reaching out today to strongly support the City of Napa resolution to declare racism as a public health crisis.

As a club we are working to give almost 34% of the Napa community a voice. A voice that for far too long has been muffled or unheard. It is because of the systemic racism that exists that we are not involved to the degree we should be. It is only with the passing of this resolution that we can actively begin to address the issues that have separated us for far too long.

By approving this proclamation the City of Napa is making it clear to the Latinx/BIPOC community that it WILL act upon the racism and social injustice that has plagued us for far too long.

We will continue to work with the local government officials and electeds to ensure that our voices are heard and that we work together to bridge the gap between our communities. Ensuring that everyone feels welcome and safe to live and work in this community. Although we are a newly formed club we are here to make a difference and are hopeful that we can work together in the best interest of our Napa community.

In Solidarity!  
Ines DeLuna  
NCLDC President

**From:** [Rubi Pelayo](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Comment to council for September 15, 2020 Meeting- Please read  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:41:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comment for Agenda Item 16A.docx](#)

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[EXTERNAL]

Comment for agenda item 16A

## **Comment for Agenda Item 16A: Resolution that Discrimination and Systemic Racism is a Public Health Crisis**

My name is Rubi Pelayo and I am a resident and social worker in Napa. I am reaching out to you because I strongly support the City of Napa declaring racism as a public health crisis. I ask that you vote in favor of this agenda item. As a Latinx female born and raised in Napa county, I was witness to and experienced the structural racism that is deeply seeded in this community. In my role as a social worker, I come across individuals on a daily basis who are struggling to survive in this community, suffering from stress, anxiety, and a plethora of mental health consequences that could be prevented if the social and structural conditions in our community were addressed. The BIPOC community, particularly people of Latinx descent are the backbone of our economy yet they struggle to find affordable housing, access healthcare, meet basic needs, and feel safe from racism in our county. Napa cannot tolerate this any further. It must embrace Latinx and BIPOC individuals and acknowledge their contributions to our local economy and community. In exchange for all they do for this community, it is the responsibility of those in positions of power and residents alike to address the systemic inequalities that cause hardships for BIPOC individuals. When systemic injustices are addressed, plans are implemented, and carried out, all members of our community are given the equal opportunity to live and thrive. Declaring racism as a public health crisis is the first step towards making those changes and generating solutions. I urge you to not take this matter lightly and make a commitment to make changes in our community that will benefit our Latinx/BIPOC constituents. It is time our Latinx/BIPOC community felt the aid, support, and dismantling needed to live comfortably in their home of Napa. Thank you.

Rubi Pelayo

**From:** [Eve Ryser](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING-- PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:53:59 PM

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[EXTERNAL]

My name is Eve Ryser and I'm a twenty year resident of Napa, as well as a current candidate for Napa Valley Unified School Board for Area 4.

I'm writing regarding Agenda Item 16A, to encourage the City of Napa to pass tonight's resolution declaring discrimination and systemic racism as a public health crisis facing our community. This will mobilize resources and bring much needed attention to the systemic problem and the steps necessary to address it.

Our community's COVID statistics provide a current, revealing example- 34% of our County's population is Latinx and yet the Latinx community accounts for 56.5% of COVID cases; 45% of Black, Latinx and Indigenous families report experiencing financial difficulties during COVID, compared to 25% of white families. During our local Black Lives Matter and Pride gatherings, countless community members have shared personal experiences of discrimination, giving personal voice to the systemic discrimination we must work to end.

To me, passing this resolution means our City seeks to better itself, by becoming actively, consciously anti-racist. Our local government should support the continuous, honest examination of our institutions, policies and outcomes through an equity lens, and then support taking appropriate, responsive action when it is required.

Tonight, I ask the city council to consider, and then act upon, the words of James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Please pass this resolution and take positive, concrete steps to end systemic racism and discrimination, so that our city of Napa can continue to become a more perfect community.

Thank you.

Eve Ryser