

RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
RIALTO AFFIRMING THAT 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, AND HOUSING, AS WELL AS
DECLARING THE CITY'S SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY'S
EFFORTS TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE THE COUNTYWIDE
VISION BY IMPLEMENTING AN ELEMENT ON "EQUITY" AND
ENCOURAGE ALL OTHER AGENCIES TO ALSO LEGISLATE
SUCH SUPPORT AND THEREBY ENSURING A UNIFIED VOICE
AMONG ALL LOCAL AGENCY EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD**

WHEREAS, racism results in the structuring of opportunity and assigning of value based solely on skin color and other physical characteristics, which creates unfair disadvantages to some individuals and communities and unfair advantages to other individuals and communities, therefore preventing societies as a whole from achieving their full potential; and

WHEREAS, throughout history, racism has manifested as discrimination and oppression directed toward numerous populations, resulting in trauma, terror, and long-term physical and mental health impairments for the targets of racism, their communities, and subsequent generations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Office of Disease Prevention recognizes that discrimination negatively impacts health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, in its Vision, Mission, Values and Goals, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health states that its values include, “We ensure that all individuals and communities have equal opportunity for health and well-being”; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau has documented a significant increase in anxiety and depression among Black people nationally following the May 25, 2020 killing of George Floyd; and

WHEREAS, the Countywide Vision adopted by the Board of Supervisors and elected representatives of all twenty-four San Bernardino County incorporated Cities and Towns (including the City of Rialto) on June 30, 2011 begins with the words, “We envision a complete County that capitalizes on the diversity of its people”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rialto proudly proclaims as part of its vision:

RIALTO

Entering a Second Century of Progress

- *Rialto will be a Family First Community*
- *Rialto Shall Attract High-Quality Development and Improve its Physical Environment*
- *Rialto's Economic Environment will be Healthy and Diverse*
- *Rialto will be an Active Community*

WHEREAS, racism creates disparate outcomes in many areas of life that serve as the elemental foundation of the Countywide Vision, including housing, education, employment and the economy, public safety and criminal justice, and physical and behavioral health; and

WHEREAS, specific physical and behavioral health conditions stemming from racism include depression, anxiety, anger, hypertension, stroke, heart attack, diabetes, maternal death, premature birth, respiratory diseases, and autoimmune diseases; and

WHEREAS, racism has given rise to geographic segregation that disproportionately exposes people of color to lead poisoning, poor air quality, inadequate nutrition, and under-resourced recreational and healthcare facilities; and

WHEREAS, the infant mortality rate with San Bernardino County's Black population is more than double the rate for the County as a whole; and

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2 **WHEREAS**, Black people account for less than 9 percent of the County's population but almost
3 19 percent of the County jail bookings and 38 percent of the bookings into County juvenile detention
4 facilities; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, more than 21 percent of the County's homeless population is Black and available
7 housing and homeownership is impacted by affordability; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, in San Bernardino County, only 17 percent of Black students compared to more
10 than 31 percent of all students are proficient in math and less than 35 percent of Black students
11 compared to almost 45 percent of all students are proficient in English/Language Arts; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, helping people process the trauma of past injustice and create new narratives based
14 upon equity, fairness, and equal justice can have healing effects, both mentally and physically.

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16 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Rialto affirms
17 that racism is a public health crisis that results in disparities in family stability, health and mental
18 wellness, education, employment, economic development, public safety, criminal justice, and housing,
19 as well as declaring the City's support of the County's efforts to expand and improve the Countywide
20 Vision by implementing an Element on "Equity" and also encourage all other agencies to also legislate
21 such support and thereby ensuring a unified voice among all local agency efforts in this regard.

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23 Furthermore, based upon this resolution, the City of Rialto affirms its full support of the County's efforts
24 in the dismantling of racism by:

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26 1) Volunteering to serve on the County's Equity Element Group as the first step toward eradicating
27 racism countywide, wherever it might be found.
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1 2) Collaborate with the County's law and justice agencies through the work of the Equity Element
2 Group to participate in meaningful dialogues on the provision of public safety countywide in
 support of the Equity Element Group's work.

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4 3) Review and consider policies of the County's Equity Element Group aimed at addressing and
 dismantling racism, and how racism impacts our community and communities.

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6 4) Review and continue to improve upon specific activities to enhance diversity with the City's
 workforce.

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8 5) Advocate through the League of California Cities, the National League of Cities, the US
 Conference of Mayors, Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), and other such
 organizations, to ensure that systematic racism is dismantled and replaced with equity.

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11 6) Supporting community efforts to amplify issues of racism and engaging actively and
 authentically with communities of color throughout the County and our City.

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13 7) Support and participate in the County's efforts to study and review existing County policies and
 practices, that can be considered and replicated at the City of Rialto, through a lens of racial
 equity to promote and support policies that prioritize health in an equitable way, especially for
 people of color by mitigating exposure to adverse childhood experiences.

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16 8) Hereby encourage all Cities and Towns of the County of San Bernardino to also adopt
 resolutions as detailed herein and legislate complete support thereto.

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1 **PASSED APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 28th day of July, 2020.

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4 DEBORAH ROBERTSON, Mayor

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7 **ATTEST:**

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11 BARBARA McGEE, City Clerk

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15 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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19 ERIC VAIL, Interim City Attorney

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO) ss
CITY OF RIALTO)**

I, Barbara McGee, City Clerk of the City of Rialto, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rialto held on the 28th day of July, 2020.

Upon motion of Council Member ____, seconded by Council Member ____, the foregoing Resolution No. ____ was duly passed and adopted.

Vote on the motion:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Official Seal of the City of Rialto this day of July, 2020.