

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND
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April 6, 2021

Los Angeles County Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

Los Angeles County (County) is one of the nation’s largest and most diverse regions and the County is home to more Asian Americans than any other county in the United States. The County has the largest Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Korean, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, and Thai American populations with over 45 ethnic groups and over 28 speaking languages. The diversity within the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI), Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities is reflected throughout all of our districts and the rise in anti-Asian violence in the United States and the recent shootings at three spas in the Atlanta area has heightened anxiety in the Asian-American community.

The County has an anti-hate program, LA vs. Hate, which provides free multilingual and multicultural services for our Asian American, NHPI and other communities targeted by hate, including community-based nonprofits providing mental health and other services, such as Special Service for Groups, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Antelope Valley Partners for

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Health, and Bienestar Human Services.

While the Human Relations Commission has led a valiant effort for the LA vs. Hate initiative, we must do more as a Board of Supervisors (Board) to elevate the voice and needs of the AAPI/NHPI communities. Given the urgency and the rise in violence against these communities, the County should respond to this moment by incorporating an anti-racist agenda for the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. On July 21, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted a sweeping initiative that boldly articulates an anti-racist agenda that will guide, govern and increase the County's ongoing commitment to fighting racism in all its dimensions, especially racism that systemically affects Black residents. There is more we must do to build upon the leadership that the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) initiative provides to help promote unity and solidarity within and amongst Black and Asian communities, and beyond. We must continue to enhance the efforts to provide education and prevention to stop violence against our communities. There needs to be a call for unity, solidarity, and advocacy to address an anti-racist agenda for all our residents in the County and ARDI is positioned to do just that.

WE, I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Executive Director of Racial Equity for the County's Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative lead a workgroup that includes the Human Relations Commission, the Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention, the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, and other relevant community partners—including leaders from the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI/NHPI) communities – and report back to the Board in 30-days with the following:

1. Provide specific recommendations regarding how the County can address the rise and continuation of hate and violence directed towards AAPI/NHPI communities;
2. Explore the feasibility of launching the LA County Equity and Diversity Fund, with an initial investment of \$1 million. The workgroup should provide both staffing and funding sustainability recommendations – which may include key philanthropic partnerships. Immediate goals of the fund should be to:
 - a) Partner with leading research institutions to better understand, address, and end hate, bias, discrimination, and xenophobia, against communities of color, including members of the AAPI/NHPI communities; and
 - b) Identify artistic and cultural opportunities to acknowledge, highlight, and celebrate the contributions of communities of color, including members of the AAPI/NHPI communities.
3. A strategy on how to incorporate this work within the ARDI initiative, relevant departments and Countywide. The workgroup should consider the creation of County equity priorities, targets, and measures to assess and monitor the County’s equity work, including, but not limited to, economic mobility and development, education, public health, housing, and well-being. and
4. ~~Identify artistic and cultural opportunities to acknowledge, highlight, and celebrate the contributions of communities of color, including members of the AAPI/NHPI communities.~~

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