

# THOUSAND OAKS CITY COUNCIL



## Supplemental Information Packet

**Agenda Related Items - Meeting of February 9, 2021  
Supplemental Packet Date: February 9, 2021**

**5:00 p.m.**

### **Supplemental Information:**

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed, typically a minimum of two—one available on the Thursday preceding the City Council meeting and the second on Tuesday at the meeting. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection on the City's website at [toaks.org/agendas](http://toaks.org/agendas) or by contacting the City Clerk Dept at (805) 449-2151 during normal business hours [main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)].

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Name (Optional)	City	Item #	In favor/ Opposed	Comment
Stephanie Sullivan	Thousand Oaks	6	N/A	<p>I am writing for a third time to encourage the City Council to adopt a resolution for equity and establish an equity council that can properly address issues of system racism and disenfranchisement in Thousand Oaks.</p> <p>After the last City Council Meeting, I wrote to all of the members and received responses from Bob Engler and Kevin McNamee. While I definitely appreciate that they responded, I was not satisfied by what they said.</p> <p>Council member Engler said "a resolution is indeed well meaning but that a better approach was to make inclusivity part of the council's goal setting exercise in March since our goals are the action items that the city will continue to work on. For example one of our goals is to be a greener city and we have taken several concrete steps toward that goal this year alone." Clearly Mr. Engler does not understand the urgency of this matter, since he thinks racism can wait until it's convenient for the Council to address it. Waiting until March when there are issues impacting our neighbors and friends daily is at the very least tone deaf and could potentially be dangerous. This says to me that Mr. Engler does not feel racism is an important issue to address because it does not affect him directly. This is exactly why a resolution for equity is needed, and why these conversations with the 35% non-white members of the community must continue through a commission for equity.</p> <p>Mr. McNamee's response was also disappointing: "Equality for all is paramount in a just society. As a college instructor I find educational opportunities to be a key cornerstone for a person to become more. Learn a new skill that society needs filled. It is exciting to see the opportunity realized and the light in a students eyes when that is learned." Firstly, I, and many others, are asking for a resolution for equity - not equality. For Mr. McNamee to brush this off in favor of equality shows that he does not understand the need for the resolution. Considering that he is a college instructor, he should be learning how to best serve his students, and understanding systemic racism and historical inequities would be an excellent way to start. It appears that he is centering himself in this response as opposed to the people he was elected to serve.</p> <p>I also understand that the General Plan is incorporating Environmental Justice into the process, and has discussed equity during a meeting held in July 2020, but it doesn't appear that any of those proposed actions in the plan have been followed. A commitment from City Council to address these issues is long overdue, so a resolution is the best approach. Please take action on this so the work of addressing inequities can actually begin.</p>

TO COUNCIL: 02/09/2021  
MEETING DATE: 02/09/2021