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**2017 RES-249**

**INCORPORATING EQUITY QUESTIONS INTO COUNTY AGENDAS**

The County Board equity plan currently has five goals:

Goal 1: Increase racial equity education

Goal 2: Increase staff diversity and inclusion

Goal 3: Increase the learning platform for supervisor and community on racial equity

Goal 4: Incorporate a racial equity template into committee agendas and budgets

Goal 5: Develop local and national partnerships to advance racial equity

The County Board has made progress in advancing the goals of its equity plan, but work remains. Goal 4, in particular, remains unaddressed.

When making decisions on resolutions, ordinance amendments, budget amendments, or other action items, there are four key equity questions to consider:

1) Who benefits?

2) Who is burdened?

3) Who does not have a voice at the table?

4) How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

There has been considerable discussion regarding how to keep these key questions before members of the County Board, as well as members of board and commissions, as they conduct the business of the county. The common thread for any public body is the requirement for an agenda. Incorporating the equity questions into the template of the county agendas will help to insure that decision makers consider items with the prism of equity at the forefront. Furthermore, as the administrator of the legislative management system, the Board Office is able to uniformly implement changes in the agenda template for county committees, boards, and commissions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors directs the County Board Office to develop a masthead for the County Board agenda, as well as agendas for all committees of the County Board, and for Dane County boards and commissions to include the following equity questions:

Who benefits?

Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?