



THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

October 7, 2022

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work City of Merced Parks & Rec Dept Flag Football Game Night



City of Merced Parks and Community Spaces Public works in Action

The City-hired contractor, Park Planet, continued work this week; fibar has been added at Hansen Park and Little Angels Park, as well as installation work starting at Benjamin Tanager Park as part of a Measure Y funded project to replace park playground equipment at Little Angels Park, 12th & G Street Park, the Love Veasely Family Park, Benjamin Tanager Park, Frederick Douglas Park, Hansen Park, and Santa Fe Strip Park 3.

Hansen Park



Little Angels



Frederick Douglas Park



Benjamin Tanager Park

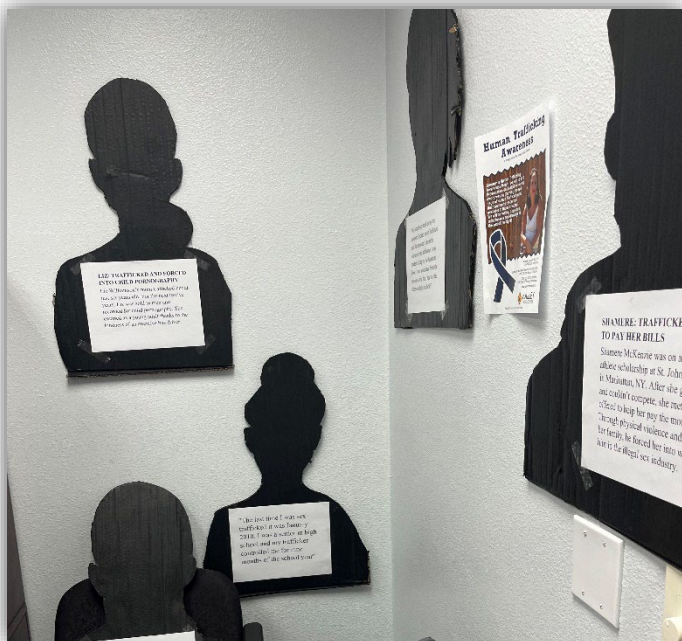


Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to celebrate Valley Crisis Center's new location on 790 Loughborough Drive, Community Liaison Rosa Alcaraz attended and toured the facility to learn about programs and services available to survivors of Intimate Partner Violence.

The Merced Police Department has an advocate from Valley Crisis Center located at Central Station to assist officers, detectives, and survivors they support.

National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233 -Hours: 24/7. Languages: English, Spanish and 200+ through interpretation service.



National Night Out at Sierra Meadows

Earlier this week the Sierra Meadows Senior Apartment facility held its National Night Out event. Members of the Merced Police Department attended and enjoyed meeting residents. Pictured below are Officer Benavidez, Community Liaison Rosa Alcaraz, Valley Crisis Advocate Gameelah, and Detectives Sannadan and Jasso.



Family Friendly Fun October Events

It's time for the Merced Police Department's 2nd Annual Cops for Critters Car Show and Trunk or Treat event for the community. The event is free to attendees. Are you interested in entering your vehicle in the car show? Visit <https://www.cityofmerced.org/departments/police> and click on the event flyer. Space is limited!

Proceeds to benefit Applegate Park Zoo!

2ND ANNUAL COPS FOR CRITTERS

CAR SHOW & TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 29TH, 2022 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT APPLAGATE PARK AND ZOO

\$25 PRE-REG FEE BEFORE 10/21
\$30 AFTER 10/21

CHECK-IN @ 9
JUDGING @ 12

ADULT & CHILD COSTUMES WELCOME
RAFFLE PRIZES FOR CHILDREN

FEATURING:



SPACE IS LIMITED, REGISTER NOW!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cops-for-critters-car-show-and-trunk-or-treat-tickets-416044351677>



Tiny Tots Pumpkin Party
Oct. 28th
Applegate Park Zoo



CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND RECREATION

TINY TOTS HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN PARTY!

COSTUMES HIGHLY ENCOURAGED!

PUMPKIN DECORATING • CRAFTS •
PHOTOBOOTH • HALLOWEEN MAZE
• AND MORE!

KIDS AGES 2-10
OCT. 28, 2022 • 5:15PM-7:15PM
AT APPLAGATE PARK ZOO!
1045 W 25TH ST.



\$10 PER CHILD

PRE-REGISTRATION
REQUIRED AT
632 W 18TH ST.
(209) 382-6235

SCAN OR CODE TO
VOLUNTEER!



Call for Vendors

Halloween Street Bash
Oct. 22nd
Joe Herb Park



City of Merced Parks and Recreation

HALLOWEEN STREET BASH

Trunk or Treat
candy is limited

LIVE MUSIC, ACTIVITIES, FOOD,
AND CANDY!

Saturday, October 22nd | 6:00pm - 8:00pm | Joe Herb Park
2200 YOSEMITE PARKWAY, Merced, CA
Parking available at Golden Valley High School Parking Lot

BRING A TREAT BAG AND WEAR YOUR COSTUME!



Scan our QR code if
you're interested in
volunteering!

Interested to Volunteer or decorate your trunk for the street bash?
call (209) 385-6235 or come into our office 632 W. 18th St. Merced, CA



Call for Vendors



CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND RECREATION

VENDORS WANTED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VENDORS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO WOULD
LIKE TO JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S HALLOWEEN STREET BASH!
SPOOKIFY YOUR TRUNK OR BOOTH!

VENDORS AND ORGANIZATIONS MUST BE ABLE TO GIVE OUT CANDY OR
GOODY BAGS FOR UP TO 1,000 PEOPLE. VENDOR MUST PROVIDE OWN
POWER (BATTERY, LED, SOLAR ETC.)

Reserve your space now!



CALL (209) 385-6235 FOR MORE INFO ABOUT BECOMING A VENDOR OR
VISIT US AT OUR OFFICE 632 W. 18TH ST. MERCED



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Inspection Services Bi-weekly report for September 19th, 2022 through October 2nd, 2022

Single Family Dwelling (SFD) permits:

- SFD Permits Issued: **2**
- SFD Permits in Plan Review: **204**
- SFD Certificates of Occupancy: **3**

Multi-Family Dwelling (MFD) permits in review:

- Gateway Terrace Apartments located at 405 W 12th St; one office/lounge and six two-story apartments: two buildings have 16 units, three buildings have 30 units, and one building has four units for a total of 126 units.
- Compass Pointe phase II: 112 units in 12, 8-plex buildings, plus a clubhouse.
Gateway Commons Apartments located at 3130 E. Gerard Ave.; one community building, five buildings with 16 units, and five buildings with 24 units for 200 units, plus 31 garage structures.
(no change since last report)

MFD permits issued:

- There were 0 MFD permits issued during this period.
(no change since last report)

Commercial & Industrial permits issued:

- There was 1 new construction commercial permit issued during this period; for a 4,088 SF 7-11 located at 1995 W. Olive Ave.
- There was 1 new tenant improvement permit issued during this period; for a structural repair and addition of a door and wall at 933 W. 15th St.

Commercial & Industrial permits submitted:

- There were 0 new construction commercial permits submitted during this period.
- There were 3 new tenant improvement permits submitted during this period; one for a 999 SF Starbucks located at 1993 W. Olive Ave., one for a 2,249 SF McDonald's located at 1821 Motel Dr., and one for a 2,500 SF Sephora located at 851 W. Olive Ave. #400, inside of the existing Kohl's.

Commercial & Industrial Certificates of Occupancy (CofOs)

- There were 4 commercial and industrial CofOs issued for this period; one for a 1,699 SF medical office located at 3850 G St., one each for the shell building and tenant improvement for a 2,200 SF Starbucks located at 856 S. Coffee St., and one for a 35,280 SF shell building with a 672 SF dock located at 150 Hawk Dr.

City of Merced Affordable Housing Project Update

Recently, the City of Merced issued a press release to update the community on the progress of affordable housing projects. Information about the Fuller Project was included in the release.

With \$377,000 in City matched funding, four parcels in the downtown area will be considered for construction of four to five single-family homes. The homes will be constructed via grants, donations, and a low-income family willing to contribute sweat equity to build their home at cost and then purchase it at a rate they can afford.

A Disposition and Development Agreement and Grant Deed are scheduled for City Council's consideration in November to launch these projects. These homes will have covenants assuring their affordability for at least 45 years should they be resold. To read the press release, visit <https://www.cityofmerced.org/Home/Components/News/News/1504/1354>

Project locations are pictured below



Fire Department Service Calls

The Fire Department responds to a variety of calls from residents and business owners. What follows is a brief glimpse of the incidents crews respond to.

Units conducted a smoke check

Disposal Incident

Recently, a person had their hand stuck in a garbage disposal. Thankfully there were no injuries, just a stuck hand. Unfortunately, the garbage disposal had to be scrapped to free the hand, but that was the only damage—good job crews, for using ingenuity and creativity to solve the problem.



Engine 51 on Scene



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Members of the Merced City Firefighters Association have been out selling t-shirts for their annual fundraiser. Shirts are available for \$20. Visit <http://merced-city-firefighters-association.square.site>



Fire Prevention Education

October is Fire Prevention Month. Recently crews visited students at Merced city schools to raise fire safety awareness and help ensure homes and families are fire safety aware.



Reports and Correspondence

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Community Cleanup Flyer | Pg. 12 |
| 2. PC Action Memo | Pg. 13 |
| 3. MCAG Information Flyer | Pg. 14 |



Loughborough Fahrens Park Community Cleanup

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022 | 8 – 11 am
Meet at the corner of Loughborough and Meadows

Lunch at 11 am
Bring gloves, trashbags, and sunscreen



City of Merced
MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 6, 2022
TO: City Council
FROM: Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager
SUBJECT: Actions at the Planning Commission Meeting of October 5, 2022

The Planning Commission heard and continued General Plan Amendment #22-03, which would change the General Plan roadway classification from Divided Arterial to Collector for a portion of Mission Avenue from Coffee Street to the east side of Plum Drive (extended), to the Planning Commission meeting of November 9, 2022, at the request of the applicant.

The Commission received information and training regarding the Brown Act, State Density Bonus Law, and Post-Construction Standards (MS-4 Permits).

If you have any questions about these items, please feel free to contact me.

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What is MCAG?

The Merced County Association of Governments was created through a Joint Powers Authority agreement in 1967 and acts as a collaborative agency where the cities and county come together as equal partners to solve regional problems. This cooperative forum has proven essential in addressing regional issues that no one jurisdiction can solve on their own.

What does MCAG do?

MCAG's traditional role has primarily been in regional transportation planning, but over time has taken on a number of regionally beneficial services. Today, MCAG administers three other JPAs– the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority (RWA), the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County (TJPA) and the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS), and administers the implementation of Measure V.



MCAG is designated as the region's federal Metropolitan Planning Organization and state Regional Transportation Planning Agency. As such, the agency is responsible for regionally significant transportation plans and associated federal and state dollars. In addition, the agency handles the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process and facilitates regional discussions on housing, leads the annual One Voice legislative advocacy program for the region, and is both the Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies and Abandoned Vehicle Abatement service authority for Merced County.

Measure V is the local, half-cent transportation sales tax that was approved by Merced County voters in 2016. As the designated Local Transportation Authority, MCAG administers the Measure by allocating monies to the local jurisdictions, facilitating the programming of regional project funds through the East and West Side Regional Projects Committees, and implements the use of public transit funding as outlined in the transportation expenditure plan. MCAG also staffs the Measure V Citizens Oversight Committee, Regional Project Committees, and ensures the independent audit is conducted annually. To date, Measure V has garnered over \$100 million in local revenue for local transportation infrastructure improvements.



The Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority is the JPA that operates the two landfills outside of the cities of Merced and Los Banos. RWA accepts municipal waste from jurisdictions' contracted haulers as well as private residents of Merced County at both sites six days a week. Both sites offer traditional and innovative recycling/waste diversion programs for household hazardous waste, mattresses, oil, carpets, electronics, compost, rock, and textiles. RWA also coordinates these special services to support community clean up events hosted by the jurisdictions throughout the year. MCAG has served as the administering agency of RWA since 2007.



The Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County, known as The Bus, is the only public bus transit provider for all of Merced County. The Bus operates 15 fixed-routes in 13 communities throughout the region in addition to paratransit and micro transit services. The Bus operates seven days a week and provides more than 425,000 rides to passengers each year. Special partnerships with UC Merced, Merced College and the Measure V program provide free transit for students, seniors, veterans and ADA-eligible individuals.



The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System is a regional public transit service to Yosemite National Park. Buses operate year-round from Merced and Mariposa along Highway 140 while routes from Fresno and Oakhurst along Highway 41, Mammoth Lakes along Highways 120/395, and Sonora along Highway 120 are offered during the summer season. YARTS was formed through a JPA in 1999 and includes the Counties of Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Mono, and Tuolumne as its member agencies MCAG has served as the administering agency for the JPA since its creation.



City of Merced California

MeasureV

- \$10,023,668 in local funds received through December 2021
- \$515,152 in regional funds received through December 2021
- \$12,684,580 in regional funds approved for future projects
 - 31 local projects completed
 - 2 regional projects completed/planned
 - 61,480 potholes filled
 - 3,539 square feet of sidewalk repaired
 - 376 ADA ramps constructed
- Measure V funds paid for the transition of Main Street to one way from M to K Streets and Canal Street from 18th to Main Streets.



- 397,400 tons of waste was disposed at the Highway 59 landfill in FY 20/21
- Scalehouse lane expansion and improvements completed in 2021 at Highway 59 site
- 698,700 pounds of Household Hazardous Waste diverted from Highway 59 landfill in the last 3 years
 - 30,800 of mattresses recycled over last 3 years at the Highway 59 site
- 13,280 tons of recyclables collected through blue bin programs throughout Merced County
- 26,561 tons compost/organics collected through green bin programs throughout Merced County
- Merced Recycles smartphone app can be downloaded for free and used for personalized waste collection alerts and recycling reminders
- SB 1383 compliance action plans were developed for each member agency to help each jurisdiction prepare for new state organics diversion requirements
 - 4 HHW waste events held each year at the Highway 59 site
- Modified flow control policy to allow member agencies to pursue the most cost-effective services for the transport and processing of recyclables and organic material



As a member of MCAG, the City of Merced has received:

- \$6,096,210 CMAQ dollars for local projects over the last 6 years
 - \$3,008,708 in future CMAQ dollars for local projects
- \$3,951,884 RSTP dollars for local projects over the last 5 years
- \$1,750,901 in LTF funds for local projects over the last 6 years
 - \$1,253,000 in future LPP funds for local projects

The City has also recently benefited from:

- An MCAG funded a bicycle/pedestrian study in 2018/19 that examined the feasibility of connecting Merced and Atwater's bikeway networks allowing for save travel of commuters between the cities and the promotion of alternative transportation modes
- The coordination of all jurisdictions within the region on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment as well as the allocation of Regional Early Action Plan housing funding
- Support as a liaison with Caltrans District 10 on project-level issues to help prevent delays to project delivery.
- An Implementation Plan and Screening Tool which will provide the jurisdiction with a user-friendly way to perform transportation impact analysis for new projects that aligns with the requirements prompted by SB 743
- A Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Plan which will identify gaps in pedestrian and bicycle facilities and recommend ways to address those needs



- Operates 7 fixed-routes within the City of Merced with 74 bus stops
 - 213,000 passengers used these routes last fiscal year
- 20,000 paratransit passengers last fiscal year across the county
- 140,000 passengers benefitted from the Measure V free fare program last fiscal year
- 13,800 Merced College and 21,100 UC Merced students have used The Bus in the last year as a result of partnerships with these institutions
- 'The Bus Live' free smartphone app can be used by passengers for real-time bus location, identification of stops, and route planning services
- 3 new clean-diesel buses put in service in spring 2022
- 3 new clean-diesel buses coming in spring 2023
- 7 new electric buses coming in the next year

- Provides reliable, affordable public transit to Yosemite National Park to local residents and regional, national and international visitors.
- 50,000+ passengers riding to/from Merced County every year (5-year avg)
- New clean-diesel buses being added to the fleet offer a significantly improved passenger experience while complying with EPA's low-emission standards



Page 15 of 15

- 12-17 buses travel between Merced and Yosemite year-round
- More than 1,000 free passes to Yosemite provided to Merced County residents since 2017
- YARTS directly connects with passengers arriving in Merced from Amtrak, Greyhound, and Advanced Airlines terminals thereby supporting the City's local tourism economy