



THE WEEKLY

# COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

November 8, 2024

**Historic Laura Fountain Flows  
Again in the Rose Garden at  
Applegate Park**



**LAURA FOUNTAIN**  
A GIFT TO THE CITY OF MERCED  
BY C. H. HUFFMAN, A FAMOUS MERCED PIONEER,  
IN HONOR OF HIS BELOVED WIFE  
LAURA KIRKLAND HUFFMAN  
ORIGINALLY LOCATED AT SOUTHERN PACIFIC DEPOT  
1888  
MOVED TO THIS LOCATION 1935



## Laura Fountain

The City of Merced is excited to welcome back the historic Laura Fountain, which will start flowing again in Applegate Park's rose garden on Monday, November 11, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. After years of restoration, our community can once more enjoy this cherished landmark.

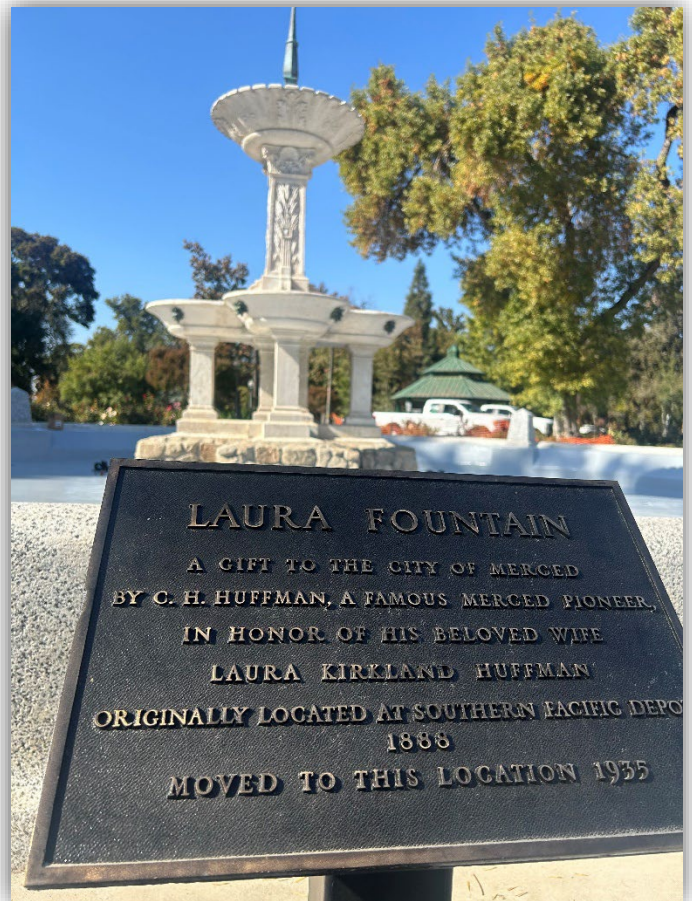
Since 1888, Laura Fountain has been a symbol of Merced's history. Commissioned by city founder Charles Henry Huffman and named after his wife, Laura Kirkland Huffman, the fountain was first placed near the El Capitan railroad depot, where it greeted travelers and visitors. Its beauty even earned Merced the nickname "Fountain City." In 1935, the fountain was moved by Huffman's son, Jay Walton Huffman, to its current home in Applegate Park. It has since become a beloved backdrop for family photos, weddings, and community events.

Over the years, the fountain needed some care to bring it back to its original charm. This restoration is a celebration of Merced's past and a step toward preserving our city's rich heritage for future generations. As the last remaining piece of Charles Henry Huffman's original vision, Laura Fountain is a reminder of Merced's history and its ongoing commitment to the community.

### Event Details:

- **What:** Laura Fountain Reintroduction
- **When:** Monday, November 11, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
- **Where:** Rose Garden, Applegate Park, Merced, California

Come celebrate the return of Laura Fountain and enjoy this restored piece of Merced's story, brought back to life for everyone!





**Project Update: CMAQ (051) Sidewalks on Olive Ave, Parsons Ave, and Alexander Ave**

Over the past few days, Fortis crews set forms along the project areas. This week, concrete was poured for sidewalks and driveways. Additionally, two ADA ramps were successfully installed at Nottingham Ave and Olive Ave, improving accessibility in these areas.





### Project Update: CMAQ (055) Nottingham Sidewalks

Redstone crews are currently setting forms along Nottingham Ave and Buckingham Ct. They have also begun removing driveway approaches on Tamworth Ct in preparation for the next phase of construction.



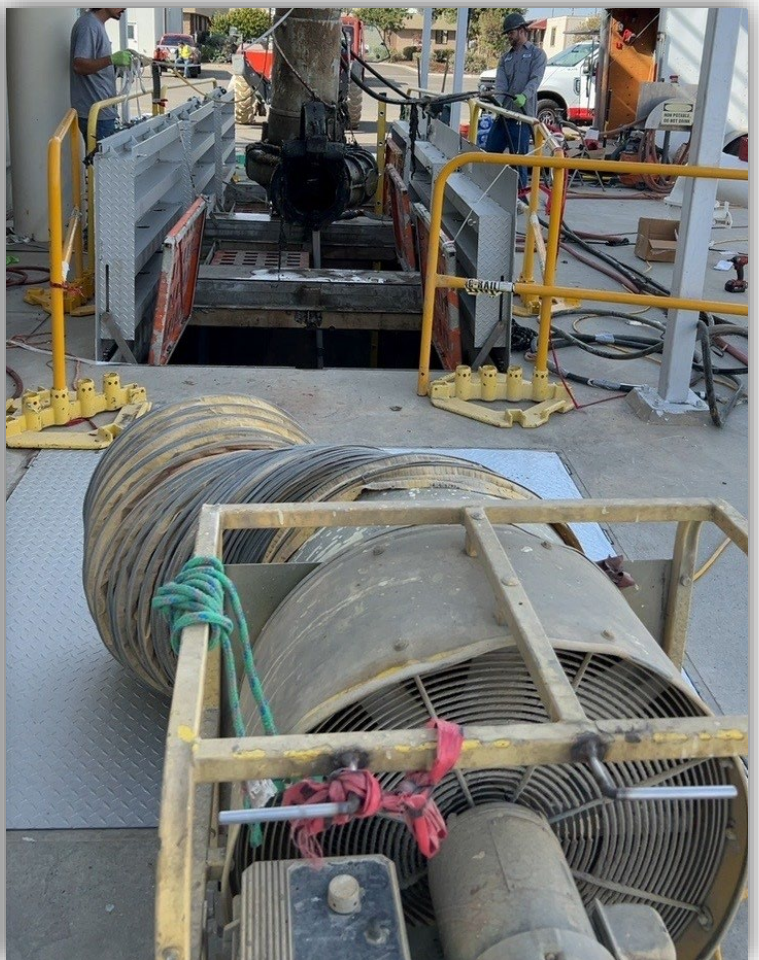


### Project Update: CMAQ (061) Childs Multi-Use Path

Crews are preparing to start sidewalk installation along Childs Avenue, marking the next step in the multi-use path project.



**Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Crews are preparing the second wet well chamber for coating. Staff is pulling the pump.





**Community Park 42:** A view from Merced's Regional Sports Complex, where crews have made progress on the hardscape this week. Just a few more yards of concrete are left to pour before lighting installation begins. The playground will also be enhanced with new plantings this spring.



## Merced to Madera High-Speed Rail Open House

Join the California High-Speed Rail Authority and Stantec Consulting Services for an informative Open House in Merced. Discover the goals, timelines, and design of the Merced to Madera project through a comprehensive presentation and detailed visuals. Stay informed and get a firsthand look at the future of transportation.

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 5:30 – 7 p.m. Merced Civic Center Sam Pipes Room.



# Merced to Madera Project Informational Open House

<b>Tuesday, November 19, 2024 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Chowchilla City Hall Council Chambers 130 S. 2nd Street Chowchilla, CA 93610</b>	<b>Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Merced Civic Center Samuel Pipes Room 678 W. 18th Street Merced, CA 95340</b>
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## Join Us for an Update on the Merced to Madera Project

The California High-Speed Rail Authority and Merced to Madera project designer Stantec Consulting Services will be hosting two informative and engaging Open House meetings offering the residents of Madera and Merced counties an opportunity to learn more about recent updates. There will be a short Merced to Madera Project overview presentation beginning at 5:45 p.m. each night.

### Attendees can:

- **Learn more about the California High-Speed Rail project including its goals, timelines, and key milestones.**
- **Explore detailed maps and visualizations of the planned design for the Merced to Madera segment.**

- **Ask questions and get answers directly from the design team.**

For more information, please visit the Authority's website at [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) or contact Augie Blancas, Public Information Officer at (559) 720-6695 or by email at [augie.blancas@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:augie.blancas@hsr.ca.gov).

Spanish and Hmong translation will be available at the meeting. All other interpretation, translation, and language requests and requests for reasonable accommodation must be made 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting date by calling (916) 324-1541 or emailing [info@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:info@hsr.ca.gov).

For TTY/TTD assistance, call (916) 324-1541 or the California Relay Service at 711.



City of Merced Parks and Community Services  
Presents

# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**Pajama  
Party**

*You're Invited!*

December 14th

Session 1: 8:00 am -  
9:15 am

Session 2: 9:30 am -  
10:45 am

Location:  
Merced Senior  
Community Center  
755 W 15th st.



**COST:  
\$15 PER  
PERSON**

AGES 0-5 ARE FREE!

**SPACE IS  
LIMITED!**

**\*PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED\***  
REGISTER AT 632 W. 18TH ST OR  
CALL OUR OFFICE AT 385-6235 FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



HOLIDAY CRAFTS



COOKIE DECORATING



PICTURES WITH SANTA



Join  
US

# SAVE <sup>THE</sup> DATE

## GENERAL VANG PAO PARK PUBLIC MEETING



City of Merced  
California



COME BE PART OF  
THE COLLABORATION  
FOR THE PARK  
DESIGN

MERCED CIVIC CENTER  
SAM PIPES ROOM  
678 W 18TH STREET  
MERCED, CA 95340

**DECEMBER 5, 2024 | 5:30 - 6:30 pm**