

NEWSLETTER

CITY OF MERCED

New Red-Light Camera Safety Program Set to Launch

The City of Merced is launching a new automated red-light camera safety program to reduce reckless driving and improve street safety. Two cameras have been installed at the intersection of 16th Street and R Street, with a 30-day warning period beginning the week of April 21.

During this time, drivers will receive warnings—not citations—for running red lights or failing to stop fully before turning right. Citations will begin after the warning period ends. This program, administered in partnership with Verra Mobility, aims to curb dangerous driving behavior and make Merced's streets safer for all.

Learn more at engage.cityofmerced.org.

HOW IT WORKS

RED-LIGHT SAFETY CAMERA



IMAGE #3
Identifies the driver of the vehicle.



IMAGE #2
Vehicle captured within the intersection when the light is red. Close-up image of the license plate taken.

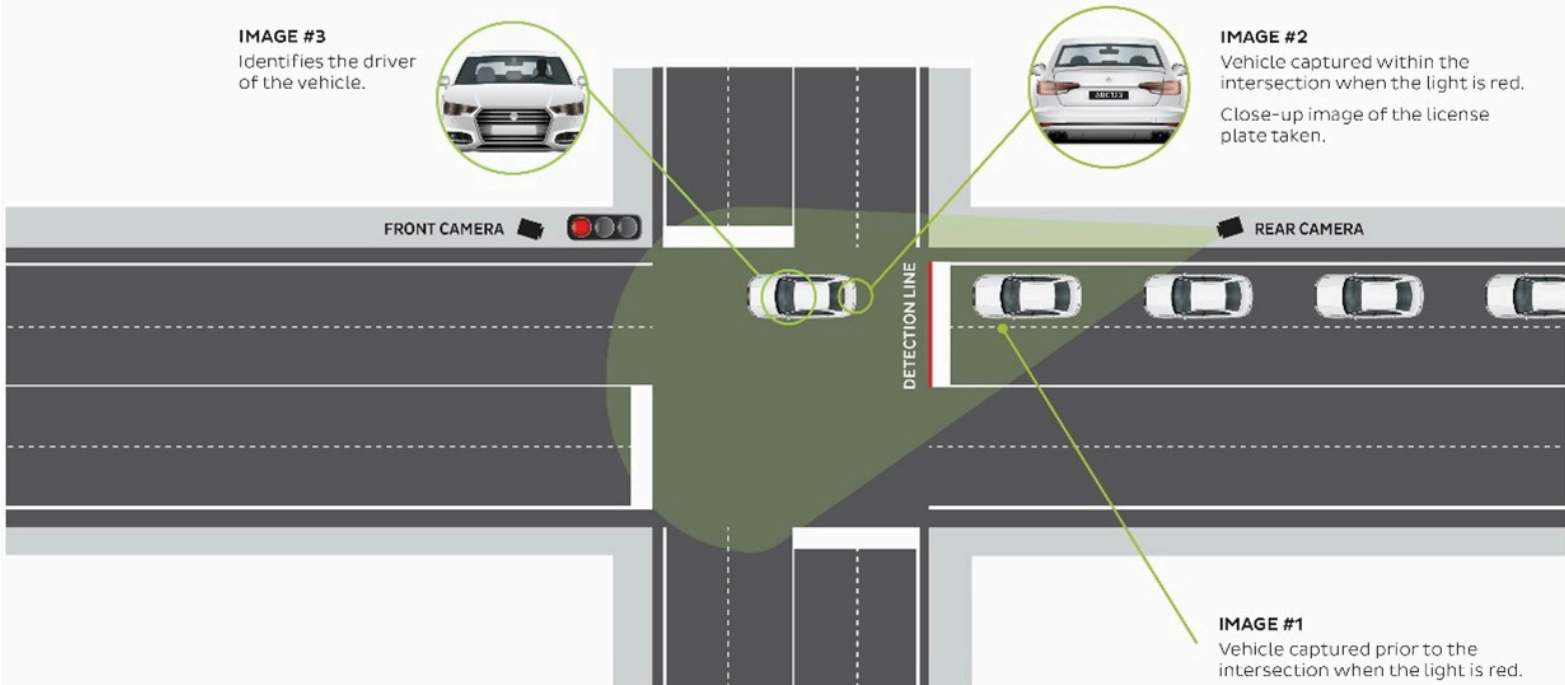


FRONT CAMERA

REAR CAMERA

DETECTION LINE

IMAGE #1
Vehicle captured prior to the intersection when the light is red.



Honoring Dispatcher of the Year – Briana Acevedo-Anzures

With four years of dedicated service, Briana Acevedo-Anzures has been named Dispatcher of the Year—and we couldn't be prouder! Briana is a talented tactical dispatcher, a committed trainer, and a true team player. Her passion for her work is evident in everything she does.

Recently, she was recognized alongside her fellow dispatchers at the Annual Dispatcher of the Year Luncheon, hosted by the Merced County Sheriff's Office at the Merced Elks Lodge. Congratulations, Briana, and thank you for your continued excellence and service to our community.



Willow Haven Homekey Project Breaks Ground in Merced

Recently, City and County officials, along with members of the community, were invited by the developer to take part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Willow Haven Homekey Project, located at 125 E. 13th Street—a previously vacant lot soon to become a site of hope and stability.

This project will bring 58 new housing units, including one dedicated unit for an on-site manager, to serve individuals experiencing homelessness and chronic homelessness. The development is made possible through an \$11.1 million Homekey grant, awarded through a partnership between the City of Merced and the project's developer.

Willow Haven is one of seven affordable housing projects the City is actively supporting in collaboration with developers—some currently under construction, others in planning or development. Construction on Willow Haven is expected to begin in summer 2025.



Merced Sunrise Rotary Club Visits Police Department for Special Tour

Recently, the Merced Police Department welcomed the Merced Sunrise Rotary Club for a visit.

It was a full house as members of the Rotary Club gathered at the department for a morning of connection and community engagement.

Chief Steven Stanfield provided updates on recent department initiatives, followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the station. Highlights of the visit included a meet-and-greet with members of the SWAT and Bomb Squad teams, offering guests an up-close look at some of the department's specialized units.

The City of Merced and the Police Department extend their sincere thanks to the Merced Sunrise Rotary Club for their continued interest and support in the work being done to serve and protect the community. Service Above Self!



Honoring Officer Stephan G. Gray

This week marks the 21st anniversary of Officer Stephan G. Gray's End of Watch, a solemn reminder of the ultimate sacrifice he made while serving the Merced community.

Officer Gray is remembered by his peers as a dedicated public servant—hard-working, caring, and full of life. One of the most cherished memories of him is his joyful habit of singing through the hallways of the station, uplifting everyone around him. In his honor, the Merced Police Department continues a tradition of playing music throughout the station—a tribute to the positivity he brought each day.

The City of Merced joins the Police Department in remembering Officer Gray's life, legacy, and commitment to service. His sacrifice will never be forgotten.



Celebrating National Animal Control Appreciation Week

From April 13–19, the City of Merced joins the nation in recognizing National Animal Control Appreciation Week—a time to honor the dedicated men and women of Animal Control who work tirelessly to protect both animals and the community.

The work of Animal Control Officers is vital to the well-being of our city. They respond to emergencies, enforce animal laws, and provide guidance on responsible pet ownership—all while showing compassion for the animals they serve.

Their efforts play an essential role in keeping our community safe and supporting animal welfare. We encourage everyone to join us in recognizing and appreciating the commitment of the City's Animal Control team.



City Staff Connect with Regional Communicators at CommsCamp Central CA

Recently, Rosa Alcaraz, Police SCO – Community Liaison, and Jennifer Flachman, Public Information Officer, represented the City of Merced at CommsCamp Central CA, an event sponsored by the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO).

The event brought together more than 50 government communicators from across the Central Valley—including representatives from cities, counties, and school districts—to share ideas, explore new resources, and strengthen strategies for engaging and informing the communities they serve.

With insightful discussions and collaborative sessions, CommsCamp served as a valuable reminder of the impact effective public communication has in building trust and connection between local government and the public.



Unseen Hero Memorial Plaque for Steven Stayner to Be Replaced

The Teen Hero Memorial honoring Steven Stayner—whose courageous actions helped save another abducted child—will soon have its missing plaque replaced, thanks to a generous matching donation from the Merced Italo-American Lodge.

The donation was presented recently to Parks & Community Services Director Christopher Jensen and Mayor Matthew Serratto, reflecting the community's ongoing commitment to honoring Stayner's legacy.

The new plaque is set to be installed later this summer and will be commemorated with a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony, held in conjunction with the reconstruction and unveiling of the historic Laura Fountain.



Earth Day Celebration – Saturday, April 12, 2025

Thank you to everyone who took part in the City of Merced's Earth Day Celebration and Bear Creek Cleanup! Special appreciation goes to event partner The Bear Creek Yacht Club and to all the vendors whose support made the event a success.

Vendors included:

SEEDS, City of Merced Recycle Solid Waste and Water Conservation, East Merced RCD, Merced County Library, BEAM Circular, Merced Disc Golf Club, Girl Scout Troop 3019, and Boy Scout Troop 88.

Their collective efforts made a meaningful impact on the community and environment. Events like this serve as a reminder of the importance of caring for Merced's parks, creeks, and outdoor spaces. The City encourages all residents to continue practicing environmental stewardship throughout the year.

Every day is Earth Day in Merced.



Celebrating the Future of Ag Innovation in Merced

City officials and staff recently attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Merced College's AgTEC Innovation Center. Congratulations to Merced College on this exciting milestone, and thank you for your continued investment in building Merced's future through education, innovation, and opportunity.



Safe Streets Initiative: Streetlight Retrofit Underway

As part of the City of Merced's Safe Streets initiative, Tennyson Electric crews are continuing streetlight retrofit work along Buena Vista Drive.



CMAQ Sidewalk Improvements Underway

As part of the CMAQ (060) Parkwest & McGregor Sidewalk Project, concrete crews are actively working along Home Avenue and McGregor Street. Meanwhile, demolition crews are clearing the way on Home Avenue east of R Street by grinding down tree stumps to prepare for new sidewalk installation.



Yosemite Ave Road Reconstruction: G Street to Parsons Ave

Rolfe Construction has mobilized their crew to begin work on the Yosemite Avenue Road Reconstruction project, from G Street to Parsons Avenue. The team is currently testing the sewer capacity, with full construction set to begin on Monday following a brief delay due to a misunderstanding with USA (Underground Service Alert).



Bob Hart Square Expansion: Water Main Installation Underway

Crews are currently working on installing the new water main as part of the Bob Hart Square Expansion project. During this phase of construction, traffic is being rerouted to ensure safety and minimize disruptions.



Childs Multi-Use Path: Progress Update and Ongoing Work

Check out some recent progress pictures showcasing the work being done along Childs Avenue. Construction continues as crews make strides in developing this vital multi-use path that will enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists in the area.



Gateway Monuments Progressing Steadily

Significant progress is being made on the Gateway Monuments project. Rebar has been installed, and the construction crew has poured the base of the monument. The structure is currently curing, with plans to complete the top half soon, weather permitting.



Parks and Community Services: Exciting Upcoming Events

Movies in the Park is BACK!

Get ready for an exciting season of Movies in the Park! This year's lineup is bigger and better, featuring both indoor and outdoor screenings in partnership with The Merced Theatre and @mercedyouthcouncil.

Outdoor movies start at dusk—bring your folding chairs, blankets, and snacks to enjoy under the stars. There's something for everyone, so mark your calendars for an unforgettable movie season!

 <p>MOANA 2</p> <p><i>May 16, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>	 <p>Instagram</p>  <p>Merced Parks & Community Services Parks Make Life Better!</p>  <p>facebook</p>  <p>MOVIES in the PARK</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>IN PARTNERSHIP WITH</p> <p>For information on sponsorship opportunities, please call (209) 385-6235 or email kindavongl@cityofmerced.org</p>  <p>THE ART KAMANGAR CENTER AT THE MERCED THEATRE</p>  <p>Merced</p> <p>Arrive early for pre-show activities, bring your folding chairs and blankets, and get cozy for the movie starting at dusk!</p>	 <p>CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD</p> <p><i>July 25, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>
 <p>MUFASA</p> <p><i>June 13, 2025</i></p> <p>Applegate Park (MOAT) W. 26 & O Street</p>		 <p>INSIDE OUT 2</p> <p><i>August 22, 2025</i></p> <p>Rudolph Merino Park Pacific Dr. & El Redondo</p>
 <p>SONIC 3</p> <p><i>June 27, 2025</i></p> <p>Nannini Youth Sports Complex 1800 Wardrobe Ave.</p>		 <p>CARS 2</p> <p><i>September 12, 2025</i></p> <p>Merced Center Rooftop Garage 605 W 18th Street</p>
 <p>THE KID WHO WOULD BE KING</p> <p><i>July 11, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>		 <p>WICKED</p> <p><i>September 26, 2025</i></p> <p>Merced Regional Sports Complex E. Mission Rd. & S. Tyler Rd.</p>

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Parks & Community Services
Parks Make Life Better!



EN ASOCIACIÓN CON

Para obtener información sobre oportunidades de patrocinio, llame al (209) 385-6235 o envíe un correo electrónico a kindavongl@cityofmerced.org



THE ART KAMANGAR CENTER AT
THE MERCED THEATRE



¡Llegue temprano para las actividades previas al espectáculo, traiga sus sillas plegables y mantas, y póngase cómodo para la película que comienza al anochecer!



Instagram



facebook

CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

FIRST 300
REGISTRANTS
GET \$10 OFF
PER SESSION\$65
per session

SWIM LESSONS

ALL CLASSES HELD AT MCNAMARA POOL

Registration begins May 5th at 9am

Registration in person only

Sessions and Dates		Class Type and Age	
SESSION 1:	June 16 - 26	PARENT & ME:	6 MONTHS-3 YEARS
		TINY TOTS 1:	AGES 3-5
		TINY TOTS 2:	AGES 4-6
SESSION 2:	July 7 - 17	BEGINNER PREP:	AGES 7-10
		STROKE TECHNIQUE:	AGES 8-16

**** PRIVATE LESSONS AVAILABLE FOR \$150 PER CHILD**

REGISTER AT
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
632 W 18TH ST.
OR CALL (209) 385-6235
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Junior Giants Update!

We're excited to announce that all Junior Giants divisions are now full! However, waitlist sign-ups are still open for all divisions, so be sure to get on the list if you're hoping to join.

Our Minor Girls' Softball division (ages 7-9) still has spots available! While our divisions are primarily geared toward girls, they are open to everyone—it's a coed league.

And a quick tip for newcomers: Softball uses a bigger ball than baseball, but it's just as tough!

JUNIOR GIANTS
BANK OF AMERICA

GIRLS!

SOFTBALL

FREE YOUTH SUMMER LEAGUE

SIGN UP NOW
GOJRGIANIS.ORG

Teamwork

Leadership

Confidence

Integrity

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

JUNIOR GIANTS CELEBRATES DIVERSITY ALL ARE WELCOME TO PLAY!

City of Merced



Sign up online starting April 1 at gojrgiants.org!

League starts early June | Ages 5-13

For questions, please contact:

Sophia Ornelas

(209) 385-6855 | ornelass@cityofmerced.org

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JUNIOR GIANTS
BANK OF AMERICA

SÓFTBOL

GRATIS LIGA DE VERANO DE FEMENIL

INSCRIBSE HOY
GOJRGIANIS.ORG

NECESITAMOS VOLUNTARIOS

LOS JUNIOR GIANTS CELEBRAN LA DIVERSIDAD ¡TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS A JUGAR!

Trabajo En Equipo

Liderazgo

Confianza

Integridad



City of Merced
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80B-SB



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

BECOME A COACH OR TEAM PARENT



**SHIRT & TICKET
OPPORTUNITIES**



**TRAINING & PRACTICE PLANS
PROVIDED. NO EXPERIENCE
NEEDED, JUST HEART!**



**BE A MENTOR FOR THE
YOUTH IN YOUR
COMMUNITY!**

SCAN TO PRE-REGISTER



**PRE-REGISTRATION
MARCH 17-28**

GENERAL REGISTRATION STARTS APRIL 1

AVAILABLE ROLES

- Coach
- Assistant Coach
- Team Parent

SEASON DATES

June 9-August 2*
Start and end dates vary by league!

TIME COMMITMENT

2-3 Hours/Week
Practice and game schedules vary
by league and location.

QUESTIONS?

E: jrgiants@sfgiants.com
P: 415-972-2430



¡VOLUNTARIOS NECESITADOS!

CONVIÉRTETE EN ENTRENADOR O PADRE DE EQUIPO.



**CAMISETA &
OPORTUNIDADES DE
RECIBIR ENTRADAS**



**SE PROPORCIONAN PLANES DE
FORMACIÓN Y PRÁCTICA. ¡NO
SE NECESITA EXPERIENCIA,
SOLO CORAZÓN!**



**¡SÉ UN MENTOR PARA
LOS JOVENES DE TU
COMUNIDAD!**

**ESCANEAR PARA
PREINSCRIBIRSE**



**PREINSCRIPCIÓN DEL
17 AL 28 DE MARZO**

ROLES DISPONIBLES

- Entrenador
- Asistente del entrenador
- Padre del equipo

FECHAS DE TEMPORADA

Del 9 de junio al 2 de agosto*
¡Las fechas de inicio y finalización
varían según la liga!

COMPROMISO DE TIEMPO

2-3 horas/semana
Los horarios de práctica y juegos
varían según la liga y la ubicación.

¿PREGUNTAS?

E: jrgiants@sfgiants.com
P: 415-972-2430

REGÍSTRESE A PARTIR DEL 1 DE ABRIL