



THE CI

MERCED

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Steven S. Carrigan, City Manager
Date: December 20, 2019
Re: City Council Information Report

THE CI TAKES A BREAK FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, there will be no CI for the next two weeks. We hope all of the CI readers have a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a festive and joyous holiday season. See you back on Jan. 10.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The City Council 2020 Town Hall meetings dates have been selected. The meetings will be:

- Feb. 19, Hoover Middle School, 6-8 p.m.
- Feb. 20, Golden Valley High, 6-8 p.m.
- Feb. 26, Cruickshank Middle School, 6-8 p.m.

LABOR MARKET REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2019

The unemployment rate in Merced County was 6.5 percent in November 2019, up from a revised 5.8 percent in October 2019, and below the year-ago estimate of 6.8 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 3.7 percent for California and 3.3 percent for the nation during the same period. A copy of the Labor Market Report is attached.

WELL 21 CONSTRUCTION (BELLEVUE ROAD & G STREET)

Work continues on the new well site, with installation of the turbine-driven well pump (the blue-green item pictured below) being installed this week. The pump will be suspended in the center of the well casing approximately 300 feet below ground.



BEAR CREEK CLEANUP UPDATE

Public Works crews, along with assistance from California Department of Forestry (CDF) crews, continue clearing invasive arundo along Bear Creek under an emergency permit from the state Fish and Wildlife Department. Crews will continue in the Crystal Springs Avenue area throughout the coming weeks, holidays & weather permitting.



REFUSE DELAY FOR HOLIDAY, BULKY ITEM SITE

Refuse service will be delayed one day following the Wednesday, December 25th and Wednesday, January 1st holidays. The Bulky Item Drop-Off Site (Highway 59 & Yosemite) will be closed on both holidays.

27TH AND K STREET

Work at the 27th & K Street property by the Public Works Department has continued this week with painting of the exterior and interior. See in-progress photos below.



PUBLIC WORKS BY THE NUMBERS

Please find attached the November statistics for the Public Works Department.

ENGINEERING UPDATE

Bulky Item Drop Off Site

Rolfe Construction Co. is on site working on lighting. The project is 95% complete.



Water Well site #20

Clark Bros., Inc. is installing pipes and drains under the proposed buildings.



Main & M Street Roadway Reconstruction

AGEE Construction is doing prep work for the application of pavement markings and upgrading of traffic signals. The project is 95% complete.

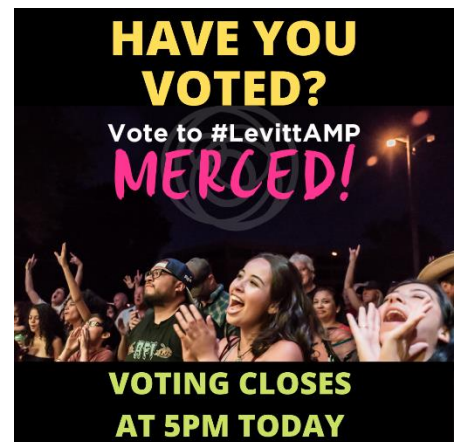


HOMELESS COURT NAVIGATOR

Please find attached a letter of support for a Homeless Court Navigator grant.

CONCERT GRANT WINNER

UC Merced and the City of Merced have been awarded a \$25,000 grant to hold a series of 10 concerts at the MOAT in Applegate Park next year. UC and the City conducted a social media campaign to get votes to place the City in the running for the grant and at one point Merced was ranked No. 7. A news release on the grant award is attached.



INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Meetings have be scheduled for the public to share their thoughts on Laura Fountain and CP 42. Fliers have been attached.

SAVE THE DATE

Dec. 20-22 – Hmong New Year, Merced Fairgrounds
Dec. 21 – Christmas Luncheon, Boys and Girls Club, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dec. 21 – Homeless Memorial, Courthouse Park, noon
Jan. 13 – CP 42 Meeting, Sam Pipes Room, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 16 – Laura Fountain Meeting, Sam Pipes Room, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 17 – Merced Fire Promotional Ceremony, Station 51, 3 p.m.
Jan. 23 – MCOE Annual Report, TBA, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Feb. 19 – Town Hall, Hoover Middle School, 6-8 p.m.
Feb. 20 – Town Hall, Golden Valley High, 6-8 p.m.
Feb. 26 – Town Hall, Cruickshank Middle School, 6-8 p.m.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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| 3. Public Works November Statistics | P. 11 |
| 4. Levitt grant award | P. 12 |
| 5. CP 42 and Laura Fountain fliers | P. 13 |

REPORT 400 C
Monthly Labor Force Data for Counties
November 2019 - Preliminary
 Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

COUNTY	RANK BY RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE
STATE TOTAL	---	19,616,700	18,897,400	719,300	3.7%
ALAMEDA	8	858,200	835,800	22,400	2.6%
ALPINE	40	510	480	20	4.7%
AMADOR	21	14,950	14,450	510	3.4%
BUTTE	32	103,400	99,300	4,100	4.0%
CALAVERAS	19	21,480	20,770	710	3.3%
COLUSA	57	10,600	9,480	1,110	10.5%
CONTRA COSTA	10	570,600	555,100	15,500	2.7%
DEL NORTE	46	9,740	9,220	510	5.3%
EL DORADO	15	92,500	89,600	2,800	3.1%
FRESNO	53	451,100	421,600	29,500	6.5%
GLENN	40	12,960	12,340	610	4.7%
HUMBOLDT	14	64,000	62,100	1,900	3.0%
IMPERIAL	58	74,300	59,000	15,300	20.6%
INYO	15	8,610	8,340	270	3.1%
KERN	52	389,800	365,000	24,800	6.4%
KINGS	55	57,900	53,800	4,100	7.1%
LAKE	37	29,370	28,040	1,340	4.5%
LASSEN	25	10,180	9,810	360	3.6%
LOS ANGELES	35	5,203,800	4,983,100	220,600	4.2%
MADERA	51	61,000	57,300	3,700	6.1%
MARIN	2	143,200	140,400	2,900	2.0%
MARIPOSA	34	7,140	6,850	290	4.1%
MENDOCINO	21	39,040	37,720	1,310	3.4%
MERCED	53	116,400	108,800	7,600	6.5%
MODOC	48	3,130	2,960	180	5.6%
MONO	25	8,390	8,080	310	3.6%
MONTEREY	37	222,600	212,500	10,100	4.5%
NAPA	8	73,600	71,700	1,900	2.6%
NEVADA	12	48,250	46,840	1,420	2.9%
ORANGE	6	1,630,100	1,588,800	41,300	2.5%
PLACER	11	187,400	182,200	5,200	2.8%
PLUMAS	49	7,560	7,110	460	6.0%
RIVERSIDE	29	1,112,600	1,070,300	42,300	3.8%
SACRAMENTO	18	717,800	694,600	23,300	3.2%
SAN BENITO	36	31,200	29,900	1,400	4.3%
SAN BERNARDINO	21	980,000	946,400	33,600	3.4%
SAN DIEGO	12	1,613,200	1,567,100	46,100	2.9%
SAN FRANCISCO	2	591,500	580,000	11,500	2.0%
SAN JOAQUIN	46	324,700	307,500	17,200	5.3%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	6	142,500	138,900	3,600	2.5%
SAN MATEO	1	467,400	458,800	8,600	1.8%
SANTA BARBARA	15	218,700	211,800	6,900	3.1%
SANTA CLARA	4	1,072,200	1,048,000	24,100	2.3%
SANTA CRUZ	30	142,300	136,700	5,600	3.9%
SHASTA	30	74,100	71,200	2,900	3.9%
SIERRA	32	1,330	1,280	50	4.0%
SISKIYOU	43	17,260	16,400	870	5.0%
SOLANO	19	208,500	201,500	6,900	3.3%
SONOMA	5	261,800	255,600	6,200	2.4%
STANISLAUS	44	242,800	230,100	12,700	5.2%
SUTTER	49	45,700	43,000	2,700	6.0%
TEHAMA	37	25,820	24,670	1,150	4.5%
TRINITY	42	4,630	4,410	220	4.8%
TULARE	56	203,500	186,200	17,300	8.5%
TUOLUMNE	28	21,720	20,920	810	3.7%
VENTURA	21	424,700	410,200	14,500	3.4%
YOLO	25	109,200	105,200	3,900	3.6%
YUBA	44	29,700	28,100	1,600	5.2%

Notes

- 1) Data may not add due to rounding. The unemployment rate is calculated using unrounded data.
- 2) Labor force data for all geographic areas now reflect the March 2018 benchmark and Census 2010 population controls at the state level.

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 18	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Percent Change	
			Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force (1)	114,200	118,300	118,300	116,400	-1.6%	1.9%
Civilian Employment	106,400	111,900	111,400	108,800	-2.3%	2.3%
Civilian Unemployment	7,800	6,500	6,800	7,600	11.8%	-2.6%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	6.8%	5.5%	5.8%	6.5%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	3.9%	3.5%	3.7%	3.7%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	3.5%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%		

Total, All Industries (2)	83,100	88,800	89,100	86,500	-2.9%	4.1%
Total Farm	14,300	16,600	16,200	14,400	-11.1%	0.7%
Total Nonfarm	68,800	72,200	72,900	72,100	-1.1%	4.8%
Total Private	49,000	51,900	51,900	50,900	-1.9%	3.9%
Goods Producing	11,400	13,300	12,800	11,400	-10.9%	0.0%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,600	2,800	2,800	2,800	0.0%	7.7%
Manufacturing	8,800	10,500	10,000	8,600	-14.0%	-2.3%
Nondurable Goods	7,400	8,800	8,300	7,200	-13.3%	-2.7%
Service Providing	57,400	58,900	60,100	60,700	1.0%	5.7%
Private Service Providing	37,600	38,600	39,100	39,500	1.0%	5.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	14,000	13,700	13,800	14,400	4.3%	2.9%
Wholesale Trade	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	6.3%	6.3%
Retail Trade	8,700	8,400	8,500	8,900	4.7%	2.3%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,800	2.7%	2.7%
Information	300	300	300	300	0.0%	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0.0%	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	4,200	4,300	4,400	4,300	-2.3%	2.4%
Educational & Health Services	10,200	10,900	11,100	11,100	0.0%	8.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	5,700	6,000	6,100	6,000	-1.6%	5.3%
Other Services	1,400	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	14.3%
Government	19,800	20,300	21,000	21,200	1.0%	7.1%
Federal Government	700	700	700	700	0.0%	0.0%
State & Local Government	19,100	19,600	20,300	20,500	1.0%	7.3%
State Government	4,000	4,600	4,700	4,700	0.0%	17.5%
State Government Education	3,400	4,000	4,100	4,100	0.0%	20.6%
State Government Excluding Education	600	600	600	600	0.0%	0.0%
Local Government	15,100	15,000	15,600	15,800	1.3%	4.6%
Local Government Excluding Education	3,900	4,100	4,000	4,000	0.0%	2.6%
Special Districts plus Indian Tribes	600	600	600	600	0.0%	0.0%

Notes:

(1) Civilian labor force data are by place of residence; include self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding. The unemployment rate is calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Industry employment is by place of work; excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding.

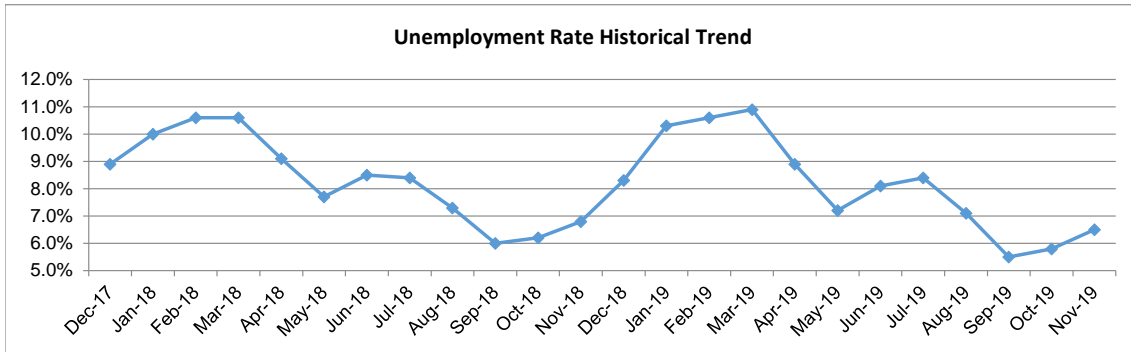
These data are produced by the Labor Market Information Division of the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Questions should be directed to: Steven Gutierrez 559-230-4102 or Frances Gines 951-955-3204

These data, as well as other labor market data, are available via the Internet at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>. If you need assistance, please call (916) 262-2162.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 MERCED METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
 (Merced County)

The unemployment rate in the Merced County was 6.5 percent in November 2019, up from a revised 5.8 percent in October 2019, and below the year-ago estimate of 6.8 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 3.7 percent for California and 3.3 percent for the nation during the same period.



Industry	Oct-2019	Nov-2019	Change		Nov-2018	Nov-2019	Change
	Revised	Prelim				Prelim	
Total, All Industries	89,100	86,500	(2,600)		83,100	86,500	3,400
Total Farm	16,200	14,400	(1,800)		14,300	14,400	100
Total Nonfarm	72,900	72,100	(800)		68,800	72,100	3,300
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,800	2,800	0		2,600	2,800	200
Manufacturing	10,000	8,600	(1,400)		8,800	8,600	(200)
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,800	14,400	600		14,000	14,400	400
Information	300	300	0		300	300	0
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	0		1,800	1,800	0
Professional & Business Services	4,400	4,300	(100)		4,200	4,300	100
Educational & Health Services	11,100	11,100	0		10,200	11,100	900
Leisure & Hospitality	6,100	6,000	(100)		5,700	6,000	300
Other Services	1,600	1,600	0		1,400	1,600	200
Government	21,000	21,200	200		19,800	21,200	1,400

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality. Data may not add due to rounding
 Labor force data are revised month to month
 Additional data are available on line at www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

(209) 385-6834 • (209) 723-1780 FAX

Re: Homeless Court Navigator Position grant support

December 19, 2019

To whom it may concern:

The City of Merced has been actively seeking solutions to the challenges facing people experiencing homelessness. In the City, there are more than 500 people who are experiencing homelessness, including veterans, parents, senior citizens and juveniles.

The City has worked collaboratively with different agencies in the City and the County to find programs that assist people who are in the midst of a housing crisis. The City Council just purchased land for the construction of an affordable housing project that will include permanent supportive care units. We are active partners in the Continuum of Care and help fund programs for those experiencing homelessness.

The City has been working with the Merced County Superior Courts, the District Attorney, the Probation Office and the Public Defender to create a Homeless Court in Merced County to help people experiencing homelessness clear their records of minor criminal offenses. This would help eliminate financial obstacles and clean up their record for employment purposes.

To help achieve that goal, the City of Merced supports the application by the Workforce Development Board of Merced County to fund a Homeless Court Navigator position. The position would give support to the Homeless Court, providing coordinated services to the targeted client population. The Homeless Court Navigator would provide outreach services, an essential component to the Court's success.

The City of Merced is a strong supporter of the Homeless Court, and of the need for a Homeless Court Navigator position. We urge you to approve the grant and fund the position of Homeless Court Navigator.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Murphy, Mayor
City of Merced

678 WEST 18TH STREET MERCED, CA 95340

Public Works – Monthly Highlights –November 2019

Administration

Total delinquent account courtesy calls	15
Contamination letters sent-blue recycling-Oct	441
Contamination letters sent-blue recycling-Nov	270
Contamination letters sent-green waste-Oct	227
Contamination letters sent-green waste-Nov	145
Total requests from Merced Connect	46
Total vehicle accidents	2
Cost Recovery	4

Facility Maintenance

Total Work Orders	37
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Fleet

Total work orders completed	422
New Vehicles/Equipment Received	2

Parks & Trees

Total Park Work Orders	37
Total Tree Works Orders	141

Refuse Work Orders

Alley clean-ups	59
Illegal dumping	19
3yd Refuse Container Work Orders	91
Total Residential Work Orders	774
Total Commercial Work Orders	113
Total Roll-Off Work Orders	272

Refuse Tonnage

Total Tons of Waste Diverted	N/A
Total Tons of Residential Waste	N/A
Total Tons of Commercial Waste	N/A
Total Tons of Clean Green Waste	N/A
Total Tons of Rejected Green Waste	N/A
Total Tons of Clean Recyclables	N/A
Total Tons of Rejected Recyclables	N/A

Sewer

Sewer areas flushed/warthog/vacuumed (lf.)	90,202
Total Sewer enhanced areas flushed (lf.)	24,745
USA Utility Locates (ea.)	1,315
Televised Sewer Mains (lf.)	20,164

Storm Drains

Areas Flushed/Vacuumed (lf.)	1,115
Storm Pump Wet Wells Cleaned (ea.)	1
Televised Storm Mains	471
Catch Basins Enhanced Areas Cleaned	179
Catch Basins Enhanced Areas Checked	223

Signs & Markings

Total signs trimmed	0
Total signs installed	5
Total signs removed	42
Total signs repaired	9
Total signs removed & replaced	135
Total signs cleaned due to graffiti	11

Streets

Total pothole repairs (ea.)	2,035
Total ramped sidewalks (ea.)	3
Sidewalk grinding (ea.)	69
Sidewalk repaired (sf.)	55
Street repairs (sf.)	0
Driveway repairs (sf.)	0
Curb & Gutter (lf.)	0
Total streetlight repairs	23
USA Utility Locates (ea.)	1,345
Utility A/C	0

Water

Total Gallons Pumped for 2019 (MG)	5,808.73
Total Gallons Pumped (MG)	472.12
Average Gallons/Daily Pumped (MGD)	15.74
Total 24 hr. Multi-Unit Water Shut-off Notices	111
Total Water Turn-Offs for Non-payment	94
Water service leaks repaired	8
Water Service Manifold Installations	0
New Water Service Installations	3
New Residential Customer Meter Installs	56
Water main line leak repaired	1
Fire Hydrants Replaced	2
Fire Hydrants Repairs/Damaged	3
USA Utility locates	1,422
Annual Backflow testing	181
Reclaimed Water Truck Loads- 3,500 Gal Increments	17
Gate Valve Exercising	5
Gate Valve Replacement	3
Leaking Copper Service Replacements	4

WWTP

Total Gallons Treated (MG) for 2019	2,622.14
Total Gallons Treated for the Month (MG)	233.74
Average Gallons Treated Daily (MGD)	7.79

Concert Series Slated for Merced in 2020

By Elizabeth Arakelian
UC Merced

A collaboration among the City of Merced, community members and the University of California Merced is bringing a little night music back to the Merced Open Air Theater.

Friday evening concerts will begin at the outdoor half-shell, in Applegate Park, starting in summer 2020.

Seeking a way to amplify the cultural scene in Merced, Kim Garner, UC Merced's new executive director of the arts, wrote a grant proposal for the Levitt Amp Concert Series, and then rallied university and community members to vote online to move the proposal into consideration. On Dec. 20, the Levitt Amp Concert Series Foundation announced Merced as one of the newest locations of its free concerts.

"We're always looking for ways to bring the campus community and city of Merced together, and there really is no better way to do that than through the arts," Garner said. "Winning the Levitt Amp Concert Series is the perfect first step toward broadening our arts reach, and I know our community will benefit greatly from this new initiative."

Levitt Amp is a matching grant program made possible through the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to reinvigorating public spaces through the performing arts. Levitt Amp allows cities to compete for \$25,000 in funding for outdoor concerts. Last year's winners included Berea, Kan., Carson City, Nev. and Ocala, Fla., among others.

Merced Mayor Mike Murphy is enthusiastic. "This concert series is exactly the type of thing we are looking to bring to Merced," he said. "The Merced Open Air Theater was once a vibrant space that doesn't have the kind of attention and audiences it once did. This concert series is a great way to bring the community out together for something we can all enjoy."

The theater opened in 1989. Once it is reinvigorated with live music, the hope is that the concert series will give residents a reason to come together, ultimately strengthening the fabric of the community through common interests.

An online survey and in-person questionnaire over the coming weeks will determine the kind of music the community would like to hear.

"We're so excited to get the community's feedback and start making these concerts a reality," Garner said. "Summer 2020 will be a fantastic time in Merced."



Lots of players, not enough fields

Merced has a shortage of soccer fields,
but there is CP-42, a field waiting for ideas

Share your thoughts on what to do with CP-42
and how it can be developed for future use .
Come to this public meeting and share your
ideas with the City Council SubCommittee.

Jan. 13, 5:30 p.m.
Sam Pipes Room
City Hall
678 W. 18th St.



APPLEGATE PARK

Laura Fountain Discussion

How should we preserve this historic landmark?

January 16 • Monday • 5:30 PM

Sam Pipes Room, Civic Center, 678 W. 18th

Historic Laura Fountain in Applegate Park needs your help,
so come to the meeting and weigh in on how to preserve it

CIPAGE | 14