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To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Steven S. Carrigan, City Manager
Date: February 14, 2020
Re: City Council Information Report



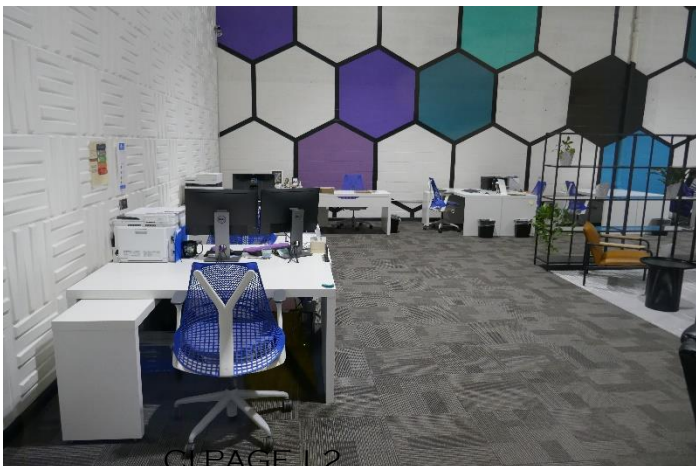
HANA SUSHI AND GRILL TO REPLACE POCKET 8'S

In September 2019, owner Jerry Yang retired and closed the doors of a local Merced favorite, Pocket 8's Sushi and Grill. Hana Sushi and Grill will take the place of Pocket 8's in the London Plaza located at 9 W. Alexander Ave. Details regarding the restaurant's opening will follow.

BITWISE CAMPUS TOUR



The Office of Economic Development arranged a tour with Bitwise representatives to walk-through their 3 facilities in Fresno. City Manager Steve Carrigan, Fire Chief Billy Alcorn, Development Services Director Scott McBride, City Engineer Michael Beltran, Chief Building Official Denise Frazier, Economic Development Associate Maria Mendoza and Economic Development Director Frank Quintero participated in the tour. The purpose of the meeting was to see first-hand how Bitwise converts and transitions warehouse space to offices, classrooms, and other blended uses within their facilities. CEO and Co-Founder Jake Soberal and Director of Operations Channelle Charest served as Bitwise's point persons.





TIOGA SEQUOIA BREWING COMPANY

Following the State of the City, City staff hosted a lunch with Tioga Sequoia Brew Master Kevin Cox and Owner Michael Cruz. Both noted how excited they felt by the community's overwhelming warm welcome. Tioga Sequoia was recently recognized by the Fresno Chamber of Commerce as Entrepreneur of the Year.



APPLEGATE ROSE GARDEN

The Merced Garden Club pruned a section of the Applegate Rose Garden on Saturday, Feb. 1 as part of a training class. The City's hired landscaper, AJG Garden Service, finished the pruning of the Rose Garden this week under the supervision of the Public Works Department.



ENCAMPMENTS AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

Public Works and the Merced Police DART Team continue with encampment cleanups around town this week. Public Works crews also responded to multiple reports of illegal dumping around town.



TREE TRIMMING WORK CONTINUES

Grover Landscape completed trimming and necessary removals of eucalyptus trees in the Fahrens Maintenance District this week. CDF crews assisted Public Works staff with tree trimming and clearing along Cottonwood Creek Bike Path at Tanager and Warbler Courts, as well as along Black Rascal Creek near Amador Court.



ENGINEERING UPDATE

Sidewalk Replacement Project Phase II

Witbro Inc., DBA Seal Rite Paving and Grading, removed tree roots prior to the installation of the new sidewalks.



Water Well Site #21

Hobbs Construction is adding the finishing touches to the building and electrical systems.



Water Well site #20

Lighthouse Electrical is in the process of installing the conduit under the well building pad.





CITY HELPS RESCUE MISSION PURCHASE HOME

With support from the City’s Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), Merced Rescue Mission has been able to purchase a new single family home located in the Cypress Terrace Subdivision area, 615 Lim St. It is part of its Hope for Families Program.

Cypress Terrace is a Stonefield Development located east of South Hwy. 59 and south of Gerrard Ave., near Farmdale Elementary School. Last year the Merced Rescue Mission purchased the adjacent home.

The City of Merced has partnered with the Merced Rescue Mission as well as Sierra Saving Grace to purchase homes within the City for the placement of income qualifying families and individuals that are at risk of becoming homeless.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Please find attached the monthly report from Townsend Public Affairs.

SUPPORT SERVICE REPORT

Please find attached the Support Services monthly report.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Please find attached a letter of support for the Tour of California.

FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

Please find attached the flier for the Merced County Farm Bureau annual meeting set for Fri. March 20 at the Merced County Fairgrounds. Social hour is at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 6:45.

PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

Please find attached the Planning Commission agenda for Weds. Feb. 19.

MCOE ANNUAL REPORT

MCOE will be giving its annual report on Weds., Feb. 26 at its new facility in the Mondo Building. There are two presentations in Merced, at 11:30 a.m. and at 5 p.m. A flier is attached.

MCAG NEWSLETTER

Please find attached the Merced County Association of Governments newsletter for February.

SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 19 – Town Hall, Hoover Middle School, 6-8 p.m.

Feb. 20 – Town Hall, Golden Valley High, 6-8 p.m.

Feb. 26 – MCOE Education Report, Mondo Bldg., 11:30 a.m. or 5 p.m.

Feb. 26 – Town Hall, Cruickshank Middle School, 6-8 p.m.

March 12 – League Dinner, Castle Air Museum, 6 p.m. Social, 6:30 p.m. Dinner

March 20 – Farm Bureau Dinner, Fairgrounds, 5:30 p.m. Social, 6:45 Dinner

March 24 – City-County Dinner, Livingston, 5:30 p.m. Social, 6 p.m. Dinner

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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MEMORANDUM

To: **City of Merced**
Mayor and Council Members
Steve Carrigan, City Manager
Stephanie Dietz, Assistant City Manager

From: **Townsend Public Affairs, Inc.**
Christopher Townsend, President
Richard Harmon, Central California Senior Director

Date: **February 7, 2020**

Subject: **Monthly Report—January 2020**

SUMMARY

This memorandum is an overview of activities undertaken by Townsend Public Affairs (TPA) over the last month, working on behalf of the City of Merced, including the following subjects:

- **Legislative Activity and Updates**
 - *State Update*
 - Legislative Activity
 - Governor's January Budget Proposal
 - Statewide Water Resilience Plan
 - Governor's Executive Order on Homelessness
 - SB 50 Update
 - *Federal Update*
 - Congressional Activity
 - Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations
 - Moving America Forward
 - PFAS/PFOA Update
 - Protecting Community Television Act
 - Public Charge
- **Project Activity and Updates**
 - *Proposition 68 Grants*
- **Funding Program Updates**
 - *FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program*
 - *U.S. DOJ COPS Hiring and Microgrant Programs*
- **Upcoming Funding Opportunities**



LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY AND UPDATES

State Update

Legislative Activity

The Legislature reconvened on January 6 for the second year of the 2019-2020 legislative session. Since then, lawmakers have been focused on introducing new legislation and meeting the January 31 house of origin deadline. Legislation that was introduced in 2019 that did not pass out of its house of origin by January 31 is now considered dead for the year. Legislators have until February 21 to introduced new legislation to be considered in 2020.

Lawmakers have also been busy analyzing the Governor's January Budget proposal. Trailer bill language is expected from the Administration in early February which will provide additional details about the Governor's budget proposals. After that, the Budget Subcommittees will begin their work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Budget to meet the June 15 deadline. The new budget bill will take effect on July 1, 2020.

Below is a list of upcoming legislative deadlines and other key events:

February 19—State of the State presented by Governor Newsom

February 21—Last day for bills to be introduced

April 2—Spring Recess begins

Governor's January Budget Proposal

On January 10, the Governor released his January Budget Proposal for the FY 2020-21 State Budget. This marks the official beginning of the State Budget process.

The Governor's January Budget Proposal contains \$222.2 billion in proposed expenditures, \$153.1 billion of which would be from the State's General Fund. These proposed expenditures represent a 2.2 percent increase in spending over the budget that was adopted last year. The January Budget proposal includes a \$5.3 billion surplus for FY 2020-21, which is over \$1 billion lower than was projected by the Legislative Analyst's Office in November 2019. The Governor accounted for this difference due to the uncertainty of the federal approval of the Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax.

During his two and a half hour press conference, the Governor reinforced that his proposed budget makes a number of innovative investments, but does so in a way that acknowledges that the State's economy is seeing a slowing in its growth and could slip into a recession in the near future. As such, the Governor's budget proposal focuses largely on one-time spending items, in addition to investing in the State's Rainy-Day fund and other budget reserves. The proposed budget would increase the State's Rainy-Day fund to \$18 billion by the end of FY 2020-21 and would reach the constitutional 10 percent reserve cap in FY 2021-22.



During his press conference, the Governor touched on nearly all of the major items within his budget proposal; however, the main focus of his budget is education, housing, homelessness, and climate resiliency. Below is a summary of these major provisions:

Education: The Governor's January budget proposes \$84 billion in Proposition 98 funding for K-12 and community college districts, up approximately \$3.8 billion from the current fiscal year. The bulk of this increase focuses on continued efforts to strengthen underperforming schools, close achievement gaps, and improve student services in K-12 districts. Governor Newsom specifically highlighted efforts to improve funding for teacher recruitment and retention, which total \$900.1 million.

An additional \$100 million will be allocated to provide stipends for individuals who elect to teach at some of the state's most needy districts. Expansion of school meal programs, increased focus on STEM, and additional funding for school facilities are also among the increases outlined in the proposal.

Housing and Homeless: The Governor's budget contains \$750 million in one-time funding to establish the California Access to Housing and Services Fund, which would be administered by the Department of Social Services. This funding would be used to reduce homelessness by moving individuals and families to permanent housing and to increase the number of units available to those that are at risk of becoming homeless.

The budget proposes to disperse the funding through regional administrators that can provide short and long-term rental subsidies, make contributions to the development of units, and stabilize community facilities through capital projects and operating subsidies.

The Governor's budget also continues to build on the investments that were made in last year's budget to expand the amount of affordable housing that is produced in the State. Several of the major programs that were included as part of the FY 2019-20 State Budget, including funding for infill infrastructure and multi-family housing, are just now being made available through grant programs through the Department of Housing and Community Development. This year's budget proposal would increase state funding to help expedite the release of those funds, as well as provide over \$6.8 billion in funding to over 25 different programs aimed at increasing the amount of housing in California.

The Governor's budget proposal also contains funding for the State to continue to assess and make recommendations to improve the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process. The Governor has directed the Department of Housing and Community Development to work with stakeholders to revamp the RHNA process by 2023. This aligns with the Governor's stated goal of working with the Legislature to expedite housing production, including making changes to local zoning and permitting processes and by adding predictability and reducing the cost of development fees.

Natural Resources/Climate Change Bond: The Governor's January budget proposal contains a new \$4.75 billion climate resiliency bond that the Governor proposes to be placed on the November 2020 ballot. The bond measure would provide funding to five major areas: Drinking Water, Flood, Drought (\$2.9B), Wildfire (\$750M), Sea Level Rise (\$500M), Extreme Heat (\$325M), and Community Resilience (\$250M). In addition to the new bond measure, the



Governor's budget proposes \$1.7 billion in climate related investments in FY 2020-21 and \$12.4 billion in investments (including the bond) over the next five years.

Next Steps: In the coming weeks, the Senate and Assembly Budget Committee, and the various Budget Subcommittees, will conduct hearings to receive more detail about the various items within the Governor's budget proposal. Additionally, the committees will begin the process of determining legislative priorities for inclusion in the budget.

These hearings will continue for several months until the Governor releases his May Revise of the budget, which will contain updated revenue and expenditure figures, revised policy proposals, and incorporate certain legislative items. Once the May Revise is released, the Legislature will move swiftly to make final changes to the FY 2020-21 budget, which they will need to approve by June 15th.

Statewide Water Resilience Plan

On January 3, the California Natural Resources Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of Food and Agriculture released a draft water resilience portfolio to help the State address and respond more effectively to challenges such as droughts, floods, aging infrastructure, and rising temperatures. These agencies were directed to release this proposal to fulfill Governor Newsom's April 29 executive order that called for action to better secure the State's long-term water and ecosystem health.

The actions outlined in the draft proposal include more than 100 actionable recommendations divided into four broad categories. These actions aim to help regions build water resilience, improve water infrastructure, and protect natural ecosystems. The four categories are outlined below:

- **Maintain and diversify water supplies:** State government will continue to help regions reduce reliance on any one water source and diversify supplies to enable flexibility amidst changing conditions. Diversification will look different in each region based on available water resources, but the combined effect will strengthen resilience and reduce pressure on river systems.
- **Protect and enhance natural ecosystems:** State leadership is essential to restore the environmental health of key river systems to sustain fish and wildlife. This requires effective standard-setting, continued investments, and more adaptive, holistic environmental management.
- **Build connections:** State actions and investment will improve physical infrastructure to store, move, and share water more flexibly and integrate water management through shared use of science, data, and technology.
- **Be prepared:** Each region must prepare for new threats, including more extreme droughts and floods and hotter temperatures. State investments and guidance will enable preparation, protective actions, and adaptive management to weather these stresses.



Governor's Executive Order – Homelessness

On January 8, Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order related to homelessness. The order was released in order to increase State action of providing homeless Californians with additional housing opportunities. Below is a summary of the major provisions of the order:

- A proposed one-time \$750 million allocation included in the January Budget proposal to establish the California Access to Housing and Services Fund. The Fund will receive future state appropriations, as well as donations from philanthropy and the private sector, to provide much needed dollars for additional affordable housing units, providing rental and operating subsidies, and stabilizing board and care homes.
- The Governor will task the Department of General Services with identifying properties from the inventory of excess state lands that can be used by local partners, including counties, cities, or non-profit agencies, on a short-term emergency basis to house individuals who are homeless.
- Similarly, Caltrans, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, and the Department of Food and Agriculture will be directed to conduct assessments of properties that can provide services to homeless individuals.
- The Governor will direct the Department of General Services to supply 100 camp trailers from the state fleet, and the Emergency Medical Services Authority to deploy modular tent structures, to provide temporary housing and delivery of health and social services across the state.
- The Governor will create a state crisis response team to assist local governments in addressing street homelessness. The strike team shall provide technical assistance and targeted direct support to counties, cities, and public transit agencies seeking to bring individuals experiencing homelessness indoors and connecting them with appropriate health, human, and social services and benefits.

The Executive Order comes at the recommendation of the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors which is co-chaired by Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. The Advisory Council has also proposed that an initiative be placed on the November 2020 ballot that would go to California voters for approval. The initiative would include recommendations from the Advisory Council and would likely include a provision to require local and state governments to create housing and increase services to reduce the number of residents experiencing homelessness.

SB 50 Update

SB 50 (Wiener, D–San Francisco), the legislative vehicle for a major statewide housing initiative, failed to pass the Senate by the January 31 house of origin deadline and is now dead. However, after the final vote was tallied, Senate President Pro Tempore Atkins addressed the Senate and indicated that the Senate will continue to address this issue and work on “a housing production bill to help alleviate our housing crisis this year.”



This is the second vote in as many days for SB 50. After the bill failed to garner 21 votes, Senator Wiener was granted reconsideration of the bill on January 30. The bill failed to pass yet again as Senators argued that the bill would not prevent displacement and gentrification, would fail to produce enough affordable housing, the potential for development in high wildfire danger zones, and the negative impacts that this bill could have on communities across the State.

SB 50 failed to garner support from stakeholders after the Senator amended the bill on January 6. The amendments that were adopted were intended to provide additional *local flexibility* and *community preference*. Below is a summary of the adopted amendments:

Local Flexibility:

- A two-year delayed implementation date (January 1, 2023).
- SB 50 would allow for an alternative compliance for cities that have a plan certified by the State.
 - An alternative plan would need to be approved by the city, such as a housing element or zoning ordinance;
 - The alternative plan would need to accommodate a comparable amount of housing as would otherwise be authorized by SB 50;
 - The alternative plan would need to accommodate similar transportation efficiency;
 - The alternative plan would need to be consistent with fair housing findings.
- The idea behind the alternative compliance would be to allow local governments to be able to plan locally for growth in the areas that are best for the City, which may or may not be areas covered by SB 50.
- The alternative plans can be items that have already been adopted by local governments through previous planning efforts.
- The Departments of Housing and Community Development and the Office of Planning and Research (HCD/OPR) will be responsible for developing guidelines of what a local government would need to provide as part of an alternative plan.
- Local governments that choose not to pursue an alternative plan would be subject to the SB 50 provisions related to jobs-rich and transit-rich housing areas. Should a local government decide they would like to develop and submit an alternative plan at a later date, they are free to do so.

Community Preference:

- 40 percent of affordable units that are created pursuant to SB 50 would need to be made available (through lottery) to people who currently live within 0.5 miles of the project.

After SB 50 failed, Senator Wiener introduced two spot bills related to housing that may serve as legislative vehicles for broader housing proposals to be considered later this year. The first bill, SB 899, makes non-substantive changes to the Housing Density Bonus Law which requires cities and counties to provide developers with density bonuses if the project includes a certain amount of affordable housing units. The second bill, SB 902, would require cities and counties to disclose whether they are involved in a court action related to State housing law in their annual report to the State.



Federal Update

Congressional Activity

The impeachment trial of President Trump dominated Congress's time in January. The House voted on January 15 to send the impeachment articles against the President to the Senate, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced the seven House Democrats who will serve as the managers in the trial. The trial commenced with House managers providing testimony supporting the two articles of impeachment.

After President Trump's lawyers finished presenting their case, Senators had up to 16 hours to question either side through written queries submitted to Chief Justice John Roberts, who presided over the trial. The prosecution and defense argued whether to subpoena witnesses or documents. Democrats demanded the inclusion of witnesses while most Republicans oppose. It was understood any vote calling for witnesses and documents would likely lengthen the trial, while a rejection of the proposal could quickly lead to a final verdict.

The Senate ultimate voted to acquit the President of both articles of impeachment.

Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations

In January, House Democrats announced that they are preparing to move quickly on Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations bills. Party leaders set a goal of sending 10 of the 12 fiscal spending measures on the House floor by June, which would match their progress at the same point last year.

House appropriators are also expecting President Trump to send his annual budget in February. The White House announced in January that Congress should expect the budget by February 10, which will allow lawmakers to quickly begin holding relevant congressional committee hearings and markups.

Moving America Forward Framework

Last month, House Democrats introduced an overview of their desired framework for infrastructure. The plan is called Moving America Forward and provides \$760 billion over five years for numerous investments in infrastructure. Most of this funding (approximately \$600 billion over five years) will be targeted for programs authorized by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Democrats indicated that the concept is to get existing infrastructure working again and fund new, transformative projects. They continued by estimating that such a focus would create 10 million jobs million jobs, while reducing carbon pollution, dramatically improving safety, and spurring economic activity.



Here are the key takeaways from the plan:

- \$329 Billion for **Modern Highways & Highway Safety Investments** to increase pedestrian safety, reduced congestion and carbon pollution, and deliver better roads and bridges faster, by prioritizing fixing broken and outdated infrastructure
- \$55 Billion for **Rail Investments** to expand passenger rail networks, giving travelers a reliable, low-carbon option to travel both short and long distances, including to regions that lack frequent or affordable airport service.
- \$30 Billion for **Airport Investments** to keep up with travel demand and accelerate research into noise reduction efforts in communities near airports
- \$105 Billion for **Clean Water and Wastewater Infrastructure** to build new, modern clean water and wastewater infrastructure to address local water challenges such as PFAS “forever chemicals” in drinking water, flood and disaster protection, and harbor maintenance
- \$34 Billion for **Clean Energy** to address initiatives such as the development of an electric vehicle charging network to facilitate the transition to zero emissions vehicles nationwide
- \$86 Billion for **Broadband and Communications** to expand broadband access to unserved and underserved rural, suburban, and urban communities
- \$2.7 Billion for **Brownfield Restoration** funding to assist economically distressed communities in fixing up abandoned and contaminated properties for new use
- \$12 Billion for **Public Safety** to implement a Next Generation 9-1-1 system that will help people to call or send texts, images or videos to 9-1-1 to assist first responders and emergency personnel in their response to emergencies

Addition details will be fleshed out in the coming weeks. Congress will focus on these priorities as they work toward drafting actual legislation to renew the “FAST Act,” which is the current legislation. This authorization is set to expire in September. It is the intention of the leaders of the three key House committees overseeing this effort (i.e., House T&I, House Energy & Commerce, and House Ways & Means) to move this comprehensive package before that time. For your convenience, I have attached the vision document for your review. Please know that we will be working to make sure your priorities are incorporated into this critical legislation. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.



PFAS/PFOA Update

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently issued Interim Recommendations for Addressing Groundwater Contaminated with Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS) under federal cleanup programs, a priority action under EPA's PFAS Action Plan. With these interim recommendations, EPA is prioritizing public health impacts by focusing on addressing any groundwater that is a current or potential source of drinking water. The recommendations in this guidance may be useful for state, tribal, or other regulatory authorities who have are experiencing challenges with contaminated drinking water.

Water

Last month, the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment began the second session of the 116th Congress with a hearing on potential proposals for the upcoming Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020.

WRDA is a significant legislative package, as it determines federal water resources infrastructure policy and provides congressional approval for civil works projects for waterways and harbors nationwide. WRDA generally addresses projects covered in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's work plan and is usually reauthorized biannually. The current legislation is set to expire on September 30, 2020.

During the hearing, key topics of discussion included creating legislation that focuses on priorities such as providing more flexibility to non-federal entities to complete local infrastructure projects autonomously, prioritizing pending projects with high economic and public safety benefits, and streamlining the permitting process to expedite project completion timelines.

Protecting Community Television Act

In January, Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) and Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA) jointly introduced the "Protecting Community Television Act (H.R.5659/S.2318)," which would specifically protect frameworks and fee structures developed between municipalities and cable companies. If passed, the "Protecting Community Television Act" would set a clear precedent by requiring franchise fees to be limited specifically to cash payments; new FCC rules have made this classification unclear by indicating that cable companies can deduct "in-kind" services from their fees. The bill has already obtained support from at least 24 members of Congress, who agreed to become bill co-sponsors prior to introduction.

Beginning in 1984, cable franchises included requirements designed to ensure that cable systems served the needs and interests of the community. Additionally, they required cable operators to pay a rent for use of public property in the form of a franchise fee of up to 5% percent of gross revenues from service provision. Congress also further reinforced this mandate by stipulating that franchise requirements should not be treated as franchise fees. The FCC recently overturned this longstanding practice and precedent, and instead determined that localities must either eliminate franchise requirements or allow the operator to deduct the "fair market value" of the requirements from the franchise fee owed.

Introducing this legislation in both chambers is advantageous, as it increases the likelihood of the bill's passage while also reducing the chance of any further FCC actions on this topic.



Public Charge

This past month, the Supreme Court cleared President Trump's Administration to start enforcing its new public charge rule. Described by some as an immigrant wealth test, the rule is designed to screen out green card applicants seen as being at risk of becoming dependent on government benefits.

In a 5-4 vote along ideological lines, the court blocked a New York federal judge's ruling that was keeping the policy from taking effect while a legal challenge ensued. The Supreme Court released the order even as Chief Justice John Roberts presided over President Trump's impeachment trial across the street in the Senate. Roberts was in the majority, along with fellow Republican appointees Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan all dissented. The court as a whole provided no explanation for its order. In an opinion for himself and Thomas, Gorsuch indicated the court needs to curb the power of federal trial judges to issue nationwide orders blocking a governmental initiative. The Supreme Court action clears the administration to enforce the rule everywhere except Illinois, where a separate court order continues to block the new policy.

The Trump Administration rule changes what critics say is a longstanding understanding of federal immigration law and its bar on permanent residency for "public charges." The new rule expands the definition of public charge and gives officials broad power to determine that someone is at risk of falling into that category. Five immigrant-services organizations are joining the New York-led group, which includes Vermont, Connecticut and the City of New York City, in challenging the rule. The group believes the rule violates federal immigration law and the Constitution's equal protection guarantee.

Under the new rule, immigrants will be considered public charges if they are deemed likely to receive such public benefits as Medicaid, public housing assistance or food stamps for more than 12 months over a 36-month period. To make such a determination, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials can consider a list of factors, including age, health, education, English-language proficiency, family size, wealth, and credit score. Previously, people didn't qualify as a public charge unless they were receiving cash benefits from the government and were primarily dependent on that aid.

While the Supreme Court has allowed the rule to go into effect in the meantime, the lawsuit against the rule will continue to make its way through the courts.



PROJECT ACTIVITY AND UPDATES

Proposition 68 Grants

TPA and City staff continue to work on funding opportunities for park projects from Proposition 68. The California Department of Parks and Recreation is coordinating the **Statewide Park Program (SPP)—Round 3**, which the City applied for in August. A total of 480 applications were received, requesting more than \$2.2 billion in funding (there is \$254 million available).

We worked with City staff on applications for the development of several parks. The City has led efforts on the community-based planning and soliciting input for park design.

Three applications were submitted on August 5 and are now working with our legislative delegation on letters of support and telephone calls to the Department. Our projects received site visits on November 6 and announcements are expected in March 2020.

FUNDING PROGRAM UPDATES

FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the upcoming round of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG). The AFG application period opened on Monday, February 3, 2020, and the due date is Friday, March 13, 2020.

AFG has three activities:

- Operations and Safety
- Vehicle Acquisition
- Regional Projects

New for FY 2019:

The FY 2019 AFG NOFO contains some changes to definitions, descriptions and priority categories. Changes to the FY 2019 AFG NOFO include:

- Under Micro Grants:
 - Wellness and Fitness is now eligible as a micro and regional grant.
 - Modifications to Facilities activities are now eligible as a micro grant.
- Under Equipment category:
 - Training ‘props’ are limited to \$50,000 except for a State Fire Training Academy request.



- Learning Management Systems (LMS) to include software and computer programs for local departments and states to track training and certifications were added as high priority.
- Under Operation and Safety and Regional category:
 - Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH), Protection for Fire
- Investigators (single-use respiratory protection) is added as high priority.
 - Definition of Primary First Due Response Area is updated to be consistent with NFPA 1710 Current Edition. The geographic area surrounding a fire station in which a company from that station is projected to be the first to arrive on the scene of an incident.
 - Application will include data/statistics on fire departments implementation of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1582 physicals. This information is not included in the peer review determination.
- Under Vehicle Acquisition
 - Brush vehicles are now a high priority for urban, suburban and rural communities. The only exception is for urban communities, a brush truck may not exceed Type III in specifications. This does not preclude a department from applying for a Type I urban interface pumper. Type I pumpers should be requested as a pumper and specified in the request as Type I.

The list of priority funding is lengthy, and highly dependent on region and population.

U.S. DOJ COPS Hiring Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Justice (U.S. DOJ) COPS Hiring Grant Program and Microgrant Program opened last month for the first time in years. Every state, local, and tribal law enforcement agency that has primary law enforcement authority is eligible to apply. As such, there are a few things we wanted to flag upfront to determine what we want to apply for:

- 1) Please confirm your Grants.gov access, your COPS Office Agency Portal access, and ensure DUNS number is active. We cannot work on your application without these things!
- 2) Consider what you would like to request funding for. As you consider, keep the following in mind:

Hiring Program:

- The grant provides 75 percent of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of each newly hired and/or rehired full-time officer, up to \$125,000 per officer position, over the 3-year (36 month) grant period
- The grant requires you to identify a specific crime and disorder problem/focus area and explain how CHP funding will be used to implement community policing approaches to that problem/focus area.



- Funds as many positions as possible for successful applicants; however, the number of officer positions requested by an agency may be reduced based on the availability of funding and other programmatic considerations.
- Additional consideration will be given to applicants who select the following problem/focus areas:
 - Violent Crime
 - Homeland & Border Security Problems
 - School Based Policing

Microgrants Program:

Law enforcement agencies are invited to propose demonstration or pilot projects that offer creative ideas to advance crime fighting, community engagement, problem solving, or organizational changes.

The activities must support community policing in one of the following areas: Hate Crimes; Human Trafficking; Meeting Rural Law Enforcement Challenges; Officer Safety and Wellness; Recruitment, Hiring, and Retention; School Safety; Staffing and Allocation Studies; Victim-Centered Approaches; Violent Crime; or Youth Engagement.



UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Included below is a list of several upcoming grant programs, descriptions and due dates:

- ***Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant Program (February 11)***—AHSC provides funding for affordable housing developments (new construction or renovation) and transportation infrastructure. This may include sustainable transportation infrastructure, such as new transit vehicles, sidewalks, and bike lanes; transportation-related amenities, such as bus shelters, benches, or shade trees; and other programs that encourage residents to walk, bike, and use public transit.
- ***Infill Infrastructure Grant Program (February 18 for large jurisdictions and rolling for small jurisdictions)***—The IIG Program provides grants on a competitive basis and limited over-the-counter funding for infrastructure improvements in support of residential or mixed-use infill development projects. Specific eligible improvements include development or rehabilitation of parks or open space, transit shelters, streets, sidewalks, and streetscape improvements.
- ***INFRA Grant Program (February 25)***—This program provides Federal financial assistance to highway and freight projects of national or regional significance. To be eligible for an INFRA grant, a project must be: A highway freight project carried out on the National Highway Freight Network (23 U.S.C. 167); A highway or bridge project carried out on the National Highway System (NHS) including projects that add capacity on the Interstate System to improve mobility or projects in a national scenic area; A railway-highway grade crossing or grade separation project; or A freight project that is: An intermodal or rail project, or within the boundaries of a public or private freight rail, water (including ports), or intermodal facility, is a surface transportation infrastructure project necessary to facilitate direct intermodal interchange, transfer, or access into or out of the facility, and will significantly improve freight movement on the National Highway Freight Network. A total of \$906 million is available for funding, and grants may be used for up to 60 percent of future eligible project costs. The Department will make awards under the INFRA program to large and small projects. For a large project, the INFRA grant must be at least \$25 million. For a small project, the grant must be at least \$5 million.
- ***U.S. DOJ COPS Hiring Grant Program (March 11)***—The grant provides 75 percent of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of each newly hired and/or rehired full-time officer, up to \$125,000 per officer position, over the 3-year (36 month) grant period. The grant requires you to identify a specific crime and disorder problem/focus area and explain how CHP funding will be used to implement community policing approaches to that problem/focus area. Funds as many positions as possible for successful applicants; however, the number of officer positions requested by an agency may be reduced based on the availability of funding and other programmatic considerations. Additional consideration will be given to applicants who select the following problem/focus areas: Violent Crime, Homeland & Border Security Problems, and School Based Policing.



- **FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (March 13)**—The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.
- **Urban Flood Protection Grant Program (March 25)**—\$100 million from Proposition 68 shall be available to the Natural Resources Agency for competitive grants for the purposes of multi-benefit projects in urbanized areas to address flooding. Eligible projects shall include, but are not limited to, stormwater capture and reuse, planning and implementation of low-impact development, restoration of urban streams and watersheds, and increasing permeable surfaces to help reduce flooding.
- **Per Capita Park Grant Program (April 8)**—This program provides funding directly to states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and public agencies (including school districts and local law enforcement agencies) to be used to improve security at schools and on school grounds through evidence-based school safety programs. There is a total of \$50 million in funding with a \$500,000 max award and 25% match requirement. Eligible costs for this program include: Coordination with law enforcement—salaries and benefits for nonsworn personnel; Training for local law enforcement officers to prevent student violence against others and self; Equipment—Metal detectors, locks, lighting, school site alarm and protection systems; Technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency—communication technology, emergency alerts, laptops, maps of schools and bus routes, social media monitoring, tracking systems, video surveillance technology; Supplies—manuals, paper, pens, postage; Contracts/consultants for project implementation; and Other costs—allowable overtime, other office supplies.
- **Per Capita Park Grant Program (Spring 2020)**—Funds are available for local park rehabilitation, creation, and improvement grants to local governments on a per capita basis. Recipients are encouraged to utilize awards to rehabilitate existing infrastructure and to address deficiencies in neighborhoods lacking access to the outdoors.
- **Urban Greening Grant Program (Spring 2020)**— Eligible urban greening projects will reduce GHG emissions and provide multiple additional benefits, including, but not limited to, a decrease in air and water pollution or a reduction in the consumption of natural resources and energy. Eligible projects will result in the conversion of an existing built environment into green space that uses natural and green infrastructure approaches to create sustainable and vibrant communities. A competitive project will maximize opportunities to reduce GHG emissions through project design and implementation as well as incorporate green infrastructure solutions that improve the sustainability and function of existing urban hardscapes and landscapes.



- **Local Partnership Program (June 12)**—Jurisdictions with voter approved taxes, tolls, and fees, or with imposed fees, will be eligible for this competitive grant program if the taxes, tolls, or fees are dedicated solely to transportation. The initial programming cycle will cover 2017-18 through 2019-20.
- **Active Transportation Program (June 15)**—The Active Transportation Program was created to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. Pursuant to statute, the goals of the Active Transportation Program are to Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking, increase the safety and mobility of non-motorized users, enhance public health, including reduction of childhood obesity through the use of programs including, but not limited to, projects eligible for Safe Routes to School Program funding, and ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program.
- **Transit-Oriented Development Housing Program (June 2020)**—Funded from Proposition 1, funding under the TOD program will support low interest loans available as gap financing for rental housing development that include affordable units, and as mortgage assistance for homeownership developments. In addition, grants are available to cities, counties, and transit agencies for infrastructure improvements necessary for the development of specified housing developments, or to facilitate connections between these developments and the transit station.
- **Storm Water Grant Program (June 2020)**—Funded from Proposition 1, funding will be available for multi-benefit storm water management projects which may include, but shall not be limited to: green infrastructure, rainwater and storm water capture projects and storm water treatment facilities.
- **Storm Water Grant Program (June 2020)**—Funded from Proposition 1, funding will be available for multi-benefit storm water management projects which may include, but shall not be limited to: green infrastructure, rainwater and storm water capture projects and storm water treatment facilities.
- **Local Early Action Planning Grants (July 1)**—The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has released the Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grants with approximately \$119 million in funding. LEAP grants provide funding to jurisdictions for the preparation and adoption of planning documents, process improvements that accelerate housing production, and facilitate compliance in implementing the sixth cycle of the regional housing needs assessment.



Support Services January 2020 Monthly Report

Current Previous 2020 2019
 January '20 January '19 YTD Total Grand Total

Personnel:				
Recruitment(s)	8	6	8	53
New Hire(s) – Permanent	4	4	4	52
New Hire(s) – Temporary	0	3	0	56
Separations	3	3	3	73
Retired	0	3	0	12
Total Number of Employees	550	524	--	--
Full Time	472	457	--	--
Temporary	78	67	--	--

Insurance:				
Government Claim (s) Filed	8	11	8	62
Subrogation Claim (s) Filed	0	7	0	50
Training - Workshops Offered	1	2	1	39



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

(209) 385-6834 • (209) 723-1780 FAX

February 12, 2020

To whom it may concern:

People still talk about the day premiere cyclists came to Merced and raced through town, putting Merced on the international touring map. That was 11 years ago, and Merced's place on the Tour of California is still a fresh memory for many. When Merced was recently discussed as a possible site for the 2020 Tour of California, there wasn't a buzz about it, there was a roar. The business community was among our strongest supporters when the City applied to be a Start City for 2020.

The Tour of California is an event that shines an international spotlight on the Golden State and all of the communities that host the event. We had visitors from across the country and around the world when we were a Start City. But more importantly, millions of viewers tuned in to watch as the cyclists wheeled through our City and showcased our charms.

In the years since then, Merced has grown, our University of California campus has matured into a well-respected educational institution, and we have become a City that continues to attract top businesses and industries.

Now, we have even more to show the world, and we would like to invite them to have a look with the Tour of California as the platform. The Tour helps give a positive boost to the region, and to the Central Valley's image, which sometimes suffers from stereotypes created by people passing through.

We support the Tour of California, and look forward to hosting it in the future. It is a great event to showcase the City and the State, and one that brings an economic benefit and community pride to Merced. Please let us know what we can do to help support the Tour of California.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Murphy
Mayor

Merced County Farm Bureau 103rd Annual Meeting

Friday, March 20, 2020

Merced Fairgrounds

Half Dome Hall

900 MLK Jr. Way, Merced, CA

Prime Rib Dinner

No-Host Social - 5:30 p.m.

Dinner & Program - 6:45 p.m.

\$50 Per Person

Table of 8 can be reserved for \$400

Keynote Speaker:

Former U.S. Army

Black Hawk Pilot

Elizabeth McCormick



Reservation Form

Name: _____

Please reserve _____ tickets for me at \$50 per person.

Please reserve a table of 8 at \$400 per table for: _____

Mail this reservation form by March 6, 2020 along with your check made payable to:

Merced County Farm Bureau

PO BOX 1232

Merced, CA 95341

City of Merced
PLANNING COMMISSION
Agenda

SEMIMONTHLY REGULAR SESSION

Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities may be Prearranged
and Assisted Listening Devices Available in the Council Chambers
Please Contact the Recording Secretary at (209) 385-6858

CALL TO ORDER

Merced City Council Chambers
Wednesday, February 19, 2020

MOMENT OF SILENCE

7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. MINUTES: January 22, 2020

S P E A K E R S

Please be brief and to the point - preferably 3 to 5 minutes.

Max Time Limit prior to Agendized items: 15 minutes. Once the maximum has been reached, remaining speakers will be asked to wait until the end of the meeting to make their comments.

To address the Planning Commission, complete a Request to Speak Form and place in the drop box located to the right of the speaker podium prior to the opening of the public hearing or the announcement of the item by the Chairperson. Speakers will be called up, 3 to 5 at a time, in the order in which the forms are received.

Please use the microphone and state your name and city of residence for the record.

Information/instruction on how the meeting will be run appears on the reverse side of this page.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/REPORTS:

Permits, license, and other entitlements:

Applicant's Representative – 15 minutes (including rebuttal)

Appellant's Representative – 15 minutes (including rebuttal)

All other speakers will have 5 minutes each.

All other issues:

3 or less speakers: 5 minutes each

Over 3 speakers: Maximum of 3 minutes each

A timer clock is located directly across from the podium, illuminating the speaker's remaining time. Once the time is exhausted, a buzzer sounds. Please be courteous and conclude your discussion promptly.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Planning staff can assist you with other planning questions on matters such as annexation to the city, land subdivision, downtown Merced projects, home occupation permits, zoning, population and housing. (Phone 385-6858) 678 West 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. Prior to each regular Commission Meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review in the Planning Department at 678 West 18th Street, Merced, and on the City's website at www.cityofmerced.org. Any documents provided to a majority of the Commissioners after this agenda is posted will be available for public inspection in the Planning Department during normal business hours.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The citizens of Merced elect the members of the City Council. They in turn appoint seven advisors, the Planning Commission, to make recommendations on planning matters. The Commissioners are civic-minded citizens who serve an average of 35 meetings a year with no pay. Meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. on the Wednesday nights following the first and third Mondays of the month, in addition to special meetings as called.

The staff assists the Commission but does not vote. The City Attorney provides legal assistance and assists the Commission on procedural matters; the Planning Director and staff prepare the agenda, provide reports, etc. Other City staff members such as the Civil Engineer also serve as advisors to the Commission.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Commissioners are interested in your views and want to hear them. Information on a proposed action is publicized before it is brought before the Planning Commission. For example, on a proposed zoning action, mailers are sent to all property owners within a 300-foot radius and a notice appears in the legal advertisement section of the Merced Sun-Star. Important pending items will also often be mentioned in pre-meeting references in the local newspaper.

Consent Items

Items noted as "(CONSENT)" are considered routine and will normally be approved without a staff presentation or discussion by the Planning Commission unless a Commissioner or member of the audience has a question(s) or wishes to make a statement or discuss an item. If so, please approach the microphone at the time the particular item is reached.

Public Hearings

The Commission will ask those who are for* or against** a proposal to speak at all public hearings. The sequence of events is:

1. Staff report of facts and a recommendation.
2. Applicant's statement.
3. Proponents* of the proposal.
4. Opponents** of the proposal.
- (5. If necessary, a summary statement or rebuttal from the applicant.)

If you decide to speak, please submit a "Request to Speak" form prior to the start of the public hearing. You will be called up to speak at the appropriate time by the Recording Secretary. Please start by giving your name and city of residence, then tell the Commissioners your concern. We want your views; don't worry about how to say them. If several people have spoken, try not to be repetitious. If there are several in your area with concerns, why not appoint a spokesman. The Commission is particularly interested in the specific reasons you are for or against a proposal because their decision has to be based on specific reasons.

A Commission denial of a request or proposal is final in the case of Conditional Use Permit Applications (unless appealed to City Council within five business days) and Tentative Subdivision Maps (unless appealed to City Council within 10 business days). On many other items, the Commission RECOMMENDS ACTION to the Council. If your item is passed on to the City Council, be sure to follow up by attending the Council hearings and expressing your point of view.

You may also find that the Commission may not get to your item - set for 7:00 p.m. public hearing - until 10:00 p.m. for instance. We regret you having to wait. Experience has shown that setting hearings 1/2 - 1 hour apart is unwise, however. Sometimes matters are withdrawn or are resolved quickly leaving the Commission and public in a position of waiting for an appointed time to arrive.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

At this time, any member of the audience may comment on any matter which is not listed on the agenda. Please submit a “Request to Speak” form prior to the announcement of the item by the Chairperson.

4. ITEMS

Any matters listed as (“CONSENT”) in the descriptions below are considered routine by the Planning Commission and will be adopted by one action of the Commission unless any citizen submits a “Request to Speak” form or Commission member has any question or wishes to make a statement or discuss an item. In that event, the Chairperson will remove that item from the Consent Calendar and place it for separate consideration.

- 4.1 **Extension of Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map (VTSM) #1291 (modified)**, initiated by Bright Development. This application involves a request for a one-year extension of time for filing a final map for VTSM #1291 (modified). VTSM #1291 (modified) would allow the subdivision of 39.8 acres of land into 161 single-family lots generally located on the east side of G Street at Merrill Place (extended) within an R-1-5 zone with a General Plan designation of Low Density Residential (LD). *PUBLIC HEARING*

ACTION: Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Extension of Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map (VTSM) #1291

- 4.2 **Cancellation of March 4 and 18, 2020, Planning Commission Meetings due to 5 Commissioners attending the League of California Cities Planning Commissioners Academy and Lack of Items**

ACTION: Cancel Planning Commission Meetings of March 4 and 18, 2020

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 5.1 Calendar of Meetings/Events (see below)

6. ADJOURNMENT (Traditionally no later than 11:00 p.m.)

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS/EVENTS

Feb.	18	City Council, 7:00 p.m. (<i>Tuesday</i>)
	19	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
	25	Bicycle Advisory Commission, 3:00 p.m.
Mar.	2	City Council, 7:00 p.m.
	4	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. (<i>To be Cancelled</i>)
	16	City Council, 7:00 p.m.

- Apr. 18 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. (*To be Cancelled*)
 6 City Council, 7:00 p.m.
 8 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
 20 City Council, 7:00 p.m.
 22 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
 28 Bicycle Advisory Commission, 3:00 p.m.

N:\shared\planning\PCAgenda

RSVP@MCOE.ORG OR CALL (209) 381-6601'."/>

YOU'RE INVITED!
**MERCED COUNTY SCHOOLS
 ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT**

MERCED
FEB. 26, 2020
 11:30AM-1:00PM
 OR 5:00PM-6:30PM
 501 W. MAIN ST, MERCED, CA

LOS BANOS
FEB. 28, 2020
 11:30AM - 1:00PM
 1105 FIFTH ST,
 LOS BANOS, CA

MERCED COUNTY
**Office of
 Education**
 NURTURE • SERVE • LEAD
 Steve M. Tanjira, S.D., County Superintendent of Schools

RSVP IS REQUIRED | RSVP BY EMAIL RSVP@MCOE.ORG OR CALL (209) 381-6601

Please join us for the unveiling of Merced County Office of Education’s (MCOE) **Merced County Schools Annual Education Report** on February 26 in Merced and February 28 in Los Banos.

Please RSVP by email at RSVP@MCOE.org or call (209) 381-6601 to attend one of the following times:

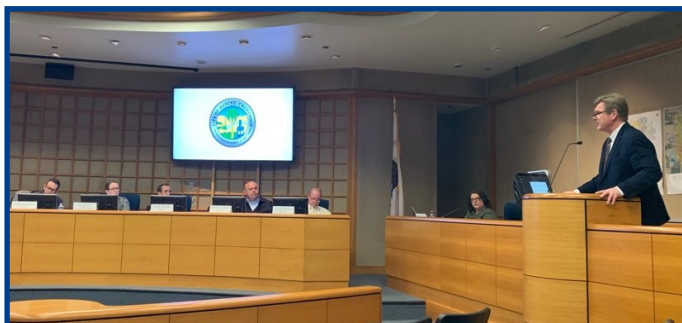
- Wednesday, February 26th at 11:30 AM (Merced) *or*
- Wednesday, February 26th at 5:00 PM (Merced) *or*
- Friday, February 28th at 11:30 AM (Los Banos)

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER VISITS MERCED COUNTY



Last month, Paul Van Konynenburg, Commissioner and Vice-Chair of the California Transportation Commission (CTC), attended a meeting with MCAG and Merced County Public Works staff. The meeting consisted of a tour of Merced County transportation projects including the Atwater-Merced Expressway, Campus Parkway and work at the former Castle Air Base. Following the tour, Commissioner Van Konynenburg gave a presentation to the MCAG Governing Board during their meeting in Merced.

The Commissioner emphasized to the Board the importance of priority projects being shovel ready and having matching funds when competing for grants. He also recommended the Board and staff continue to engage with the CTC.



Commissioner Paul Van Konynenburg addressing the MCAG Governing Board at the January meeting

MCAG NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020 ANNA MARIA FUENTES SCHOLARSHIP

MCAG is still accepting applications for the 2020 Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship. The MCAG Governing Board and staff established the Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship program in memory and tribute to Anna Maria Fuentes, Grants Program Manager, colleague and friend.



The 2020 scholarship will be awarded by the MCAG Governing Board in the amount of \$1,000. Recipients may receive additional annual awards of up to \$1,000 for three years, or until their degree is achieved, whichever is less. The cumulative maximum is \$4,000. Submission of annual scholastic documentation may be required by MCAG.

Graduating high school seniors from a high school in Merced County with a grade point average of 3.8 or higher who has demonstrated a high level of participation in extracurricular activities, including positions of leadership, are eligible to apply. Applicants must also include an explanation of scholarship need in a personal essay.

Interested applicants can access the scholarship application and instructions at:

www.mcagov.org/Scholarship.

Applications can be mailed to, or dropped off at, MCAG, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced and must be received by 5:00pm on Friday, February 28, 2020.

The selected scholarship recipient will be notified by May 1, 2020. General inquiries may be directed to Eva Garibay, Public Programs Specialist, via email at eva.garibay@mcagov.org or phone at 209-723-3153 x 108.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS & EVENTS:

- 02/07** Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, MCAG office, 8:30 am
- 02/07** 2002 State of the City, Merced Theatre, 301 W. Main Street, Merced, 10: 30 am
- 02/12** Technical Review Board meeting, 12:00 pm, City of Dos Palos
- 02/13** One Voice Planning Meeting, 3:00 pm, MCAG Office
- 02/17** All MCAG offices closed in observance of Presidents Day
- 02/20** Governing Board meeting, County Admin Building, 3:00 pm
- 02/28** Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship Applications due by 5:00 pm, MCAG Office
- 03/06** Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, MCAG office, 8:30 am

For more information about these events, or if your City or community has public events you would like published in our newsletter, contact Eva Garibay at: eva.garibay@mcagov.org

RWA OFFERS CARPET RECYCLING AT HIGHWAY 59 LANDFILL

In an effort to reduce some of the 340 million pounds of carpet buried in California landfills every year, Regional Waste Authority (RWA) has partnered with the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) to offer carpet recycling at the Highway 59 landfill.

Since 2010 the Carpet Recycling initiative has diverted 100 million pounds of carpet from California landfills. Recycling carpet not only saves natural resources, and reduces dependency on fossil fuels, but also conserves landfill space.

Any Merced County resident wanting to recycle carpet can follow the steps to the right and drop off their prepared carpet at the Highway 59 landfill for a small fee.

For more information about carpet recycling, including fees, visit: www.mcrwma.org

Follow these simple steps to prepare your carpet for recycling:

Step 1: Keep it Dry

Step 2: Keep it Debris Free. (Remove tack strips, nails, trash and dirt)

Step 3: Prepare the Carpet

- Cut carpet into manageable sections
- Separate carpet from pad
- Roll Carpet
- Roll, stack or fold carpet pad
- Stack carpet tile

Step 4: Recycle carpet for a fee at: **Highway 59 Landfill**
7040 N Highway 59, Merced
Monday - Saturday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm



HOURS OF OPERATION:

HIGHWAY 59 LANDFILL
7040 N Highway 59
Merced, CA 95348

Phone: 209-723-4481

Monday - Saturday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

BILLY WRIGHT LANDFILL
17173 S Billy Wright Road
Los Banos, CA 95348

Phone: 209-826-1163

Monday - Saturday:
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

For more information about Regional Waste Authority please visit: www.mcrwma.org



STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

To receive text and/or email notifications from MCAG related to public meetings, traffic alerts, RFP releases, job opportunities, and more, visit www.mcagov.org and click on the "Notify Me" icon. You can also follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube!



MeasureV

FEBRUARY 2020—UPDATE

Measure V, Merced County's ½ cent transportation sales tax, was passed by Merced County voters with 71% approval in November 2016. In an effort to keep the community informed about this transformative measure, MCAG will feature monthly updates in this newsletter. You can also visit www.mcagov.org/measureV for the latest!

Over the past year and a half, local jurisdictions have made steady progress on Measure V projects around the County. Recently, Merced County allocated Measure V Funds to make improvements in and around O'Banion Park in Dos Palos. The \$812,000 dollar project was funded with \$563,000 from the County's General Local Measure V funds and \$249,000 from the Alternative Modes Local Measure V funds. The project includes approximately 13,600 square feet of additional sidewalk, and roughly 1700 linear feet of resurfaced roadway around the park. The roadway resurfacing will cover the parking lot west of Del Hale Hall, Lone Street, and Dos Palos Avenue from Lone Street to Lorraine Street. The project will enhance the walkability of the Dos Palos Community.

The County is set to break ground on additional Alternative Modes Projects for Merced County including a side walk project on Lobo Ave in Merced and intersection improvements in Planada at Santa Fe Ave. and E. Childs Ave.

HAVE YOU SPOTTED MEASURE V AT WORK IN MERCED COUNTY?

Snap a picture and send it to measurev@mcagov.org or tag us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

@mcag_merced
or use the hashtag
#MeasureV_mcag



CONTACT:

Mary-Michal Rawling, MPA, Public Affairs Manager
(209) 723-3153 x 119 or mary-michal.rawling@mcagov.org

BOTH LANDFILLS
NOW OPEN
ALL DAY
SATURDAY

MONDAY-SATURDAY
7:00AM TO 3:30PM

7040 N. Highway 59
Merced, CA 95348
Phone: (209) 723-4481 x 210
 www.MCRWMA.org

17173 S. Billy Wright Road
Los Banos, CA 93635
Phone: (209) 826-1163
 /MCRWMA