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MERCED

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Steven S. Carrigan, City Manager
Date: February 28, 2020
Re: City Council Information Report

PUT IN ON OUR CALENDAR



MERCED COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Merced Community Calendar is a free service for posting and discovering events in the greater Merced area. The intuitive interface offers a platform to post events on the website as well as an easy way to discover events based on your interests.

This platform will connect the community together and empower the people of City of Merced by sharing their events and activities.

Checkout the community calendar website at: <https://www.mercedcommunitycalendar.org> or scan the barcode with your smartphone.



Connecting your community together.

The City began the soft rollout of the Merced Community Calendar last week during the Town Hall meetings. Poster boards with information about the calendar were put up at the meetings, along with cards in English and Spanish that were available.

The community calendar was requested by the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission, which noted that there was no central location for posting events and activities in the City.

TREE TRIMMING

Public Works tree crews trimmed and pruned vegetation along E.S. Bear Creek (Cameron Lane to G Street) and in the area of 16th and R streets this week.



PUMP REPLACED AT YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX

The irrigation pump at the Youth Sports Complex (1800 Wardrobe Ave.) was replaced by Public Works crews this week due to normal wear and tear.



ENGINEERING UPDATE

Well 21 construction (Bellevue Road & G Street)



Work continues on the new well site at Bellevue & G Street, with roofing, painting, and site grading in progress. They also spread aggregate over the entire site.





Well 20 Construction (Mission & Tyler)
Work also continues on the new well site at Mission & Tyler, with the contractor progressing on sub-slab electrical conduits and plumbing installation. Clark Bros., Inc., also installed 12” and 6” water mains.



Sidewalk Replacement Project Phase II

Witbro, Inc., DBA Seal Rite Paving and Grading, are working on Q Street, removing and replacing sidewalks.



CALHOME GRANT APPLICATION

The Housing Division recently prepared and submitted a \$1,000,000 grant application to the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for funding under the CalHOME program for first time homebuyer assistance. A detailed explanation is attached.

NEW EXHIBIT AT MUSEUM

An exhibit about the history of women, "Portraits of Merced County Women," will premiere Thursday, March 12, at the Courthouse Museum, from 5 to 7 p.m. Susan Walsh will speak on "How Women Won the Vote" at 6 p.m. A flier on the exhibit is enclosed.

MCAG NEWSLETTER

Please find attached the MCAG newsletter for March.

SAVE THE DATE

March 12 – Courthouse Museum Exhibit Opening, 5-7 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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| 2. CalHOME Grant information | Pg. 8 |
| 3. MCAG March newsletter | Pg. 9 |



The Board of Directors of the
Merced County Historical Society
invites you to the exhibit opening of

Merced County Courthouse Museum
21st and N Streets
P.O. Box 5557
Merced, CA 95344
(209) 725-2401
www.mercedmuseum.org
facebook.com/mercedmuseum

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #532
Merced 95340

**Beyond Appearance:
Portraits of Merced County Women**

Merced County Courthouse Museum
21st and N Streets • Merced, California

Thursday, March 12, 2020

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

6:00 – “How Women Won the Vote” by Susan Walsh

2020 marks the centennial of the 19th Amendment which enfranchised American women. By studying the portraits of 40 Merced women from the Victorian era to 1920, the exhibit aims to look beyond the appearance of these individuals to learn the stories of their daily struggles. As the driving force behind domestic and social change, they not only showed that “behind every successful man, there is a strong woman” but also underscored their desire for greater gender, social, and political equality. The exhibit will run through June 14, 2020.

FREE ADMISSION

Museum Hours: Wed. – Sun. 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Disabled accessible – Eastern Entrance and Elevator

Cover: (l-r) Harriet Russel, Lydia Kahl, Wong Shee, and Emma Bedesen Conley



Steve Carrigan or Current Resident
Merced City Manager
678 W 18th
Merced CA 95340



From: Scott McBride, Director of Development Services

CALHOME GRANT APPLICATION FOR FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS

The Housing Division recently prepared and submitted a \$1,000,000 grant application to the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for funding under the CalHOME program for first time homebuyer assistance. During the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Annual Plan consideration last Spring the Council identified increasing home ownership as a priority. As a result of that input staff prepared this application and is also working to funding home ownership classes under our HUD funding.

The proposed CalHOME grant would provide “gap” financing income qualified families in eligible census tracts. That gap can often cover down payment assistance, closing costs, and items. Funding is capped at 40% of the purchase price of the home. Typical funding is \$40,000 to \$65,000 per loan. There is a maximum loan amount of \$100,000.

The loan works as a “silent second.” It remains as an obligation but payments, with interest, are deferred until after a first mortgage is paid off, typically 30 years. Should the home be sold or refinanced with cash out the loan become due and payable. Repayments that the City receives become “program income” which can be used for funding other eligible activities under the CalHOME Program. The City previously received awards in 2006 and 2012. Currently, we have 33 outstanding CalHOME loans with a balance of approximately \$1.1 million.

The requested grant will most likely allow the City to providing funding for up to 12 families. The City has an ongoing interest list which currently contains approximately 30 families. The City is also able to draw down administrative expenses for managing the grant and loans. Notice to the applicants is expected in June 2020.

HCD has indicated that it is likely to provide funding under CalHOME every two years. The City would likely be eligible to apply each time funding is made available. The program is competitive and not guaranteed.

**RIBBON CUTTING AND GROUNDBREAKING
CEREMONY HELD FOR CAMPUS PARKWAY**

In January, local officials along side representatives from Merced County, Merced City, Merced County Association of Governments, Caltrans and UC Merced celebrated the ribbon-cutting for Campus Parkway Segment II and held the groundbreaking for Segment III near Highway 140. The \$30 million Segment II extends the four-lane expressway from East Childs Avenue to 1/4 mile past Highway 140. The new segment includes a traffic signal at Campus Parkway and East Childs Avenue, a concrete structure crossing the BNSF railroad tracks and Highway 140, and a traffic signal at the intersection of Highway 140 and the “Campus Parkway Access” connector road. This portion of the Campus Parkway Project was completed ahead of schedule.

The corridor is part of the regional plan to improve traffic circulation between Highway 99 and the UC Merced campus. Thanks to the leadership of Senator Anthony Cannella and Assembly Member Adam Gray, the Campus Parkway projected received \$100 million for construction under Senate Bill 132 which lawmakers passed in April of 2017.

The overall project consists of a four-lane divided roadway extending 4.5 miles from Mission Avenue to Yosemite Avenue. Segment I from Mission Avenue to East Childs Avenue was completed in 2009. The final segment is the largest portion of the project and will extend the expressway to Yosemite Avenue. The entire Campus Parkway Corridor project is anticipated to be complete by June 2023 at a total cost of \$100 million.



Merced County elected officials and staff at the Campus Parkway Segment II ribbon cutting

**THE BUS TO PROVIDE FREE RIDES ON
ELECTION DAY!**

Will you be heading to the polls on March 3rd? Get there, and anywhere around the County, for FREE on The Bus! Simply show the bus operator any of your voting materials or download the Election Day bus pass from www.mercedthebus.com, then hop on board any fixed-route for free!

Voters may present any of the following voting material to ride for free on Election Day:

- Merced County All Mail Ballot
- Merced County Vote by Mail/Absentee Ballot
- Merced County Voter Information Guide
- State Voter Information Guide
- “I Voted” sticker
- Ballot stub
- Election Day Bus Pass - available on The Bus website

For any questions about voting, or to find your polling station, visit the Merced County Elections website at: www.co.merced.ca.us/225/Elections

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact The Bus at (209)723-3100. Real-time information regarding bus locations, services and arrival times can be found at www.thebuslive.com. All buses are equipped with bike racks and are wheelchair accessible.



ARE YOU READY to **VOTE** on MARCH 3RD?



Visit mercedthebus.com/vote to find out how to ride 'The Bus' for free on Election Day!



MARCH MEETINGS & EVENTS:

- 03/03** Election Day
- 03/06** Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, MCAG office, 8:30 am
- 03/06** Merced County Hispanic Chamber 2020 Latina Women's Luncheon, For more info: www.mercedhcc.com
- 03/07** Household Hazardous Event, Los Banos Fairgrounds, 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 03/11** Technical Review Board meeting, 12:00 pm, City of Merced
- 03/16** Measure V Citizens Oversight Committee meeting, 3:00 pm, MCAG office
- 03/17** Livingston Highway 99 Widening Groundbreaking ceremony, 1:00 pm
- 03/19** Governing Board meeting, City of Los Banos, 3:00 pm
- 04/03** 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@mca.gov

MCAg PARTICIPATES IN TIDY UP TUESDAY

Over the past few months MCAg staff has participated in the Merced Chamber's Tidy Up Tuesday initiative. Every Tuesday afternoon staff volunteer a few minutes of their time to beautify a small section of downtown Merced by picking up litter in public spaces.



MCAg SEEKING STUDENT APPLICANTS FOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MCAg is seeking student applicants for appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC is a 17-member committee comprised of individuals from both the private sector and the community, who provide input to the MCAg Governing Board.

CAC meetings are held the first Friday of every month at 8:30 am at the MCAg office in Merced. Applications can be obtained at www.mcagov.org or at the MCAg office, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced.

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!



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

MeasureV

MARCH 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, the City of Merced recently completed the Main Street and M Street Improvement Project. The project consisted of the reconstruction of both M Street and Main Street, between 18th Street to 16th Street and, N Street to M Street. Work included roadway pulverization, cement treatment, asphalt concrete, curb and gutter work, ADA ramps, concrete sidewalk, driveway approaches, traffic loops, and pavement modification.

Additional Measure V funded projects recently completed by the City of Merced include: reconstruction of M Street, from North Bear Creek Drive to Rambler Road.

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



Both photos show the work along Main Street in Merced

CONTACT:

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

Yard

Insect Spray • Pesticides
Fertilizers • Herbicides • Weed Killers
Pool Chemicals • Bait or Poison for rodents

Home

Batteries • Aerosol Cans • Drain Cleaners • CFL Bulbs
Ammonia Based Cleaners • Oven Cleaners • Moth Balls
Bait/Poison • Spot Removers

Garage

Antifreeze • Motor Oil • Oil Filters • Brake Fluid • Grease
Batteries • Paint • Wood Preservatives • Paint Remover
Items containing Mercury • Fluorescent Lamps and Tubes
Chemicals



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT LOS BANOS FAIRGROUNDS PARK

403 F Street Los Banos, CA 93635

⊘ WE DO NOT ACCEPT: ⊘

- Medical waste • Radioactive material • Large, compressed gas cylinders •
- Agricultural waste • Explosives • Munitions •
- Waste from large-quantity generators •

Note: There are some quantity restrictions and/or small fees associated with some household hazardous waste items, particularly for 'Conditionally-Exempt Small-Quantity Generators'. Please contact Clean Harbors in advance for more information:

Phone: 916-396-1505

Email: roa.renea@cleanharbors.com
www.mcrwma.org



SATURDAY

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MARCH
7:00 AM - 2:00 PM