



THE CI

MERCED

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Stephanie R. Dietz, Acting City Manager
Date: July 24, 2020
Re: City Council Information Report

TWO POLICE OFFICERS SWORN IN

The Merced Police Department conducted a swearing in of two new police officers today in the Council Chambers. Police Officer Trainees Joshua Nickerson and Jacob Painter successfully completed the Fresno Police Academy and will move to the rank of Police Officer.

This was the first police swearing-in ceremony in which COVID-19 prevention measures were implemented, limiting attendance to department command staff and the new officers' families.



Officer Joshua Nickerson



Officer Jacob Painter

NEW RESTAURANT SLATED FOR FORMER IHOP RESTAURANT

A building permit is under review for Bag O' Crabs restaurants. With restaurants in Berkeley and Fairfield, Cajun and Creole restaurant specializes seafood. The former Merced IHOP closed in March 2020. Staff will provide more details about Bag O' Crabs and its targeted opening date.



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS STATUS

In the last two months, the Clerk's Office received 14 applications for various Boards and Commissions positions. Applications are generally kept for a year before they expire. The Clerk's office received 10 applications from July 2019 to April 2020. Below is the total number of applications received from July 2019 to present for the City of Merced's Boards and Commissions:

- Arts and Culture Advisory Commission: 7 Applications
- Bicycle Advisory Commission: 1 Application
- Building and Housing Board of Appeals: 2 Applications
- Citizens Oversight Committee – Measure C: 2 Applications
- Citizens' Stipend Settling Commission: 2 Applications
- Personnel Board: 1 Application
- Planning Commission: 4 Applications
- Recreation and Parks Commission: 6 Applications
- Regional Airport Authority: 3 Applications
- Tax Transparency Commission: 1 Application

*Note: Several candidates applied to more than one Board and Commission.

Staff posted the Board and Commissions Vacancy List on various social media platforms, and will advertise the vacancies in the Merced County Times. Vacancy list flyers are posted near the Council Chambers and outside and inside the Clerk's Office.

The applications that meet the threshold (3 or more) will be on the Aug. 3rd Agenda for Council consideration, pending the applicant's voting registration confirmation.

The Boards & Commissions current listing of vacant positions is attached.

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE APPLGATE ZOO

The City of Merced and our special friends at the Applegate Zoo are excited to announce the reopening of the Applegate Park Zoo Saturday, July 25th, 2020 at 10 a.m. The Zoo has been closed since mid-March when the initial stay-at-home order was issued due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Visitors will have a different Zoo experience than in the past; but the beloved animals and staff are still there to welcome everyone. Reopening the Zoo will provide a break from the isolation many have experienced due to the pandemic.

The Merced Applegate Park Zoo is grateful to all who generously supported the Zoo with bountiful donations of fruits, vegetables, enrichment activities, kiddie pools, peanut butter, and much more. Follow the Merced Zoo's Facebook page (@Merced Zoo) for cute pictures and videos, for updates, and to find out how to donate.

State guidelines and protocols are in place to safely welcome back city residents. Precautions to keep staff, visitors, and the animals safe include extended barriers for certain exhibits, gift store closure, shortened operation hours, one-way entrances and exits, face coverings required for entry, social distancing between groups, high touch surface protectors, and increased cleaning and sanitation. Although very popular with the public, the petting zoo and the duck and goat feeding area will be closed off.

Admission prices to the Applegate Zoo are as follows: Under 5: Free; Ages 5-15: \$2.00; Ages 16-61: \$3.00; Ages 62+; \$1.50; and entry is free for Merced Zoological Society members.

The new hours of operation for the Merced Applegate Park Zoo are Tuesday-Friday, 10am-3 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays will be closed for additional cleaning. The Zoo is located at 1045 W. 25th St., Merced. For more information, call 385-6855.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT BUSY AT WORK

Vandalized Irrigation Repaired at Rose Garden

The Parks crew repaired irrigation hose at the Applegate Rose Garden that was vandalized and punctured in several locations this week.



Tree Trimming Downtown

The Trees crew trimmed trees fronting the Merced County Association of Governments building at 18th and K Streets on Thursday. See in-progress photos:



Street Legends Painting

The Streets crew continued with street legends painting this week. See in-progress photos of a stop legend and bar painted at Campus Drive and Rice Court.



Water Crews in Action, Alexander and Nottingham

Shown to the right, the Water Division is excavating to identify the parts needed to replace a broken valve in this cluster at the intersection of Alexander Avenue and Nottingham this week.



De Long Street Repairs

The photo to the left captures the Streets Division crew repairing sections of dirt road along De Long Street utilizing asphalt grindings from the M Street project.

Well 20 Construction (Mission & Tyler)

Work continues on the removable roof section over the wellhead, as well as stormwater pump wet well installation this week at Well 20.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – PROJECT UPDATE

Project #107033 – Water Well site #20

Clark Bros. Inc., crew backfilled the storm drain and tied steel for fuel pad. This project is approximately 35% complete.



Project #120048 – M St. – Childs to 8th Street Roadway Improvements

TBS Contractors prepared the roadwork for striping. This project is approximately 95% complete.



Project #114004 – Cooper Lift Station

Phase 1 Construction crew placed precast concrete well and vault. This project is approximately 25% complete.



Upcoming Construction Projects (Pending Council's Approval)

1. Project #120025 – Lab and Solids Buildings Restrooms
2. Project #120048 – M Street Grind and Overlay with ADA Upgrades, 8th to 13th Streets
3. Project #113031 – Brimmer Water Main Replacements

INSPECTION SERVICES REPORT

Please find attached, the Inspection Services Report for the period of 6/29/2020 – 7/12/2020.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Please find attached, the Planning Commission Action Memo.

SAVE THE DATE

August 3 – Council Meeting
August 17 – Council Meeting

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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CITY OF MERCED
Boards & Commissions
Current Vacancies Listing



(As of July 10, 2020)

Arts and Culture Advisory Commission	
<i>One (1) At-Large vacancy</i>	One seat per Council District and one At-Large
<i>One (1) ex-officio (non-voting) vacancy</i>	
Bicycle Advisory Commission	
<i>Two (2) vacancies.</i>	
<i>One (1) ex-officio (non-voting) vacancy</i>	
Building and Housing Board of Appeals	
<i>One (1) vacancy</i>	
Personnel Board	
<i>One (1) vacancy</i>	
Planning Commission	
<i>No Vacancies</i>	
Recreation and Parks Commission	
<i>One (1) vacancy</i>	
Regional Airport Authority	
<i>One (1) vacancy</i>	
Citizens' Stipend Setting Commission	
<i>Seven (7) vacancies</i>	One seat per Council District and one At-Large
Tax Transparency Commission	
<i>Seven (7) vacancies</i>	One seat per Council District and one At-Large
Citizens' Oversight Committee - Measure V	
<i>One (1) vacancy</i>	
Citizens Oversight Committee – Measure C	
<i>One (1) Southern District</i>	
<i>One (1) Central District</i>	
<i>One (1) Northern District</i>	
<i>One (1) ex-officio (non-voting) vacancy</i>	

This is your opportunity to serve. Apply today!

To apply, go to www.cityofmerced.org > City Clerk > Boards & Commissions.
 Next, on the page which appears, click on this link:

Inspection Services CI

For the period of June 29th through July 12th, 2020, there were **3** New Single Family Dwelling Permits Issued.

The running total of New Single-Family Dwellings in Plan Review is **591**.

Multi Family Permits in review:

Gateway Terrace Apartments located at 405 W 12th St, 1 Office/Lounge and 6, 2-story Apartments; 2 buildings have 16 units, 3 buildings have 30 units, and 1 building has 4 units.

Compass Pointe, Phase II: 128 units in 16, 8-plex buildings plus a clubhouse.
There were 0 multi-family permits issued during this period.
(no change from last report)

There were 0 new construction commercial permits issued during this period.

There were 4 new tenant improvement permits issued during this period; one for a 9,507 SF Dollar Tree located at 1778 W. Olive Ave., one for a Mr. Car Wash canopy located at 1800 W. Olive Ave., one for Walmart's online grocery pick up located at 3055 Loughborough Dr., and one for amenities for residents at Tioga Apartments located at 1715 N St.

There was 1 new commercial submittal during this period; for a 1,500 SF steel storage building located at 2233 Baker Dr.

There was 1 new tenant improvement submittal during this period; for general restaurant improvements for Bag O Crab located at 455 W. Olive Ave.

There was 1 CofO issued for this period; for the Starbucks located at 700 Carol Ave.

There were 19 CofOs for Single Family Dwellings during this period.

City of Merced
MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 23, 2020
TO: City Council
FROM: Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager
SUBJECT: Actions at the Planning Commission Meeting of July 22, 2020

At their meeting of July 22, 2020, the Planning Commission continued the request for a Modification to the Pre-annexation Development Agreement for the Absolute-Bright Annexation to the meeting of August 19, 2020.

The Commission elected Michael Harris as Chairperson and Mary Camper as Vice-Chairperson.

The Commission cancelled the Planning Commission meeting of August 5, 2020 due to a lack of items.

If you have any questions about this item, please feel free to contact me.

n:shared:Planning:PCMemos