



THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

May 14, 2021

MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING DAY



The Merced Police Department partnered with the Merced Union High School District to provide Forensic Biology teachers hands-on, real-world experiences that will enhance their ability to teach students in the classroom. Today, the Merced Union High School District's Forensic Biology teachers Lea Smith, Sue Fox, Elaine Tam, and Corrinna "Corri" Figueiredo participated in a training hosted by the Merced Police Department Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) and the Bomb Team.



OFFICER ATTENDS FARMDALE PRESCHOOL GRADUATION

This week, Officer Avery attended Farmdale Elementary School's preschool drive-thru graduation.

Pictured to the left is Officer Avery with Principal Spielman.



PUBLIC WORKS CREWS IN ACTION

WATER CREW REPLACES FIRE HYDRANT AT 27TH & G STREET

Public Works Water crews are shown working on replacing a fire hydrant at 27th and G Street, as well as performing valve exercising.

27th & G STREET HYDRANT REPLACEMENT



WATER VALVE EXERCISING



PARKS CREW REPLACES EQUIPMENT

Parks Division replaced a cabinet and irrigation timer this week that was stolen along West 16th Street.

BEFORE



AFTER



SEWER & STORM DRAIN CREWS REPLACES STORM DRAIN LINE

The Public Works Sewer & Storm Drain crews replaced a damaged section of an 18” storm drain line on Gerard Avenue & Carmel Road.



WWTP STAFF DISKS BIO-SOLIDS

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) staff disked bio-solids in the land application fields.



REFUSE CREWS CLEARS 7.8 TONS OF TRASH

The Public Works Refuse crews cleared 7.8 tons of trash and debris from a homeless encampment near Doppler Avenue at Mission Thursday morning.



**MORE PHOTOS OF HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT
CLEANUP**

BEFORE



BEFORE



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



TOP NEWS FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT

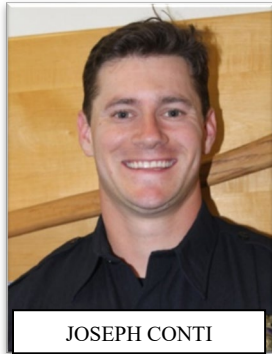
FIRE AWARD & BADGE PINNING CEREMONY

Today, the Fire Department hosted an award and badge pinning ceremony.

The Fire Department swore in four new members to the team, they are Diego Basulto, Joseph Conti, Kevin Pixley, and Dan Timko. The newly sworn members completed their 4-week academy and will be assigned to their respective shifts.



DIEGO BASULTO



JOSEPH CONTI



KEVIN PIXLEY



DAN TIMKO

Billy Dickens was promoted to the rank of Engineer and was sworn in as well.



Fire Captain Keith Albrecht was presented with the prestigious award of Fire Fighter of the Year for 2021. The Firefighter of the Year recipient is selected by their peers for exemplary efforts to provide better services, enhance public relations with the community and exemplary efforts made to improve the working conditions of the Merced Fire Department members.



Hats off to all of you!

FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAININGS

At the end of last week, PG&E provided the Merced Fire Department an opportunity to conduct training at the old Merced Gas Manufacturing facility located at 560 15th Street. Typically, the Department is given access to residential type structures however, this structure was the old administration building with multiple offices and several large conference rooms. The Department took advantage of the building and its layout to practice “commercial” structure tactics and skills such as deploying and flowing large 2.5” hose lines. Most members of the Department were able to rotate through the training to sharpen their skills.



This week, several of the Fire Department’s newly hired firefighters had the opportunity to conduct live fire training in conjunction with Cal Fire/Merced County at the Castle Training Center. The topics covered included fire behavior with respect to modern fuel loads, the impact of ventilation on fire growth, and the stages of a fire’s development.



Classroom portion of the training. Topics covered were fire behavior, modern fuel loads consisting of synthetic/petroleum-based home furnishings, flow path and water application.

MORE FIRE TRAININGS

The photo below is an example of modern home furnishings and how fire rapidly spreads due to their petroleum-based chemical properties.



Firefighters sitting inside the burn container while the instructor discuss fire behavior and the stratification of gases:



EXAMPLES OF WHAT WAS LEFT AFTER FIRE



This is a simulated single-family house constructed to demonstrate the flow of oxygen into a building and how it affects a fire's growth:



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – PROJECTS UPDATE

PROJECT #121053 – G STREET AV. TO BEAR CREEK DR., ROAD REHABILITATION

TBS Contractors set forms for curb and gutter this week. The Public Works Water Division installed new water main at the intersection of Bear Creek Drive and G Street.



PROJECT #117020 – GERARD SEWER MAIN HWY 99 TO KIBBY RD.

Rolfe Construction Co., Inc. crew paved trench section. This project is approximately 15% complete.



CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

1. 117020 - Gerard Ave. Sewer Main Hwy 99 to Kibby Road
2. 120060 – N Street, 16th to 18th Streets, Roadway Improvement (awarded, construction to start week of 5/24/21)
3. 121053 - G St. – Park Ave. to Bear Creek Rehabilitation (emergency)
4. 117038 - V Street, 16th to 18th Streets, Road Improvement (bid opening 6/1/21)

PROJECTS IN DESIGN

1. Highway 59 Widening
2. Highway 59 and 16th Street Signal and Channelization (90%)
3. Motel Drive Multi-Use Path (100%)
4. R Street, 16th to 18th (90%)
5. B Street Improvements (50%)
6. G Street Improvements Childs to 13th St. (100%)
7. Orchard Avenue Sewer (50%)

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR NEW FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

The City Manager's Recommended Budget/Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 is now available online:

<https://www.cityofmerced.org/departments/city-budget/-folder-2446>

The recommended budget is scheduled for the next Council meeting, 5/17/21.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA 5/19/21

Please find attached, the Planning Commission Agenda for the meeting of 5/19/21.

EJ LORENZI'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARADE

Please find attached, the event flyer for the celebration of E.J. "Almo" Lorenzi's 90th Birthday drive-thru parade and the 90th Anniversary of the original Our Lady of Mercy School building. The parade is open to the public and is held this Saturday, 5/15/21 from 1-3 p.m. at 545 W. 26th St. (enter parking lot thru Canal St. side).

Check out the County Times article of Mr. Lorenzi & OLM, "OLM school, former student share 90 years of history in the making":

<https://mercedcountytimes.com/olm-school-former-student-share-90-years-of-history-in-the-making/>

HANDS ON HEROS NOMINATION

Do you know someone that makes a difference in the lives of children (age 0-18) every day? A person who goes above and beyond in supporting children in our county, work tirelessly and are seldom acknowledge for their work. Nominate them for Merced County's annual Hands on Heroes award!

The flyer is attached, and the nomination form will be released next Friday, 5/21/21 at www.first5mercedcounty.org or email First5@mercedcounty.com for more info.

Nomination forms due 7/16/21.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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| 1. PC Agenda | Page 10 |
| 2. Lorenzi Birthday Invitation | Page 14 |
| 3. Hands on Hero Flyer | Page 15 |



CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Meeting Agenda

Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Merced Civic
Center, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

WELCOME TO THE MEETING OF THE MERCED PLANNING COMMISSION

At least 72 hours prior to each regular Planning Commission meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofmerced.org or at the Planning Division Office, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. All public records relating to an open session item that are distributed to a majority of the Commission will be available for public inspection at the Planning Division Office during regular business hours. The Planning Commission also serves as the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Design Review/Historic Preservation Commission.

MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT: OBTAIN SPEAKER CARD FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION CLERK

Members of the audience who wish to address the Planning Commission are requested to complete a speaker card available at the podium against the right hand side of the Council Chamber. Please submit the completed card to the Planning Commission Clerk before the item is called, preferably before the meeting begins.

For at risk individuals or those not wanting to attend an in-person meeting during the current Covid-19 pandemic, please submit your public comment to the Planning Commission electronically no later than 1PM on the day of the meeting. Comments received before the deadline will be sent to the Planning Commission and will be part of the record and mentioned as part of the Public Comment portion of the agenda.

Material may be emailed to planningweb@cityofmerced.org and should be limited to 300 words or less. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, for example, Oral Communications or item #. Your comments will be presented to the Planning Commission at the appropriate time. Any correspondence received after 1 PM will be distributed to the Planning Commission and retained for the official record.

You may provide telephonic comments via voicemail by calling (209) 388-7390 by no later than 1 PM on the day of the meeting to be added to the public comment. Voicemails will be limited to a time limit of three (3) minutes. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, for example, Oral Communications or item #. Your comments will be played during the Planning Commission meeting at the appropriate time.

To view video (if available) or listen to the Planning Commission meeting live, go to the City's website www.cityofmerced.org, Facebook Live, or Comcast Public Access Channel 96.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Accommodation for individuals with disabilities may be arranged by contacting the Planning Division at (209) 385-6858. Assisted hearing devices are available for meetings held in the Council Chamber.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A.1. Moment of Silence

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

B. ROLL CALL

C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public who wish to speak on any matter not listed on the agenda may speak during this portion of the meeting and will be allotted 5 minutes. The Chairperson may, at their discretion, reduce the time to 3 minutes if there are more than 3 speakers, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible. State law prohibits the Planning Commission from acting at this meeting on any matter raised during the public comment period. Members of the public who wish to speak on a matter that is listed on the agenda will be called upon to speak during discussion of that item. Please submit a Request to Speak card prior to the item being called. See MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT for details.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

Adoption of the Consent Calendar may be made with one motion of the Planning Commission provided that any Planning Commission member, individual, or organization may request removal of an item from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration. If a request for removal of an item from the Consent Calendar has been received, the item will be discussed and voted on separately. With Consent items, there is generally no staff presentation but staff is available for questions. See MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT for details.

D.1 [21-417](#) **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of May 5, 2021

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of May 5, 2021

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

Members of the public who wish to speak on public hearings listed on the agenda will be heard when the Public Hearing is opened, except on Public Hearing items previously heard and closed to public comment. After the public has commented, the item is closed to further public comment and brought to the Commission for discussion and action. Further comment will not be received unless requested by the Commission. See MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT for details.

E.1 [21-305](#) **SUBJECT:** Conditional Use Permit #1254 and Site Plan Review #474, initiated by Vermeltfoort Architects, Inc., on behalf of Chase Partners, LTD., property owner. This application involves a request to sell beer and wine for off-site consumption for a new gas station (7-Eleven), generally located at the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59 (1995 W Olive Avenue), within a zoning classification of Planned Development (P-D) #12. The property currently has a General Plan designation of Commercial Office (CO) and Industrial (IND); a General Plan designation of Business Park (BP) has been proposed and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission via General Plan Amendment #20-02 and Site Utilization Plan Revision #2 to P-D #12. ****PUBLIC HEARING****

ACTION: Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #21-07 (*CEQA Section 15162 Findings*)
- 2) Conditional Use Permit #1254
- 3) Site Plan Review #474

SUMMARY

7-Eleven is requesting approval to sell beer and wine for off-site consumption at a proposed gas station and 4,088 square-foot convenience mart (1995 W Olive Avenue). The subject site is a vacant parcel located at the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59. A conditional use permit is required for any business that wants to sell alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption in a building of 20,000 square feet or less. A gas station/convenience market requires a Site Plan Permit in a Business Park Zone. A Finding of Public Convenience or Necessity (adopted by City Council) is required, because the subject site is located within a Census Tract that is considered over-concentrated by Alcoholic Beverage Control standards. Staff is recommending approval of this application subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #21-07 [CEQA Section 15162 Findings], Conditional Use Permit #1254, and Site Plan Review Permit #474, including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A subject to

the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

F.1 [21-419](#) **SUBJECT:** Report by Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

ACTION

Information only.

F.2 [21-418](#) **SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

- May 17 City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- June 7 City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 22 Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m.
- 23 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- July 6 City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(Tuesday)**
- 7 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 21 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Local residents are invited to...

A DRIVE-BY PARADE

TO CELEBRATE THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF E.J. 'ALMO' LORENZI &
THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORIGINAL OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL BUILDING



ON SATURDAY, MAY 15TH, 2021

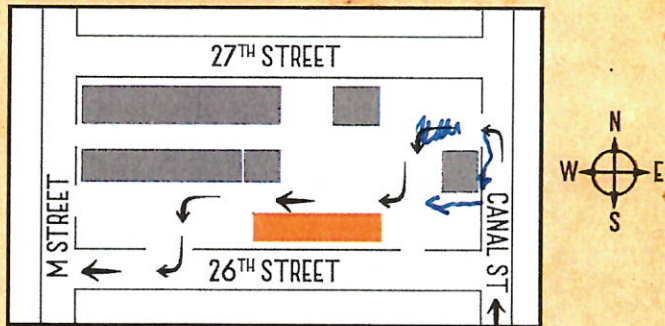
1PM- 3PM



545 WEST 26TH STREET

Enter the parking lot behind the Spanish Mission-style building through Canal Street, follow parade route westbound toward M Street and Applegate Park

Please Come By To Wave Your Greetings!



*Lorenzi Plaza
(for a day...)*



Current Tenants

BUILDING A
LORENZI LAND INVESTMENTS
DENTAL LAB
VALLEY GIRL CO.
PRINC CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING B
DAVIDSON RESIDENTIAL HOMES
TIPS AND TOES NAIL SALON
VALLEY HARVEST
MJ NURSING SCHOOL

BUILDING C
TRI COUNTY DENTAL LAB

BUILDING D
LARA'S DOG GROOMING

BUILDING E
DR. TRUMBULE
BAYNE BOOKKEEPING

BUILDING F
MERCED OB/GYN CARE

BUILDING G
ADVANCED MOBILITY

2021 Hands on Heroes Merced County

Nomination forms available on May 21, 2021 at:

www.first5mercedcounty.org

Or email First5@mercedcounty.com for more information

[Nomination Forms Due July 16, 2021](#)

Do you know someone that makes a difference in the lives of children every day? Nominate them for Merced County's annual Hands on Heroes award!

