



THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

July 2, 2021

SUN'S OUT, FUN'S OUT

FREE ADMISSION TO ZOO FOR VETERANS

The City of Merced will be honoring military veterans on July 4th with free admission to the Zoo.

The Zoo will be decorated with patriotic inflatables – bring the family, enjoy the scenery, and the animals!



COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY RESUMES

The Merced Police Department is pleased to announce they are resuming the Community Police Academy on August 18th, 2021. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to learn the mechanics of the Department!

For more information, please contact Lieutenant Emily Foster at fostere@cityofmerced.org.



Do you want to learn about the Merced Police Department?

Do you want to know more about Officer Training, Hiring Processes, Retention, Use of Force, Patrol Procedures?

Do you want to build trust based relationships with the men & women of the Merced Police Department?

Join the Community Police Academy !

Presentations include:

- Crime Scene Response Team
- Investigations
- Bomb Squad
- K9
- SWAT




Class meets Wednesday or Thursday
6 pm – 9pm & one Saturday
for 11 weeks

For more Information Contact
Lt. Emily Foster
(209) 388-7714
fostere@cityofmerced.org

**Next Session
begins August
18th, 2021**

OFFICER CHAVEZ RECEIVES MADD AWARD



Officer Eddie Chavez was recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) at their Annual Awards Ceremony and was presented with a certificate for his dedication to drunk driving enforcement for the year 2020. Officer Chavez made 49 DUI arrests during that year.

The mission of MADD is to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes, and prevent underage drinking.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Annual MADD Awards ceremony could not take place in person, as an alternative it was held virtually on June 22, 2021.

Congratulation, Officer Chavez, and job well done!



REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Redistricting Advisory Committee will review the current City Council election districts for balanced population and ensure they comply with state and federal election laws based on the 2020 Census data. The Committee will consist of a nine (9) member Committee and must be City of Merced residents.

For more information or to apply, visit the City's website at www.cityofmerced.org, navigate to Popular Links on the homepage, click on "Apply for City Board". All Redistricting Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and encourages public participation.

The City launched a redistricting webpage for residents to learn more about the City's redistricting efforts including how to get involved and access a number of educational resources at www.cityofmerced.org/redistricting.

On the redistricting webpage, residents can learn about opportunities to participate in the process through four public hearings, plus an information session on map-drawing tools. Residents will have access to the following: tentative schedule of hearings, Redistricting Advisory Committee schedule of meetings, and workshop information as dates are determined. The webpage will be updated frequently.

Also, on the webpage, residents will have the opportunity to learn about the redistricting process, watch videos from past meetings, view presentation slides and any other documents relating to the redistricting process, and see frequently asked questions. Residents may subscribe to receive ongoing updates regarding the City of Merced's efforts.

Soon, residents will have the option to use online map-drawing tools to submit their own suggestions to redraw City districts and offer feedback on previously drawn maps.

The Redistricting flyer is attached.

FIRE DEPT. CONDUCTS ANNUAL TRAINING

The Fire Department serves as the City of Merced’s confined space rescue service for all City departments as well as the community. Every year, and as required by Cal/OSHA, the Department conducts confined space rescue training throughout the City of Merced.

This year, the Department had the opportunity to conduct its annual entry drill within a digester at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. During the entire week, multiple crews were given a scenario portraying an incapacitated treatment plant employee inside the tank. Each group was required to assess the situation and develop a plan. In accordance with Cal/OSHA requirements, each group monitored the atmosphere within the tank for oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, and the level of flammability. Once the known hazards were addressed, a plan was formulated to lower a rescue into the tank, bundle the victim, and remove the individual from the tank.

These types of technical rescues must follow strict regulations and can be challenging at times for rescuers. It is important for the Fire Department to train in the areas they serve and the situations they may encounter.

The Fire Department would like to thank all the staff members at the Treatment Plant for making this opportunity possible!



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – PROJECTS UPDATE

PROJECT #121053 – G STREET, PARK AVENUE TO BEAR CREEK, ROAD REHABILITATION

TBS Contractors placed pavement markings and laid out traffic signal loop wires.

This project is approximately 95% complete.



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

Rolfe Construction Co., Inc., paved over the sewer trench this week.

This project is approximately 60% complete.



PROJECT #120060 – N STREET IMPROVEMENT

This week, TBS Contractors, Inc., worked on utility installation, landscape irrigation, and grading for the sidewalk.

This project is approximately 60% complete.



CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

1. 117020 - Gerard Ave. Sewer Main Hwy 99 to Kibby Road
2. 120060 - N Street - 16th to 18th Streets, Roadway Improvement
3. 121053 - G St. – Park Ave. to Bear Creek Rehabilitation (Emergency)
4. 117038 - V Street - 16th to 18th Streets, Road Improvement (to be awarded by Council)

PROJECTS IN DESIGN

1. Highway 59 Widening (11%)
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%)

INSPECTION SERVICES BIWEEKLY REPORT

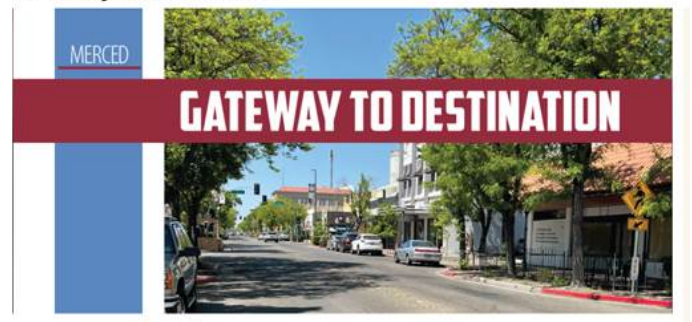
Please find attached, the Inspection Services Biweekly Report for the period of 6/14/21 - 6/27/21.

209 MAGAZINE HIGHLIGHTS DOWNTOWN MERCED

Check out this article about Downtown Merced published in the 209 MAGAZINE:

<https://www.209magazine.com/departments/209downtowns/gateway-destination/>

Gateway to destination



MCAG MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Please find attached, the Merced County Association of Governments’ newsletter for the month of July.

411 ON WHAT’S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN THIS WEEKEND

Merced Summer Carnival

Dates: July 1 – July 11, 2021

Times: Monday – Friday | 5 PM – 12AM
& Saturday – Sunday | 3 PM – 12AM

Location: Merced County Fairgrounds

Website:

<https://www.mercedcountyfair.com/merced-summer-carnival>



Merced Symphony Association

Date: Saturday, July 3, 2021

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Merced Theatre, 301 W. Main Street

Fee: \$25.00 per ticket

Website: <https://mercedsymphony.org/>



THIS SATURDAY AT 7:30 PM PDT
Merced Symphony Returns To In-Person Concerts With "Reconnecting — Our Seas...
Merced Theatre

US Air Force – Golden Band of the West – 4th of July Concert Series

Date: Saturday, July 3, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Merced Open Air Theater (MOAT) at Applegate Park

FREE EVENT!



HISTORY 101 – FOURTH OF JULY

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution.

On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

The Fourth of July 2021 is on Sunday, July 4, 2021; the federal holiday will be observed on Monday, July 5, 2021.

Credit: [History of the Fourth of July - Brief History & Early Celebrations - HISTORY](#)

HAPPY 245TH BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

ADOPTED BUDGET FOR NEW FISCAL YEAR ON THE WEB

The City of Merced’s Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 is now posted online.

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

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Redistricting Flyer | Page 7 |
| 2. Inspection Services Report | Page 8 |
| 3. MCAG July Newsletter | Page 9 |



CELEBRATE THE 4TH SAFELY

Report illegal fireworks
using the Merced
Connect app.



snap. click. submit.

or call 209-388-SAFE
email celebratesafe@cityofmerced.org

Remember to celebrate the 4th safely. Report illegal fireworks through the Merced Connect app, it’s simple, you just “snap, click, and submit”. Download the app via the app store on our smart device.

Other ways to report illegal fireworks:

Call: 209-388-SAFE

Call: The Anonymous Non-Emergency Tip Line at 209-385-4725.

Email: celebratesafe@cityofmerced.org



REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ABOUT THIS COMMITTEE

ROLES



Roles

Reviews the current City Council election districts for balanced population and to ensure they comply with state and federal election laws based on the 2020 Census data

Recommendation



Duties

Advising the City Council on proposed council district maps



Meeting

Meeting dates:

August 12, 2021 at 6PM
September 15, 2021 at 6PM
December 1, 2021 at 6PM
January 22, 2022 at 10AM

Apply Today!

Visit Cityofmerced.org > Popular Links > Apply for a Board

INSPECTION SERVICES CI

For the period of June 14th, 2021 through June 27th, 2021, there were 5 New Single-Family Dwelling Permits Issued.

The running total of New Single-Family Dwellings in Plan Review is **277**.

Multi Family Permits in review:

Gateway Terrace Apartments located at 405 W 12th Street; 1 office/lounge and 6, 2 story apartments: 2 buildings have 16 units, 3 buildings have 30 units, and 1 building has 4 units for a total of 126 units.

Compass Pointe – Phase II: 128 units in 16, 8-plex buildings, plus a clubhouse.

There is a fire damage repair that is also adding an ADU located at 1740 Shirley St.

There were 0 multi-family permits issued during this period.
(No change from last report)

There were 3 new construction commercial permits issued during this period; all three for the shell/ TI combination permits for the new Arco convenience store, drive through, and car wash located at the 3100 block of N. Hwy 59.

There was 1 new tenant improvement permit issued during this period; to combine a 2,544 SF suite with the adjacent existing offices for a combined space of 6,968 SF at 478 E. Yosemite Ave., Ste D.

There were 0 new commercial submittals during this period.

There were 2 new tenant improvement submittals during this period; one for a 1,934 SF Starbucks located at 360 W 16th St. Ste A., and one for a remodel of the 8,991 SF Advanced Auto Parts located at 1207 W. Main St.

There were 0 CofOs issued for this period.

There were 38 CofOs for Single-Family Dwellings during this period.

MCAG GOVERNING BOARD ELECTS NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The MCAG Governing Board has elected Director Lloyd Pareira to serve as the Board Chair for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. Director Pareira currently serves as Merced County Supervisor, District 4, and was elected to his second term in 2020. He has lived on his family's farm near the Merced River most of his life. He earned his bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, in dairy science. While running his farm, Director Pareira has also served as a trustee on the Merced River School Board, the Boards of the Merced County Farm Bureau and Yosemite Church, and as a delegate for Western United Dairyman.



Director Matt Serrato was elected to serve as the Vice-Chair of the MCAG Board for the 2021–2022 year. Prior to being elected Mayor, Director Serrato served on the Merced City Council representing District 5 for four years. Director Serrato graduated with his bachelor's degree from UC Davis in 2002 and obtained his law degree from UCLA in 2006. Currently, he is a Chief Deputy District Attorney for the Merced County District Attorney's office. As a Councilmember and Mayor, he has also initiated several community cleanup events and fundraisers and looks to continue with similar humanitarian efforts.

MCAG Governing Board meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 3:00 pm, at various locations. To view the location and agenda details for these, and all, MCAG meetings, visit: <https://www.mcagov.org/AgendaCenter>

YARTS LIFTS CAPACITY RESTRICTIONS

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Board of Directors has lifted restrictions on the capacity of its buses traveling to and from Yosemite National Park. The action occurred at a special meeting of the Board on June 14, 2021, and went into effect on June 15, 2021, when the State of California lifted all social distancing requirements.



The buses had been limited to approximately half of their capacity since the inception of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to allow for passengers to distance from each other as well as the driver. The action taken this week allows the service to resume full capacity of up to 49 passengers on each YARTS bus traveling into and out of Yosemite National Park.

The YARTS service runs coach buses to Yosemite National Park from the six surrounding counties of Merced, Mariposa, Mono, Tuolumne, Madera, and Fresno along highways 140, 395, 120 and 41, respectively. Full summer service schedules are currently in effect.

Although capacity limits have been lifted, other protocols prompted by the pandemic remain in place, such as the wearing of face masks while riding YARTS. These regulations are required for public transportation systems by the Federal Transit Administration and are expected to remain in place until September. Reservations to ride YARTS are available as are walk-on tickets on a first come first serve basis. Passengers do not need a day-use pass issued by the National Park Service to ride YARTS into the Park.

For more information about YARTS visit: www.yarts.com

JULY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- 07/02** CAC meeting, 8:30 am
- 07/03** Tire Amnesty Day, 8am - 12pm, Los Banos Fairgrounds, Los Banos
- 07/05** All MCAG offices closed
- 07/14** Technical Review Board meeting, 8:30 am
- 07/15** Governing Board meeting, 3:00 pm
- 07/17** HHW Event, Highway 59, Merced, 8:00 am - 12:00pm
- 07/21** YARTS AAC Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 07/26** YARTS JPA Meeting, 1:00 pm

Please note: Some MCAG meetings have resumed in person meetings while others will be held via Zoom. The meeting location or Zoom information is listed on the cover of each agenda. To access all meeting agendas, please visit:

www.mcagov.org/agendacenter

For more information about these meetings, please contact Eva Garibay at: eva.garibay@mcagov.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!



CALRECYCLE FUNDS RWA TIRE AMNESTY PROGRAM

Regional Waste Authority (RWA), in partnership with the Greater Valley Conservation Corps, will host a Tire Amnesty for Merced County Residents on Saturday, July 3, 2021.



Residents will be able to bring up to nine tires for no charge to the Los Banos Fairgrounds between 8:00am - 12:00pm. Tires from tire-generating businesses will not be accepted.

This program is funded by CalRecycle.

For more information visit: mcrwma.org/TireCare



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 or download the 'Merced Recycles' app on the App store and Google play.



MeasureV

JULY 2021 - 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 30 year measure, MCAG will feature monthly updates in this newsletter. You can also visit:

www.mcagov.org/measureV for the latest!

The 30-year Measure, which commenced in April of 2017, allocates 50% of all its revenue to the cities of Merced, Los Banos, Gustine, Atwater, Livingston and Dos Palos, along with the County of Merced, to pay for local transportation projects including roads, bike paths, and sidewalks; 20 percent of these funds must be used on projects that promote alternative modes of transportation. Regional transportation projects located on both the east and west sides of the county receive 44% of the funding with five percent reserved for public transit purposes. MCAG receives one percent of the monies to administer all fiduciary and reporting requirements.



Over the past four years, local jurisdictions have made progress on several Alternative Modes projects around the county. These projects include safe alternatives to automobile travel, increase the use of active transportation, and improve air quality. The City of Gustine has been hard at work completing several projects throughout the city to enhance the walkability and ADA accessibility of their community.

Their latest \$23,700 project included improving 290 linear feet of a multi-use path along 6th Street and 3rd Avenue around Henry Miller Park. To date, the City of Gustine has spent \$146,600 on several alternative mode projects throughout the city limits to repair and improve sidewalks and other pedestrian amenities.

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

WASTE TIRE AMNESTY DAYS

FREE TIRE RECYCLING

8:00 am – 12:00 pm



Highway 59 Landfill
7040 N. Highway 59
Merced

Los Banos Fairgrounds
403 F Street
Los Banos

JUNE
5

SEPTEMBER
4

JULY
3

- Tires will be accepted at no charge • Tires on rims will be accepted •
- Tires from tire-generating businesses will not be accepted •
- Up to 9 tires allowed per vehicle • No tractor or semi-truck tires will be accepted

Note: it is illegal to transport 10 or more tires without an exemption issued by Merced County; violations may result in fines. Up to 20 tires will be accepted for free disposal from those with a verified exemption.



DÍAS DE AMNISTÍA DE LLANTAS

RECICLE SUS LLANTAS GRATIS
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Highway 59 Landfill
7040 N. Highway 59
Merced

Terrenos de la Feria
403 F Street
Los Banos

JUNIO

5

SEPTIEMBRE

4

JULIO

3

- Se aceptarán llantas sin cargo • Se aceptarán llantas con rines •
- No se aceptarán llantas de empresas generadoras de llantas •
- Se permiten hasta 9 llantas por vehículo • No se aceptarán llantas de tractor o semi

Nota: Es ilegal transportar 10 o más llantas sin una excepción del condado de Merced; las infracciones pueden resultar en multas. Se aceptarán hasta 20 llantas para su eliminación gratuita de aquellos con una excepción verificada.



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Notice

The Merced County Association of Governments, YARTS and The Bus administration offices at 369 W. 18th Street, Merced will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021, in observance of Independence Day.

Las oficinas de Merced County Association of Governments, YARTS y la oficina de administración de The Bus, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced estarán cerradas el lunes 5 de julio del 2021 reconocimiento del día de independencia.

July 2021						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Holiday: Office Closed

Día de fiesta: Oficina Cerrada