



# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

August 27, 2021

## TELL US HOW YOU WOULD INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY

This week, the City of Merced launched a city-wide outreach program to seek input from residents, businesses, community organizations and other stakeholders on the City's use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

The City of Merced has been allocated funding through the American Rescue Plan Act, also known as ARPA. The purpose of this funding is to help communities respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, address economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

“There is no doubt the devastating effects of COVID-19 will be long-lasting and profound,” said Mayor Matthew Serratto. “Documenting how this looks in the daily lives of our community is the first step towards equitable recovery. We look forward to robust participation and the opportunities this critical feedback will create to champion our efforts to invest in our City and support our community.”

The U.S. Treasury released guidance on how funds can be used; to respond to immediate public health and financial stability needs; fill revenue shortfalls; and support households, workers, and businesses that were hit the hardest by the pandemic.

“This one-time infusion of resources will transform our pandemic rescue and recovery efforts,” stated Stephanie Dietz, Merced City Manager. “Input from our community will provide the framework necessary for a well-developed four-year investment plan.”

Results of the survey will inform officials of community priorities and will allow them to develop a plan to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.



# How would you invest in our community?

## Help the City of Merced develop a plan to invest ARPA Funding.

## To take the survey, scan the QR Code or visit [www.cityofmerced.org](http://www.cityofmerced.org)

### American Rescue Plan Act





**Commercial Production With Mayor Serratto And Council Members Ornelas, Echevarria, Perez, Boyle And Shelton  
To watch the commercial, visit [cityofmerced.org/arpa](http://cityofmerced.org/arpa).**





### Public Works in Action

Public Works sewer crews performed a 48” sewer trunk line inspection this week in the area of West Avenue, Dickenson Ferry Road, and Gove Road.

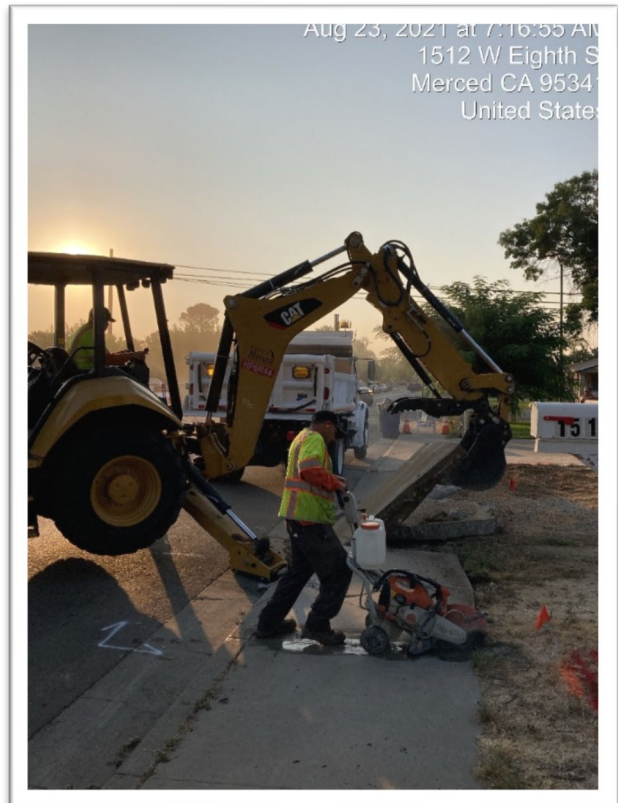


### Public Works in Action

Public crews repaired a traffic signal damaged by a vehicle accident at the intersection of Childs Avenue and N Street.

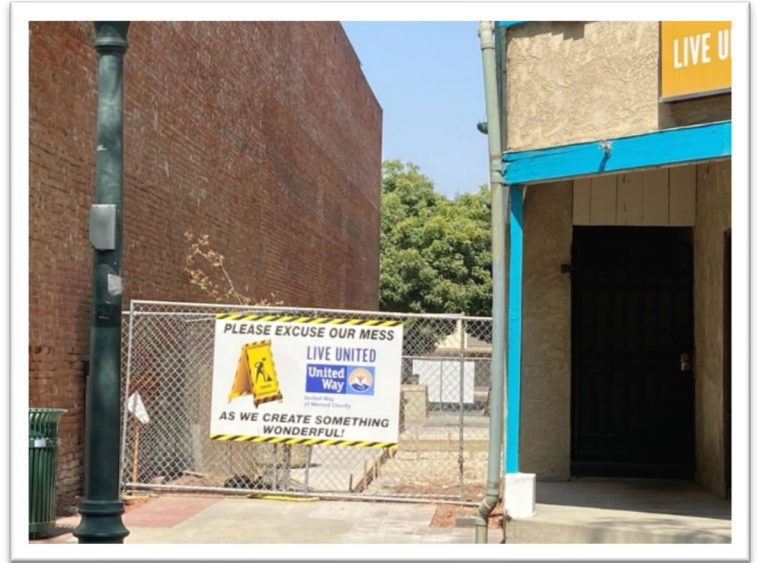


Street crews striping along El Portal Drive, as well as preformed sidewalk, curb and gutter repairs along Eighth Street.





Street crews removed two Sternberg lights in Arbor Way in Downtown Merced.



Tree crews trimmed trees in Parking Lot #1 on West 18<sup>th</sup> Street, between M & Canal.





ENGINEERING



Project #117047 – G St. – Well Site 3 Tank Removal  
Standard Demolition Crew installed new fence and gate.  
This project is approximately 96% complete.



Project #120060 – N St. Improvements – 16<sup>th</sup> St. to 18<sup>th</sup> St.  
TBS Contractors, Inc. The crew poured stamped concrete.  
This project is approximately 80% complete.

**Construction Projects**

1. 117047 – Well Site 3 Tank Removal
2. 117020 - Gerard Ave. Sewer Main Hwy 99 to Kibby Road
3. 120060 - N Street - 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Streets, Roadway Improvement
4. 121053 - G St. – Park Ave. to Bear Creek Rehabilitation (Emergency)
5. 117038 - V Street - 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Streets, Road Improvement

**Projects in Design**

1. Highway 59 Widening (14%)
2. Highway 59 and 16<sup>th</sup> Street Signal and Channelization (90%)
3. Motel Drive Multi-Use Path (100%)
4. R Street, 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> (90%)
5. B Street Improvements (70%)
6. G Street Improvements Childs to 13<sup>th</sup> St. (100%)
7. Orchard Avenue Sewer (70%)
8. CMAQ (044) Right-turn Channelization of Hwy 59 at 16<sup>th</sup> Street
9. CMAQ (040) New Traffic Signal at Hwy 59 and 16<sup>th</sup> Street
10. CMAQ (048) John Muir Sidewalk
11. CMAQ (049) Motel Drive
12. CMAQ (050) Sidewalks R St., S St., and Stuart Dr.
13. CMAQ (052) Sidewalks 7<sup>th</sup> St., 8<sup>th</sup> St. and Linda Ln.
14. CMAQ (051) Sidewalks Olive Ave., Parsons Ave. and Alexander Ave.
15. CMAQ (055) Nottingham Sidewalks
16. CMAQ (057) Merced North Transit Hub



## Keeping Our Community Safe

The Merced PD reported a successful DUI checkpoint, held Sunday, August 22nd. The checkpoint was run by Sgt. Nate McKinnon.

In total, 327 drivers were contacted, which included two arrests for DUI, six citations for driving on a suspended license, and 29 citations for driving without a license. One arrest was made for narcotics possession and one person was arrested for possession of stolen property. Several citations were issued for warrants and seven vehicles were impounded.

Officials would like to remind everyone, no matter how you choose to celebrate the end of summer and Labor Day weekend, make sure you do so responsibly. Take the necessary precautions to protect yourself and your family by buckling up, ditching the distractions, following the speed limit, and never driving impaired.

To keep our community safe during the busy late summer and Labor Day travel weekend, the Merced PD will have additional officers on patrol beginning August 18th through Labor Day, September 6th. Law enforcement will be looking for motorists suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. These increased efforts to address impaired driving are part of a national enforcement campaign, #DriveSoberOrGetPulledOver.

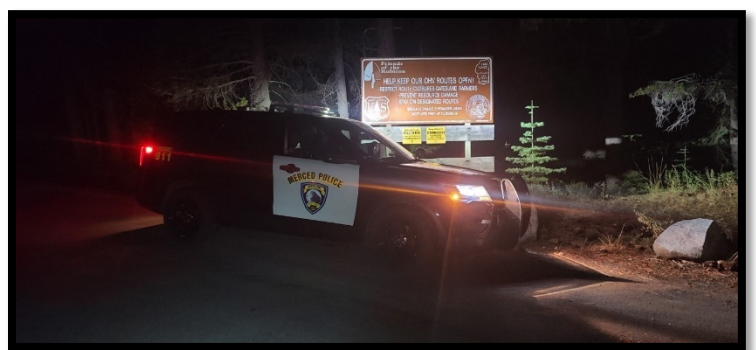
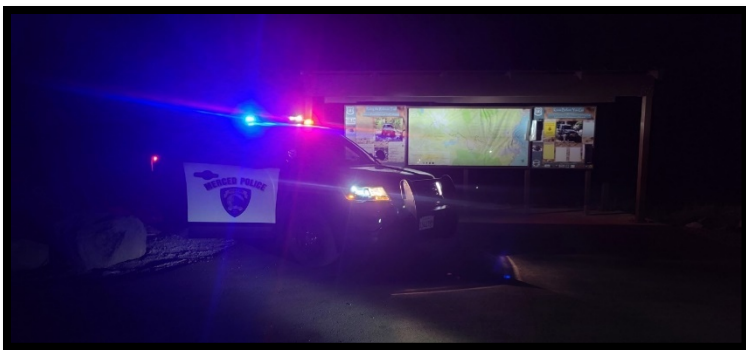
In addition to roving patrols, Merced PD will hold DUI Checkpoints on Sunday, August 29th and Sunday, September 5th, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at undisclosed locations within the City of Merced.





## Mutual Aid

The Caldor Fire has now grown to more than 117,000 acres and is currently "knocking on the door" of the Lake Tahoe Basin. More than 630 structures have been destroyed. The blaze is currently at 9% containment with more than 2,100 firefighters on scene. Merced PD officers have been providing mutual aid for the Caldor fire. Our thoughts go out to everyone affected by these fires.



## Connecting Communities

Merced Police Department Field Training Officers, along with Lieutenant Emily Foster and Captain Joseph Weiss recently participated in an Anti-Racism Project Workshop led by students from UC Merced and UC Davis. The purpose of the workshop was to have open conversations about race to create local solutions by connecting the Hmong community and law enforcement to better equip both parties in preventing institutional discrimination.



## Appreciating History

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, members of Merced Fire Department had the honor and pleasure of meeting retired City of Merced Police Chief Harold Kulbeth. Chief Kulbeth, who retired in 1985, generously shared historical photos of fire department personnel from the 1960s. With assistance from retired Assistant Fire Chief Floyd Jensen, who retired in 1982 after serving for nearly 33 years, several personnel and community members were identified and are featured in following photos.





Pictured below, Fire Chief George Coolures who served May 8, 1949 to March 1, 1974.



### California Wildfires

With wildfires raging in California, and the state on target to surpass last year's historic devastation, the Merced Fire Department continues to assist in containment efforts while maintaining fire protection in our city. A Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, and Firefighter remain deployed at the Caldor Fire in Northern California and Fire Engineer Grant Parker continues to serve as a Technical Specialist to support the Public Information Officer Operations on the Monument Incident in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Fire Captain Hathaway, Fire Engineer Pickinpaugh, Firefighters Prum, and Basulto were deployed on August 23rd to assist with the Dixie Fire in Northern California.

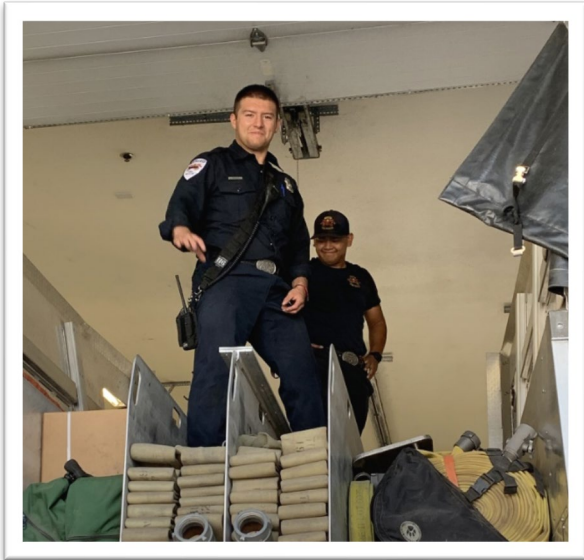




Photos of crew checking out equipment and gear before they deploy to the Dixie Fire.

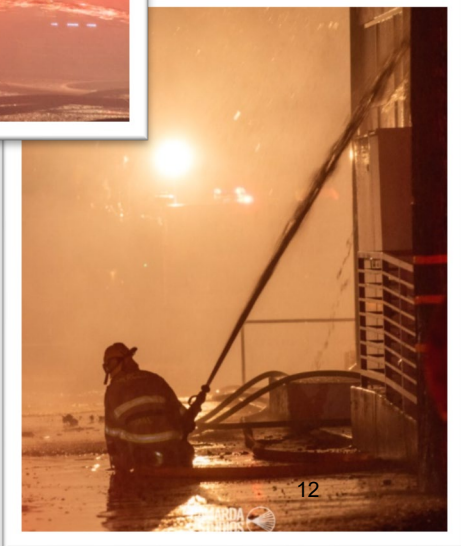






### Structure Fire

On August 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:40 pm, the Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at the 2500 block of Canal Street. The cause of the fire is under investigation. The department is fortunate to have an excellent community partner, Glen Camarda for documenting these fire scenes.





### Skills Training

On August 24th, our firefighters honed their fire operation skills. Fire service ladders have a major role in the fire service, and they demand close and coordinated teamwork. The safety of our community depends on a firefighter's ability to perform all operations quickly, using established and proper techniques.





### **Flags Fly at Half Staff**

American flags are being flown at half-staff, in memory of the US service members killed in the Kabul bombing.



### **Community Partners**

Merced Union High School District, a community partner, will assist with Emergency Medical Services at high school football games during the 2021 season. Merced Fire Department personnel will provide coverage of the games and while enjoying high school football.



## Inspection Services

For the period of August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 through August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, there were 18 New Single-Family Dwelling Permits **Issued**.

The running total of New Single-Family Dwellings in Plan Review is **217**.

### Multi Family Permits in review:

Gateway Terrace Apartments located at 405 W 12<sup>th</sup> 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 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; one for a 3,986 SF Starbucks and adjacent tenant space located at 145 E. Yosemite Ave. Ste A, one for a 3,114 SF shell for future fast food located at 3680 G St., and one for a 4,088 SF 7/11 shell/tenant improvement combo located at 3660 G St.

There was 1 additional tenant improvement permit issued during this period; for a 1,934 SF Starbucks located at 360 W 16<sup>th</sup> St. Ste A.

There were 0 new commercial submittals during this period.

There were 2 new tenant improvement submittals during this period; one for a Habit Burger located at 3680 G St. and one for a remodel for Village Liquors located at 2939 G St.

There were 0 CofOs issued for this period.

There were 30 CofOs for Single Family Dwellings during this period.

## REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

1. **MCOE National Attendance Awareness Month Flyers -English/Spanish – Page 16, 17**
2. **Merced College Inaugural Soccer Kick Off Event Invitation – Page 18**



# National Attendance Awareness Month

**EVERY DAY MATTERS**



Regular school attendance is a crucial part of academic success. If students miss just two days of school per month, that equals 10% of the school year. When communities collaborate with families and schools, we can overcome barriers to attendance and engagement. Parents have an important role to ensure their children are on time and ready to learn each day.

For more information about school attendance and the safe return to schools, visit [www.mcoe.org/ReadyToReturn](http://www.mcoe.org/ReadyToReturn)

**READY TO**  
**RETURN**  
— TO SCHOOL —



# Mes Nacional de Concientización sobre la Asistencia

## CADA DÍA CUENTA



La asistencia regular a la escuela es una parte crucial del éxito académico. Si los estudiantes faltan solo dos días de clases al mes, eso equivale al 10% del año escolar. Cuando las comunidades colaboran con las familias y las escuelas, podemos superar las barreras para la asistencia y la participación. Los padres tienen un papel importante para garantizar que sus hijos lleguen a tiempo y estén listos para aprender todos los días.

Para obtener más información sobre la asistencia escolar y el regreso seguro a las escuelas, visite [www.mcoe.org/ReadyToReturn](http://www.mcoe.org/ReadyToReturn)

LISTOS PARA  
**REGRESAR**  
— A LA ESCUELA —







# SOCCER IS HERE!

**MERCED COLLEGE INAUGURAL  
KICK-OFF EVENT  
SEPT. 7<sup>TH</sup> 12-1PM  
ON THE SOCCER FIELD  
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

**DOUBLE HEADER FOLLOWING EVENT  
WOMEN'S 2:00PM, MEN'S 4:00PM**

**MERCED  
COLLEGE**

