



# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

July 1, 2022

## MADD CALIFORNIA NO MORE VICTIMS

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized Officers Eduardo Chavez and Matthew Calcagno for achieving the most arrests for driving under the influence (DUI) for our department throughout 2021. Officer Calcagno had 86 arrests, and Officer Chavez had 58 arrests for DUI. Congratulations to these officers for their achievements. Their continued drunk driving enforcement keeps streets safe in the City of Merced.

According to MADD, drunk and drugged driving has become America's deadliest crime. In 2020, 11,654 people were killed in drunk driving crashes, accounting for nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths in the US. In the same year, 1,159 Californians lost their lives to the selfish act of drunk driving. \*\*\* National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.





## Fire Crews Train to Create Defensible Space

Fire crews trained this week to use fire to create defensible space. Crews also utilized this time to work on fighting grass fires in preparation for the wildland fire season, which is already upon us.

These sessions are quite valuable without many opportunities to train with actual fire. The training area burned in the Hawk Dr and Thornton Ave area. A lot of work goes into providing this type of training. First, crews ensure all safety measures are taken, and operations confine with local and state laws. This training prepares crews to respond to these specific calls within the city and across the state.



**Inspection Services Bi-weekly report for June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 through June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Single Family Dwelling (SFD) permits:

- SFD Permits Issued: **8**
- SFD Permits in Plan Review: **107**
- SFD Certificates of Occupancy: **26**

Multi-Family Dwelling (MFD) permits in review:

- Gateway Terrace Apartments located at 405 W 12th St; one office/lounge and six two-story apartments: two buildings have 16 units, three buildings have 30 units, and one building has four units for a total of 126 units.
- Compass Pointe phase II: 128 units in 16, 8-plex buildings, plus a clubhouse.
- A fire damage repair is also adding an ADU located at 1740 Shirley St.
- Gateway Commons Apartments located at 3130 E. Gerard Ave.; one community building, five buildings with 16 units, and five buildings with 24 units for 200 units, plus 31 garage structures.  
(no change from last report)

MFD permits issued:

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

Commercial & Industrial permits issued:

- There was 1 new construction commercial permit issued during this period; for a 23,252 SF Sprouts located at 171 E. Yosemite Ave.
- There were 0 new tenant improvement permits issued during this period.

Commercial & Industrial permits submitted:

- There were 0 new construction commercial permit submitted during this period.
- There were 2 new tenant improvement permits submitted during this period; one for a 1,480 SF take out bakery located at 125 E. Yosemite Ave Ste D, and one for 1,533 SF of office space located at 2266 Cessna Wy.

Commercial & Industrial Certificates of Occupancy (CofOs)

- There was 1 commercial and industrial CofO issued for this period; for renovations on a 10,840 SF office located at 439 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St.



## Senator Anna M. Caballero Delivers Major Investments for the 12th District and California.

Recently, Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Merced) announced that millions of dollars were secured in this year's budget to help support key projects statewide and in her district.

### The district-specific budget wins include \$3 Million to the City of Merced for Capital Costs for the Merced Regional Fire Training Station, Phase 1.

Senator Caballero said, "Budgets are a statement of values, and California's budget reflects our desire to invest in our working families with the largest investments in our state's educational system and the creation of the largest reserve fund in history. The cost of gasoline, food, goods and services has increased and that is why I support direct relief payments to California's working families, who can expect direct relief payments of up to \$1,050 and funds to help families pay their rent and utility bills, if needed. I am especially proud to have championed a \$500 million allocation to expand the California Dream for all families to buy their own home along with funds to help house the homeless and to provide much needed mental health services. In addition, there will be substantial support for our communities to upgrade our libraries, public safety, and fire services to support the creation of good paying jobs in the Central Valley."

*Senator Anna M. Caballero represents the 12th Senate District, composed of the Counties of Merced and San Benito, Salinas Valley, and portions of Fresno, Madera, and Stanislaus Counties.*

**To read the full press release, please visit, <https://sd12.senate.ca.gov/news/press-releases>**



California Central Valley Journey for Justice

PO Box 1136, Merced, CA 95341

June 24, 2022

Dear Ms. Dietz

Thank you for assistance in placing a memorial plaque to JoJo Edwards and all persons without permanent home address. Juan Olmos and the crew worked to make the memorial a permanent reminder of Merced's spirit of honoring all human dignity and worth.

Lee Greenawalt, Vice President





## Summer H.I.T.S Program – Week Two

City of Merced Parks & Recreation Department held a successful session two tennis H.I.T.S. program.

Everyone in this session learned a more advanced scale of tennis and applied skills and techniques such as forehand and backhand movements while rallying.

Participants also learned the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship during mini-tennis challenge drills and played mini-games with teammates to know how continuous a game of tennis should be.





## Butterflies, Kids, and a Color-Run

This week participants at Parks and Recreation's summer program released the butterflies they had so carefully cared for over the past two weeks.

Later in the week, they made donuts from clay and creatively painted abstract art on canvas, which will be on display at City Hall.

Participants celebrated the end of the week by participating in the Department's annual Color-Run, a first mini-marathon for everyone.





## Happy Friday & Happy Retirement

What a great way to start retirement - on a Friday!

Yesterday, Merced PD celebrated Lola's Retirement. Everyone gathered to wish Lola good luck on her new adventure and thank her for 25 years as a full-time employee with the County and her 19 excellent and dedicated years being part of our VIPS (Volunteer in Police Services) for Merced PD. Everyone will greatly miss Lola's presence at the Merced PD. Thank you for all your help. We appreciate you!!



## COFFEE BREAK



## Community Partnerships

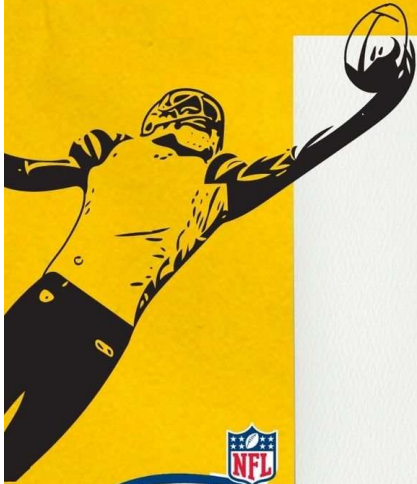
Thank you, Merced County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, for inviting the Merced Police Department to enjoy a Coffee Break at Merced Mall. It was great connecting with businesses and local law enforcement agencies in our community. Partnerships within the community are vital to us and even better while enjoying a cup of coffee.

**REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- |                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Youth Flag Football Flyer       | Pg. 9  |
| 2. Mayor Serratto Thank You Letter | Pg. 10 |
| 3. Planning Commission Agenda      | Pg. 11 |



CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND RECREATION



# YOUTH NFL FLAG FOOTBALL

**DEADLINE AUG. 5TH, 2022**  
(SEASON RUNS SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER)

**\$65 PER PLAYER**  
**\*\*MANDATORY FUNDRAISER\*\***



**SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE!**

## EACH PLAYER RECEIVES

- **NFL REVERSIBLE JERSEY**
- **NFL FLAG BELT**
- **INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE AWARD**

## 4 DIVISIONS FOR BOYS & GIRLS:

**TINY TOTS: K-2ND**  
**PEE-WEE: 3RD-4TH**  
**JV: 5TH-6TH**  
**VARSITY: 7TH-8TH**

**LOVE FOOTBALL?  
BECOME A VOLUNTEER  
COACH! CALL US!**



REGISTER AT 632 W. 18TH ST.  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 12:00PM & 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
QUESTIONS? GIVE US A CALL AT (209) 385-6235



# CITY OF MERCED

**MERCED**

July 1, 2022

The Honorable Anna Caballero  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7620  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Dear Senator Caballero,

I want to express my utmost appreciation for your efforts to secure \$3 million in state funding for the Merced Regional Fire Training Center in the City of Merced.

The City of Merced understands the importance of ensuring public investments benefit more than one agency. This Regional facility will function as a central hands-on training center to provide pre-service and in-service firefighters with realistic training. The facility will create career pathways for students from local high school districts by offering initial trainings as well as regular certifications to in-service firefighters.

Additionally, as this Center is developed, it will offer neighboring fire agencies, other city departments, and partner public safety agencies an opportunity to enhance training and certification, ensuring first responders are well prepared to serve our broader community. This funding will help finalize a valuable public safety resource and help us protect our residents.

We appreciate your efforts to secure this funding for the City and thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Serratto".

Matthew Serratto  
Mayor  
City of Merced





# CITY OF MERCED

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

## Meeting Agenda

### Planning Commission

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Wednesday, July 6, 2022

7:00 PM

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

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#### 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](http://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.

##### PUBLIC COMMENT: OBTAIN SPEAKER CARD FROM THE 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 Clerk before the item is called, preferably before the meeting begins. Speakers will be called up, 3 to 5 at a time, in the order in which the forms are received. Please use the microphone and state your name and city of residence for the record. For permits, licenses, and other entitlements, the applicant will be allowed 15 minutes (including rebuttal), the appellant/leader of the opposition will be allowed 15 minutes (including rebuttal), and all other speakers shall have 5 minutes each, unless the number of speakers is over 3, which in that case, comments shall be limited to 3 minutes each. For all other issues, for 3 or less speakers, 5 minutes each and for over 3 speakers, 3 minutes each shall be allotted. A timer clock is located above the City Council dais illuminating the remaining time. Once the buzzer sounds, please be courteous and conclude your remarks.

Material may be emailed to [planning@web.org](mailto:planning@web.org) and should be limited to 300 words or less. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, for example, Item # or Oral Communications. 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 one (1) minute. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, for example, Item #, Consent item #, or Oral Communications. Your comments will be played during the Planning Commission meeting at the appropriate time.

## 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.

### 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.

**D.1**    [22-549](#)            **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of June 8, 2022

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of June 8, 2022

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft Minutes of June 8, 2022

### 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.

**E.1** [22-484](#)

**SUBJECT:** Zoning Ordinance Amendment #22-01, initiated by the City of Merced. This application involves changes to the Merced Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) which would amend Merced Municipal Code Sections 20.08 ("Residential Zoning Districts", 20.10 ("Commercial Zoning Districts"), 20.20.020 ("Planned Development Zoning Districts"), 20.32 ("Interface Regulations"), 20.38 ("Parking and Loading"), 20.46 ("Residential Design Standards"), 20.68.050 ("Permit Requirements-Site Plan Review Permit"), and 20.90 ("Glossary"). The amendment involves various changes to the City's Zoning Ordinance involving duplexes, the level of review required for various land uses in commercial zoning districts, density requirements for residential uses in various commercial districts, the minimum project size and design standards for Residential Planned Developments and Planned Developments, the Interface regulations; residential design standards, definitions, and various other amendments. **\*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\***

**ACTION**

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Recommendation to City Council

- 1) Environmental Review #22-22 (*Categorical Exemption*)
- 2) Zoning Ordinance Amendment #22-01

**CITY COUNCIL:**

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #22-22 (*Categorical Exemption*)
- 2) Zoning Ordinance Amendment #22-01

**SUMMARY**

In order to implement the City Council's recent pro-housing policy direction and to address other issues that have arisen with zoning issues and State law requirements, City staff is recommending a variety of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance as an interim measure prior to more extensive changes anticipated after the General Plan and Housing Element are updated in the future. These amendments include allowing duplexes by right in R-1 zones and amending various standards (including parking) for duplexes; changing the level of review required for various land uses in

commercial zoning districts and adding density requirements for residential uses in various commercial districts; changing the minimum project size for Residential Planned Developments and Planned Developments and clarifying design standards in Planned Developments; amending the Interface regulations to require a Minor Use Permit instead of a Site Plan Review Permit and reducing the number of zoning districts to which the Interface regulations apply; allowing exceptions to be granted to various residential design standards through a Minor Use Permit process; clarifying the definitions for “group housing” and “residential care facilities,” and various other amendments.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval to the City Council of Environmental Review #22-22 [*Categorical Exemption*] and Zoning Ordinance Amendment #22-01 (including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A) subject to the findings/considerations in Exhibit A and as outlined in the Draft Ordinance at Exhibit B of the Draft Planning Commission Resolution #4094.

**E.2**     [22-550](#)

**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of July 20, 2022, Planning Commission Meeting due to lack of items

**ACTION:**

Cancel the Planning Commission Meeting of July 20, 2022

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**F.1**     [22-551](#)

**SUBJECT:** Report by Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

**ACTION**

Information only.

**F.2**     [22-552](#)

**SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

- July     5     City Council, 6:00 p.m. (**Tuesday**)
- 6     Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 18    City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 20    Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. (**To be Cancelled**)
- Aug.     1     City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 3     Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 15    City Council, 6:00 p.m.
- 17    Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 23    Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m.



**G. ADJOURNMENT**