



# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

August 04, 2023

## CELEBRATING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, August 1st, over 1,700 Merced community members celebrated the 40th annual National Night Out. National Night Out is an annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. The event enhances neighbors' and law enforcement relationships to celebrate a true sense of community.

Millions of neighbors participate in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories, and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August.

Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts, and other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits, and more.



# MARLEEN OLIVAS

## PATROL OFFICER

WE WANT TO CONGRATULATE OFFICER MARLEEN OLIVAS FOR PASSING THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT FIELD TRAINING.

OFFICER OLIVAS WAS BORN IN HANFORD, CA AND RAISED IN FRESNO. SHE OBTAINED HER BACHELOR'S IN CRIMINOLOGY FROM FRESNO STATE UNIVERSITY. SHE WAS INTERESTED IN BECOMING A POLICE OFFICER BECAUSE SHE HAS ALWAYS ADMIRER LAW ENFORCEMENT AND WANTED TO FORM PART OF AN HONORABLE CAREER.

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING HER!

# OFFICER SPOTLIGHT



### Public Works in Action

West Coast Arborists pruned Eucalyptus Trees at Sueno Court



### City of Merced Sign Ordinance Public Workshop Wednesday, August 16th at 6 PM - at the Civic Center.

A sign ordinance regulates the type and amount of signage a business can have. Too much can create a busy, chaotic streetscape. Not enough can make it difficult for customers to find a business. The proposed update intends to balance and maintain an aesthetically pleasing streetscape while allowing businesses enough exposure. Signs shape the appearance and atmosphere of a city. The community is encouraged to attend the public workshop to share feedback.

**Public Workshop  
for New City of Merced  
Sign Ordinance**

When:  
August 16 @ 6:00 pm

Where:  
City Council Chambers  
678 W. 18th Street

We want to hear from you!

**Taller Público para  
la Ciudad de Merced  
Ordenanza de Letrero  
Comercial Nuevo**

Fecha:  
16 de Agosto a las 6:00 pm

Dónde:  
Cámaras del Ayuntamiento  
678 W. Calle 18

¡Queremos su opinión!

Parks & Community Services Programs and Activities

**CITY OF MERCED**  
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

**PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**  
Don't let cost prevent your student's participation!



**NFL FLAG FOOTBALL**



**SWIM LESSONS**



**JUNIOR WARRIORS**



**SUMMER CAMP**

Scholarships are available to make youth participation in recreation activities more affordable. Here are some of the requirements to qualify:

- youth must live in Merced
- scholarships are given on a first come first serve basis
- families may receive one scholarship per activity each year (football, swim, basketball, summer camp)
- proof of income required with application, call office for details

Applications may be picked up at the Parks & Recreation office. For more information call (209)385-6235 or visit us at 632 W. 18th St, Merced CA 95340

**CITY OF MERCED**  
**SIZZLING SUMMER TOURNAMENT**

**JULY 22ND 2023**  
**ADULT MENS UPPERS AND LOWERS**  
**JULY 23RD 2023**  
**ADULT COED**  
**REC, LOWERS, AND UPPERS**  
**WHERE: JOE HERB FIELDS**  
**274 PARSONS AVE, MERCED**  
**PRICE: \$250**  
**3 GAME GUARANTEE**

**TO REGISTER CALL OR TEXT ANTHONY @209-509-5412 OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES @209-385-6235**

**FORMAT FOR COED 6 MEN / 4 WOMEN ANY BATS EXCEPT SENIORS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**

ANTHONY ALMANZA  
MERCEDES

**TAP & BALLET**  
DANCE CLASS

**LOCATION: ROSSOTTI CENTER**  
**1075 W. 25TH STREET**

**WHEN: EVERY MONDAY**  
**DATE: SESSION 1: SEPT 4TH- JAN 15TH**  
**SESSION 2: JAN 22ND - MAY 27TH**

**COST: \$125 A SESSION**  
**(4 1/2 MONTH SESSION)**  
**1 HR. CLASS FOR AGES 5 & UP**

**AGES: 3-4YR OLD- 10AM, 11AM& 2PM**  
**5-6 YR OLD- 3PM**  
**7-8 YR OLD - 4PM**  
**9- 12 YR OLD - 5PM**  
**18 AND UP - 6:30PM**

**REGISTER AT: PARKS & RECREATION**  
**632 W. 18TH ST**  
**OR CALL 385-6235**

MERCEDES

**CITY OF MERCED PARKS & RECREATION**

**FLAG**  
POWERED BY USA FOOTBALL

Registration on July 5th - August 4th

**LEAGUE INFO**

- \$80 per child/ \$100 non residents
- Divisions
  - Tiny Tots: K-2nd
  - Pee-Wee: 3rd & 4th
  - JV: 5th & 6th
  - Varsity: 7th & 8th
- 10 week season (August - October)
  - NFL style Combine Skills Assessment
  - 2 weeks of intro practice
  - 8 weeks of play
    - One game, one practice per week
    - 6 Saturday morning games
    - 2 Saturday night games
- Each player will receive official NFL flag performance jersey, flags, and certificate of completion
- No team/ buddy/ coach requests in Pee-Wee, JV, or Varsity divisions
  - Coaches will draft teams after Combine (skills assessment)

LEAGUE SPONSORS WELCOMED!  
CALL PARKS & REC FOR MORE INFO ON PRICING AND PROMOTIONS

**LEAGUE DATES**

- Parent Orientation- 8/10 @ 5:30 pm
- Coaches orientation- 8/10 @ 6:30 PM
  - Location: Both orientations held at Senior Community Center 755 w. 15th St, Merced
- PLAYER COMBINE (skills assessment)
- Location: McNamara Turf Fields 1040 Canal Street, Merced
- Mandatory for Pee-Wee, JV, and Varsity Divisions
  - Pee- Wee- 8/11 @ 5:30 PM
  - JV & Varsity- 8/12 @ 9:00 AM
  - Coaches must be present to rank each player in their division for the draft
- Coaches Draft- 8/14
  - Pee-Wee draft 6pm- 7pm
  - JV draft- 7pm- 8pm
  - Varsity draft- 8pm-9pm
- Intro practices begin the week of August 21st
- Games run Sept. 4th- Oct. 30th
  - All games played on Saturdays at Joe Herb Park softball fields (2200 Yosemite Parkway)

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



# BIG KAHUNA CANNONBALL CONTEST

All Challengers welcome!

Join us for hotdogs, music, and lots of splashing!

Try to beat the Director of Parks & Rec. and his Life Guards  
in a cannonball contest for the last day of Summer Swim!

Saturday, August 5th- 1:00pm-3:00pm

McNamara Park, Memorial Plunge Pool



Parks  
Make  
Life  
Better!





# Mermaids and Pirates

Join us every Saturday in  
August from 10am - 2pm!

Meet Costumed Characters,

Have Animal Encounters,

Enjoy Fun Crafts,

A Scavenger Hunt,

Water Activities, and more!

Costumes and Swimsuits encouraged!

Cash Only See QR code for prices

Applegate Park Zoo

1045 W. 25th Street

Merced, CA





City of Merced

# BUILD YOUR **A**ccessory **D**welling **U**nit

## AN OVERVIEW

Participate  
at **NO COST!**

### DEFINING ADUs

An ADU is a secondary housing unit on a lot that contains a single-family residence or multi-family residential development and provides complete independent living facilities including kitchen and bathroom facilities for at least 1 person. ADUs can be **ATTACHED** to the primary home, **DETACHED** from the primary home, be an **INTERNAL CONVERSION** within the primary home, or a **JUNIOR ADU** contained within a single-family residence.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

#### ● Plan and Design Your ADU

- Evaluate your need and budget
- Review code and regulations
- Design your ADU
- Prepare full plan set

#### ● Submit Application Package

- Apply for a building permit: prepare application package and pay fees

#### ● Application Processing (City)

- Completeness review and acceptance
- Routing and commenting
- Approval & Building Permit issuance

#### ● ADU Construction

- Secure funding and hire contractor
- Construction
- Complete final inspection

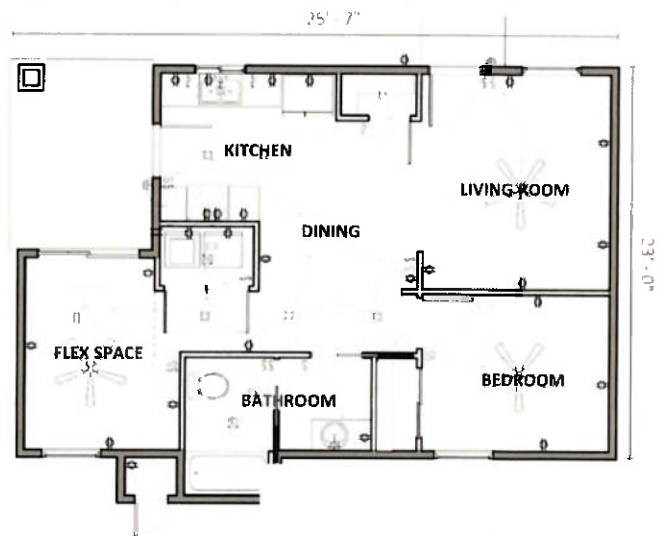
#### ● ADU Ready to Occupy!

### PRE-APPROVED ADU PROGRAM

The City of Merced's **Pre-Approved ADU Program** is an optional and voluntary program that provides 3 pre-reviewed and pre-approved, complete plan sets including sizes 498, 749, and 1,190 square feet for detached ADUs at no cost. Benefits include:

1. **SKIP DESIGN COSTS:** no need to hire an architect or design professional. Save costs on design services and plan review fees.
2. **ENJOY LESS PROCESSING TIME:** plans are already reviewed and approved.
3. **DON'T SWEAT THE DETAILS:** plans already meet the required height, living provisions, maximum size, foundation and architecture standards.

*Example Pre-Approved Floor Plan (741 sf.)*



### LINKS TO MORE INFORMATION

[ADU How-to-Guide](#)

[Building Permit Submittal Checklist](#)

[ADU Design Model Workbook](#)



Contact the City of Merced Planning Division at (209) 385-6858 or [planningweb@cityofmerced.org](mailto:planningweb@cityofmerced.org) for further assistance.

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# CITY OF MERCED

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

## Meeting Agenda

### Planning Commission

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Wednesday, August 9, 2023

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 at the back 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 [planningweb@cityofmerced.org](mailto: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, 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 [23-659](#)      **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of July 5, 2023

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of July 5, 2023

### 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 [23-642](#)

**SUBJECT:** Conditional Use Permit #1272, initiated by Paramjeet Singh, on behalf of Encina Investment Group Mainplace Merced, LLC, property owner. This application involves a request for alcohol sales (beer, wine, and distilled spirits) for off-site consumption for a new convenience market at 429 W. Main Street, generally located on the north side of Main Street, approximately 75 feet east of Canal Street, with a General Plan designation of Regional/Community Commercial (RC), and a Zoning classification of Central Commercial (C-C)  
\*CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING\*

**ACTION:** Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #23-18 (*Categorical Exemption*)
- 2) Conditional Use Permit #1272

**SUMMARY**

Paramjeet Singh is requesting approval to sell beer, wine, and distilled spirits for off-site consumption (Type 21 Alcoholic Beverage Control License) for a new convenience market located at 429 W. Main Street. A conditional use permit is required to approve the sale of alcohol for off-site consumption for buildings under 20,000 square feet per Merced Municipal Code Section 20.44.010 - Alcoholic Beverage Sales for Off-Premises Consumption. On July 5, 2023, the Planning Commission considered this matter and voted to continue the public hearing to August 9, 2023. Staff is recommending approval of this application subject to the conditions contained in the Staff Report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #23-18 (*Categorical Exemption*), and Conditional Use Permit #1272, including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A of Staff Report #23-642, subject to the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B.

E.2 [23-619](#)

**SUBJECT:** Certificate for Alteration #23-01 and Minor Use Permit #23-09 initiated by Melinda Stewart Wilbur, on behalf of Bear Creek Inn, LLC, property owner. The request for the Hooper House (Historic Preservation file #88-01) is to allow the installation of a 7-foot-tall wrought iron security fence around the perimeter of the property located at 575 W. North Bear Creek Drive. The property is generally located on the northeast corner of M Street and North Bear Creek Drive with a Low-Density (LD) Residential General Plan Designation.

within a Zoning classification of Residential Planned Development (RP-D) #13. \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

**ACTION:** Approve/Disapprove/Modify  
 1) Environmental Review #23-23 (*Categorical Exemption*)  
 2) Certificate for Alteration #23-01  
 3) Minor Use Permit #23-09

**SUMMARY**

This application is to modify a property considered to be a historic resource by installing a supplemental fence around its perimeter that will encroach into an exterior yard at the southwest corner of the property; the main use for the fence is for security. No change to the current operations of the property is being proposed. Staff is recommending approval.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #23-23 (Categorical Exemption), Certificate for Alteration #23-01 for Hooper House, and Minor Use Permit (MUP) #23-09, subject to the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A of Staff Report #23-619.

**E.3**     [23-647](#)

**SUBJECT:** Zoning Ordinance Amendment #23-02, initiated by the City of Merced, involves various changes to the Merced Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) which would add Section 20.08.060 (Small House, Small Lots), modify the existing Chapter 20.42 (Accessory Dwelling Units) and Chapter 20.56 (Density Bonus) to comply with current State law and modify Merced Zoning Ordinance Sections 20.08-1 (Permitted Land Uses in the Residential Zoning Districts) and Section 20.90.020 (Definitions). \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

**ACTION:**            PLANNING COMMISSION:  
                          Recommendation to City Council  
                          Environmental Review #23-24 (*General Rule Exemption*)  
                          Zoning Ordinance Amendment #23-02  
                          CITY COUNCIL:  
                          Approve/Disapprove/Modify  
                          Environmental Review #23-24 (*General Rule Exemption*)  
                          Zoning Ordinance Amendment #23-02

**SUMMARY**

The Merced City Council and the City of Merced have identified housing as a main priority and recently adopted Pro-housing Policies and are working towards a State Pro-housing Designation. To address the City's Pro-housing strategy, updates to the City's Zoning Ordinance have been proposed to facilitate the production of housing that encourages affordability by design, expansion of housing choices, and increased flexibility for housing options and development.

The Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment #23-02 seeks to support the City Council's direction to provide increased housing choices and update the Merced Zoning Ordinance to be in compliance with current State law and address the City's Pro-housing strategy.

After this amendment was publicly noticed, staff determined that the Tiny Homes on Wheels Villages section would be removed from consideration at this time.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval to the City Council of Environmental Review #23-24 (General Rule Exemption) and Zoning Ordinance Amendment #23-02 (including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A of Staff Report #23-647), subject to the findings/considerations in Exhibit A of the Draft Resolution.

**E.4**     [23-658](#)     **SUBJECT:** Cancellation of August 23, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting due to lack of items

**ACTION:**  
 Cancel the Planning Commission Meeting of August 23, 2023

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**F.1**     [23-661](#)     **SUBJECT:** Report by Director of Development Services of Upcoming Agenda Items

**ACTION**  
 Information only.

**F.2**     [23-662](#)     **SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

August	7	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	9	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
	21	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	22	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m.

- Sept 23 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(To be cancelled)**
- 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, 6:00 p.m.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**