



# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

November 3, 2023

YOU ARE INVITED

## MERCED CITY COUNCIL RECEPTION

TO RECOGNIZE  
OUTGOING CITY MANAGER  
STEPHANIE DIETZ  
INCOMING CITY MANAGER  
SCOTT MCBRIDE  
&  
CHIEF OF POLICE  
STEVEN STANFIELD  
NOVEMBER

MONDAY | **6** | AT 5:30 PM  
2023

MERCED CIVIC CENTER  
SECOND FLOOR LANDING  
678 W. 18TH STREET, MERCED

## Welcome City of Merced Police Chief Steven Stanfield

On Monday, October 30th, Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Levesque administered the Oath of Office during the official swearing-in ceremony for City of Merced Police Chief Steven Stanfield.

Outgoing Interim Chief Craig Gundlach, who served with Stanfield at the Modesto Police Department for many years, had the honor of pinning the four-star emblem on Stanfield's collar.

Chief Stanfield's family, community partners, state and local representatives, and law enforcement officials from Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, and Fresno Counties attended in celebration and support.

During his comments, Chief Stanfield stated, "It is an honor to become your Chief of Police. Know that my badge will not sit heavy on my chest. I will serve with humility, pride, and integrity. I am excited to see what we can achieve because together, we are Merced."



## The Importance of Kindness

Last week, Merced Police Department's School Resource Officers Noemi Martinez and Brandon Vasquez taught first and second graders at Dual Language Immersion School about the importance of kindness and standing up against bullying. Together, we're creating a safer, more inclusive environment for all students. Let's continue to spread positivity and empathy.



## Congratulations Detective Calcagno and Rocha

**MATTHEW CALCAGNO**  
**DETECTIVE**

WE WANT TO CONGRATULATE DETECTIVE MATTHEW CALCAGNO ON HIS WELL-DESERVED PROMOTION! IT'S IMPRESSIVE TO SEE HIS DEDICATION AND PROGRESSION WITHIN THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS. HIS EXPERIENCE AS A MOTOR OFFICER, FIELD TRAINING OFFICER, AND CRIME RESPONSE SCENE TEAM UNDOUBTEDLY MAKES HIM A VALUABLE ASSET TO THE FORCE. WE WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HIS NEW ROLE!

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING HIM!

**DETECTIVE SPOTLIGHT**



**TAYLOR ROCHA**  
**GANG VIOLENCE SUPPRESSION UNIT**

OFFICER ROCHA WAS WITH THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENTS GANG VIOLENCE SUPPRESSION UNIT FROM JULY 2020 TO OCTOBER 2023. OFFICER ROCHA'S DILIGENT WORK AND TENACITY INVESTIGATING GANG CRIMES EARNED HIM THE 2023 STEPHAN GRAY AWARD FOR THE MERCED COUNTY GANG OFFICER OF THE YEAR. THIS AWARD BEGAN IN 2005 AND IS HELD IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENTS FALLEN OFFICER STEPHAN GRAY IN APRIL 2004. THANK YOU OFFICER ROCHA FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND WE WISH YOU WELL IN YOUR NEW POSITION AS A DETECTIVE.

**G.V.S.U. SPOTLIGHT**



**TAYLOR ROCHA**  
**DETECTIVE**

WE WANT TO CONGRATULATE DETECTIVE TAYLOR ROCHA ON HIS WELL-DESERVED PROMOTION! IT'S IMPRESSIVE TO SEE HIS DEDICATION AND PROGRESSION WITHIN THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT OVER THE PAST 6 YEARS. HIS EXPERIENCE IN PATROL, THE GANG UNIT, ARCON, AND SWAT UNDOUBTEDLY MAKES HIM A VALUABLE ASSET TO THE FORCE. WE WISH HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HIS NEW ROLE!

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING HIM!

**DETECTIVE SPOTLIGHT**



## Cops & Fire for Kids Toy Drive 2023

The Merced Police Department is introducing its new Police Santa Christmas sticker! They are spreading holiday cheer with this festive addition. Stickers are available at the central station, at 611 W. 22nd Street, and the South Station, at 470 W. 11th Street, or you can ask an officer. Let's make this season merry and bright together!



### Cops & Fire for kids

**Application Dates:**  
611 W 22nd St. Merced

**Wednesday Nov 1st**  
9:30am-1pm  
4-6pm

**Friday Nov 3rd**  
9:30am-1pm

**Monday Nov 6th**  
9:30am-1pm

**Tentative Schedule until applications run out!**

Applications will only be filled out onsite. No applications will be taken home.  
**Please bring all documents needed!**

## APPLICATIONS WILL START NOV 1ST.

# APPLICATION PROCESS

**YOU MUST LIVE IN THE CITY OF MERCED  
ONLY ONE APPLICATION PER FAMILY!**

(ONLY CHILDREN AGES NEWBORN TO 12 YEARS OLD ARE ELIGIBLE.)

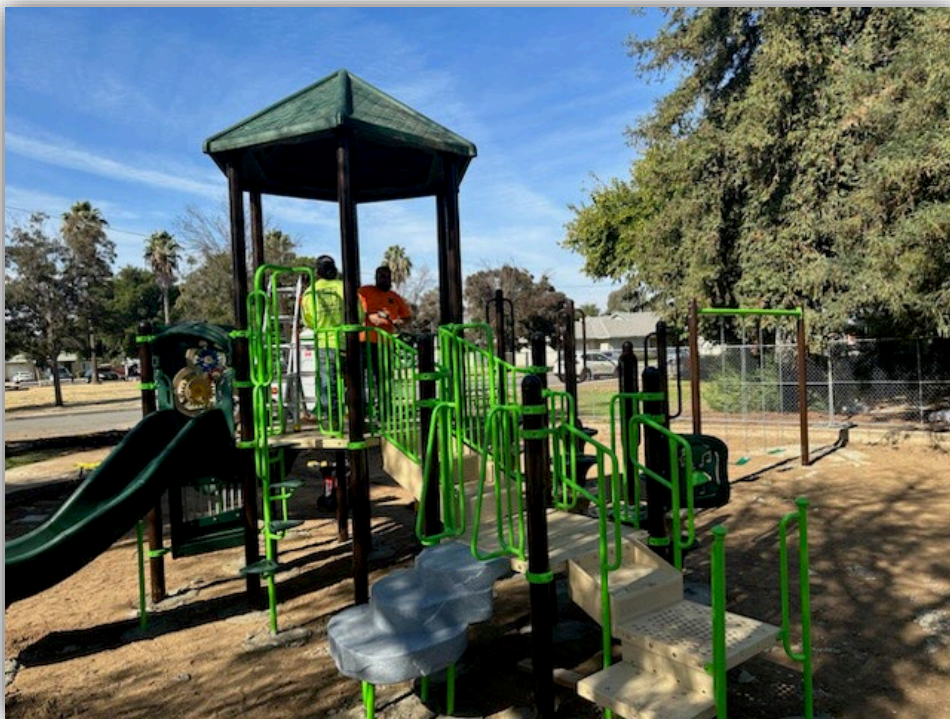
**ZIP CODE 95340, 95341 OR 95348**

**YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THE APPLICATION:**

- 1: A PHOTO ID IN THE NAME OF THE ADULT LISTED ON THE APPLICATION.
- \*\*\*IF OTHER PARENT IS PICKING UP TOYS – THEIR NAME NEEDS TO BE ON APPLICATION AND ON DAY OF TOY DRIVE. THE PARENT PICKING UP THE TOYS NEEDS TO HAVE THEIR I.D. AND TICKET WITH THEM.\*\*\*
- 2: ID FOR EACH CHILD LISTED SUCH AS **SCHOOL ID, BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR A MEDICAL CARD.**
- 3: PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT RESIDES IN THE CITY LIMITS OF MERCED SUCH AS A **CURRENT MAIL OR A CURRENT BILL (PHONE BILL, PG&E).**

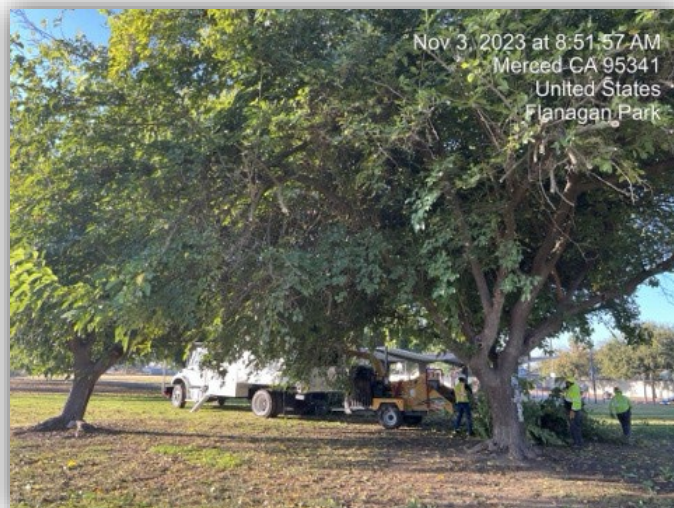
## New Play Equipment Installed at Dennis Chavez Park

Concrete footing was poured this week for the play equipment at Dennis Chavez Park. At the May 1, 2023 meeting, Council approved removal of existing play equipment, as well as the supply and installation of new playground equipment at three mini-parks, including Dennis Chavez Memorial Park (11<sup>th</sup> & W St), Diego Rivera Park (P St between 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> St), and Charles Richard Drew Park (8<sup>th</sup> & N St). The Measure Y funded project was awarded to Park Planet in the amount of \$343,070.51.



### Public Works in Action

Tree Crews trimmed trees at Flanagan Park.



### Public Works in Action

Crews paved portions of Mission Avenue





### Public Works in Action

West Coast Arborists worked around 22<sup>nd</sup> & T Streets



### Parks Make Life Better

Meet Diana Olmos, administrative assistant at Parks & Community Services.

Diana is responsible for front office operations, including customer support services, facility rentals, and general inquiries. Welcome Diana!



### New Restrooms and Drinking Fountains at Applegate and McNamara Parks

The Parks & Community Services Team thanks the Crews at the Engineering and Public Works Department for the new restrooms and drinking fountains at several of our parks.

Applegate Park and McNamara Park restrooms were recently installed and will be open soon.

New drinking fountains are being installed at several park locations. These fountains include water bottle refill stations.



## Inspection Services Bi-weekly report for October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 through October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Single Family Dwelling (SFD) permits:

- SFD Permits Issued: **0**
- SFD Permits in Plan Review: **187**
- SFD Certificates of Occupancy: **11**

### Multi-Family Dwelling (MFD) permits in review:

- Affordable housing located at 3015 Park Ave.; 57,812 SF 3 story new construction, including a 2,744 SF community building. The project will provide 65 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom units and a single 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom unit.
- Two 1,336 SF duplexes located at 103 and 107 R St.
- A 4,624 SF 4-plex located at 1125 H St.
- A 2,600 SF duplex located at 531 Childs Ave.
- Emerald Village: 228 units in 18 buildings totaling 21,440 SF of living space, plus a 1,736 SF clubhouse located at 3622 N Hwy 59.

### MFD permits issued:

- There were 2 multi-family permits issued during this period; the final 2 buildings for Compass Pointe phase II were issued: 112 units in 12, 8-plex buildings, plus a clubhouse located at Compass Pointe Ave, Stinson Dr., and Horizons Ave.

### Commercial & Industrial permits issued:


- There were 0 new construction commercial permits issued during this period.
- There was 1 new tenant improvement permit issued during this period; for a 2,313 SF Chipotle located at 3120 Campus Parkway.

### Commercial & Industrial permits submitted:


- There were 0 new construction commercial permits submitted during this period.
- There were 0 new tenant improvement permits submitted during this period.

### Commercial & Industrial Certificates of Occupancy (CofOs)

- There was 1 commercial, industrial, and multi-family apartment CofO issued for this period; for a 1,165 SF Chiropractor's office located at 3630 G St., Ste B.




**RUN FOR THE RAIL**  
A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TRAIN AT **Kiddieland**





**SUNDAY NOV. 19**  
7:30 AM

**5K ROUTE**



10K route includes out-and-back along Bear Creek Bike Path  
Start and Finish near Bob Hart Square

MERCED COUNTY Office of Education  
MERCEDES PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
Kiwanis Club of Greater Merced  
CULTIVA.SALUD




**MERCED GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE**

**2024 SEASON COMING!!!**

Early Bird Sign Ups - Sat December 2nd & Sat December 9th @McNamara Sports  
(437 W.18th Street Merced, CA)  
**Time - 9am -11am**

**\$15 off Registration Fee**  
**\$65 ages 14U, 10U & 8U. Tball \$55.**  
(Regular Registration fee is \$80 ages 8-14, Tball \$65)

**Online Registration will begin the week of December 10th!!!**  
[mercedyouthsoftball.com](http://mercedyouthsoftball.com)  
any questions contact [mercedyouthsoftball@gmail.com](mailto:mercedyouthsoftball@gmail.com) or 209-722-3593 ask for Steve




Merced Parks & Rec

**PICKLEBALL**  
@ MCCOMBS GYM  
615 W. 15TH ST

**\$5 NIGHTLY DROP-IN** OR **\$20 A MONTH**  
EVERY : TUESDAY & THURSDAY NIGHT

**OPEN PLAY**  
NOVEMBER 2ND - DECEMBER 28TH  
\*CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS

**REGISTER AT:**  
CITY OF MERCED PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
AT (209)385-6235  
OR EMAIL: [PICKLEBALLMERCED@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PICKLEBALLMERCED@GMAIL.COM)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION



**AGES 8 & UP**  
\*8-13 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

**7:00PM -9:00PM OPEN PLAY**





**Dance Classes**

**Line Dancing**

- Beginning
- Intermediate

**Partner Dancing**

**Belly Dancing**

**Sunday Social Dance**

Every fourth Sunday of the Month  
\$8 entry fee  
2pm-5pm



**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**MAT YOGA  
CHAIR YOGA  
TAI CHI  
DANCE CLASSES**

**ACTIVITIES**

**PINOCHLE  
BRIDGE  
DOMINOES  
WOOD CARVERS  
WRITERS GROUP  
CRAFTS  
THEATER  
MAHJONG**

**LEISURE**

**COMPUTER LAB  
LIBRARY  
POOL ROOM**



**SENIOR SOCIAL**

**BINGO!**  
Every Friday



**MEETINGS**

AARP CHAPTER #282  
SENIOR INC. BOARD  
SENIOR SOCIAL



# 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, November 8, 2023

6:00 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**    [23-985](#)                    **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of October 4, 2023

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of October 4, 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**     [23-979](#)

**SUBJECT:** General Plan Amendment #17-02 and Site Utilization Plan Revision #12 to Planned Development (P-D) #42, initiated by Benchmark Engineering, on behalf of Bellevue Merced, LLC, Baxter Ranches, LLC, and Stonefield Home, Inc. The General Plan Amendment and Site Utilization Plan Revision would amend the land use designation for approximately 238.86 acres of land within the Bellevue Ranch Master Development Plan (BRMDP) area. The Site Utilization Plan Revision would also amend Table 6.1 of the BRMDP related to required roadway improvements and the timing of said improvements. This property is generally bounded by the City Limit line to the north, Cardella Road and existing urban development to the south, G Street to the east, and a mix of agricultural and urban uses to the west\*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

**ACTION:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Recommendation to City Council

- 1) Environmental Review #17-07 (*Addendum to General Plan EIR*)
- 2) General Plan Amendment #17-02
- 3) Site Utilization Plan Revision #12 to Planned

Development (P-D)  
#42

**CITY COUNCIL:**

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #17-07 (*Addendum to General Plan EIR*)
- 2) General Plan Amendment #17-02
- 3) Site Utilization Plan Revision #12 to Planned

Development (P-D)  
#42

**SUMMARY**

This is a request to amend the General Plan and Site Utilization Plan land use designations for approximately 239 acres of land within the Bellevue Ranch Master Development Plan (BRMDP) area including Villages 19A and 19B, 21, 22A and 22B, R Street Multi-Family, 25, 26, 28A, 28B, 30, a portion of Lot J, 34A, 34B, 35A, and 35B. The Site Utilization Plan Revision also includes amendments to Table 6.1 of the BRMDP related to required roadway improvements and the timing of said



improvements. The proposed changes are a result of biological (wetland) areas being identified within the BRMDP area that preclude development within those specific areas. The proposed land use changes would allow the development of housing, including a percentage of affordable housing, in areas not currently designated for residential use. The land use changes also include changes in density for some areas currently designated for residential uses.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval to the City Council of Environmental Review #17-07 (*Addendum to the General Plan EIR*), General Plan Amendment #17-02, and Site Utilization Plan Revision # 12 to Planned Development (P-D) #42 (including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A of Planning Commission Staff Report #23-979) subject to the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B of the Draft Resolution.

E.2 [23-984](#)

**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of November 22, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting due to the holidays

**ACTION:**

Cancel the Planning Commission Meeting of November 22, 2023

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

F.1 [23-986](#)

**SUBJECT:** Report by Acting City Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

**ACTION**

Information only.

F.2 [23-987](#)

**SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

Nov	6	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	8	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	20	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	22	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m. <b>(To be cancelled)</b>
Dec	4	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	6	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	12	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, 4:00 p.m.
	18	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	20	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**