

THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

August 02, 2024

Reflecting on a Successful Summer: Parks and Community Services Department Celebrates Seasonal Programs

As summer comes to a close, the Parks and Community Services Department reflects on the success of its seasonal programs, including Wilderness Camp, H.I.T.S. Tennis, Teal Top Hockey, Youth Pickleball, and Junior Giants.

This summer, the department served over 500 youth across all these activities. The turnout was fantastic, and the experiences were memorable.

From the excitement of learning new sports to exploring the outdoors, this summer was filled with fun, growth, and wonderful memories for everyone involved. The department thanks its dedicated staff, whose hard work and enthusiasm made these programs possible. Their commitment ensured a safe, engaging, and enriching summer for all participants.



Parks
Make
Life
Better! SM



City of Merced Parks & Community Services

SUMMER PROGRAMS Jamboree

Thursday 1 August, 2024
08:00 Am - 12:00 Pm

Location
Teal Top

MERCED Parks & Community Services
Parks Make Life Better!

WILDERNESS CAMP 2024

MERCED Parks & Community Services
Parks Make Life Better!



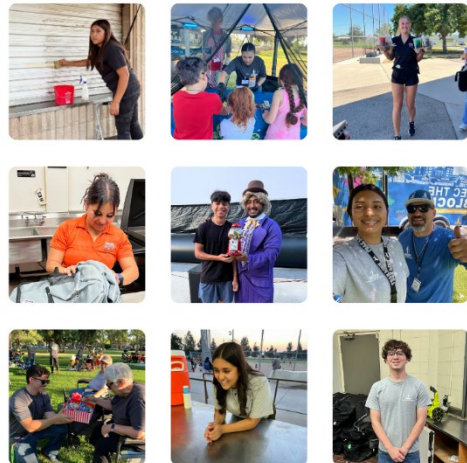
Our Team Members

Put the Unity in Community



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Engineering At Work

This week, crews trenched to place a water main on Freemark Avenue.



Orchard Lane Sewer Main

Crews installed sewer line in steel casing.



G Street Undercrossing

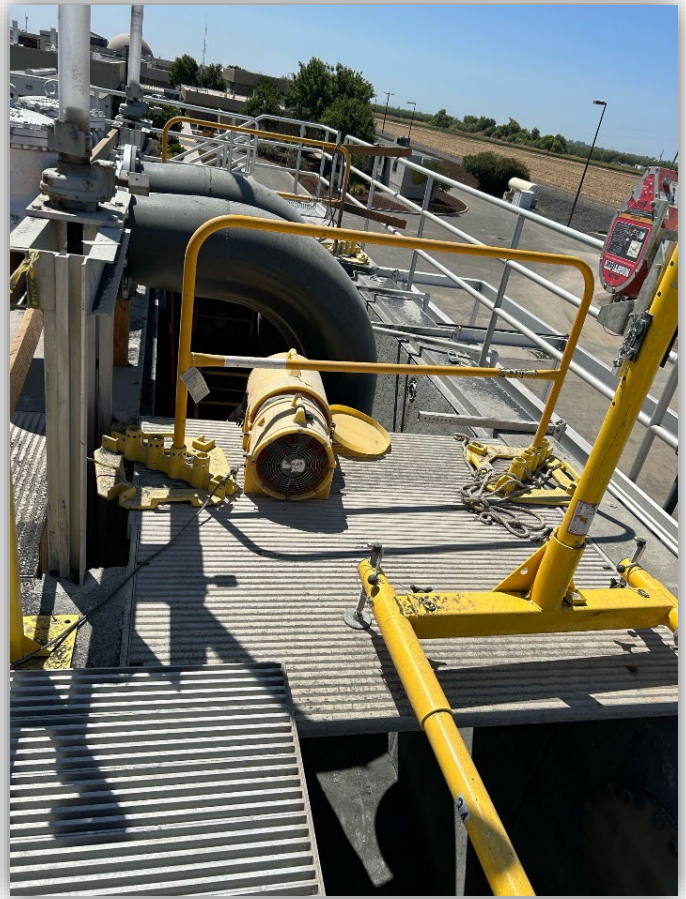
Crews repaired the crash cushion at the G Street Undercrossing.



Canal Water Main Project Nears Completion: Final Water Test to Ensure Road Quality



Wastewater Treatment Plant:
Crews cleaned chambers for resurfacing.



**Public Works in Action
Albert Lawson Park:**

Public Works crews cleared vegetation and debris at 28th Street and Bear Creek.



A sweet surprise to kick off the week:
Merced PD thanks “A Sweet Treat Bakery” for the delicious cinnamon rolls.



Thank You, Target Merced, for the generous donations and support of National Night Out. Everyone is invited to Atplegate Park on Tuesday, August 6th, from 6 to 9 p.m. for the event.





NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024



POLICE * COMMUNITY * PARTNERSHIPS



MUSIC * FOOD * GAMES * PRIZES



Tuesday, August 6, 2024

6pm-9pm

Applegate Park next to Kiddieland

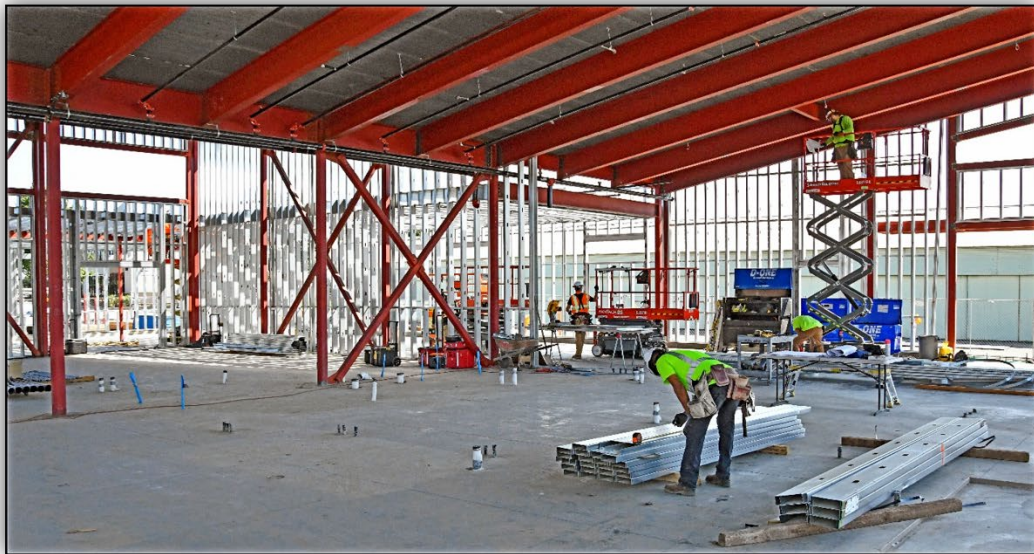
1045 W 25th St. Merced Ca

FREE EVENT

For more information call Rosa Alcaraz at
(209) 385-6297 or alcarazr@cityofmerced.org

Merced Yosemite Regional Airport Terminal Replacement Project Update

Metal workers are advancing with the stud framing for the building's exterior and interior. Additionally, work on the fire sprinklers and plumbing systems is underway, with rough-in installations now in progress.



Emergency Medical Services Community Survey

Merced County, in collaboration with Fitch & Associates, invites community members to participate in an important survey. The feedback gathered will be crucial for evaluating and improving the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system in the community.



FITCH
 & ASSOCIATES

Riggs Ambulance Service Community Survey

Merced County, California

Dear Community Member,

We invite you to participate in this important survey to gather community input on our current Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system. Your feedback will play a crucial role in evaluating the existing system and preparing for the issuance of a new ambulance provider Request for Proposal (RFP). This is a survey conducted by Fitch & Associates (FITCH) commissioned by the Merced County, California Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency, a division within the Merced County Department of Public Health.

Please be assured that this survey is conducted solely for community benefit and not for commercial purposes or profit.

Your responses will be held in strict confidence and will not be disclosed unless required by law or regulation. Any reports or publications resulting from this survey will present data only in aggregated form, ensuring that individual participants cannot be identified.

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary, and you may choose to discontinue at any time.

Your feedback is very important to us. Please answer the following questions as honestly and accurately as possible. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. Your input is invaluable to us.

Best regards,
Fitch & Associates
surveys@fitchassoc.com



**Riggs Ambulance Service
Community Survey**

Merced County, California



bit.ly/RiggsCommunity

FITCH
 & ASSOCIATES

Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project Open House

It was a full house at the Merced Senior Center this past Thursday evening, where attendees learned about the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) project. The MITC Draft Environmental Impact Report is out for public review. What is MITC? Visit <https://sjjpa.com/mitc/> to learn more about the project.



CITY OF MERCED
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
PRESENTS

Big Kahuna Cannonball Contest

All Challengers welcome!

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

Saturday, August 3rd- 1:00pm-2:30pm
McNamara Park, Memorial Plunge Pool



CITY OF MERCED

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

Meeting Agenda

Planning Commission

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

6:00 PM

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

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 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. Assisted hearing devices are available for meetings held in the Council Chamber.

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 3 minutes each, unless the number of speakers is over 10, which in that case, comments shall be limited to 2 minutes each. For all other issues, for 3 or less speakers, 3 minutes each and for over 10 speakers, 2 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 no later than 1 PM on the day of the meeting. 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.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A.1. Moment of Silence

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

B. ROLL CALL

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

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 3 minutes. The Chairperson may, at their discretion, reduce the time to 2 minutes if there are more than 10 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 24-736

SUBJECT: Vacation #24-01, to vacate the Arbor Walkway South easement (approximately 2,346 square feet) which would revert development rights back to the property owner of 534 W. Main Street.

ACTION: Finding

- 1) The proposed vacation is consistent with the General Plan.

SUMMARY

The City of Merced is requesting a vacation of the Arbor Walkway South Easement at 534 W. Main St. (Attachment 1), as it has been determined that it is no longer necessary or in the City's interest. Engineering and Planning Division staff have reviewed this request and recommend that the Planning Commission adopt a Finding stating that the proposed vacation is consistent with the General Plan. The General Plan does not address the abandonment or vacation of easements; and thus, this action does not conflict with any General Plan policies, text, or maps, so it can be considered "consistent." The area to be vacated consists of approximately 2,346 square feet, (Attachments 2 and 3).

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion by minute action adopting a Finding that the proposed vacation #24-01 is consistent with the General Plan.

D.2 [24-771](#)

SUBJECT: Planning Commission Minutes of July 3, 2024

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of July 3, 2024

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS**E.1** [24-705](#)

SUBJECT: Conditional Use Permit #1277, initiated by AT&T Mobility, on behalf of The Church of the Nazarene of Merced, California, property owner. This application involves a request to construct a 55-foot-tall wireless communication tower in the form of a stealth mono-pine tree at 1717 E. Olive Avenue, generally located at the northeast corner of E. Olive Avenue and Parsons Avenue, with a General Plan designation of Low Density Residential (LD), and a Zoning classification of (R-1-6) *CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING*

ACTION: Continue the public hearing to the Planning Commission meeting of September 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

SUMMARY

AT&T Mobility is requesting approval to construct a 55-foot-tall wireless communication tower in the form of a stealth mono-pine tree at 1717 E. Olive Avenue within a Low Density Residential (R-1-6) Zone. The project is located at the northeast corner of E. Olive Avenue and Parsons Avenue within a developed lot occupied by the Bear Creek Community Church of the Nazarene. Per Merced Municipal Code Land Use Table 20.58-2 - Review Procedures for Support Towers for Wireless Communication Facilities, a site plan review is required for stealth facilities within an R-1 Zone that are over 140% of the maximum height allowed within this zone. However, as described in the background section of this report, because the Site Plan Review Committee is referring this request to the Planning Commission, the land use permit required is now a conditional use permit. On July 3, 2024, the Planning Commission opened the public hearing, heard public testimony, and voted to continue the public hearing to August 7, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission continue this

matter to the Planning Commission meeting of September 18, 2024.

E.2 [24-748](#)

SUBJECT: Zoning Ordinance Amendment #24-01, 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 Section 20.44.170 (Regulation of Commercial Cannabis Activities - Commercial Cannabis Business Permit Required).

ACTION: Continue the public hearing to the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting of Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

SUMMARY

Staff is requesting that consideration of this item be continued to the Planning Commission meeting of August 21, 2024, so that the proposed alterations to the code can be finalized.

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.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

F.1 [24-772](#)

SUBJECT: Report by Temporary Director of Development Services of Upcoming Agenda Items

ACTION

Information only.

F.2 [24-773](#)

SUBJECT: Calendar of Meetings/Events

Aug.	5	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	7	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	19	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	21	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	27	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, 4:00 p.m.
Sept.	3	City Council, 6:00 p.m. (Tuesday)
	4	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m. (To be Cancelled)
	16	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	18	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.

G. ADJOURNMENT