

**CITY OF MERCED
Planning Department**

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission
 FROM: Bill King, Principal Planner
 DATE: February 28, 2017
 SUBJECT: Active Transportation/Safe-Routes-to-School Plan Update

BACKGROUND

The City of Merced was awarded \$134,000 from Caltrans to prepare an Active Transportation/Safe-Routes-to-School (ATP/SRTS) Plan during 2017, and concluding by Spring 2018. The plan will prioritize pedestrian and bicycle projects, and include an implementation strategy based on funding sources. Though a citywide plan, the projects and programs will be focused in Central Merced aimed to improve bike and pedestrian access to downtown from all surrounding neighborhoods.

DISCUSSION

During the last few months, the following ATP/SRTS activities were completed:

- Brought aboard Chigoziri Ibechem as an ATP/SRTS Intern. She will aid with public outreach events. Chigoziri will also solicit student participation on the Citizen Focus Group from Merced College.
- Held the Project Kick-off Meeting with the project consultant and several project stakeholders and partners.
- Merced was selected by California Walks (californiawalks.org) as a community in which they will help formulate a public workshop on pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The ATP/SRTS Citizen Focus Group is comprised of the following residents:

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Lisa Kayser-Grant | Merced Bicycle Coalition |
| 2. Isai Palma | Bicycle Advisory Commission |
| 3. Kenneth Leap | Sierra Club |
| 4. Juanita Chavez | Resident |
| 5. Cynthia Ratzlaff | Merced Youth Council |
| 6. Nicholetta Gallagher | Downtown Neighborhood Association |
| 7. Christopher Bernal | UC Merced Student |
| 8. Mark Chalico | Resident |
| 9. Mark Hamilton | Resident |
| 10. Michelle Xiong | Building Healthy Communities, Merced |
| 11. _____ | Merced College Student |

Staff invites comments and discussion of the items above.

ACTION

No Action Necessary.