

**CITY OF MERCED
Planning Department**

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission
FROM: Michael Hren, AICP, Principal Planner
DATE: June 26, 2018
SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Childs Avenue Multi-Use Path ATP Application

BACKGROUND

In response to numerous concerns brought up at the town hall meeting in south Merced, the City intends to submit an application for funds to design a Multi-Use Path on Childs Avenue from approximately Manzanita Avenue to Campus Parkway. The exact layout and limits of the project will need to be determined by the City Council, but a major goal of the project is to provide safe access to and from Weaver Middle School as well as Golden Valley High School.

DISCUSSION

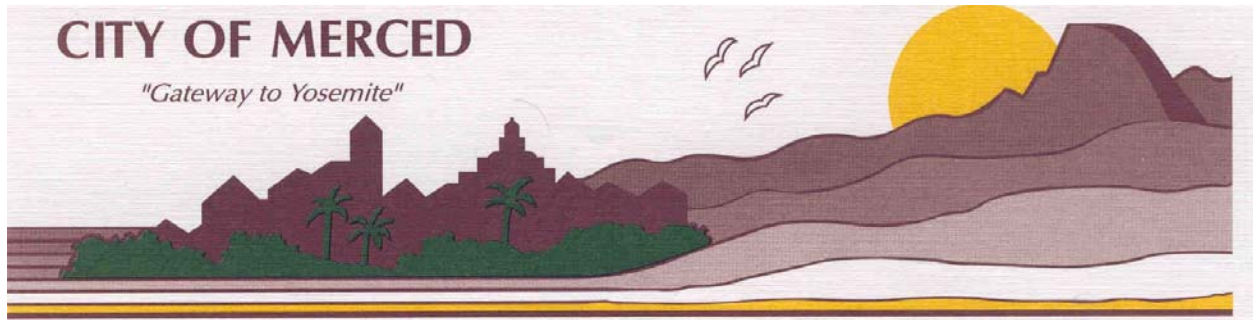
Planning staff has prepared a draft letter of support for the review of the BAC. A number of factors relating to this project including the layout and design of the project itself will be determined by the City Council at a future meeting. As the deadline for submittal of the project is July 31, 2018, the Commission will not meet again in time to have the opportunity to review any parameters set by the City Council prior to the submission of the application for funds.

ACTION

City staff requests that the BAC vote to empower the Vice-Chair to sign the draft letter of support for the Childs Avenue Multi-Use Path ATP Application. If the Commission prefers revised language to the letter of support, it should provide such language in the motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Draft Letter of Support



City of Merced Bicycle Advisory Commission, 678 W. 18th St, Merced, CA 95340

June 26, 2018

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the City of Merced Bicycle Advisory Commission (BAC), we are pleased to support the City of Merced's application for Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds for the Childs Avenue Multi-Use Path.

This path is a critical link in the community, as it is the main route for access to two schools in the area, Weaver Middle School and Golden Valley High School. Children walking, cycling, or taking other active transportation methods to and from school need a safe route to reach their schools. Recent community meetings in South Merced indicated that there was a large degree of community concern over the safety of those children and other users unmet by the current infrastructure available.

The BAC has been and continues to be an outspoken advocate for the safety of all users of active transportation, and is supportive of the City of Merced's efforts to improve the state of its infrastructure to better serve pedestrians, cyclists and users of all modes in an efficient and safe manner. The BAC is committed to the continuing evolution of the network of routes in the City of Merced towards a Complete Streets philosophy where users of all modes of transportation are considered during the development of infrastructure.

The BAC is committed to working with the City of Merced on this initiative and supports its application for ATP funds for the Childs Avenue Multi-Use Path.

Sincerely,

Steve Lerer,
Vice-Chair, Bicycle Advisory Commission