

**CITY OF MERCED  
Development Services**

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission  
FROM: Tom Hothem, Chairperson, Bicycle Advisory Commission  
DATE: August 27, 2019  
SUBJECT: Introduction of New Commissioners and Recent Activity Briefing

**BACKGROUND**

Since the April meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission, three new Commissioners have been appointed by the City Council to fill vacancies. The Bicycle Advisory Commission welcomes these new faces and voices that will be assisting with the mission of the Commission and helping to determine what it will be in the months and years ahead. Below is a message from Chairperson Hothem welcoming the new Commissioners and bringing them up to speed on the recent activities and accomplishments of the Commission.

**MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON HOTHM**

“Welcome new members of the Merced City Bicycle Advisory Commission. Those of us who have served on the commission for awhile are very glad to have you aboard for our ongoing efforts. I thought that it might be useful to review some of our projects and achievements over the past couple of years, to get you up to speed on things.

-- Our most recent project, advising on the City's Active Transportation Plan portfolio to promote the vision and organized planning of active transportation infrastructure in Merced and hopefully support grant applications over the next few years, was unanimously endorsed by City Council in July. We are very proud of this comprehensive plan, which Michael Hren drafted and submitted based on our previous work and current comments.

-- We have been involved in advising on and drafting out a number of citywide specs for such things as the bicycle registration code, bicycle parking code for new building, speed limits for city streets, bike path extensions and improvements, and general bicycling infrastructure and signage (particularly those having to do with sharrows).

-- We meet regularly with the City Engineering Department, the City Traffic Committee, the City Planning Department, and the Merced Police Department to coordinate on bicycle transport planning. Representatives from these entities frequently visit our meetings.

-- We have also supported a number of initiatives on which the Merced Bicycle Coalition has worked, including Safe-Routes-to-School grant initiatives and Bicycle Month activities (such as Ride with the Mayor, Bike to Work Day, the All-Merced Road Ride, bicycling and pedestrian audits, and bicycle safety instruction at local elementary schools).

I'm sure there are other things on which we've worked over the years; this list is likely incomplete. Nevertheless, I'm proud of all we have accomplished and all on which we consult. We look forward to working on new projects with you in the coming months.

All the best,  
Tom Hothem  
Chairperson, Merced City Bicycle Advisory Commission”

**ACTION**

None required.