

CITY OF MERCED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE



Newsletter #1 - September 2006

!!CITY WELL UNDERWAY IN THE UPDATE PROCESS!!

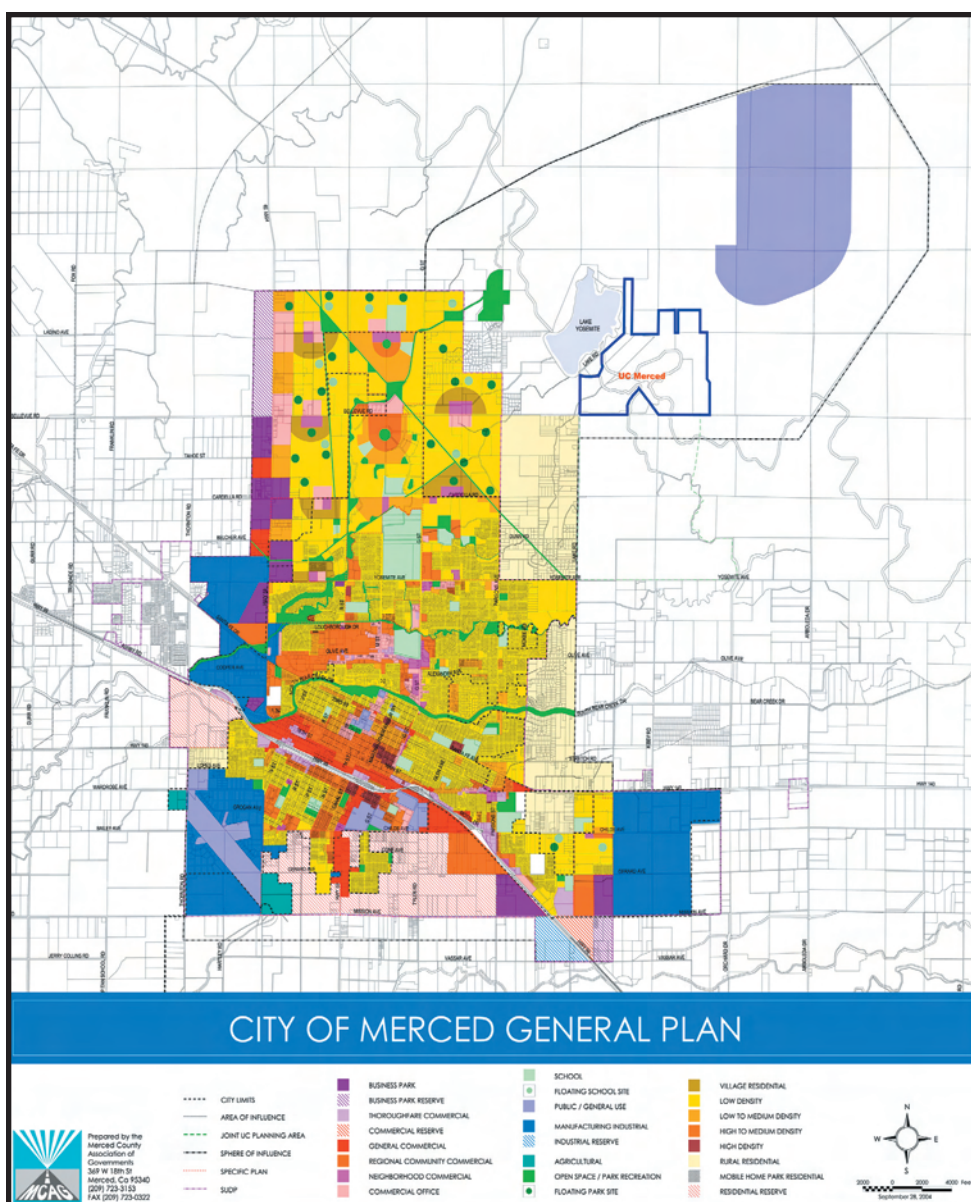
In May 2006, the Planning Commission and City Council conducted study sessions on the General Plan Update where they discussed a number of options for the City's draft growth boundary, also known as the draft Specific Urban Development Plan (SUDP) boundary. Subsequent public hearings were held before the Planning Commission and City Council. On July 17, 2006, the City Council, in a unanimous vote, adopted the revised Draft SUDP Boundary (see map to the right) to be used to complete the General Plan Update. (A new growth boundary will NOT be adopted until after the Update is completed.)

The draft SUDP boundary covers approximately 43,600 acres, over double the current 20,600 acre SUDP and could house over 490,000 people.

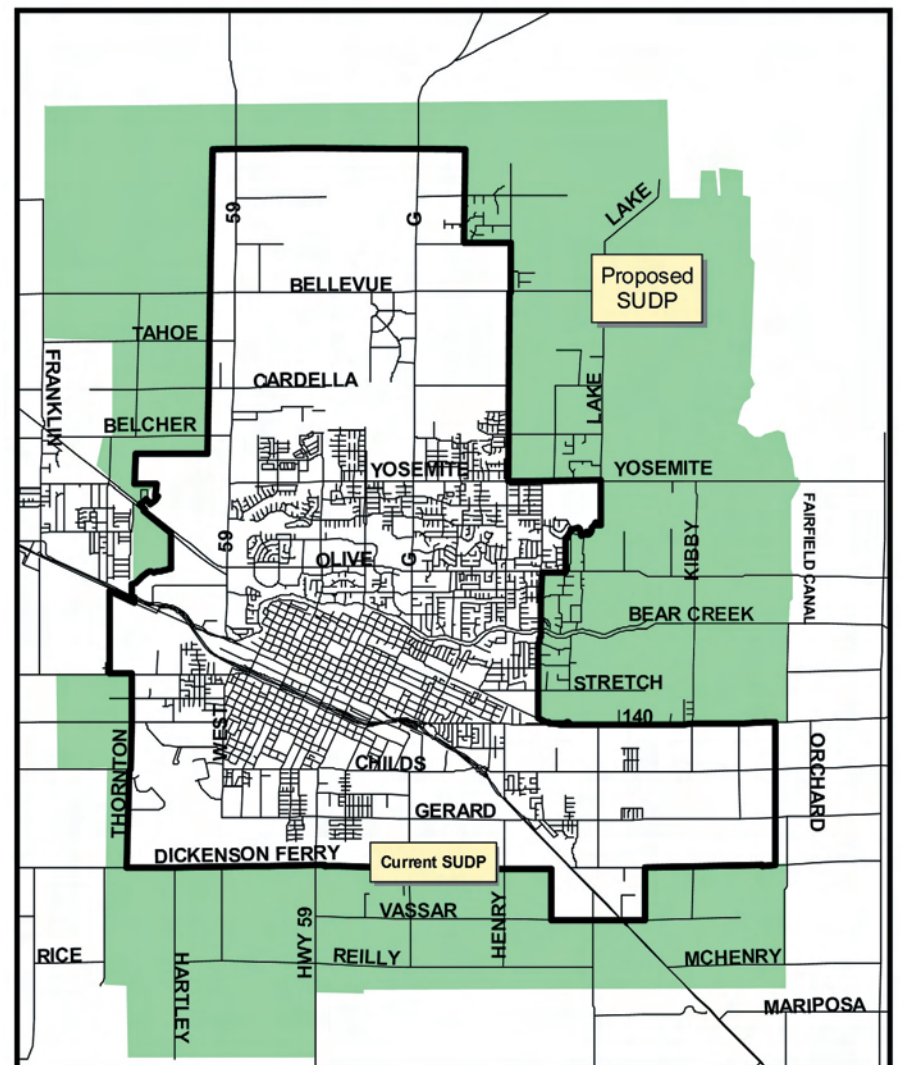
IMPORTANT ISSUES

- New SUDP Study Areas
- Traffic & Circulation
- Annexation – Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO)
- Agricultural Land
- UC Merced Campus

CURRENT GENERAL PLAN



DRAFT Specific Urban Development Plan Boundary For Purposes of Completing the General Plan Update Only Adopted by Merced City Council—July 17, 2006



NEXT STEPS

The General Plan Update is still in the early stages, but is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2007/early 2008. Over the next several months, the City of Merced will look at opportunities and constraints, particularly in the Draft SUDP areas. Citizen input is essential to the planning process and a number of community workshops will be scheduled to gather input and ideas for the General Plan. The Planning Commission will serve as an Advisory Committee and a Technical Advisory Committee will be established. Prior to adoption of the revised General Plan, a Program Environmental Impact Report will be prepared. The City's website at www.cityofmerced.org will keep residents informed about the progress of the General Plan Update. The City would like to encourage everyone to stay informed and participate in this important effort.

For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at 209-385-6858
or by email at planningweb@cityofmerced.org
or drop by our offices on the 2nd floor of the Merced Civic Center, 678 West 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340.