

# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

September 9, 2022

# Advocating for the future of Merced



In 2008, Senate Bill 732 was signed into law, establishing the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), a cabinet-level committee tasked with coordinating state agencies' activities to improve and support healthy, thriving, and resilient communities throughout the State of California. Fighting climate change is at the forefront of the Council's many tasks. Through a suite of investment programs and initiatives, the SGC supports community designs to make it easier for Californians to walk, bike, and use transit. In addition, the SGC invests in projects that strengthen communities and address climate change.

Recently, City Manager Stephanie Dietz was invited to the Council's August meeting at UC Merced. Stephanie joined several state, regional and local practitioners in a Sustainable Communities Panel to discuss the opportunities and challenges of building and transforming a disadvantaged community and the state's investment in High-Speed Rail (HSR).

Panelists encouraged leaders to be conscious and focus on investments that create geographic equity and focus on environmental justice. They discussed the importance of developing aligned values with state and local partnerships to co-create plans that support the state's investment in more than 400 miles of HSR through the San Joaquin Valley from San Francisco to Los Angeles County.

Panelists agreed that highspeed rail would connect the Central Valley to economies in the Bay Area and Southern California, which would be a game changer for the valley's economic landscape. For example, a four-hour commute from Merced to Bakersfield will be reduced to 90 minutes, and a train ride from Merced to Fresno will take 20 minutes.

Stephanie shared that transforming an economy unlike any other part of California requires unique, innovative thinking, strategic planning, and investment in a way that honors the people who live in our community. Intentional investments in our transportation infrastructure will bridge divided communities, enhance our quality of life, and transform our economy.

For more information about the California Strategic Growth Council visit <u>https://sgc.ca.gov/about/</u>. To watch the full presentation visit <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSlQphGKax8</u>

#### ALL-TIME RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURE OF 115 DEGREES REACHED AT MERCED SINCE RECORDS BEGAN IN 1899.

The question is, where is Merced's Official Thermometer located? The answer, it's at the Merced Yosemite Regional Airport.

The Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) program is a joint effort of the National Weather Service (NWS), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Department of Defense (DOD). The ASOS system serves as the nation's primary surface weather observing network. ASOS is designed to support weather forecast activities and aviation operations while supporting the needs of the meteorological, hydrological, and climatological research communities.

Reports basic weather elements:

Sky condition: cloud height and amount (clear, scattered, broken, overcast) up to 12,000 feet.

Visibility (to at least ten statute miles).

Basic present weather information: type and intensity for rain, snow, and freezing rain.

Obstructions to vision: fog, haze.

Pressure: sea-level pressure, altimeter setting.

Ambient temperature, dew point temperature.

Wind: direction, speed, and character (gusts, squalls).

Precipitation accumulation.

Selected significant remarks including- variable cloud height, variable visibility, precipitation beginning/ending times, rapid pressure changes, pressure change tendency, wind shift, and peak wind.

\*Thank you to Jon Kwiatkowski, Airport Operations, Merced Yosemite Regional Airport.



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#### **Public Works in Action**

Crews replaced a leaking 1" copper water service line at Princeville Court



The Water Department replaced a poly water service line at the Merco Credit Union



Crews responded to an emergency water main break near Martin Luther King Jr. Way & 11<sup>th</sup> Street.







The Water Department repaired a water main break at the 200 block of E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street.





Well Site #13 Well Repair Project

The image below shows removal and assessment of the pump. Public Works has created a schedule for regular rehabilitation of these sites to prevent emergency repairs.



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### **Reports and Correspondence**

- MCOE Teacher & Staff Appreciation Invite
  MCOE October Fest Invite Pg. 6
- Pg. 6 Pg. 7 3. PC Action Memo

# YOU'RE INVITED!

Please join Merced County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Steve M. Tietjen and Educational Employees Credit Union President/CEO Elizabeth J. Dooley to acknowledge exemplary teachers, staff and administrators!



Stacie Arancibia at (209) 381-5910 or events@mcoe.org



# *City of Merced* MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 8, 2022

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Actions at the Planning Commission Meeting of September 7, 2022

At their meeting of September 7, 2022, the Planning Commission heard and continued General Plan Amendment #22-03, which would change the General Plan roadway classification from Divided Arterial to Collector for a portion of Mission Avenue from Coffee Street to the east side of Pluim Drive (extended) to the Planning Commission meeting of October 5, 2022.

The Planning Commission also heard and continued the Appeal of a one-year extension for Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1291 for Bright Development, which would allow for the subdivision of approximately 39.8-acres of land into 131 single-family lots, generally located on the east side of G Street at Merril Place (extended) to the Planning Commission meeting of September 21, 2022.

The Commission re-elected Mike Harris as Chairperson and Mary Camper as Vice-Chairperson.

Because the Appeal of a one-year extension for Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1291 was continued to the meeting of September 21, 2022, the Commission did not cancel the September 21, 2022 Planning Commission meeting.

If you have any questions about these items, please feel free to contact me.

n:shared:Planning:PCMemos