DESCRIPTION

The viability of neighborhoods is extremely important in maintaining and improving the quality of life for our citizens. The neighborhood environment in terms of physical attractiveness and safety are the most critical elements that citizens use in evaluating livability in their community. All of Merced's neighborhoods should be places where people feel safe and take pride. In order to achieve these conditions throughout the community additional Code Enforcement resources were made available in the FY 1999-2000 budget. The program continues, with Code Enforcement Specialists working in concert with neighborhood residents, the Police Department, and other City departments.

MISSION

The Code Enforcement Program strives to revitalize and maintain the viability of neighborhoods through cooperation and collaboration with citizens, state, county and other City Departments.

GOALS

 Meet the needs of City residents by developing and maintaining neighborhoods that are attractive and safe.

OBJECTIVES

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS/INDICATORS

1. Develop new Code Enforcement tools.

Obtain Council adoption of new Administrative Citations and Administrative Remedies by June 30, 2006.

 Neighborhood program efforts to include nuisance abatement, substandard housing, and other related code violations On-going. Annual report to be developed by June 30, 2006

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- 3. "Junk your clunker" vehicle removal program.
- 4. Neighborhood clean-up projects.
- 5. Provide replacement of current City Code Enforcement software program with software solution that is GIS based with field applications.
- Provide a new Web Page for Code Enforcement with description of services and on-line complaint form.
- 7. Cost Recovery.

OBJECTIVES (continued)

Monthly updates are submitted to the Recreation & Parks Commission and City Council.

Schedule and coordinate clean up details partnering with communitybased organizations. Provide updates on successful projects to Recreation & Parks Commission and City Council.

Review completed and funding appropriated through Council. Second half of IS workflow training scheduled for March 2006. RFP, purchasing of system and implementation contingent on IS schedule.

IS has completed review and implementation is contingent on IS infrastructure upgrades and schedule.

Code Enforcement Specialist will utilize current Building Code Fee Schedules to recover incurred costs for reinspections of Building, Housing, and Dangerous Building Code Violations in cases where the responsible party refuses to abate violations.

 Ordinance Revision of Chapter 8.40 of the Merced Municipal Code.
The City Attorney's Office has revised 8.40 of the Merced Municipal Code. Administrative processes are under review, and ordinance revisions will be adopted by June 30, 2006.

2005-2006 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

A major source of funding support for the Code Enforcement Program is Community Development Block Grant funds. General Funds also contribute to the program total. A total of four Code Enforcement Specialist positions are in the approved budget. Code Enforcement Specialists handle Code Enforcement cases protecting livability and quality of life in neighborhoods.

DESCRIPTION

The Community Services account serves to receive funds from the Unrestricted Program Income Fund, Local Law Enforcement grant, and the Redevelopment Agency, and to administer those funds through contracts for services with community organizations.