

# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

December 16, 2022

## Merced Youth Council Shares the Spirit of the Holidays

The Merced Youth Council recently kicked off its annual Holiday Kits for Kids giving campaign.

The Council organized Kits for Kids during the pandemic to spread joy and cheer and help families in the community. This year, Kits for Kids will be available at the Neighborhood Open House on Friday, December 16th, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm, at the McNamara Park Youth Center, located at 1040 Canal Street.

Additionally, members of the Council recently spent time at Applegate Zoo setting up decorations for the City's annual Lights Before Christmas celebration. The event is scheduled for December 17th & 18th from 5:30-8:30 pm.





## Stick to a "Go Safely" Game Plan: Celebrate the Holiday Season Responsibly

National "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" Enforcement Campaign Begins Dec. 14

With a commitment to keeping the community safe, the Merced Police Department wants to remind the public of the dangers of driving impaired and celebrate the holiday season responsibly by not driving under the influence.

From Dec. 14 through New Year's Day, Merced Police Department will have additional officers on patrol looking for drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and drugs. This includes conducting a checkpoint on an undisclosed date and location. The extra enforcement effort is part of a national campaign, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, to stop suspected impaired drivers who put others on the road at risk.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 11,654 people were killed in car crashes nationwide in 2020 that involved an alcohol-impaired driver, or one person every 45 minutes.

The Merced Police Department encourages everyone to stay in for the night or have a "go safely" game plan by scheduling a ride or designating a sober driver if you plan to consume alcohol.

Impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Marijuana, prescription medications, or over-the-counter drugs may also impair. Do your research and understand how certain drugs may affect your driving ability.

"The holidays are a special time of year for many, and we want drivers to act responsibly," Sergeant Nate McKinnon said. "This enforcement period allows us to get the message out that driving impaired is an illegal, senseless behavior that takes lives."

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

#### **Raley's Winter Wonderland**

Merced Police and Fire recently participated in Raley's Winter Wonderland. The event was a hit with families in the community. Children took photos with Santa; everyone enjoyed holiday music, hot cocoa, and cookies. In addition, new, unwrapped toys were collected at the event, supporting the Cops and Fire for Kids Program.







## Shop with a Cop 2022

The Merced Police Department had a fantastic time shopping with children during this year's annual Shop with a Cop event. In addition to crossing off a few items on Christmas lists, everyone was excited to meet Santa. Thank you to the Merced Mall for hosting the event and local school staff for providing the children's names, and families for their support.



Page 4 of 14

#### Storm brings record weekend rainfall to Merced County.

A winter storm dumped significant amounts of rain on the Merced area this past weekend, as the region saw 1.21 total inches Saturday and Sunday. That includes 1.05 inches on Saturday, a new Dec. 10 record for Merced. The last time Merced saw a record amount of rain for Dec. 10 was .94 inches in 1937. Merced received .16 inches of rain on Sunday, according to the National Weather Service in Hanford.





Page 5 of 14

# **Public Works in Action**

Trees and Parks Crews Clearing storm damage



Trees Crews trimming trees at Ray Flanagan Park





Applegate Park slide repaired



Water crews replaced a 1" water service line at Santa Nella Ct.



A defective fire hydrant was replaced at Orion Dr.



A damaged fire hydrant was replaced at McKee Rd.





A 1" water service line was replaced at Redwing Dr.



Page 7 of 14

### Inspection Services Bi-weekly report for November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 through December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Single Family Dwelling (SFD) permits:

- SFD Permits Issued: **3**
- SFD Permits in Plan Review: 184
- SFD Certificates of Occupancy: 1

#### Multi-Family Dwelling (MFD) permits in review:

- Compass Pointe phase II: 112 units in 12, 8-plex buildings, plus a clubhouse located at Compass Pointe Ave, Stinson Dr., and Horizons Ave.
- Homekey Project located at 1213 V St.; conversion of 4 existing 2 story hotel buildings into 96 studio apartments, including both affordable and accessible housing.
- A 2,687 SF triplex located at 953 W 18<sup>th</sup> St.
- Affordable housing located at 3015 Park Ave.; 57,812 SF 3 story new construction, including a 2,744 SF community building. The project will provide 65 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom units and a single 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom unit.

MFD permits issued:

• Gateway Commons Apartments located at 3130 E. Gerard Ave.; one community building, five buildings with 16 units, and five buildings with 24 units for a total of 200 units, plus 31 garage structures.

Commercial & Industrial permits issued:

- There was 1 new construction commercial permit issued during this period; for the community building at the Gateway Commons Apartments located at 3140 E. Gerard Ave.
- There were 0 new tenant improvement permits issued during this period.

Commercial & Industrial permits submitted:

- There were 2 new construction commercial permits submitted during this period; one for a 12,000 SF terminal building at the Merced Municipal Airport located at 26 Macready Dr Bldg 3, and one for 2 new single use accessible restrooms at the airport located at 20 Macready Dr.
- There was 1 new tenant improvement permit submitted during this period; for an 1,800 SF retail spice shop located at 3368 N Hwy 59, Ste M.

Commercial & Industrial Certificates of Occupancy (CofOs)

• There were 0 commercial and industrial CofOs issued for this period.

#### **Housing Department Seeks Community Input**

The City of Merced Housing Division needs resident input on the use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Federal funding for two separate plans.

2023 Annual Action Plan and Needs Assessment Resident Survey- The Housing Division is beginning work on the 2023 HUD Annual Action Plan and is developing its annual Needs Assessment to determine project funding and programs for the coming year. Resident participation is vital to this process! **Survey closes February 28, 2023.** 

Home Investment Partnership Program-American Rescue Plan Resident Survey -The City of Merced received special allocation of HOME-ARP funding to develop programs for the needs of specific qualifying populations. We need resident input on determining the best use for this funding, and the needs and gaps in assistance for each qualifying population. **Survey closes January 31, 2023.** 



Page 9 of 14









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Page 13 of 14

City - County Celations Dinner HOSTED BY The City of Gustine Thursday 26 January 2023 Social - 5:30pm Dinner - 6:30pm AL GOMAN CENTER **745 LINDEN AVENUE GUSTINE, CA 95322** Dinner prepared by the City of Gustine Volunteer Fire Department \$40 PER PERSON PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CITY OF GUSTINE kindly rsvp to DESIRAE PORRAS BEFORE 1/17/2023 AT DPORRAS@CITYOFGUSTINE.COM If you have any questions, please contact Desirae at 209-854-6471