

### Merced's First 2024 Community Townhall Series Kicks Off at Civic Center

The City of Merced hosted its first of three successful townhall meetings this week at the Civic Center. The event brought together many community members interested in connecting with City Council and City Staff, creating an open forum for questions and discussions about programs and services. Townhalls serve as a platform for community members to voice concerns about issues that matter to them, addressing a wide range of topics from local initiatives to public services. The success of this first townhall set a positive tone for the upcoming meetings, creating a foundation for continued communication between the city and its residents.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. at Tenaya Middle School, 760 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Merced.



Principal Planner Jonnie Lan and Planning Management Analyst Leah Brown shared information about the city's development projects.



PD talked with community members about programs and services such as Neighborhood Watch, Steering Wheel Lock Giveaway, and the upcoming Coffee & Bagels with MPD.



Members of the Merced Youth Council and Representatives from The Merced Senior Center joined the townhall to share information about their respective programs.



Recycling Coordinator Monique Gama shared information about SB 1383, the City's Organics Recycling Program.

### THE WEEKLY CI – January 26, 2024

### Scenes from this week's successful Townhall



Parks & Community Services, Youth Council, and Senior Center Representative share information about City programs and services.



Sierra Omlin, Merced Economic Development Associate, discussed transformative economic projects and the highspeed rail project which is paving the way for a dynamic future in the City of Merced.



Water Conservation Coordinator Debbie Forte shared tips (and swag) about the benefits and importance of conserving water resources.



City Staff meeting with community members before the question, answer, and discussion session with city council members.



### Parks & Community Services Junior Warrior Basketball Season Opens

Young athletes filled the courts as junior varsity, varsity, and girls' divisions showcased their skills in the season's opening games. The positive energy and sportsmanship displayed by all youth athletes created an exciting atmosphere for players, coaches, and spectators alike. Kudos to everyone who contributed to making the first games a success.

The Parks & Community Services team looks forward to continuing this spirit as they gear up for the upcoming weekend, launching the first games for Pee Wee and Tiny Tots divisions. Cheers to a season filled with growth and camaraderie.







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## **Public Works in Action**



Crews installed a sewer flow meter







Crews pumping storm water

# Merced Police Department Steering Wheel Lock Giveaway!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27TH TIME: 12PM TO 4PM LOCATION: SUN STAR BUILDING 3033 G ST. MERCED

# What do you need to bring to get a FREE lock?

To receive a <u>FREE</u> steering wheel lock, you must show BOTH of the following:

 Proof you are a Merced City Resident.

2.) Registration to your Hyundai or KIA motor vehicle.

# WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



Monday, January 29th 6 - 8 PM Tenaya Middle School 760 W. 8th Street

Thursday, February 15th 6 - 8 PM Chenoweth Elementary School 3200 N. Parsons Ave

YOUR VOICE MATTERS ASK QUESTIONS MEET YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES



Reuniones Anuales del Ayuntamiento 2024

Lunes, 29 de Enero 6 - 8 PM Tenaya Middle School 760 W. 8th Street

Jueves, 15 de Febrero 6 - 8 PM Chenoweth Elementary School 3200 N. Parsons Ave

TU VOZ IMPORTA HACER PREGUNTAS CONOZCA A LOS REPRESENTATES DE SU CONSEJO

### Sign Up to Volunteer at the Gran Fondo Hincapie Bike Event and Festival

Want to be part of the Gran Fondo Hincapie–Merced but riding on the bike isn't your activity? Volunteer and join the fun! The Hincapie team loves hosting volunteers as much as they love hosting riders, and they have plenty of ways to help and plenty of time slots to fit your schedule. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt along with a rider pack that includes swag from Hincapie sponsors! Visit,

GRAN FONDO

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https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084FACA729A4FD0-46575831-gran#/



GRAN FONDO HINCAPIE

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### Gran Fondo Hincapie is coming to Merced on March 16, 2024

The Gran Fondo Hincapie gravel ride is a cycling celebration with scenic routes and family fun. Choose between a shorter Piccolo (2 hours), a mid-length Medio (60 miles), or a longer Gran ride (84 miles) on one of the scenic routes mapped and tested by the Hincapie Team. The event is a chance to connect with other cycling enthusiasts and indulge your passion for cycling, no matter your skill level. For more information, visit www.hincapie.com/pages/gran-fondo-merced.

If you want to learn more about the event, visit <u>www.hincapie.com/pages/gran-fondo-hincapie#section-event-faqs</u> Cyclists under 18 can register and ride free.

You don't have to be a seasoned cyclist, but you'll need a bicycle!



# It's Time to...

# **ReThink Your Food Waste**

# Have You Heard About SB 1383 and Organic Waste Diversion?

Senate Bill 1383 is the State of California's mandate for the separation of household organic waste, comprised of green waste, wood waste, food waste and soiled paper/cardboard waste in an effort to reduce greenhouse gases.

## So Why Do We Need Mandatory Organics Recycling?

Organic waste in landfills is one of our biggest contributors to greenhouse gases. So, the State of California passed SB 1383 to require the diversion of the organic waste so it doesn't end up in the landfill.



# What Does This Mean for You?

As of January 1st, 2024, your green can is now your Organic Waste Can. If you currently have a green waste exemption, the refuse division will be delivering a green can as the green waste diversion exemption no longer qualifies for can removal.

To meet state mandates, phase 1 of diverting food waste in our green organics waste can will require placing the food waste in separate plastic bag with the green waste remaining loose in the can.

Food waste starts in the kitchen, PLACE ACCEPTED ORGANIC ITEMS IN A SEPARATE PLASTIC **BAG** and when you're done, **TIE IT UP AND PLACE IT IN THE GREEN CAN**. This will allow the food waste to be removed for processing and aids in SB 1383 compliance.

The City of Merced, with the use of the SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant, was able to do a one time purchase of 2-gallon kitchen pails to distribute to our residential customers for food waste diversion use in the kitchen. We hope this will assist in having a successful organics diversion program.



# ACCEPTABLE FOOD WASTE ORGANICS:

- Food Waste
- Food Soiled Paper, Paper Towels, and Newspaper
- Paper Plates and Paper Straws
- Paper Cupcake or Muffin Wrappers
- Cardboard or Paper Egg Cartons and Cardboard Berry Baskets
- ToGo Containers that are Uncoated Paper or Cardboard (no metal or plastic)
- Coffee Grounds, Paper Coffee Fliters, Food Soiled Paper Coffee Cups and Cup Sleeves
- Cloth Tea Bags (plastic free)
- Brown Paper Bags
- Wood Waste (untreated)
- Uncoated/Untreated Wooden Utensils, such as Chopsticks, Coffee Stirrers, Popsicle Sticks, Ice Cream Spoons, Skewers, Toothpicks and other Wooden Utensils
- Compostable Utensils and Plates
- Compostable Bags
- Wine Corks (cork)

# NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Animal Feces
- Foil
- Metal or Plastic To-Go Containers or Packagi
- Household Garbage
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Kitty Litter
- Liquids or Cooking Oil
- Plastics
- Recyclables









### THE WEEKLY CI – January 26, 2024



Name a Zebra Finch

\$5 for 1, \$7 for 2, \$10 for 3 Can be purchased in gift shop

1045 W. 25th St. Merced CA



#### Inspection Services Bi-weekly report for January 8th, 2024, through January 21st, 2024

Single Family Dwelling (SFD) permits:

- SFD Permits Issued: 46
- SFD Permits in Plan Review: 139
- SFD Certificates of Occupancy: 11

Multi-Family Dwelling (MFD) permits in review:

- 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.
- Two 1,336 SF duplexes located at 103 and 107 R St.
- A 4,624 SF 4-plex located at 1125 H St.
- A 2,600 SF duplex located at 531 Childs Ave.
- Emerald Village: 228 units in 18 buildings totaling 142,416 SF of living space, plus a 1,736 SF clubhouse located at 3622 N Hwy 59.
- Devonwood Apartments: 156 units in 5 buildings totaling 146,724 SF of living space, plus a 3,696 SF clubhouse located on the 1500 block of Devonwood Dr. (No change since last report)

MFD permits issued:

• There were 0 multi-family permits issued during this period. (No change since last report)

Commercial & Industrial permits issued:

- There was 1 new construction commercial permit issued during this period; for a 10,918 SF airport terminal located at 26 Macready Dr. Bld 3.
- There were 3 new tenant improvement permits issued during this period; one for the interior work of the new 10,918 SF airport terminal located at 26 Macready Dr. Bld 3 shown above, one for a 1,800 SF Rally's located at 3105 N Hwy 59, and one for a 1,000 SF El Portal Cancer Center located at 3303 M St.

Commercial & Industrial permits submitted:

- There was 1 new construction commercial permit submitted during this period; for a 2,250 SF mini mart located at 1300 G St.
- There were 2 new tenant improvement permits submitted during this period; one for the interior work of the new 2,250 SF mini mart located at 1300 G St shown above, and one for a 13,500 SF market located at 1640 Yosemite Parkway.

Commercial & Industrial Certificates of Occupancy (CofOs)

• There was 1 commercial, industrial, and multi-family apartment CofO issued for this period; for a 3,768 SF retinal consulting office located at 3185 M St. Ste 200.