

NEWSLETTER

CITY OF MERCED

Heads up, downtown! Construction is underway to make things even better—but all your favorite local businesses are STILL OPEN and ready to serve you.

Come down, support local, and pardon our progress!



AmeriCorps Seniors' Harvest Time Trio Celebrates 90 Remarkable Years

The City of Merced proudly joined AmeriCorps Seniors in celebrating the "Harvest Time Trio" –Balbina (Helen) Farin, Buster Eppler, and Rick Shelton—as they each marked their 90th birthdays. In a special celebration honoring a lifetime of service and community spirit, Mayor Matthew Serratto presented certificates to the trio, recognizing their decades of dedication and volunteerism.

The event wasn't just a birthday party—it was a tribute to the impact of those who serve. The Harvest Time Trio stands as an example of unity, generosity, and the power of giving back through AmeriCorps Seniors.



Law Enforcement United Stops in Merced to Honor Fallen Officers

On Friday, May 2, Law Enforcement United Inc. made a memorial stop in Merced as a part of their Long Ride, a 7.5-day journey down the California coast featuring more than 60 tributes to fallen officers.

Merced Police Department provided an escort for the riders as they passed through the city along W. Olive Avenue to M Street.
Honor the Fallen. Remember the Survivors.



MPD K-9 Unit at Spring Car Show

Over the weekend the K-9 Unit attended the Spring Car Show at Castle Air Museum. K-9 Mako was a hit with the community!



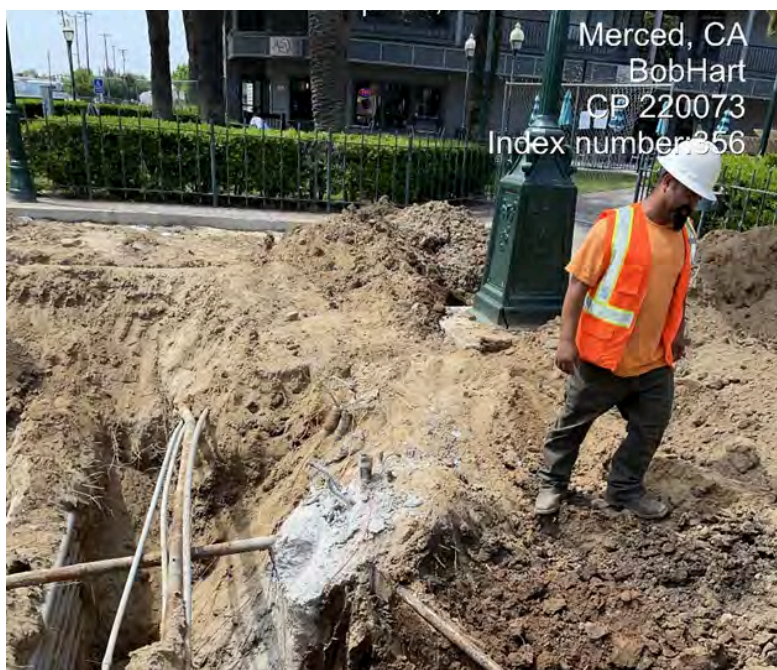
Yosemite Ave Road Reconstruction Update

Crews have placed shoring and are now grading the bottom of the trench for pipe installation.



Bob Hart Square Expansion Progress

Crews are diligently working and have begun forming curbs and gutters for the concrete. They are also running a new 16-inch pipeline to go under other utilities!



Community Park 42 Updates

Progress is being made on Community Park 42, with updates to the pickleball court, irrigation system, and shade structure.



Childs Multi-Use Path

Crews have set up forms to pour the concrete curbs by Golden Valley High School. Forms have also been set up to begin pouring concrete for the sidewalk along Childs Ave.



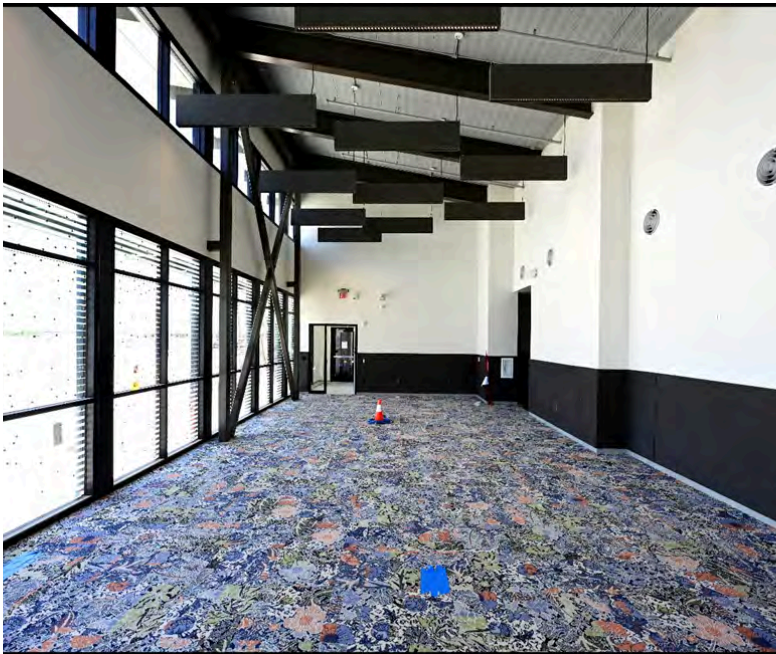
Gateway Monuments Progress

The welcome signs are coming together with crews placing tiles on the monuments.



Merced Regional Airport Terminal Updates

Progress continues at the airport!



Laura Fountain

Maintenance is completed on Laura Fountain.
Routine maintenance helps keep everything flowing!

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Routine maintenance helps keep everything flowing!



Movies in the Park

 <p>MOANA 2</p> <p><i>May 16, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>	  	<p>CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD</p> <p><i>July 25, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>	
 <p>MUFASA</p> <p><i>June 13, 2025</i></p> <p>Applegate Park (MOAT) W. 26 & O Street</p>	 <p>MOVIES in the PARK</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>IN PARTNERSHIP WITH</p> <p>For information on sponsorship opportunities, please call (209) 385-6235 or email kindavong1@cityofmerced.org</p> <p>   </p> <p>Arrive early for pre-show activities, bring your folding chairs and blankets, and get cozy for the movie starting at dusk!</p>	<p>INSIDE OUT 2</p> <p><i>August 22, 2025</i></p> <p>Rudolph Merino Park Pacific Dr. & El Redondo</p>	
 <p>SONIC 3</p> <p><i>June 27, 2025</i></p> <p>Nannini Youth Sports Complex 1800 Wardrobe Ave.</p>		<p>CARS 2</p> <p><i>September 12, 2025</i></p> <p>Merced Center Rooftop Garage 605 W 18th Street</p>	
 <p>THE KID WHO WOULD BE KING</p> <p><i>July 11, 2025</i></p> <p>The Art Kamangar Center (Theatre) 301 W. Main Street</p>		<p>WICKED</p> <p><i>September 26, 2025</i></p> <p>Merced Regional Sports Complex E. Mission Rd. & S. Tyler Rd.</p>	

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Parks & Community Services
Parks Make Life Better!

GRATIS

MOVIES
in the PARK

EN ASOCIACIÓN CON

Para obtener información sobre oportunidades de patrocinio, llame al (209) 385-6235 o envíe un correo electrónico a kindavongl@cityofmerced.org



THE ART KAMANGAR CENTER AT
THE MERCED THEATRE



¡Llegue temprano para las actividades previas al espectáculo, traiga sus sillas plegables y mantas, y póngase cómodo para la película que comienza al anochecer!



Instagram



facebook

CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

\$65
per session

SWIM LESSONS

**FIRST 300
REGISTRANTS
GET \$10 OFF
PER SESSION**

ALL CLASSES HELD AT MCNAMARA POOL

Registration begins May 5th at 9am

Registration in person only

Sessions and Dates		Class Type and Age	
SESSION 1:	June 16 - 26	PARENT & ME:	6 MONTHS-3 YEARS
		TINY TOTS 1:	AGES 3-5
		TINY TOTS 2:	AGES 4-6
SESSION 2:	July 7 - 17	BEGINNER PREP:	AGES 7-10
		STROKE TECHNIQUE:	AGES 8-16

**** PRIVATE LESSONS AVAILABLE FOR \$150 PER CHILD**



**REGISTER AT
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
632 W 18TH ST.
OR CALL (209) 385-6235
FOR MORE INFORMATION**





CITY OF MERCED

City Council Chamber
Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Meeting Agenda

Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

6:00 PM

City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Merced Civic
Center, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

WELCOME TO THE MEETING OF THE MERCED PLANNING COMMISSION

At least 72 hours prior to each regular Planning Commission meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofmerced.org or at the Planning Division Office, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. All public records relating to an open session item that are distributed to a majority of the Commission will be available for public inspection at the Planning Division Office during regular business hours. The Planning Commission also serves as the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Design Review/Historic Preservation Commission. Assisted hearing devices are available for meetings held in the Council Chamber.

PUBLIC COMMENT: OBTAIN SPEAKER CARD FROM THE CLERK

Members of the audience who wish to address the Planning Commission are requested to complete a speaker card available at the podium against the right-hand side of the Council Chamber. Please submit the completed card to the Clerk before the item is called, preferably before the meeting begins. Speakers will be called up, 3 to 5 at a time, in the order in which the forms are received. Please use the microphone and state your name and city of residence for the record. For permits, licenses, and other entitlements, the applicant will be allowed 15 minutes (including rebuttal), the appellant/leader of the opposition will be allowed 15 minutes (including rebuttal), and all other speakers shall have 3 minutes each, unless the number of speakers is over 10, which in that case, comments shall be limited to 2 minutes each. For all other issues, for 3 or less speakers, 3 minutes each and for over 10 speakers, 2 minutes each shall be allotted. A timer clock is located above the City Council dais illuminating the remaining time. Once the buzzer sounds, please be courteous and conclude your remarks.

Material may be emailed to planningweb@cityofmerced.org no later than 1 PM on the day of the meeting. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, for example, Item # or Oral Communications. Your comments will be presented to the Planning Commission at the appropriate time. Any correspondence received after 1 PM will be distributed to the Planning Commission and retained for the official record.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A.1. Moment of Silence

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

B. ROLL CALL**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public who wish to speak on any matter not listed on the agenda may speak during this portion of the meeting and will be allotted 3 minutes. The Chairperson may, at their discretion, reduce the time to 2 minutes if there are more than 10 speakers, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible. State law prohibits the Planning Commission from acting at this meeting on any matter raised during the public comment period. Members of the public who wish to speak on a matter that is listed on the agenda will be called upon to speak during discussion of that item. Please submit a Request to Speak card prior to the item being called.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

Adoption of the Consent Calendar may be made with one motion of the Planning Commission provided that any Planning Commission member, individual, or organization may request removal of an item from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration. If a request for removal of an item from the Consent Calendar has been received, the item will be discussed and voted on separately. With Consent items, there is generally no staff presentation but staff is available for questions.

D.1 [25-349](#) **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of April 9, 2025

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of April 9, 2025

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

Members of the public who wish to speak on public hearings listed on the agenda will be heard when the Public Hearing is opened, except on Public Hearing items previously heard and closed to public comment. After the public has commented, the item is closed to further public comment and brought to the Commission for discussion and action. Further comment will not be received unless requested by the Commission.

E.1 [25-302](#) **SUBJECT:** Conditional Use Permit #25-0006, initiated by AT&T Mobility, on behalf of The City of Merced, property owner. This application involves a request to construct a 55-foot-tall wireless communication tower in the form of a stealth mono-palm tree at 3400 Parsons Avenue, generally located at the northeast corner of Parsons Avenue and Brookdale Drive, with a General Plan designation of Open Space (OP-S), and a Zoning classification of (R-1-6) *PUBLIC HEARING*

- ACTION:** Approve/Disapprove/Modify
- 1) Environmental Review #25-0002 (*Categorical Exemption*)
 - 2) Conditional Use Permit #25-0006

SUMMARY

AT&T Mobility is requesting approval to construct a 55-foot-tall wireless communication tower in the form of a stealth mono-palm tree at 3400 Parsons Avenue (Attachment D) within a Low Density Residential (R-1-6) Zone. The project is located at the northeast corner of Parsons Avenue and Brookdale Drive within the City's Rahilly Park. Per Merced Municipal Code Land Use Table 20.58-2 - Review Procedures for Support Towers for Wireless Communication Facilities, a site plan review is required for stealth facilities within an R-1 Zone that are over 140% of the maximum height allowed within this zone. However, as described in the background section of this report, because the Site Plan Review Committee April 3, 2025, referred this request to the Planning Commission, the land use permit required is now a conditional use permit. Staff is recommending approval of this application subject to the conditions contained in the Staff Report.

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #25-0002 (*Categorical Exemption*), and Conditional Use Permit #25-0006, including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A, subject to the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B.

E.2 [25-338](#)

SUBJECT: General Plan Amendment #24-01, Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment #6, and Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1329 ("Paulson Ranch"), initiated by Stonefield Home, Inc., property owner. The General Plan Amendment would amend the Merced General Plan Transportation and Circulation Element by modifying the City of Merced Circulation Plan (Figure 4.1) and all associated maps and descriptions throughout the General Plan, to eliminate Destiny Drive (a collector road) from going through the subject site to Paulson Road (extension). The Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment would modify the design, layout, and circulation of the residential subdivision previously approved for this site. The Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map would subdivide approximately 39.12 acres into 104 residential lots (mostly between 6,000 and 7,000 square feet). The subject site is generally located on the south side of E. Cardella Road, 1,900 feet east of G Street. *PUBLIC HEARING*

ACTION:**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Recommendation to City Council

- 1) Environmental Review #24-07 (*Negative Declaration*)
- 2) General Plan Amendment #24-01
- 3) Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment #6

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #24-07 (*Negative Declaration*)
- 2) Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1329
[subject to City Council approval of General Plan Amendment #24-01, and Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment #6]

SUMMARY

The subject site is an undeveloped 39.12-acre parcel located in northeast Merced at 800 E. Cardella Road, located on the south side of Cardella Road, approximately 1,900 feet east of G Street. The General Plan Amendment is being requested to amend the City's General Plan Circulation Element (Figure 4.1) (Attachment G) to eliminate the collector road of Destiny Drive that would go through the subject site. The Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment would modify the design, layout, and circulation of the residential subdivision previously approved for this site. The Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map would subdivide approximately 39.12 acres into 104 single family lots (mostly between 6,000 and 7,000 square feet). Staff is recommending approval with conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

General Plan Amendment, and Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment,

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval to the City Council of Environmental Review #24-07 (Negative Declaration), General Plan Amendment #24-01, Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment #6 (including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A) subject to the conditions in Exhibit A, and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B of the Draft Resolution.

Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #24-07 (Negative Declaration) and Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1329 (including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment B) subject to the conditions in Exhibit A, the findings/considerations in Exhibit B of the Draft Resolution, and contingent upon City Council approval of the General Plan Amendment, and the Northeast Yosemite Specific Plan Amendment.

E.3 [25-320](#)**SUBJECT:**

Recommendation to adopt a Resolution of Denial for General Plan Amendment #24-02/ Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #20/ Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1332 / Site Plan #551/ Minor Use Permit #24-13, initiated by Eric Gonsalves, on behalf of Yosemite 1380 LLC, property owner.

ACTION:**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Adopt a Resolution to Recommend Denial to City Council for:

- 1) Environmental Review #24-25 (*Negative Declaration*)
- 2) General Plan Amendment #24-02
- 3) Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #20

Adopt a Resolution of Denial for:

- 1) Environmental Review #24-25 (*Negative Declaration*)
- 2) Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1332
- 3) Site Plan Review Permit #551
- 4) Minor Use Permit #24-13

[subject to City Council denial of General Plan Amendment #24-02, and Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #20]

SUMMARY

On March 19, 2025, the Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding General Plan Amendment #24-02, Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #20, Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1332, Site Plan #551, and Minor Use Permit #24-13. The public comment period was opened and residents from the surrounding area raised their concerns regarding the project and adequate time being given to review the project. The Planning commission voted unanimously to continue the item to the April 9th Planning Commission Hearing. At the April 9th Planning Commission Hearing, the Planning Commission directed staff to prepare a resolution of denial for General Plan Amendment #24-02, Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned

Development #20, Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1332, Site Plan #551, Minor Use Permit #24-13 and associated environmental review based on the reasons provided by the Planning Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

General Plan Amendment and Site Utilization Plan Revision to Planned Development

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve the Resolution to Recommend Denial to the City Council of Environmental Review #24-25 (Negative Declaration), General Plan Amendment #24-02, and Site Utilization Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #20.

Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map, Site Plan Review, and Minor Use Permit

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve the Resolution of Denial for Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1332, Site Plan #551 and Minor Use Permit #24-13.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

F.1 [25-350](#)

SUBJECT: Report by Deputy Director of Development Services of Upcoming Agenda Items

ACTION

Information only.

F.2 [25-351](#)

SUBJECT: Calendar of Meetings/Events

May	5	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	7	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	19	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	21	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
Jun.	2	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	4	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	16	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	18	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	24	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, 4:00 p.m.

G. ADJOURNMENT