

NEWSLETTER

CITY OF MERCED

THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED

Bear Creek Restoration Project Public Meeting

Join the City of Merced and Dokken Engineering.

Learn about the ongoing Bear Creek Restoration Project -
restoring 6-miles of natural habitat from McKee Road to 16th Street.

Key improvements include:

- Remove invasive plants, trash, and pollution
- Revitalize natural habitats
- Restore embankments in priority areas

Learn how these improvements will help restore Bear Creek and protect its
natural beauty for our community and local wildlife.

Tuesday, May 20th @ 5 PM
Yoga Park - W. 28th & H Streets in Merced

Merced County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

The Merced Police Department marked the 20th Annual Merced County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony. Agencies from across the county came together to honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty while serving their communities.

This year's ceremony held special significance as we honored the life and legacy of Detective Joseph Henderson, who courageously battled cancer and gave his life in service to the community he loved. His memorial stone was unveiled in the Memorial Garden at the Peace Officer Memorial, a lasting tribute to his dedication to serve. Captain Joseph Perez spoke about Detective Henderson's dedication to his career, even as he fought through his battle with cancer. He then invited Henderson's son to unveil his father's memorial stone, marking a powerful and emotional moment in the ceremony.

Let us continue to remember and pay tribute to all the fallen heroes who selflessly served and protected our community.



One Voice

Elected officials and staff from the cities of Atwater, Dos Palos, Gustine, Los Banos, Livingston, the City of Merced, Merced County, and the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) participated in the annual One Voice conference in Washington, D.C. this week.

The delegation met with federal representatives and agencies to advocate for key community priorities, including funding for public safety, critical infrastructure and roadway improvements, completion of the regional airport project, and support for programs that drive local economic development.



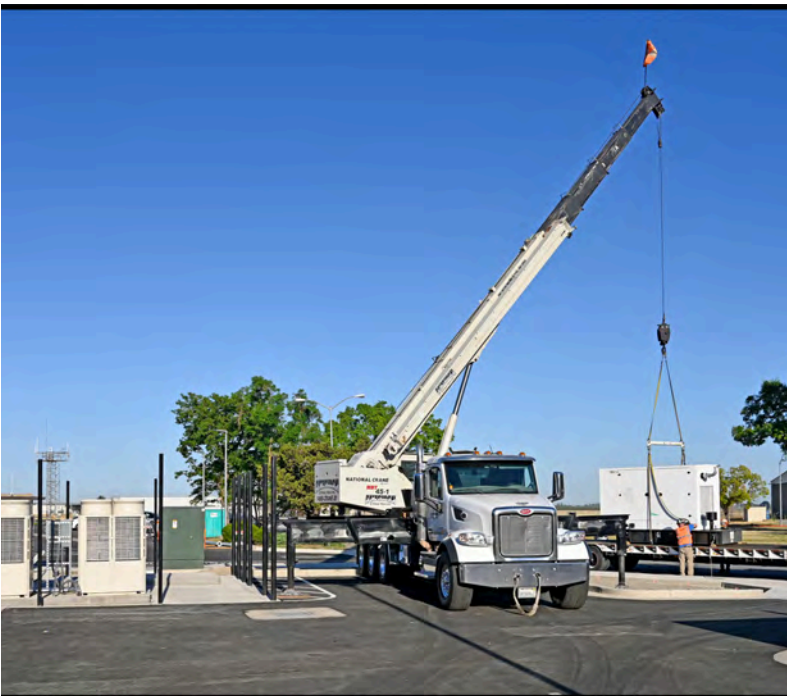
Population Signs Updates

The Department of Finance Demographics Unit released the 2025 California Population Estimates and Merced's growth is ranked #1 for Cities with a population of under 300,000! Public Works staff were quick to begin working on updating the population signs!



Merced Regional Airport Updates

The long-awaited emergency generator has been delivered for the new terminal!



Yosemite Ave Road Reconstruction

Crews are removing and replacing the sewer line, and installing a manhole in the intersection of Yosemite Ave and Mansionette Dr.



Childs Multi-Use Path Progress

Crews are prepping, forming, and pouring concrete for driveways and sidewalks.



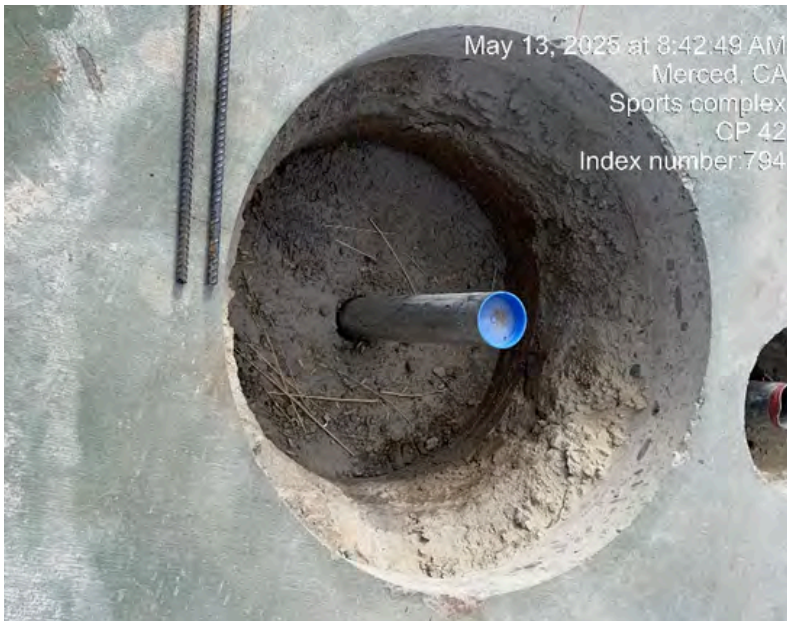
Bob Hart Square Progress

Crews are installing new fire hydrants.



Community Park 42 Updates

Progress continues at Community Park 42 with pickleball net posts set, reinforced with rebar, and concrete.



CITY OF MERCED

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CURRENT VACANCIES LISTING

ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION	1 Vacancy, Ex-Officio* (*Nonvoting)
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION	3 terms ending (At-Large, District 1 & 4) 4 vacancies, District 2, 3, 6, & Ex- Officio* (*Nonvoting)
PERSONNEL BOARD	2 terms ending (Council Appointed & Board Nominated)
PLANNING COMMISSION	2 terms ending (District 4 & 6)
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION	2 terms ending (District 2 & 5)
REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY	2 terms ending, 1 vacancy
TAX TRANSPARENCY COMMISSION	1 vacancy, District 2 1 term ending (District 6)

Deadline: June 27, 2025 & Council Appointments: July 7, 2025

Contact the City Clerk's Department for more Info!
cityclerk@cityofmerced.org or (209) 388-8650



PLAY ON PURPOSE!

What programs, playgrounds, park features, and trails do you want to see in Merced?



Parks, Recreation, & Open Spaces Master Plan 2025

Help Shape the Future of Merced's Parks & Recreation!

The City of Merced is developing the 2025 Parks, Recreation, & Open Spaces Master Plan, **and your voice matters.** This is your opportunity to help guide the future of our parks, programs, and public spaces.

Scan the QR code to share your ideas and help us build a plan that truly reflects the needs, values, and dreams of Merced residents.



English



Spanish



Hmong

Want to learn more in person?
Find us across town at the following pop ups!

May 15: Softball	5pm - 8pm	Joe Herb Park (Upper): 2200 Yosemite Parkway
May 16: Senior Bingo	10am - 12pm	755 W. 15th Street, Merced CA 95340
May 16: Movie Night	5pm - 6:30pm	301 W. Main St.
May 17: Bike Ride w/ the Mayor	7am - 9am	Applegate Park Playground
May 17: Lao New Year	9am - 12pm	301 W. Main St.

Free
Event!



WWW.MERCEDBICYCLECOALITION.ORG



MAY
17 **RIDE WITH
THE MAYOR**

Applegate Park Playground
Sign in 8:30am • Ride at 9am

Enjoy a leisurely ride on Merced's beautiful bikeways, with Mayor Matt Serratto. Meet at the playground in Applegate Park (near the zoo and Kiddieland) and sign in at 8:30am. Ride starts at 9am and ends with a refreshment stop. Free bike related goodies while supplies last!

MERCEDBICYCLECOALITION.ORG



CITY OF MERCED

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

Meeting Agenda

Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 21, 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 [25-514](#) **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of May 7, 2025

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of May 7, 2025

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

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. [25-343](#) **SUBJECT:** Conditional Use Permit #25-0002, initiated by Golden Valley Engineering, applicant for Tom Lawler, property owner. This application involves a request to convert an existing 7,500 square foot industrial building into a fitness center at 2250 Cessna Way. The subject site is generally located south of Cessna Way, and approximately 150 feet west of Beechcraft Avenue. The subject site has a General Plan designation of Manufacturing/ Industrial, (IND) and a zoning classification of Light Industrial (I-L). **PUBLIC HEARING**

- ACTION:** Approve/Disapprove/Modify
- 1) Environmental Review #25-0010 (*Categorical Exemption*)
 - 2) Conditional Use Permit #25-0002

SUMMARY

Golden Valley Engineering is requesting conditional use permit approval to convert a 7,500 square foot, industrial building into a fitness center to be operated by Students With Aspiring Goals (SWAG). The subject site is approximately 0.48 acres and is located on the south side of Cessna Way, approximately 150 feet west of Beechcraft Avenue. Fitness Center uses are considered a conditional use within a Light Industrial (I-L) Zone. The Planning Commission will be reviewing this proposal to ensure that the site plan is designed in a manner that minimizes negative impacts to the existing site and promotes compatible and orderly development with the surrounding uses. Staff is recommending approval with conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff has reviewed this request and recommends that the Planning Commission approve Environmental Review #25-0010 (Categorical Exemption) and Conditional Use Permit #25-0002, including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment A subject to the conditions in Exhibit A and the findings/considerations in Exhibit B.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 [25-366](#)

SUBJECT: Annual Review of the Five-Year (2025-2030) Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Determination of Whether the Individual Projects are Consistent with the General Plan Maps, Policies, and Principles and Recommendation to the City Council Regarding the Consistency with the Merced Vision 2030 General Plan

ACTION Adopt a finding that the CIP is consistent with the General Plan

SUMMARY

A function of the Planning Commission is the annual review of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is a list of the physical improvements the City plans on funding and constructing over the next five years. The Planning Commission's role is to determine whether the individual projects are consistent with the General Plan maps, policies, and principles. The Draft Project List for the 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program document is provided at Attachment A with the entire 2025

-2030 CIP provided at Attachment B. Please note that the budget

numbers are still being finalized so they are subject to change prior to City Council consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council that the Draft Five- Year Capital Improvement Program is consistent with the “*Merced Vision 2030 General Plan*” and related master plans.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

G.1 [25-515](#) **SUBJECT:** Report by Acting Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

ACTION

Information only.

G.2 [25-516](#) **SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

May	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.
Jul.	7	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	9	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.
	21	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
	23	Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m.

H. ADJOURNMENT