

From: [Clarence Chance](#)
To: [Boyle, Sarah](#); [cityclerk](#)
Cc: [Serratto, Matthew](#); [Dupont, Darin](#); [De Anda, Ronnie](#); [Harris, Michael](#); [Smith, Shane](#); [Xiong, Fue](#)
Subject: Destroyed pavement on Neva Ct. in District 5- Public Comment- City Council Meeting August 18, 2025
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 7:32:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[ST-1,ST-4, T-3,T-1, SCG-4.pdf](#)

Hello Ms. Boyle,

Thank you for returning my call on the 4th of August. I understand that you are very busy but I kind of expected you to stop by after that on the 5th like we discussed, so I could show you physically what issues I had with the construction of the fiber network RACE communications is installing. I decided to send you an email to continue our conversation.

As I told you on the phone, I was responsible for inspections on projects like this for many years as a City Inspector. I know what is expected of contractors working in the City right of way in order to insure that the City owned infrastructure is not compromised while these types of projects are implemented.

First, there is a dedicated Public Utility Easement that all of the lots in our neighborhood are required to dedicate for the installation of utilities such as this. See attached City Standard Drawings ST-1 and ST-4. This project was allowed to install the utility outside the dedicated PUE in our streets that were in excellent condition.

We all know failing streets are a major issue in Merced yet we allow deviation from our own standard and seriously shorten the life of our streets. I can already hear the City's response when these streets fail and we request repairs. "We do not have money for that" Am I correct? Then why would we allow our roads to be compromised in this manner? I would really like to know the who and why on this. See attached before and after photos.

Secondly, see the photo 6574 and undermining curb and sidewalk and

City Standard T-1,T-3 and SCG-4. This contractor or project is using a pressure washing system to undermine the curb and gutter and sidewalk creating 18" diameter void under it to install a 1" pipe. This was done at every house in the neighborhood. My experience tells me that this curb and gutter and sidewalk will fail over time requiring repairs the City will not make, again "because we don't have money for that" Am I correct? Then why would we allow our infrastructure to be compromised in this manner? I would really like to know the who and why on this also.

This project should have been required to install their product in the dedicated PUE or re-pave the streets and remove and replace the curb and gutter and sidewalk as dictated by our own standards. Instead, it was sold to someone as a way for citizens can save 50 cents a month on their internet bill which is absurd. Again, I would like to know who is so gullible and why.

I have been retired for almost 9 years now but am still in touch with the construction industry and players in the area. I suspect that the "managers" (PW, IT, Engineering) involved were all directed to turn a blind eye to the issues I am raising and the directive came from top level management. I know all these guys and do not believe they would exhibit such a lack of professional ethics. I do not believe the lower level Managers or the upper level Managers have the authority to waive the provisions in the City Standards for a preferred provider without first changing the city standard for all.

I am not interested in a 30 minute lecture from the Mayor on how compromising our standards is "for the good of the whole". I want to know how promoting a private for profit utility company's interests are more important than maintaining our existing infrastructure that our own standards mandate.

If possible, could you look into this and let me and the public know what plans the City has to resurface (re-pave not slurry seal) our streets and replace our undermined curb, gutter and sidewalk after this disaster of a

project, and again and most important, who allowed this and why?

Sincerely,

Clarence Chance CII QSP

Chance Consulting

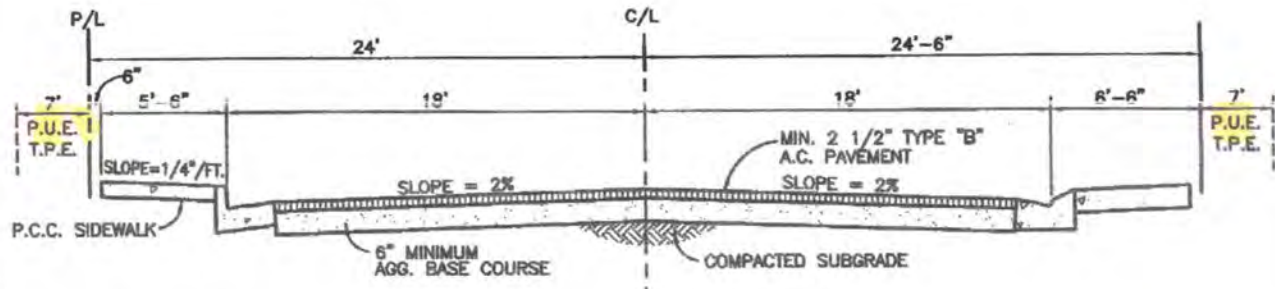


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MIN. DESIGN SPEED 15 M.P.H.
 MIN. C RADIUS 100 FT.
 T.I. = 3.5 SERVING 12 UNITS
 OR LESS (100 A.D.T. OR LESS)
 T.I. = 4 A.D.T. OVER 100



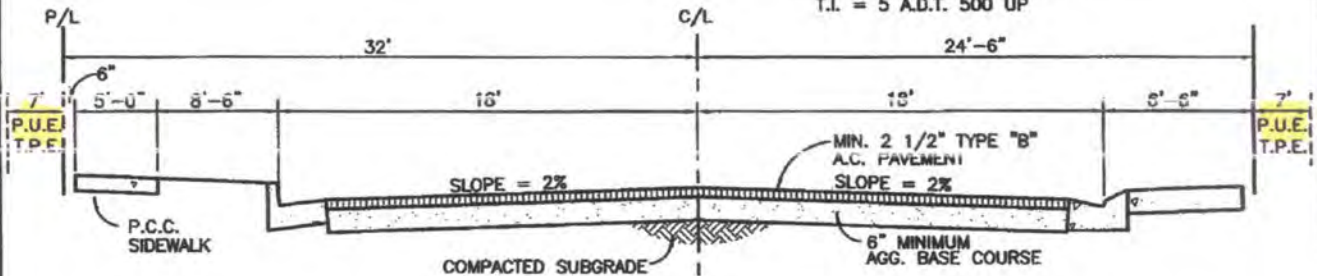
VERTICAL CURB (SCG-1)

48' RIGHT OF WAY
 FOR CUL-DE-SAC

DRIVE OVER CURB (SCG-1A)

49' RIGHT OF WAY
 FOR CUL-DE-SAC

MIN. DESIGN SPEED 25 M.P.H.
 MIN. C RADIUS 200 FT.
 T.I. = 4 A.D.T. TO 300
 T.I. = 4.5 A.D.T. 300 TO 500
 T.I. = 5 A.D.T. 500 UP



VERTICAL CURB (SCG-1)

64' RIGHT OF WAY

DRIVE OVER CURB (SCG-1A)

49' RIGHT OF WAY

NOTES:

1. WHERE 60' RW EXISTS, PARKWAY WIDTHS MAY BE REDUCED ACCORDINGLY.
2. NEWLY CONSTRUCTED OR RECONSTRUCTED STREETS AND ALLEYS SHALL NOT BE TRENCHED DURING THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD AFTER PAVING UNLESS APPROVED BY THE CITY ENGINEER.
3. PARK STRIPS ARE REQUIRED ON LOCAL STREETS (EXCEPT FOR CUL-DE-SACS).
4. PAVEMENT SECTIONS GREATER THAN 2 1/2-INCHES SHALL BE PLACED IN A MINIMUM OF TWO LIFTS.
5. INCREASE T.I. AND MINIMUM PAVING SECTION TO ACCOUNT FOR 3 REFUSE TRUCK TRIPS PER WEEK.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CITY OF MERCED, CA.

LOCAL STREETS

ST-1

DRAWN: KGE

APPROVED BY:

DATE

DATE: 2/01

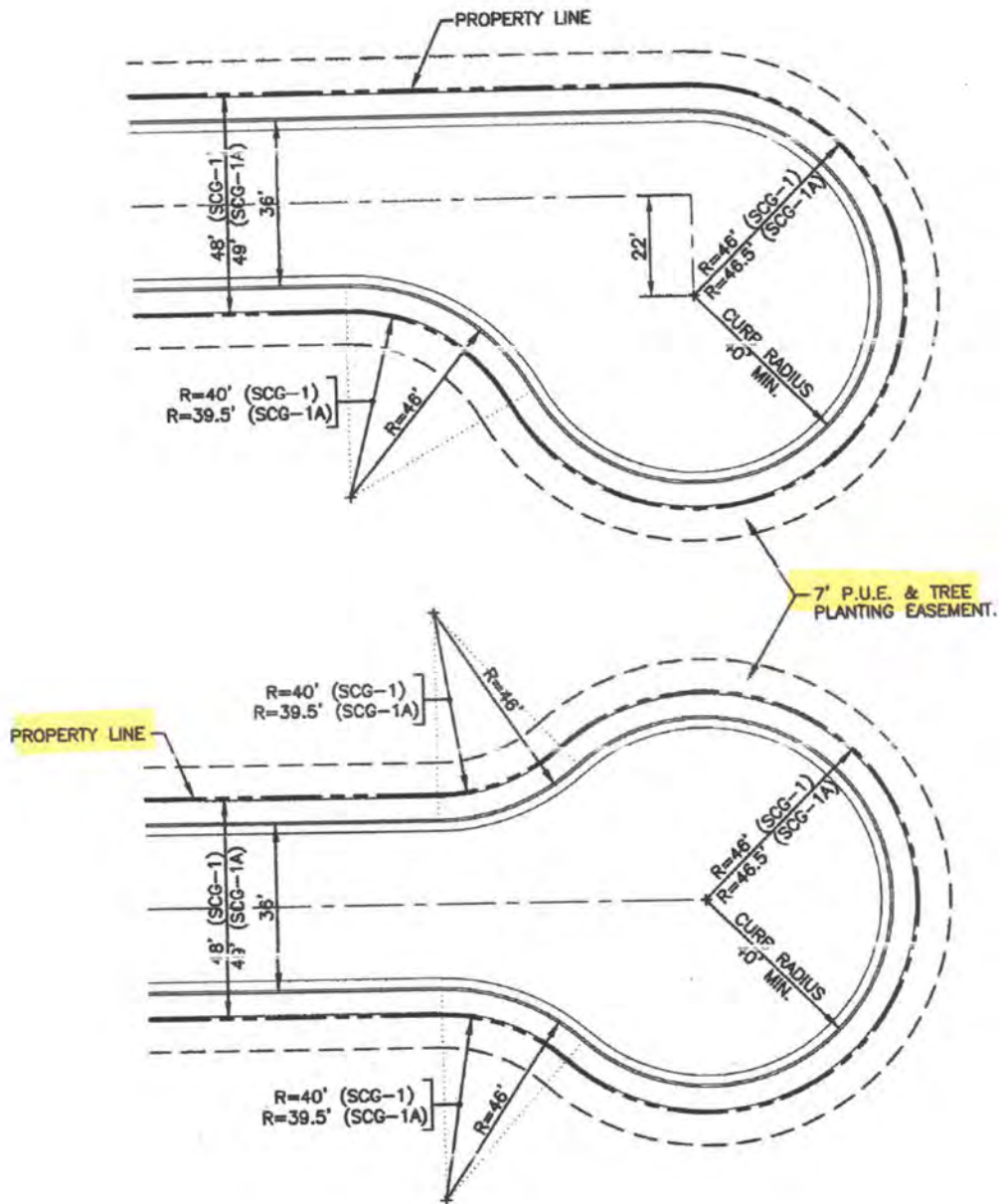
David L. Tucker
 CITY ENGINEER

3/17/08

REVISED: 3/17/08

SHEET

OF



NOTES:

1. SIDEWALK PATTERN TO BE DETERMINED BY THE CITY ENGINEER.
2. FOR SIDEWALK ADJACENT TO CURB, MONOLITHIC POUR OF SIDEWALK, CURB AND GUTTER IS NOT ALLOWED.

SCALE 1"=40'

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT		CITY OF MERCED, CA.	
STANDARD CUL-DE-SAC			ST-4
DRAWN: KGE	APPROVED BY: <i>David L. Tucker</i>	DATE: 4/4/06	SHEET OF
DATE: 12/01	CITY ENGINEER		
REVISED: 12/05			

All excavations shall be made in accordance with the Trench Construction Safety Orders issued by the Division of Industrial Safety of the Department of Industrial Relations of the State of California. Adequate provisions shall be made for protection of traveling public on all public roads affected by said excavation.

The contractor shall perform all excavations necessary or required to construct all manholes and all pipelines as specified by the City Engineer and as approved on the plans. Excavation shall include the removal of all materials of whatever nature encountered. Excavation shall be by open trench unless otherwise specified, following neat, parallel lines equi-distance from the centerline. The maximum width of trench at the level of the springline of the pipe to be laid therein shall not exceed the width of the outside diameter of the barrel of the pipe plus 24 inches. Such width of trench shall be kept as small as practical while providing sufficient working space for joining the pipe and for placing backfill material.

Where trenching necessitates removing portions of paved streets, the pavement at the edge of the proposed trench shall be cut in neat straight lines by sawing to 1 1/2 inch minimum depth and 6 inches wider than each side of the trench walls (City Standard Drawing T-1).

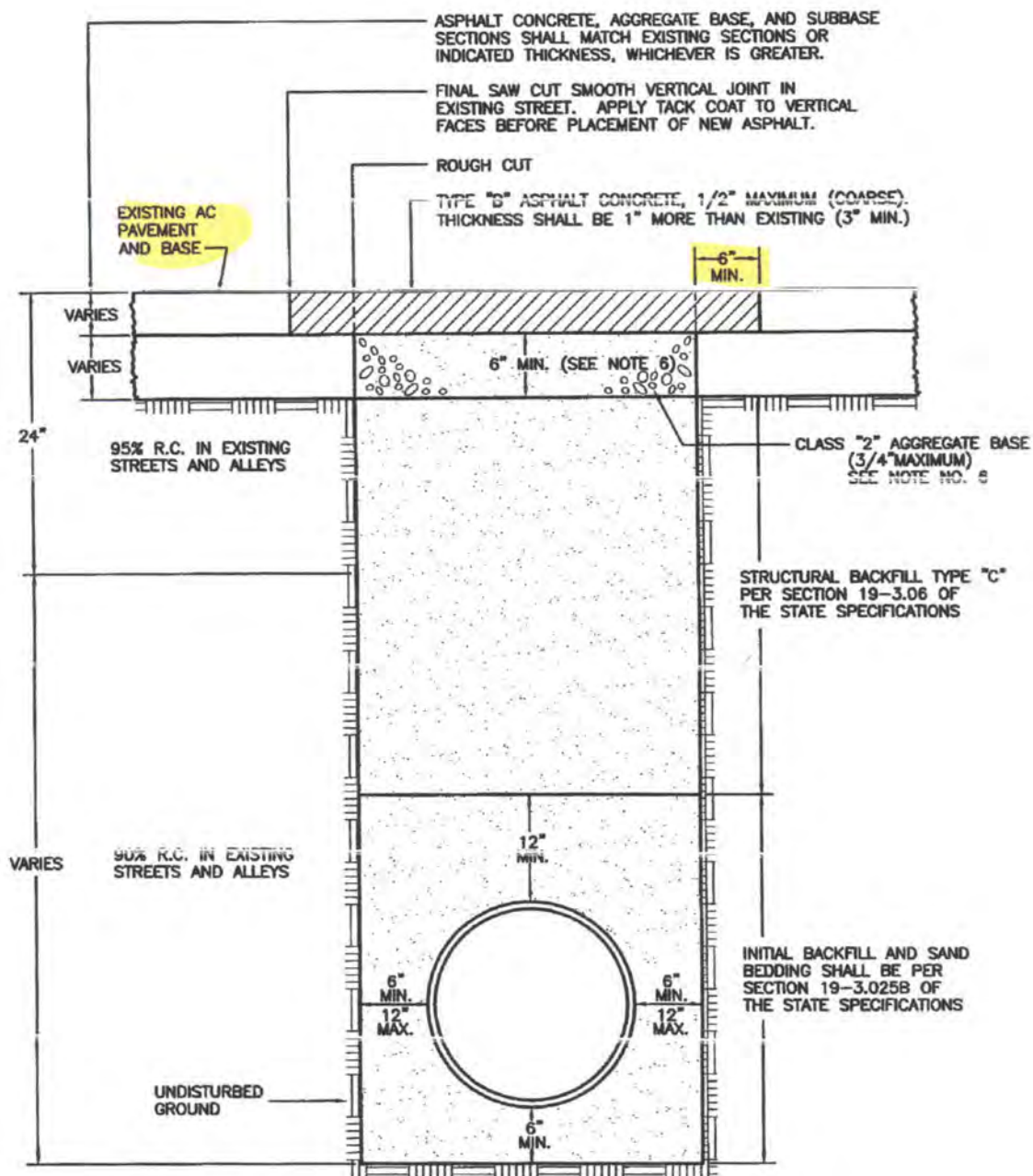
Sawing shall be done with an approved saw capable of cutting a minimum of 1 1/2 inches in depth. The sawing shall be done to the exact lines snapped with a chalk line. (Should the saw line be broken or damaged in any way after the required cut, any additional sawing required shall be done at the contractor's sole expense.)

When utilities are to be placed under existing curb and gutter or sidewalk, the following requirements apply: Remove a section of existing concrete; then install the conduit or pipe. After compacting the backfill, make saw cuts (minimum 1-1/2 inches deep) at least 6 inches wider than each side of the trench walls (City Standard Drawing T-1). Curb and gutters shall have 1/2-inch dowels installed at least 3 inches into existing concrete. One dowel shall be placed in the curb and two in the gutter section at each saw cut joint.

After pipe has been properly laid and inspected, said backfill material shall be placed around pipe at a depth of 12 inches above top of pipe and shall be thoroughly compacted to final density of at least 90 percent maximum density, in such a manner as not to injure or disturb pipe, before any further backfill will be allowed. All excavation within the existing street roadway shall be backfilled and compacted until the relative compaction is not less than 95 percent within the top 2 feet and 90 percent below the top 2 feet. Backfill material shall be placed in layers not to exceed 8 inches in depth and moistened as necessary before compaction. Each layer shall be thoroughly tamped, rolled, or otherwise compacted and brought to grade. Backfill in trenches between back of curb and property line shall be thoroughly consolidated to final density of at least 90 percent of maximum density. Compaction of backfill material by ponding or jetting will not be permitted. Field density may be determined by any method accepted by the City Engineer.

Excess native excavated material and broken pavement shall become the property of the contractor and shall be disposed of off limits of the work at a location to be provided by the contractor and approved by the Engineer.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT		CITY OF MERCED, CA.		
TRENCHING AND BACKFILL REQUIREMENTS		T-3		
DRAWN: MP	APPROVED BY:			DATE
ENG.	<i>Arthur M. Shoud</i>			12-12-94
REVISED:	CITY ENGINEER			
		SHEET	OF	



NOTES:

1. COMPACTION BY PONDING OR JETTING SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED.
2. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ARE SHOWN. SEE PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS FOR FURTHER REQUIREMENTS.
3. TRENCHES 5 FEET OR MORE IN DEPTH SHALL BE SHORED AS REQUIRED BY ARTICLE 6 DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONSTRUCTION SAFETY ORDERS (SEC. 6424 CALIF. LABOR CODE).
4. SEE CITY STANDARD T-2 FOR PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE PAVEMENT.
5. MAXIMUM LIFT THICKNESS FOR INITIAL AND STRUCTURAL BACKFILL SHALL BE .67 FEET BEFORE COMPACTION.
6. AGGREGATE BASE SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 13-INCHES THICK FOR ALL ARTERIAL STREETS, EXPRESSWAYS, AND TRANSITWAYS.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CITY OF MERCED, CA.

TRENCH EXCAVATION AND BACKFILL

DRAWN: MP

APPROVED BY:

DATE

DATE:

REVISED: 3/17/08

CITY ENGINEER

3/17/08

T-1

SHEET

OF

NOTES TO CONTRACTOR

1. CONCRETE SHALL BE 5-SACK MIX (CLASS B), SECTION 90, STATE OF CALIFORNIA SPECIFICATIONS.
2. CONCRETE SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM SLUMP OF 4 INCHES.
3. ONE-HALF-INCH FELT EXPANSION JOINTS TO BE INSTALLED AT 60-FOOT MAXIMUM INTERVALS AND CONTROL JOINTS AT 10-FEET O.C.; JOINTS IN SIDEWALK TO BE IN ALIGNMENT WITH THOSE IN THE CURB AND GUTTER WHEN THE TWO ARE ADJACENT.
4. NATIVE SUBGRADE UNDER ALL CURBS, GUTTERS, SIDEWALKS, AND DRIVEWAY APPROACHES SHALL BE COMPACTED TO 90 PERCENT RELATIVE COMPACTION TO A DEPTH OF 6 INCHES. MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE SUBGRADE, AGGREGATE SUBBASE, AND AGGREGATE BASE SHALL BE OPTIMUM BEFORE SURFACE IS PLACED. AGGREGATE SUBBASE AND AGGREGATE BASE ROCK SHALL BE COMPACTED TO 90 PERCENT RELATIVE COMPACTION
5. SIDEWALK SHALL BE SCORED AT 5-FOOT INTERVALS OR AS DIRECTED.
6. CONCRETE SHALL BE TREATED WITH WHITE PIGMENTED CURING COMPOUND PER SECTION 90-7.01B.
7. ONE-HALF-INCH FELT EXPANSION JOINT TO BE USED AT END OF CURB RETURN AT CURB AND SIDEWALK.
8. GUTTERS SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM GRADE 0.25 PERCENT WHERE FALL OF NATURAL GROUND IS GREATER THAN 0.25 PERCENT, AND NOT LESS THAN 0.20 PERCENT FOR TANGENTIAL SECTIONS AND 0.25 PERCENT FOR CURVILINEAR SECTIONS WHERE FALL OF GROUND IS LESS THAN 0.25 PERCENT.
9. CURB RETURNS SHALL HAVE 0.50 PERCENT FALL MINIMUM.
10. MINIMUM CURB RETURN RADIUS SHALL BE 25 FEET. WHERE ONE OR MORE COLLECTOR OR ARTERIALS INTERSECT OR ON LOCAL STREETS SERVING A TRUCK FACILITY OR SCHOOL, THE RADIUS SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 40 FEET.
11. CROSS GUTTERS SHALL HAVE 0.40 FEET FALL MINIMUM BETWEEN ENDS OF RETURNS.
12. SIDEWALKS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN NEW SUBDIVISIONS AFTER UNDERGROUND UTILITIES ARE IN PLACE AND TRENCH COMPACTION HAS BEEN APPROVED.
13. WHEN UTILITIES ARE TO BE PLACED UNDER EXISTING CURB AND GUTTER OR SIDEWALK, THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY: REMOVE A SECTION OF EXISTING CONCRETE; THEN INSTALL THE CONDUIT OR PIPE. AFTER COMPACTING THE BACKFILL, MAKE SAW CUTS (MINIMUM 1-1/2 INCHES DEEP) AT LEAST 6-INCHES WIDER THAN EACH SIDE OF THE TRENCH WALLS (CITY STANDARD DRAWING T-1). CURB AND GUTTER SHALL HAVE 1/2-INCH DOWELS INSTALLED A MINIMUM OF 3 INCHES INTO EXISTING CONCRETE. ONE DOWEL SHALL BE PLACED IN THE CURB AND TWO IN THE GUTTER SECTION AT EACH SAW CUT JOINT.
14. WHEN ROLLED CURB IS CONSTRUCTED, THE ADJACENT SIDEWALK SHALL BE 6 INCHES THICK OVER 4 INCHES OF AGGREGATE BASE ROCK.
15. TRANSITION FROM VERTICAL CURB TO ROLLED CURB SHALL BE 10 FEET LONG. OTHER CURB HEIGHT TRANSITIONS SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 5 FEET IN LENGTH.
16. SIDEWALK ADJACENT TO CURB/GUTTER SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUCTED MONOLITHIC. HOWEVER, WHERE REPAIRING NO MORE THAN 10 L.F. OF EXISTING ADJACENT SIDEWALK AND CURB/GUTTER, IT MAY BE BUILT MONOLITHIC. A 1 1/2" DEEP JOINT SHALL BE PROVIDED AT BACK OF CURB LINE.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CITY OF MERCED, CA.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - SIDEWALK, CURB AND GUTTER

SCG-4

DRAWN: KGE

APPROVED BY:

DATE

DATE: 1/93

CITY ENGINEER

3/17/08

REVISED: 3/17/08

SHEET

OF









From: [Michael Morin](#)
To: [cityclerk](#)
Cc: [McBride, Scott](#); serratto@cityofmerced.org; [Xiong, Fue](#); [Dupont, Darin](#); [De Anda, Ronnie](#); [Harris, Michael](#); [Smith, Shane](#); [Boyle, Sarah](#); [Cornwell, Craig](#)
Subject: Written Petition – Request for Inclusion in Record (August 4, 2025 Council Meeting)
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 7:20:29 PM
Attachments: [Work Order No WF0437651.pdf](#)
[Estimate #6515.pdf](#)
[COM Work Order Field Sheet - 28673.pdf](#)
[Backflow and Other follow-ups.pdf](#)
[COM Work Order Field Sheet - 18997.pdf](#)
[Work Order 6563.pdf](#)
[300 Q st work order public works.pdf](#)
[Public Comment into Record – August 4, 2025 Council Meeting.docx](#)

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Michael Morin, owner of MCM Plumbing. I had intended to speak during public comment at the August 4, 2025 City Council meeting, but I was unable to attend due to work running late.

I am submitting this letter as a written petition to the City Council, along with supporting documentation, regarding the unauthorized installation of private backflow devices by City personnel, and the continued lack of transparency, communication, or accountability from City leadership.

I respectfully request that this letter and attachments be entered into the official record under “Written Petitions and Communications” for the August 4, 2025 meeting.

For the record:

- I raised this issue months ago in meetings and emails with the City.
- I received brief responses early on from the City Manager, but no official written response or resolution has ever been provided.
- I was told that an outside investigator had been hired and that I would be interviewed. Later, I found out that investigator was no longer under contract, without notice or follow-up.
- I emailed both the City Manager and City Attorney requesting clarification — neither has responded.

Most importantly:

The City’s own work orders clearly show that City crews performed private backflow installations, despite previous claims or silence on the matter. These work orders confirm what I’ve been saying from the beginning — that City labor was used on private property without public bid, permit process, or accountability.

I’ve also included my estimate (Estimate #6515) for one of these jobs, which I now realize I had

not previously submitted to the City. That job alone was valued at over \$15,000 — and was taken from me when the City stepped in and performed the work for free.

This is not a personnel issue. It's a public trust issue. This involves the use of taxpayer-funded labor, selective enforcement, and competitive harm to licensed businesses. It deserves more than silence.

I've already submitted formal complaints to the CSLB and Merced County Grand Jury. I'm now requesting that this matter be formally acknowledged by this Council and investigated through a transparent, public process.

Please confirm receipt of this submission, and let me know if additional steps are needed to ensure it is entered into the record.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<https://mcimplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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WFJIJJR

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request

5/21/25

9:00:57

Request number : WF0441978 Open

EXCAVATE TO INSTALL BACKFLOW

Facility ID :

Node Range : 0 to 0

Customer ID : 0

LM location ID : 10511 300 Q ST

General location . . . :

Requestor : SANTILLAN JESS

Requesting department : PWMT PW - WATER

Request date/time . . : November 06 2024 / 5:27:53

Scheduled start date . : November 06 2024

Actual :

Requested completion . : November 06 2024

Scheduled :

Actual :

Close date :

More...

F3=Exit F5=More detail F7=AR customer F8=Contact F9=Charges
F10=Comments F12=Cancel F20=Customer functions F24=More keys
Work request has comments.

WFJKJLR

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request Comments

5/21/25

9:01:20

Request number : WF0441978

EXCAVATE TO INSTALL BACKFLOW

Request status : OP Open

Detail Description

WATER CREW TO EXCAVATE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW
BACKFLOW DEVICE. CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM INSTALL.
WATER CREW TO REPLACE METER IN VAULT WITH SPOOL
AND REMOVE VAULT.

Bottom

Press Enter to continue.

F3=Exit F12=Cancel



Backflows and other follow-ups

From McBride, Scott <McBrideS@cityofmerced.org>

Date Tue 3/11/2025 7:01 PM

To [REDACTED]

Mr. Morin,

I wanted to let you know I received the emails that came into our City Manager email address. I've reach out for some explanation from PW and the Water Division on the photo you shared.

I also received the email with the additional concerns you had. I am discussing with the City Attorney's Office about best options for reviewing and addressing the claims. Given the scale of everything it's going to take time to work through the issues.

I wanted to thank you and acknowledge that what you are sharing is being reviewed and considered.

Take care,



Scott McBride

City Manager

City of Merced | 678 W. 18th Street | Merced, CA 95340

(209) 385-6818 | (209) 564-0613 cell

mcbrides@cityofmerced.org | www.cityofmerced.org

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Re: Backflows and other follow-ups

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Date Tue 3/11/2025 8:00 PM
To McBride, Scott <McBrideS@cityofmerced.org>

Dear Mr. McBride,

I appreciate your response and acknowledgment of my concerns. My goal is to help the city find a fair and reasonable solution, but there is only so much I can do on my end. I do not wish to escalate this into a lawsuit, but I firmly believe that the citizens and businesses affected by these actions deserve fairness and accountability.

City Public Works employees are trained professionals who understand the regulations they are required to follow. When violations occur, responsibility ultimately falls on the managers and supervisors who make the decisions. The public deserves clear answers and a resolution to these ongoing issues.

The actions taken have created an unfair balance, revealing a concerning pattern of financial misconduct, selective enforcement, and retaliation. The businesses and taxpayers of Merced deserve governance that is transparent, accountable, and just. These issues are widely known within the departments, and perhaps you, too, are already aware of their full scope. The critical question now is: who will step up and take responsibility to do the right thing?

I appreciate your efforts in reviewing these matters and look forward to seeing meaningful steps toward resolution. If you need clarification on any specific matter to narrow things down, please feel free to reach out. The quickest way to reach me is via cell phone at [REDACTED]

Best regards,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279

AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445

DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it...we do it"



City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # 18997
Assigned To: VALENCIA JR, RICARDO

Priority	
Date Submitted	07/08/2024 04:21
Date Scheduled	
Date Requested	07/08/2024



LOCATION	CONTACT	CONTACT PHONE	REQUESTING DEPARTMENT
			WATER SYSTEM
CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE	

ACTIVITIES			
TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1	BCRP - BACKFLOW REPAIRS	BACKFLOW REPAIRS - Water crew to prep for swing check removal and new fire service backflow install at In-Shape gym located at 2951 G St.	-

COMMENTS		
COMMENT DATE	COMMENT BY	COMMENT DESCRIPTION
07/31/2024	6081ValenciaR	Prepped parts for swing check removal.
07/08/2024	6081ValenciaR	Excavated and prepped for swing check removal.

COST DETAIL						
TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
Total:						\$68.00

CUSTOM FIELDS					
FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES



City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # 28673
Assigned To: ABLES, DEVEN C

Priority

Date Submitted

02/06/2025 05:30

Date Scheduled

Date Requested

02/06/2025



LOCATION	CONTACT	CONTACT PHONE	REQUESTING DEPARTMENT
			WATER SYSTEM

CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE

ACTIVITIES			
TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1	BCRP - BACKFLOW REPAIRS	BACKFLOW REPAIRS - Water crew to remove fire swing check located on the Olivewood side of 900 W. Olive Ave.	

COMMENTS		
COMMENT DATE	COMMENT BY	COMMENT DESCRIPTION
03/19/2025	6081AblesD	Formed and poured concrete, covered with plywood when finished.
03/04/2025	6081AblesD	Cut out swing check and installed new fire, backflow, backfield sidewalk area, and caution taped off area that contractors need to pour kickers and backfill
02/06/2025	6081AblesD	Excavated to bottom of 45, removed vault, and plated. Contractor saw job for parts list.

COST DETAIL						
TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
					Total:	\$1160.96

CUSTOM FIELDS					
FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES

M C M PLUMBING LIC#1002279

PO Box 2011
335 Grogan Ave #G
Merced, CA 95344

Estimate

Date	Estimate #
8/20/2024	6515

Name / Address
Safti First 1880 Grogan Ave Merced, CA 95341

Ship To
Safti First (GPX Frame Manufacturing) 2001 Grogan Ave Merced, CA 95341

P.O. No.	Terms	Rep	Project	Other
	DUE ON JOB CO...	MM		

Description	Qty	Rate	Total
ESTIMATE TO INSTALL 3" BACKFLOW DEVICE AND APPROXIMATELY 15 TO 20FT OF 3" PVC TO ACCOMMODATE THE CITY MOVING THE WATER METER CLOSER TO THE STREET.			
3" WILKINS 375A			
LABOR	3	2,640.00	7,920.00
MATERIAL		6,075.97	6,075.97
VIO25 EXCAVATOR FLAT RATE DAILY	2	600.00	1,200.00
THIS PROPOSAL IS VALID FOR _15_ DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE PROPOSAL.			0.00
FULL REMANDING BALANCE OF \$15,195.97 DUE UPON JOB COMPLETION WITH A NET 15 TERM OF THE INVOICE DATE.			
ALL PAST DUE ACCOUNTS ARE SUBJECT TO MAXIMUM INTEREST ALLOWABLE BY LAW AND COLLECTION CHARGES INCURRED.			
PRINT AND SIGN BELOW AND RETURN IF YOU ACCEPT THESE TERMS:			
X _____ printed name of responsible party			
X _____ DATE _____ signature of responsible party			
Total		\$15,195.97	

August 5, 2025

Page 1 of 2

“Please include this letter and documentation in the public record for today’s City Council meeting. Delivered by Michael Morin regarding improper backflow installations by the City of Merced.”

Topic: *City Backflow Installations, Use of Public Labor, and Accountability*

Submitted by: Michael C. Morin – Owner, MCM Plumbing

For: Merced City Council Meeting – **August 4, 2025**

Good evening, Councilmembers and community members.

My name is Michael Morin, and I’m the owner of MCM Plumbing — a licensed contractor and certified backflow tester here in Merced.

I’m speaking out because I’ve been directly affected by something that should never happen in this City — and it’s time the public knows about it.

The City of Merced installed a backflow device on **private property**, using **City labor** and **taxpayer-funded resources**. The job was done **for free, without a permit, and without a bidding process**. I submitted a professional estimate for that exact project — over **\$15,000** — and the City took that work from me.

This wasn’t emergency work. It wasn’t public infrastructure. This was a private installation that should have gone to a licensed contractor — and it’s not the only time this has happened. I have documentation of **multiple cases** like this.

The worst part? No one has been held accountable.

Let me be clear: **this doesn’t just affect me.**

Every contractor, business owner, and commercial property owner in Merced should be aware of this — and they should be outraged.

Some businesses are forced to spend thousands of dollars to meet state backflow requirements, while others are quietly getting free installations from the City. That’s not fair. That’s not legal. And that’s not how a city should treat its business community.

If you’re a contractor, you’re being outbid by your own local government.

If you’re a property owner, you’re paying out of pocket — while someone else gets the same work done with your tax dollars.

This violates the City’s own **2024–2025 Council Goals**, which promise:

- “Ethical leadership and transparency”
- “Support for local businesses”

August 5, 2025

Page 2 of 2

- And “clear policies and fair enforcement”

And **Resolution 2024-65** requires City officials to follow both the **letter and spirit of the law**, and to act with **integrity and accountability**.

Yet here we are. I followed the rules. I pulled the permits. I submitted the estimates.

The City ignored its own process, undercut my business, and gave away public labor — all while staying silent.

I’ve submitted documentation. I’ve raised it with staff. I’ve reported it to the **CSLB** and the **Merced County Grand Jury**.

And I’ve **never received a formal update or explanation from the City**.

So I’m saying this clearly:

The individuals responsible for authorizing and carrying out this work should be terminated.

This isn’t a policy disagreement — it’s a violation of state law, City policy, and public trust. Someone made the decision to misuse public labor for private work. That person — or persons — should be held accountable, and they should not remain in a position of public authority.

I’m asking this Council:

- Who approved this?
- Why was it done in secret, without permits, without bidding, and without fairness?
- And what disciplinary action — including termination — will you take to ensure this never happens again?

This is not going away. And I’m not the only one watching.

Thank you.

Michael C. Morin
Owner
MCM Plumbing
CSLB#1002279



City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # 6563
Assigned To: ABLES, DEVEN C

Priority	
Date Submitted	08/22/2023 05:20
Date Scheduled	
Date Requested	08/22/2023



LOCATION	CONTACT	CONTACT PHONE	REQUESTING DEPARTMENT
808 W 16TH ST			WATER SYSTEM

CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE

ACTIVITIES			
TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1	BCIN - INSTALL BACKFLOW	REMOVE EXISTING SWING CHECK AND INSTALL NEW 4" FIRE DOUBLE CHECK BACKFLOW	-
2	BCIN - INSTALL BACKFLOW	INSTALL BACKFLOW	-
3	BCIN - INSTALL BACKFLOW	INSTALL BACKFLOW	-

COMMENTS		
COMMENT DATE	COMMENT BY	COMMENT DESCRIPTION
06/26/2024	6081SantillanJ	Removed swing check and installed new 4" backflow. Work complete 9/1/2023 DA
09/06/2023	6081AblesD	inventory listed in comments that were not found in system
09/06/2023	6081AblesD	1- 4" mj/fl elbow 2-4" fl/fl elbow
08/22/2023	6081OpinskiG	Hydro excavated down to investigate the backside and get parts ordered for new backflow.
08/22/2023	6081OpinskiG	Hydro excavated down to investigate the backside and get parts ordered for new backflow.

COST DETAIL						
TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
Total:						\$1126.51

CUSTOM FIELDS					
FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Request number : WF0437651 Closed
 INVESTIGATE WATER SERVICE
Facility ID :
 Node Range : 0 to 0
Customer ID : 0
LM location ID : 16906 2001 GROGAN AV
General location :
Requestor : SANTILLAN JESS
Requesting department : PWMT PW - WATER
Request date/time . . : August 15 2024 / 5:56:07
Scheduled start date . : August 15 2024
 Actual :
Requested completion . : August 15 2024
 Scheduled :
 Actual : October 04 2024
Close date : October 04 2024

More...

F3=Exit F5=More detail F7=AR customer F8=Contact F9=Charges
F10=Comments F12=Cancel F20=Customer functions F24=More keys

Request number : WF0437651
INVESTIGATE WATER SERVICE
Request status : CL Closed

Detail Description

WATER CREW TO POT HOLE FROM FIRE SERVICE TO
DOMESTIC AND DETERMINE WHERE SERVICES ARE TIED TO
EACH OTHER.
FOUND DOMESTIC SERVICE TIED TO FIRE SERVICE.
INSTALLED NEW 4" SERVICE LINE AND TIED INTO
CUSTOMERS 3" DOMESTIC LINE WITH NEW 3" BACKFLOW.
FOUND FIRE HYDRANT ON SITE TO BE INTERNAL OFF OF
CUSTOMERS FIRE SERVICE. JS

Bottom

Press Enter to continue.

F3=Exit F12=Cancel

From: [Michael Morin](#)
To: [cityclerk](#); [Cornwell, Craig](#)
Cc: [McBride, Scott](#); [Serratto, Matthew](#); [Xiong, Fue](#); [Dupont, Darin](#); [De Anda, Ronnie](#); [Harris, Michael](#); [Smith, Shane](#); [Boyle, Sarah](#); [MCM Plumbing](#)
Subject: Request for Confirmation of August 4 Petition Entry and Public Transparency Regarding Ongoing Investigation
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:15:03 AM

Dear City Clerk and City Attorney,

This message is a formal follow-up to my **August 4, 2025 written petition** submitted for inclusion in the official record of the City Council meeting that evening.

I respectfully request written confirmation that my petition and all accompanying documentation have been **entered into the public record under “Written Petitions and Communications.”** If, for any reason, the petition was not added to the August 4 agenda record, I request that it be officially included in the **next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.**

I appreciate City Manager Scott McBride’s brief response acknowledging that the City Attorney has re-engaged with the outside investigator. However, I have still not received any direct communication regarding the scope, timeline, or my role in that process despite being the complainant and having submitted documentation months ago.

This continued lack of transparency is unacceptable. I am formally requesting to be **included in all future updates, timelines, and correspondence** related to the investigation. The issues raised involve:

- Unauthorized work by City of Merced Public Works employees on private property;
- Work performed without permits or inspections;
- Misuse of taxpayer-funded labor;
- Economic harm to my licensed business.

These are not internal personnel matters they are public concerns involving compliance with state and local law, city policy, and competitive fairness.

Because prior communications and complaints were met with silence or minimal acknowledgment, I am now requesting that this entire matter be handled with full **public transparency.** The investigation, its process, and its outcome should be visible to the community. The public deserves to know how the City handles complaints involving its own departments.

Please confirm:

- That my petition has been entered into the record, or will be added to the next Council meeting;

- That I will be informed and involved in the investigative process going forward;
- Who is conducting the investigation and what the scope entails.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Outlook for iOS

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344



<https://mcimplumbing209.com>

“If water runs through it... we do it.”

—

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From: [Michael Morin](#)
To: [cityclerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment Submission for City Council Meeting – General Public Comment
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:15:04 PM
Attachments: [Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations.pdf](#)

Hello City Clerk,

Please accept the attached public comment and handout for inclusion in the official record for the upcoming Merced City Council meeting under *General Public Comment*.

I will also be speaking in person during the meeting.

The handout contains supporting information and examples related to my comment and is intended for distribution to Councilmembers and posting with the meeting materials.

Attachments:

1. Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations (PDF)

Thank you for your assistance. Please let me know if you require any additional information or a different file format.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344



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Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations

This handout is a follow-up to my recent petition regarding the City's handling of private backflow installations.

That petition was designed to get attention — and it focuses on one clear, documented problem.

But the reality is that the backflow issue is only **one piece of a larger, systemic problem** affecting multiple departments, projects, and years of City operations.

These broader concerns must be addressed if we want permanent solutions, not just temporary fixes.

Broader Concerns Beyond the Petition

- Mismanagement and lack of oversight on City projects and enforcement responsibilities.
- Breakdowns in communication and transparency between City departments, leading to delays and confusion.
- Inconsistent enforcement of laws and codes — strict for some, overlooked for others.
- City involvement in work on private property without permits, inspections, or licensed contractors.
- Use of former and current employees in ways that skirt licensing and permitting rules.
- Decisions and actions that harm local businesses, delay projects, and increase costs for property owners.
- A pattern of internal handling of complaints without lasting solutions or public accountability.

Why This Matters to the Community

- Local contractors are being placed at a competitive disadvantage by City actions and selective enforcement.
- Property owners face unnecessary costs, delays, or inconsistent requirements depending on how the City handles their projects.
- Taxpayer-funded resources are being used in ways that may not comply with state law or City policy.

- Trust in local government is eroded when the same problems repeat without clear, public resolutions.

Requested Council Actions

1. Authorize a comprehensive, independent investigation into all related issues — not just backflow installations.
2. Make the investigation's findings fully public.
3. Implement permanent policy and oversight changes to ensure fairness, compliance, and transparency across all City operations.

STOP MISUSE OF PUBLIC LABOR AND PROTECT LOCAL BUSINESSES

SCAN TO SIGN PETITION




change.org

Follow-Up on Unpermitted Work and Alley Obstruction at 1627 G Street

From Michael Morin <m.morin@mcmp209.com>

Date Fri 4/18/2025 12:28 PM

To encroachmentpermit <encroachmentpermit@cityofmerced.org>; McBride, Scott <McBrideS@cityofmerced.org>; Frazier, Denise <FrazierD@cityofmerced.org>; swiftcentral@cslb.ca.gov <swiftcentral@cslb.ca.gov>

 1 attachment (2 MB)

processed-DBE95C56-A47A-4E19-A0F3-AA2ACF261C65.jpeg;

To who it may concern,

I am writing to follow up on my recent report to the **City of Merced Building Department** regarding unlicensed and unpermitted construction activity taking place at **1627 G Street**. I also notified the Engineering Department, as the ongoing work is obstructing the alleyway behind the property.

Despite raising these concerns, I was informed that the City would not be enforcing the matter, and no corrective action has been taken. The alley remains blocked, and unpermitted work appears to be continuing without oversight.

As a licensed contractor, I find this deeply concerning. Unpermitted activity not only poses safety and liability risks—it also undermines the fairness of the permitting process and harms businesses that follow the law. I respectfully request a formal response regarding the City's position on this issue and what steps will be taken to investigate and enforce applicable codes.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Outlook for iOS

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

(209) 261-2740

m.morin@mcmp209.com

<https://mcmplumbing209.com>




Backflow install picture

From Michael Morin <m.morin@mcmp209.com>

Date Tue 3/11/2025 9:58 AM

To citymanager@cityofmerced.org <citymanager@cityofmerced.org>; Frazier, Denise
<FrazierD@cityofmerced.org>; ElwinK@cityofmerced.org <ElwinK@cityofmerced.org>

 1 attachment (6 MB)

processed-3E1E7CF8-E330-426E-BEA1-987414889FD5.jpeg;

Dear Scott ,

Can someone clarify what's going on here? I thought we had a meeting regarding Public Works assisting contractors, yet this issue is still occurring. This incident is from last week—not only is the city providing assistance, but there is also a lack of proper sidewalk signage.

Please let me know why this is continuing to happen and what steps are being taken to address it.

Looking forward to your response.

Outlook for iOS

Cheers,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829
DIR #PW-LR-1000735132
DUNS #06-168-5063
PO Box 2011
Merced, CA 95344
(209) 261-2740
m.morin@mcmp209.com
[Check out our website!](#)

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Follow-Up on Field Visit to 2800 St. Bonaventure Drive and Request for Site Access

From Michael Morin <m.morin@mcmp209.com>

Date Thu 4/3/2025 8:22 PM

To McBride, Scott <mcbrides@cityofmerced.org>

Cc BaptistaJ@cityofmerced.org <BaptistaJ@cityofmerced.org>

 5 attachments (29 MB)

Follow-Up on Field Visit to 2800 St. Bonaventure Drive and Request for Site Access 04-03-25.pdf; Angle type FDC.pdf; 1000DCV.pdf; 825 YD.pdf; PIV Fire Valve.pdf;

Dear Scott,

Thank you again for coordinating the field trip to 2800 St. Bonaventure Drive. I want to formally follow up with several key concerns and request a second opportunity to fully inspect the site.

At the start of our meeting, you mentioned that we could not access the site because Public Works staff were no longer available. However, Public Works Manager Johnnie Baptista was present during the meeting, and the City has on-call personnel available after hours with a 30 min response requirement. This contradiction raises concerns about the City's transparency and accountability. It also leads me to question whether the City is taking this matter seriously—or if efforts are being made to obscure the facts.

Additionally, in your original correspondence you indicated that the **Public Works Director** and **City Engineer** would be present. However, only **Johnnie Baptista** and **Frank Quintero** attended the meeting. Their presence did not align with the roles you initially communicated, and as such, the intended transparency and oversight were lacking. This further contributes to concerns that the City may not be approaching this matter with the seriousness and impartiality it requires.

During our conversation, Mr. Baptista openly stated that City Public Works installed the backflow device for **SAFTI First**. He further mentioned that the City installs backflows "all the time." This is extremely concerning, as it suggests an ongoing pattern of Public Works performing regulated, licensed plumbing work without the required credentials or oversight.

According to **Title 16, California Code of Regulations § 832.18**, the installation or repair of backflow prevention devices is classified as plumbing work, which legally requires a **C-36 Plumbing Contractor license**. Under **Business and Professions Code § 7028**, performing or authorizing such work without the appropriate license is unlawful and may constitute a misdemeanor.

In addition, **Labor Code § 1720** defines this type of installation as public works, which is subject to strict compliance with prevailing wage requirements, contractor licensing, and public bidding laws. When City labor and resources are used to perform work for a **private commercial entity**—such as SAFTI First—it raises serious legal and ethical concerns about misuse of public funds and improper competition.

This situation also implicates California's **Unfair Competition Law (Business and Professions Code § 17500 et seq.)**, which prohibits unlawful or unfair business practices. When a public agency bypasses licensed contractors and performs regulated work with taxpayer-funded labor, it directly undermines

local, law-abiding businesses like mine—**MCM Plumbing**, which operates under full compliance with State licensing requirements.

California courts have consistently held that public entities may not displace the private sector without clear legal authority and a compelling public interest. In *Domar Electric, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1994), the California Supreme Court reaffirmed that public agencies cannot avoid competitive bidding or legal contracting procedures simply by asserting the work can be done in-house.

As I mentioned during the visit, I may contact the **State**—meaning the **California Contractors State License Board (CSLB)**, the **Department of Industrial Relations (DIR)**, or other relevant agencies—to formally report this situation and request enforcement guidance. These agencies are best positioned to clarify the legal limits of what Public Works staff may do and provide necessary education if needed. I am also considering raising this issue publicly, as transparency and accountability are critical when taxpayer-funded departments appear to be operating outside the law.

Please see the **attached picture**, which further supports my concerns about what lies behind the walls at **Well Site 1**.

Also discussed during the meeting was what exists behind the walls at Well Site 1—including **fire check valves, Fire Department Connection (FDC) components, and (PIV) shutoff valves** that are only found on **private property**. These devices and apparatuses do **not** belong to or exist within the City's public water system and should **never be installed or removed** by a municipal Public Works department, especially when acting outside the scope of their legal authority. These components are part of a **private fire suppression system and water supply**, both of which fall under **licensed plumbing and fire protection contracting work**. Public Works is neither licensed nor authorized to perform installations, removals, or modifications of these systems.

I also want to note that I explicitly told the City during the meeting to **stop performing this type of work**, as it directly affects my business. MCM Plumbing is regularly hired to install these backflow prevention systems, and these projects can cost **thousands of dollars** for property owners when done properly through licensed contractors. For Public Works to do the same work—without a license, without proper permitting, and without competitive bidding—creates a **completely unfair marketplace** and leaves private owners and local businesses at a financial disadvantage. This is not just a regulatory violation; it is actively harmful to fair competition and small business livelihood in the community.

In the meantime, I respectfully request a second opportunity to access the site and fully document the conditions, with the cooperation of Public Works staff. Please let me know your availability to schedule this follow-up.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279

AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445

DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

(209) 261-2740

m.morin@mcmp209.com

<https://mcmplumbing209.com>



From: [Michael Morin](#)
To: [cityclerk](#)
Cc: [MCM Plumbing](#)
Subject: Update to public comment handout
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 1:36:56 PM
Attachments: [Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations UPDATED.pdf](#)

Dear City Clerk,

I'm following up on the public comment handout I sent earlier this week for the upcoming Merced City Council meeting.

Attached is an **updated and expanded version** of:

“Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations UPDATED”

This version includes **additional examples, evidence, and clarifications** not in the original file. Please replace the previous version in the meeting materials and distribute this updated one to Councilmembers.

This handout is still directly tied to my planned in-person remarks and should be included in the official record under General Public Comment.

Thank you for ensuring the Council and public have the most complete and accurate version.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

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This handout is a follow-up to my recent petition on private backflow installations. That petition was designed to spotlight one clear, documented problem — but it's part of a much larger, long-standing pattern of misconduct and mismanagement by multiple City departments. This pattern harms businesses, misuses taxpayer resources, and erodes public trust. I am calling for a full, independent investigation and lasting policy changes — not just quick fixes.

The city names and job locations were redacted to protect the privacy of individuals and sensitive business information. This was done in accordance with legal and ethical guidelines to prevent the disclosure of confidential or identifying details while still addressing the key concerns related to the work and practices involved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – BROADER PATTERN OF ISSUES IN CITY OPERATIONS

(Follow-Up to Petition on Private Backflow Installations)

Michael C. Morin – Owner & Operator, MCM Plumbing

PO Box 2011, Merced, CA 95344 | CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

WHY I'M HERE

My recent petition focused on one clear problem — **City crews performing private backflow installations without permits, inspections, or licensed contractors**. But this is only part of a **larger, long-standing pattern** across multiple City departments that **harms local businesses, wastes taxpayer resources, and undermines public trust**. I'm calling for a **full, independent investigation** and **lasting policy reforms** — not temporary fixes.

THE PATTERN OF PROBLEMS

- **Mismanagement & Lack of Oversight** – City crews performing work on private property without permits or inspections; use of current or former employees to skirt licensing and permitting rules; poor oversight of projects and enforcement responsibilities.
- **Inconsistent & Selective Enforcement** – Strict enforcement on some businesses, leniency for others — including favored contractors; code requirements applied unevenly.
- **Harm to Local Businesses & Property Owners** – Licensed contractors lose work to unpermitted, taxpayer-funded labor; property owners face inconsistent requirements, delays, and higher costs.
- **Lack of Transparency & Accountability** – Complaints handled internally with no public resolution; contradictory City communications about permits.

WHY THIS MATTERS TO EVERYONE

When the City breaks the rules it enforces on others:

- **It's unlawful** and violates state contractor licensing laws.
- **It's costly** — taxpayer funds and equipment are used for private benefit.
- **It's unfair** — creating a two-tier system where some play by the rules and others don't.
- **It erodes trust** — repeating problems without public accountability damages confidence in local government.

DOCUMENTED EXAMPLES (SUMMARY)

- Multiple City-assisted private installations where my licensed business submitted bids, only to be undercut by taxpayer-funded work.
- Former City employee performing unlicensed work without permits; no enforcement action taken.
- City crews modifying private fire protection systems (PIVs, FDCs, check valves) without building permits or licensed contractor oversight.
- Public Works not following same restoration and code standards imposed on private contractors.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS

- **Independent Investigation** – Commission a third-party investigation with subpoena power into all related issues — not just backflow installations.
- **Full Public Disclosure** – Publish the complete findings, including internal records reviewed, within 60 days of completion.
- **Policy Reform** – Prohibit City crews from performing or assisting with private construction work except in genuine emergencies, with written justification and public reporting.
- **Oversight & Transparency** – Require annual public reports on enforcement actions, permitting activity, and code compliance to ensure fairness and prevent favoritism.

BOTTOM LINE: This is not about one project, one department, or one complaint. It's about a **culture of selective enforcement, misuse of public resources, and lack of accountability** that hurts businesses, property owners, and the public trust. The Council must act decisively to fix it — and to prove that **the rules apply to everyone**.

STOP MISUSE OF PUBLIC LABOR AND PROTECT LOCAL BUSINESSES

SCAN TO SIGN PETITION



change.org

I'll review the document you attached and share with other departments.

We look forward to seeing you next week. Best of luck with your testing this weekend.

Respectfully,



City of Merced | 678 W. 18th Street | Merced, CA 95340

cityofmerced.org | www.cityofmerced.org

From: Michael Morin

Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 7:08 PM

To: cityofmerced.org

Cc: cityofmerced.org

Subject: Formal Complaint Against City of Merced Public Works & Building Departments

Importance: High

Dear

I hope this email finds you well, I have not heard back from you. Please find attached a formal complaint regarding serious concerns with the City of Merced's Public Works, Building, and Engineering Departments.

The issues outlined in my complaint are not isolated incidents but rather the result of an **accumulation of ongoing problems** that have negatively impacted my business, MCM Plumbing, over time. Unfortunately, these repeated issues have left me with no choice but to formally address them in an effort to seek fair treatment, accountability, and proper enforcement of regulations. I trust that the city will take these concerns seriously and act in good faith to resolve them.

I am requesting a formal response within 30 days detailing the steps being taken to address these matters. Please confirm receipt of this email and the attached document at your earliest convenience.

Additionally, I still look forward to the meeting on Wednesday, if it is still available. I would appreciate the opportunity for an **open discussion to come to a resolution** and am happy to assist in addressing any questions or concerns you may have. My goal is to work collaboratively toward a fair outcome that benefits both the city and local businesses.

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent issue. I look forward to your prompt response.

Best regards,

Michael C. Morin

Michael C. Morin
Owner & Operator, MCM Plumbing
PO Box 2011
Merced, CA 95344

February 27, 2025

To: City Manager

cc: Mayor

Subject: Formal Complaint Against City of Merced Public Works & Building Departments – Demand for Immediate Action & Accountability

Dear

I am formally submitting this complaint against the City of Merced's Public Works, Building, and Engineering Departments regarding misconduct, anti-competitive practices, misuse of public resources, inconsistent enforcement, permitting mismanagement, and lack of accountability. These actions have directly impacted my business, MCM Plumbing, and raise serious concerns about ethics, transparency, and the proper enforcement of regulations. Furthermore, these issues are not just affecting my business but are creating an unfair and unpredictable environment for other local businesses as well.

While this complaint highlights some of the most pressing issues, I want to be clear that I have had multiple additional interactions with Public Works and city officials that I am choosing not to provide at this time. However, I am fully prepared to escalate further if necessary.

1. Misuse of Public Works Labor & Equipment for Private Gain

City of Merced Public Works employees have provided unauthorized, taxpayer-funded labor for backflow installations on private properties. This directly violates fair competition and undercuts licensed contractors who must charge for such services.

Case Examples:

- – Public Works installed a backflow device for free on private business property, despite my company providing a legitimate estimate for the work at \$15,195.97. This is a blatant misuse of taxpayer-funded resources, and this is not an isolated case.
- Public Works installed a backflow device for free on a private business property, another clear example of taxpayer-funded resources being misused.

Demands:

- A full audit of all backflow installations performed by Public Works over the last five years.
- Immediate termination of any officials who authorized these actions.

2. Public Works Employee Misconduct

██████████ – False Identification & Reckless Behavior

On ██████████, City employee ██████████ falsely identified himself as a city inspector while engaging in reckless and dangerous behavior at a job site located at ██████████

- He drove erratically through an active work zone, nearly hitting a ██████████ employee.
- He refused to provide identification but claimed to be on an official inspection.
- He used city resources to track down private addresses—an abuse of authority.

Although ██████████ ██████████ his misconduct was never properly addressed. His actions endangered public safety and undermined the integrity of city inspections.

Request: A formal ██████████ investigation into his misconduct and a public explanation for why no disciplinary action was taken ██████████

██████████ – Harassment & Misuse of Public Resources

██████████ repeatedly harassed my business, visiting job sites without proper authority and falsely informing customers that I was unlicensed—an outright lie. Additionally, ██████████ used Public Works ██████████—a clear misuse of taxpayer resources.

During a meeting with the ██████████, in the presence of my attorney, ██████████ unintentionally incriminated himself, forcing city officials to abruptly halt the discussion.

Key Concerns:

- Why was no disciplinary action taken against him?
- Why was his misuse of city equipment ignored?
- Why was my business unfairly targeted by a city employee?

3. Permitting Delays & Lack of Transparency

The Building Department has consistently failed to provide clear, consistent guidance on permitting, causing unnecessary financial losses for businesses.

Examples of Mismanagement:

- ██████████ Initially told a permit was not required, later forced to apply for one after conflicting guidance, causing delays.
- ██████████ – Conflicting instructions about required hydrostatic testing led to unnecessary delays.

Demands:

1. Overhaul the permitting process to ensure clear, standardized guidance without delays or conflicting instructions.

2. Accountability for mismanaged permits that have caused financial harm to businesses.

4. Inconsistent Enforcement of Code Requirements

The Building and Engineering Departments have failed to consistently enforce regulations, creating an unfair environment for businesses that follow the rules while others bypass them without consequence.

Case Examples:

- [REDACTED] **Code Enforcement Discrepancies** – Strict enforcement of a ten-foot separation between sewer and water lines on my projects, while other contractors were allowed to bypass them.
- [REDACTED], Merced, CA) – My estimate included required trenching and asphalt/concrete restoration, while other contractors were not held to the same standard.
- [REDACTED], Merced, CA [REDACTED]) – The awarded contractor did not meet the 10-ft separation requirement, raising concerns about favoritism.

Requested Actions:

1. Standardized, transparent enforcement of City regulations.
2. Clear, written policies for code enforcement that prevent arbitrary enforcement.
3. A formal review of past approvals to determine whether similar violations of the 10-foot separation rule were ignored for select contractors.

5. Immediate Demands for Action


I expect the City of Merced to take the following immediate actions:

1. Terminate any Public Works employees responsible for authorizing free backflow installations on private properties.
2. Publicly disclose all taxpayer-funded backflow installations over the past five years.
3. Discipline Public Works employee [REDACTED] for past misconduct.
4. Conduct a post-employment investigation into [REDACTED] misconduct.
5. Reform the permitting and code enforcement processes.
6. Investigate whether inconsistent enforcement has given certain contractors an unfair advantage.

I trust the City of Merced will act in good faith to resolve these matters. However, I am prepared to explore all available options should this misconduct persist.

I expect a formal response within 30 days outlining the steps being taken to resolve these issues. Please confirm receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Morin
Owner & Operator, MCM Plumbing



Additional Discussion Points from Meeting

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Date Thu 3/6/2025 9:30 AM
To [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>

I am following up to formally document the information I shared during our recent meeting regarding additional job locations and other concerns.

Additional Job Locations

[REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Merced, CA [REDACTED]
MCM Plumbing provided [REDACTED] with an estimate of \$32,227.50; however, the customer selected a different contractor. The City assisted that contractor by removing the swing check valve and vault and installing a shutoff on private property, allowing the contractor to install the device inside the building. MCM Plumbing was not given the same option by the City.

[REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Merced, CA [REDACTED]
MCM Plumbing provided an estimate of \$27,181.29 to install the backflow device without requiring City assistance. However, the City assisted the selected contractor with installation using public works equipment.

Additional Concern Regarding Contractor Payments

During our meeting, I also brought up concerns regarding contractors providing money to Public Works officials. This is a serious matter that I did not initially intend to escalate, but since it was mentioned in our discussion, I want to ensure it is documented for the record. I have personally witnessed such occurrences and also have a recorded confession from an individual confirming these facts.

Public Works Not Following the Same Codes & Requirements

Another concern I raised during our meeting is that Public Works does not follow the same codes and requirements that contractors working on public property are required to adhere to. One specific example is the requirement for contractors to remove concrete from expansion

joint to expansion joint, while Public Works does not follow this same standard. This creates an unfair discrepancy in work process and compliance expectations.

Observation of Police Presence at Public Works

I also want to document that I observed police officers at the Public Works department. While I do not know the reason for their presence, given the concerns raised in our meeting, it seemed unusual. Considering everything else going on, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] While I am not making any direct allegations, I felt this was worth noting as part of the broader concerns surrounding fairness, transparency, and adherence to proper procedures.

Public Works Director's Response & Growing Frustration

During our meeting, the excuses provided by the Public Works Director only added to the frustration regarding the ongoing issues with the department. Instead of addressing concerns transparently and fairly, the responses seemed to justify actions without accountability. This further proves that Public Works officials believe they can make up any excuse for their actions without consequence. The lack of a clear, consistent, and fair approach only reinforces the concerns that I, and others in the industry, continue to have.

Regarding Request for Backflow Installation Pictures

I understand there was a request for me to provide pictures of backflow installations. While I have gathered the images, I am choosing not to provide them at this time. My primary concern is ensuring that Public Works ceases performing work that directly affects my business and creates an unfair competitive advantage for other contractors.

Since this information was presented during our meeting, I want to ensure it is officially recorded for future reference. Please confirm receipt of this email for documentation purposes.

Thank you,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279

AWWA #13829





CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

This is the letter sent by the City to property owners requiring backflow installations. The letter contains contradictory information: page one states that no permit is required, while page two specifies that permits are, in fact, required. This contradiction was raised during the first meeting, and it is concerning because it essentially creates a loophole for unlicensed activity. Additionally, even though page two states that permits are required, contractors are sometimes turned away when attempting to obtain a permit from the City.

Re: Acct# [REDACTED]

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City Limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.

- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.

- Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 must replace with _____
 - Size 1.5"
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address [REDACTED] does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email [REDACTED]

Thank You

678 WEST 18TH STREET, MERCED, CA 95340

These audits are carried out in accordance with the City of Merced Cross Connection Compliance Program, as mandated by the State of California Code of Regulation, Titles 17 and 22. These audits support ongoing efforts to ensure the safety and quality of the City's drinking water. See City of Merced Municipal Code (MMC), Chapter 15.32.080, for further information.

Backflow Prevention Assemblies (Backflows) are owned by the property owner. As such, California State law, as well as the City of Merced Municipal Code, stipulates that the property owner is responsible for all costs associated with the installation and maintenance of a backflow. Backflow installation or modification requires a plumbing permit and the services of a licensed plumbing contractor with a City of Merced Business license. The City of Merced Inspection Services Department, located at 678 W. 18th Street, issues permits for plumbing repair / backflow installation, per the City of Merced Municipal Code, Chapter 17.28.040.

Visit www.cityofmerced.org/Engineering/StandardDesigns. for a list of approved backflow units, or contact the City of Merced Engineering Dept. at (209) 388-7000

At this time, City of Merced water customers that need or have a backflow unit are charged an additional monthly fee, included on the water bill, to cover specific costs associated with cross-connection compliance. This includes testing, maintenance, and official documentation conducted by a certified professional backflow technician. All labor and "consumable" parts associated with testing and periodical maintenance are also covered by the backflow monthly fee. The property owner remains responsible for their backflow unit. Please call the City of Merced Finance Department at (209) 385-6841 for a detailed explanation of the fees associated with backflows.

The property owner is expected to have their water service connection in compliance *no later than 60 days from date of this letter*. Please be advised that failure to respond and comply with State law and City Municipal Codes could result in discontinuance of the water service until such time the work is completed, inspected, and the service is considered to be in compliance.

If you have any questions or would like to set up an on-site meeting, please call City of Merced - Water Division Supervisor, [REDACTED] or email at [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org.

[REDACTED]
Public Works Supervisor – Water Division
(209) 385-6800

cc: Inspection Services/Engineering/Finance/CrossConnectionSpecialist/WaterTeam

This email was sent following my formal complaint and meeting with the City Manager, Public Works Director, City Engineer, and Building Official. Part of my complaint addressed the ongoing backflow installations being carried out by the city,

Backflow install picture

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Date Tue 3/11/2025 9:58 AM
To [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org

📎 1 attachment (6 MB)
processed- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Can someone clarify what's going on here? I thought we had a meeting regarding Public Works assisting contractors, yet this issue is still occurring. This incident is from last week—not only is the city providing assistance, but there is also a lack of proper sidewalk signage.

Please let me know why this is continuing to happen and what steps are being taken to address it.

Looking forward to your response.

Outlook for iOS

Cheers,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

[REDACTED]

[Check out our website!](#)

"If water runs through it...we do it"

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City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # [redacted]

Assigned [redacted]

Priority

Date Submitted

Date Scheduled

Date Requested

LOCATION CONTACT CONTACT PHONE REQUESTING DEPARTMENT

WATER SYSTEM

CITIZEN ADDRESS CITIZEN CONTACT CITIZEN PHONE

ACTIVITIES

TASK ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION ASSET

1 BCRP - BACKFLOW REPAIRS BACKFLOW REPAIRS - Water crew to remove fire swing check located on the Olivewood side of [redacted]

COMMENT DESCRIPTION

Formed and poured concrete, covered with plywood when finished.
Cut out swing check and installed new fire, backflow, backfield sidewalk area, and caution taped off area that contractors need to pour kickers and backfill
Excavated to bottom of 45, removed vault, and plated.
Contractor saw job for parts list.

TASK DATE DETAIL TYPE DESCRIPTION QUANTITY RATE TOTAL

Total: \$1160.96

CUSTOM FIELDS

FIELD NAME TYPE DESCRIPTION REQUIRED DEFAULT ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES

This image shows a recently installed backflow prevention device on private property, with City equipment and work zone barriers present. The concern is whether this type of work was completed or facilitated by City resources without proper public bidding, permitting, or licensed contractor oversight.



This email was sent to the city after I made a complaint over the phone to the Building Department regarding an active unpermitted job site. I also contacted the engineering inspector, who visited the site but did not stop the work or require permits.

Follow-Up on Unpermitted Work and Alley Obstruction at [REDACTED]

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]

Date Fri 4/18/2025 12:28 PM

To encroachmentpermit <encroachmentpermit@cityofmerced.org> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org; swiftcentral@cslb.ca.gov
<swiftcentral@cslb.ca.gov>

📎 1 attachment (2 MB)

processed-DBE95C56-A47A-4E19-A0F3-AA2ACF261C65.jpeg;

To who it may concern,

I am writing to follow up on my recent report to the **City of Merced Building Department** regarding unlicensed and unpermitted construction activity taking place at [REDACTED]. I also notified the Engineering Department, as the ongoing work is obstructing the alleyway behind the property.

Despite raising these concerns, I was informed that the City would not be enforcing the matter, and no corrective action has been taken. The alley remains blocked, and unpermitted work appears to be continuing without oversight.

As a licensed contractor, I find this deeply concerning. Unpermitted activity not only poses safety and liability risks—it also undermines the fairness of the permitting process and harms businesses that follow the law. I respectfully request a formal response regarding the City's position on this issue and what steps will be taken to investigate and enforce applicable codes.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Outlook for iOS

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

(209) 261-2740

[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

This photo shows a backflow prevention assembly installed in an alley on private property by an individual operating a business without a contractor's license. This work was performed without a building permit or inspection. The concern is whether gaps in enforcement allow unlicensed work to proceed and whether prior public employment or certifications are influencing the City's willingness to address such violations.



This email was sent following my second in-person meeting with the City Manager. During our first meeting, the Public Works Director downplayed my complaint, and the City Manager requested photos. In response, I requested a field trip to an undisclosed location, which took place on the day of the meeting. The email outlines what occurred during the visit and provides context.

Follow-Up on Field Visit to [REDACTED] and Request for Site Access

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]

Date Thu 4/3/2025 8:22 PM

To [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org >

Cc [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org >

📎 5 attachments (29 MB)

Follow-Up on Field Visit to [REDACTED] and Request for Site Access 04-03-25.pdf; Angle type FDC.pdf; 1000DCV.pdf; 825 YD.pdf; PIV Fire Valve.pdf;

[REDACTED]

Thank you again for coordinating the field trip to [REDACTED]. I want to formally follow up with several key concerns and request a second opportunity to fully inspect the site.

At the start of our meeting, you mentioned that we could not access the site because Public Works staff were no longer available. However, Public Works Manager [REDACTED] was present during the meeting, and the City has on-call personnel available after hours with a 30 min response requirement. This contradiction raises concerns about the City's transparency and accountability. It also leads me to question whether the City is taking this matter seriously—or if efforts are being made to obscure the facts.

Additionally, in your original correspondence you indicated that the **Public Works Director** and **City Engineer** would be present. However, only [REDACTED] attended the meeting. Their presence did not align with the roles you initially communicated, and as such, the intended transparency and oversight were lacking. This further contributes to concerns that the City may not be approaching this matter with the seriousness and impartiality it requires.

During our conversation, [REDACTED] openly stated that City Public Works installed the backflow device for [REDACTED]. He further mentioned that the City installs backflows "all the time." This is extremely concerning, as it suggests an ongoing pattern of Public Works performing regulated, licensed plumbing work without the required credentials or oversight.

According to **Title 16, California Code of Regulations § 832.18**, the installation or repair of backflow prevention devices is classified as plumbing work, which legally requires a **C-36 Plumbing Contractor license**. Under **Business and Professions Code § 7028**, performing or authorizing such work without the appropriate license is unlawful and may constitute a misdemeanor.


In addition, **Labor Code § 1720** defines this type of installation as public works, which is subject to strict compliance with prevailing wage requirements, contractor licensing, and public bidding laws. When City labor and resources are used to perform work for a **private commercial entity**—such as [REDACTED]—it raises serious legal and ethical concerns about misuse of public funds and improper competition.


This situation also implicates California's **Unfair Competition Law (Business and Professions Code § 17500 et seq.)**, which prohibits unlawful or unfair business practices. When a public agency bypasses licensed contractors and performs regulated work with taxpayer-funded labor, it directly undermines

local, law-abiding businesses like mine—**MCM Plumbing**, which operates under full compliance with State licensing requirements.

California courts have consistently held that public entities may not displace the private sector without clear legal authority and a compelling public interest. In *Domar Electric, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1994), the California Supreme Court reaffirmed that public agencies cannot avoid competitive bidding or legal contracting procedures simply by asserting the work can be done in-house.

As I mentioned during the visit, I may contact the **State**—meaning the **California Contractors State License Board (CSLB)**, the **Department of Industrial Relations (DIR)**, or other relevant agencies—to formally report this situation and request enforcement guidance. These agencies are best positioned to clarify the legal limits of what Public Works staff may do and provide necessary education if needed. I am also considering raising this issue publicly, as transparency and accountability are critical when taxpayer-funded departments appear to be operating outside the law.

Please see the **attached picture**, which further supports my concerns about what lies behind the walls at 

Also discussed during the meeting was what exists behind the walls at —including **fire check valves, Fire Department Connection (FDC) components, and (PIV) shutoff valves** that are only found on **private property**. These devices and apparatuses do **not** belong to or exist within the City's public water system and should **never be installed or removed** by a municipal Public Works department, especially when acting outside the scope of their legal authority. These components are part of a **private fire suppression system and water supply**, both of which fall under **licensed plumbing and fire protection contracting work**. Public Works is neither licensed nor authorized to perform installations, removals, or modifications of these systems.

I also want to note that I explicitly told the City during the meeting to **stop performing this type of work**, as it directly affects my business. MCM Plumbing is regularly hired to install these backflow prevention systems, and these projects can cost **thousands of dollars** for property owners when done properly through licensed contractors. For Public Works to do the same work—without a license, without proper permitting, and without competitive bidding—creates a **completely unfair marketplace** and leaves private owners and local businesses at a financial disadvantage. This is not just a regulatory violation; it is actively harmful to fair competition and small business livelihood in the community.

In the meantime, I respectfully request a second opportunity to access the site and fully document the conditions, with the cooperation of Public Works staff. Please let me know your availability to schedule this follow-up.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279

AWWA #13829



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

This photo shows discarded components in a city-owned dumpster (on city gated property with no public access), including fire check valves, Fire Department Connection parts, and Post Indicator Valve shutoffs, which are typically part of private fire suppression systems and water supplies. These systems fall under the scope of licensed plumbing and fire protection contracting work. The concern is whether City personnel, acting beyond their legal authority, installed, removed, or modified such equipment without the proper permits, authority, or licensing.



From: [Michael Morin](#)
To: [cityclerk](#)
Cc: [MCM Plumbing](#)
Subject: Re: Update to public comment handout
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 4:28:46 PM
Attachments: [Backflow letters_Redacted.pdf](#)
[City building dept will not inspect_Redacted.pdf](#)
[Example of Inspection Oversight Failure_Redacted.pdf](#)
[PRR Does the city install backflow devices - Redacted2.pdf](#)

Dear City Clerk,

Please include the attached documents in the record for the August 18, 2025 Merced City Council meeting under **Written Petitions and Communications**. These materials supplement my prior public comment submission and provide additional documented evidence of:

- Inconsistent and selective permit enforcement for backflow installations.
- Unclear or unauthorized inspection authority on private property.
- Inspection oversight failures and conflicts of interest.
- Public Works performing private backflow installations despite prior denials.

The attached files are:

1. **Backflow Letters – Permit Requirement Analysis** (11 examples showing inconsistencies)
2. **City Building Dept Will Not Inspect – Inspection Authority Confusion**
3. **Example of Inspection Oversight Failure**
4. **PRR – Public Works Denial vs. Documented Backflow Installations**

Please distribute these documents to all Councilmembers so they have the complete and most up-to-date evidence in front of them before deliberations. These records are directly relevant to ongoing concerns about City practices, enforcement consistency, and potential liability.

Thank you for ensuring these attachments are entered into the official record and made available to the public.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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From: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofmerced.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 12:15 PM

To: Michael Morin <m.morin@mcmp209.com>; cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofmerced.gov>

Cc: MCM Plumbing <office@mcmp209.com>

Subject: RE: Update to public comment handout

Good Afternoon,

Your email has been received and will be mentioned as part of the Written Petitions and Communications portion of the agenda along with the other emails you have submitted.

Thank you,



Jennifer Parsley
Assistant City Clerk

City of Merced | 678 W. 18th Street | Merced, CA 95340
(209) 385-6231 | parsleyj@cityofmerced.gov | www.cityofmerced.gov

From: Michael Morin <m.morin@mcmp209.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 9, 2025 1:36 PM
To: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofmerced.gov>
Cc: MCM Plumbing <office@mcmp209.com>
Subject: Update to public comment handout

Dear City Clerk,

I'm following up on the public comment handout I sent earlier this week for the upcoming Merced City Council meeting.

Attached is an **updated and expanded version** of:

“Public Comment – Broader Pattern of Issues in City Operations UPDATED”

This version includes **additional examples, evidence, and clarifications** not in the original file. Please replace the previous version in the meeting materials and distribute this updated one to Councilmembers.

This handout is still directly tied to my planned in-person remarks and should be included in the official record under General Public Comment.

Thank you for ensuring the Council and public have the most complete and accurate version.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829

DIR #2000001445 | DUNS #06-168-5063

PO Box 2011

Merced, CA 95344

(209) 261-2740

m.morin@mcmp209.com

<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of City of Merced -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

The City of Merced domain name has changed to cityofmerced.gov effective 7/23/2025. Please update your contact information.

City of Merced records, including emails, are subject to the California Public Records Act. Unless exemptions apply, this email, any attachments and any replies are subject to disclosure on request, and neither the sender nor any recipients should have any expectation of privacy regarding the contents of such communications. The City of Merced shall not be responsible for any claims, losses or damages resulting from the use of digital data that may be contained in this email.

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Permit Requirement Status – Backflow Letters (City of Merced Public Works)

The following summarizes the “Permit” section status for each of the 11 attached backflow compliance letters chronologically:

1. Letter #1 – **Permit section missing entirely.**
2. Letter #2 – **Permit section missing entirely.**
3. Letter #3 – **Permit Not Required box checked.**
4. Letter #4 – **Permit section missing entirely.**
5. Letter #5 – **Permit Required box checked.**
6. Letter #6 – **Permit Not Required box checked.**
7. Letter #7 – **Permit Not Required box checked.**
8. Letter #8 – **Permit section missing entirely.**
9. Letter #9 – **Permit Not Required box checked.**
10. Letter #10 – **Permit Required box checked.**
11. Letter #11 – **Permit Required box checked.**

Key Observations:

- Out of 11 letters, **Permit Required is checked in 3 cases**, **Permit Not Required is checked in 4 cases**, and in **4 cases the permit section is missing entirely.**
- These letters are issued for similar backflow compliance situations, yet the City provides conflicting — and sometimes absent — permit instructions.
- The inconsistent marking of Permit Required vs. Permit Not Required, along with missing permit sections, demonstrates a lack of uniform enforcement and raises concerns about selective or arbitrary application of permit requirements.



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

1/19/24

Re: Acct# [REDACTED]

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
 - Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
 - Location or Access Issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
 - Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 must replace with _____
 - Size 1" _____
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____

This letter is to inform you the building at [REDACTED] does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. It is required that you have a backflow installed on the backside of our city water meter. We recommend you install the unit listed above or pick a unit off our city approved list. If you have any questions please call or email [REDACTED]

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

1/19/24



Re: Acct#



Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
 - Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____
- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
 - Location or Access Issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____
- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
 - Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 must replace with _____
 - Size 1" _____
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____

This letter is to inform you the building at _____ does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow _____ main. It is required that you have a backflow installed on the backside of our city water meter. We recommend you install the unit listed above or pick a unit off our city approved list. If you have any questions please call or email Robby Jeppesen.

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

2/12/24

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
- Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
- Location or Access issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
- Brand WILKINS _____ must replace with _____
 - Style 350 ASTDA OSY _____ must replace with _____
 - Size 6" _____
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at _____ does not meet the minimum standard for protecting backflow in _____s. The building is outfitted with a fire sprinkler system which gets water from our city main. The water passes through a swing check valve that is non testable. If the valve is broken it could allow the reverse flow of water back into our main line and cause contamination to our city water supply. We are recommending that you purchase and install the backflow to be in compliance. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

8/5/24

RE: ACCT#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
- Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☒ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
- Location or Access issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit 12" to 30" _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
- Brand Wilkins _____ must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 _____ must replace with _____
 - Size 3/4" _____
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____

This letter is to inform you the building at _____ does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. It is required that you have a backflow installed on the backside of our city water meter. We recommend you install the unit listed above or pick a unit off our city approved list. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

8/6/24

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER,

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
 - Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☒ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
 - Location or Access issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit 12"

- 3) ☒ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
 - Brand WILKINS must replace with _____
 - Style 350 ASTDAR OS&Y must replace with _____
 - Size 4"
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> No Permit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow	

This letter is to inform you that the building _____ does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into the City Of Merced water system. The building is outfitted with a fire sprinkler system which is fed from our City water main. The water passes through a swing check that is no longer an approved backflow prevention device. We are requiring that you purchase and install the backflow to be in compliance with State standards. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

11/18/24

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City Limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.

- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.

- Brand Wilkins _____ must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 _____ must replace with _____
 - Size 1.5" _____
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address _____ does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You

678 WEST 18TH STREET, MERCED, CA 95340



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

11/19/24

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.
 - Structure Height _____
 - Alternative source possible _____
 - Outside of City Limits _____
 - Lot Zoning _____
 - Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.
 - Location or Access Issue _____
 - Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.
 - Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 must replace with _____
 - Size 3/4"
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Permit
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow	

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address [REDACTED] does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email [REDACTED]

Thank You

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

2/4/25

Re: Acct# [REDACTED]

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.**

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City Limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☒ **Plumbing Modification of existing backflow(s). Call for details.**

- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit 12" to 30" _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.**

- Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
- Style 975 XL2 or XL3 must replace with _____
- Size 3/4"
- Age _____
- Damage _____
- Vandalism _____
- Other _____

This letter is to inform you the building at [REDACTED] not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. It is required that you have a backflow installed on the backside of our city water meter. We recommend you install the unit listed above or pick a unit off our city approved list. If you have any questions please call or email [REDACTED]

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

2/10/25

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City Limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.

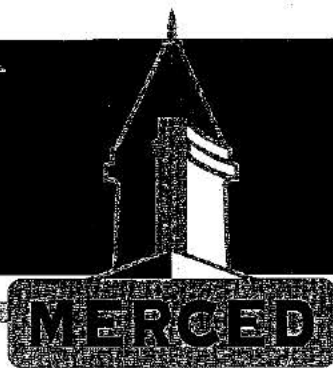
- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.

- Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 must replace with _____
 - Size 1.5"
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address _____ does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

2/27/25

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation** of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City Limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification** of existing backflow(s). Call for details.

- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement** of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.

- Brand Wilkins must replace with _____
 - Style 975 XL2 or XL3 must replace with _____
 - Size 3/4"
 - Age _____
 - Damage _____
 - Vandalism _____
 - Other _____
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email

Thank You



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

Notice of Required Backflow Prevention Compliance

3/14/25

Re: Acct#

Dear OWNER:

The City of Merced's Cross Connection Control Specialist recently conducted a water system audit and has determined the water service connection located at this address has deficiencies concerning proper Backflow Prevention. The audit identified the following:

- 1) ☒ **New Installation of backflow(s) is required. Reason checked below.**

- Structure Height _____
- Alternative source possible _____
- Outside of City limits _____
- Lot Zoning _____
- Lot Utilization _____

- 2) ☐ **Plumbing Modification of existing backflow(s). Call for details.**

- Location or Access issue _____
- Must have 12" clearance under the unit _____

- 3) ☐ **Replacement of the existing backflow(s) is necessary. Call for details.**

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| • Brand Wilkos _____ | must replace with _____ |
| • Style 975 XL2 or XL3 _____ | must replace with _____ |
| • Size 1" _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit |
| • Age _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic <input type="checkbox"/> No Permit |
| • Damage _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Backflow |
| • Vandalism _____ | |
| • Other _____ | |

This letter is to inform you that the building at above address does not meet the minimum standards for protecting backflow into our city water main. We recommend that you purchase a backflow and have it installed. Once the backflow is installed the city will test yearly as required by law. When the backflow is ready to be installed please call us so we can test the unit before water is restored. If you have any questions please call or email _____

Thank You

Inspection Authority Confusion

This example highlights the City's lack of clarity and accountability regarding who is authorized to inspect plumbing work on private property. Under California Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 5, such inspections must be performed by individuals formally authorized under the local building authority. Yet, City communications show contractors being referred to Public Works personnel for backflow inspections without evidence of a formal delegation of authority from the Building Department. This creates a procedural conflict, raises questions of regulatory overreach, and leaves permitted work potentially unverified by a qualified inspection authority.

City of Merced
Inspection Services
678 W. 18th Street Merced CA, 95340 (209) 385-4773

Permit NO. [REDACTED]
Permit

Permit Type: **Over-the-Counter**

Work Classification: **Plumbing**

Permit Status: **Issued**

Issue Date: [REDACTED]

Expiration: [REDACTED]

Location Address

Parcel Number

Contacts

Property Owner

Michael Morin

Applicant

Michael Morin

Contractor

Description: Modify water line at building and install domestic backflow device, building will not inspect or plan check backflow this will be up to the water dept. FOR DOMESTIC AND LANDSCAPE BACKFLOWS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY: No plans required, permit will be issued over the counter, and also contact [REDACTED] Public Works for the backflow inspection: (209) 385-6800. When not on private property, contact Engineering for an encroachment permit. Backflows on fire lines will require a full submittal with hydraulic calculations per NFPA 13 (2022) 30.1.4.

Valuation: [REDACTED]

Total Sq Feet: 0.00

Inspection Requests:

Fees	Amount
Building Standards Fee (Inspection Services)	[REDACTED]
Over-the-Counter Permit Fee-MEP	[REDACTED]
Total:	[REDACTED]

Payments	Amt Paid
Total Fees	[REDACTED]
eCheck	[REDACTED]
Amount Due:	\$0.00

Inspections:	
Inspection Type	
Domestic Water-R	32
Plumbing Final-R	39

Expiration: This permit will expire if the work is not started within 365 days, or 180 days elapsed between approved inspections. If the permit expires before the work is completed and/or inspected, no additional work shall be performed until the new permit is obtained

Extension: Prior to permit expiration and upon written request, a one-time extension, not to exceed 180 days, may be granted by emailing your request to inspectionsservicesweb@cityofmerced.org

[REDACTED]
Date

Re: [REDACTED]

From MCM Plumbing [REDACTED]

Date Wed 4/23/2025 9:33 AM

To [REDACTED] cityofmerced.org>

Dear [REDACTED]

This issue now directly affects my ability to finalize permit [REDACTED] and collect payment for completed work.

As noted previously, the permit issued by the City of Merced Inspection Services Department states that backflow inspection must be performed by [REDACTED]. However, I have yet to receive confirmation that [REDACTED] is formally authorized under the **City of Merced Building Department** to conduct inspections on **private property**, as required under **Title 24, Part 5 (California Plumbing Code)**.

This situation has now escalated beyond a policy inquiry—it is **interfering with my legal right to close out permitted work**. Without formal inspection and sign-off by an authorized inspector, the job remains open and I cannot proceed with closeout or final billing.

I am respectfully requesting the following:

1. Immediate written confirmation of whether [REDACTED] is authorized by the **Building Department** to conduct private plumbing inspections;
2. If not authorized, instructions on how to schedule a compliant inspection by a qualified Building Inspector so this permit may be finalized without further delay;

If I do not receive clarification, I will have no choice but to escalate this matter as a case of regulatory obstruction, inconsistent enforcement, and financial harm to a licensed contractor operating in good faith.

Please treat this request as **time-sensitive**. My business and my client's occupancy depend on resolution.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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From: [REDACTED] cityofmerced.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 9:11 AM
To: MCM Plumbing [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED] cityofmerced.org>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

Michael,

The snip provided in previous email and below answers your specific question. If you feel your specific question is unanswered you may submit for an additional public records request.

103.0 Duties and Powers of the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

103.1 General. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be the Authority duly appointed to enforce this code. For such purposes, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the powers of a law enforcement officer. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the power to render interpretations of this code and to adopt and enforce rules and regulations supplemental to this code as deemed necessary in order to clarify the application of the provisions of this code. Such interpretations, rules, and regulations shall comply with the intent and purpose of this code.

In accordance with the prescribed procedures and with the approval of the appointing authority, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to appoint a such number of technical officers, inspectors, and other employees as shall be authorized from time to time. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to deputize such inspectors or employees as necessary to carry out the functions of the code enforcement agency.

The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to request the assistance and cooperation of other officials of this jurisdiction so far as required in the discharge of the duties in accordance with this code or other pertinent law or ordinance.

From: MCM Plumbing [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:49 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Subject: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

Thank you for the response regarding my inquiry. However, the core concern I raised has not yet been addressed.

My question was whether [REDACTED] is **formally certified and authorized by the City of Merced Building Department** to conduct or approve plumbing inspections on **private property**—specifically in reference to [REDACTED]. This question pertains to enforcement of Title 24, Part 5 of the California Building Standards Code, which requires that plumbing work on private property be inspected by individuals formally authorized under local building authority.

Referring contractors to Public Works personnel for backflow inspections—without a formal delegation of inspection authority—may represent a procedural conflict or regulatory overreach that needs to be addressed.

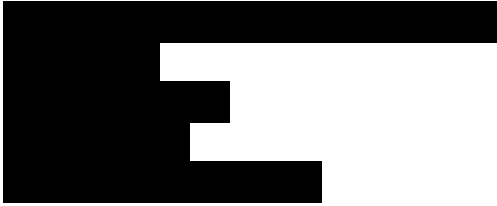
While I understand this matter is being included in [REDACTED] the specific question of **authorized inspection authority** is a policy and process clarification that deserves a direct answer outside the PRR process.

Please advise whether [REDACTED] holds inspection authority under the Building Department or provide documentation of any formal delegation allowing Public Works to perform inspections for permitted plumbing work on private property.

Thank you for your continued attention.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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From: [REDACTED] [cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:30 AM
To: MCM Plumbing [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] [@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org); [REDACTED] [cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: [REDACTED]

Good Morning,

Response to your email below will be provided in the public records request [REDACTED] you have submitted. Additionally, the code sections you refer to are included in snip below from the actual California Plumbing Code.

103.0 Duties and Powers of the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

103.1 General. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be the Authority duly appointed to enforce this code. For such purposes, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the powers of a law enforcement officer. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the power to render interpretations of this code and to adopt and enforce rules and regulations supplemental to this code as deemed necessary in order to clarify the application of the provisions of this code. Such interpretations, rules, and regulations shall comply with the intent and purpose of this code.

In accordance with the prescribed procedures and with the approval of the appointing authority, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to appoint a such number of technical officers, inspectors, and other employees as shall be authorized from time to time. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to deputize such inspectors or employees as necessary to carry out the functions of the code enforcement agency.

The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall be permitted to request the assistance and cooperation of other officials of this jurisdiction so far as required in the discharge of the duties in accordance with this code or other pertinent law or ordinance.

From: MCM Plumbing [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 7:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

I hope you're doing well.

This permit, issued by the City of Merced Inspection Services Department, authorizes the installation of a domestic backflow prevention device on private property at [REDACTED]. Despite the scope involving plumbing work on private property, the permit explicitly states:

*"Building will not inspect or plan check backflow—this will be up to the water department."
"Contact [REDACTED] Public Works for the backflow inspection."*

To my understanding, [REDACTED] is a certified **backflow prevention assembly tester** [REDACTED] however, he is not a licensed inspector under the California Building Standards Code.

Referring contractors to Public Works personnel who are not formally authorized to conduct or approve inspections for private plumbing installations appears to bypass the required inspection protocols under state law.

Title 24, Part 5 (California Plumbing Code):

Adopted under the **California Building Standards Code**, this applies to all plumbing work on private property and mandates **inspection and approval by the local building authority**.

Can you please confirm whether [REDACTED] is certified and formally authorized by the City of Merced Building Department to conduct plumbing inspections on private property?

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

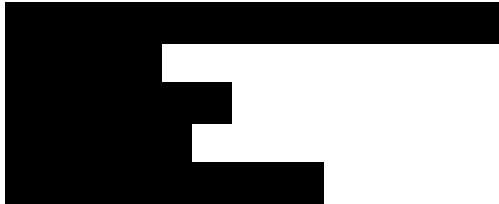
Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin

Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279 | AWWA #13829



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it... we do it."

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of City of Merced -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of City of Merced -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

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Example of Inspection Oversight Failure

The attached example demonstrates the City's lack of clarity and accountability regarding who is responsible for inspecting backflow installations. In this case, a permit was issued but no inspections were ever called in. Internal communications show conflicting references. The same City department that performed modifications to a private fire system was also positioned to oversee the inspection, creating a conflict of interest. This lack of coordination undermines public safety for both fire protection and water quality, and reflects a broader enforcement gap that allows unverified, potentially non-compliant installations to remain in service.

Re: [REDACTED] No inspections called in: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Date Thu 4/17/2025 9:02 AM
To [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Cc [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>

Furthermore, these alterations—made without proper backflow protection—introduce a new risk to the public water system. As you know, backflow prevention is critical in protecting the potable water supply from potential contamination. Public Works should be made aware of this situation to ensure appropriate follow-up and corrective action, if necessary.

Fire protection and water quality are both matters of public safety, and I want to reiterate the urgency of reviewing this installation thoroughly.

Thanks,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it...we do it"

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From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 8:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]cityofmerced.org>
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] No inspections called in: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Good morning [REDACTED]

I wanted to share that [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] Manager for [REDACTED] and was our point of contact when we originally bid the backflow installation project. Although we were not awarded the job, I believe it may be helpful to include him in the conversation, as he may have insight or contact information for the individual(s) or company that performed the work, or may be able to answer related questions.

Based on the new information you provided, it appears that the backflow device has not yet been installed by [REDACTED]. However, it seems that modifications have already been made to the fire system, including the **removal of the vault, swing check valve, and post-indicating shut-off valve.**

As you know, fire protection is critical to life safety, and I want to emphasize the urgency of this matter. Any alterations to the fire system should be reviewed carefully to ensure compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Best regards,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

<https://mcplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it...we do it"

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From: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 8:10 AM
To: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Subject: [REDACTED] - No inspections called in: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Good morning,

Fire permit for backflow issued 6/25/24
No inspections called in

I'm also including the email sent by [REDACTED] for those cc herein. I'm not sure who [REDACTED] is.

Application number	[REDACTED]
Application status, date	APPROVED [REDACTED]
Property	[REDACTED]
APN / Use Zone / Gen Plan	[REDACTED] CN
Alternate I.D.	[REDACTED]
Zoning	PD2 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT #2
Application type	FI04 OTHER FIRE PERMITS
Application date	[REDACTED]
Tenant number, name	BACKFLOW
Master plan number, rev'wd by:	[REDACTED]

Name	[REDACTED]	Contractor number:	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]	Bus lic number	[REDACTED]
	MERCED	Phone 1	[REDACTED]
	CA	Phone 2	[REDACTED]
Zip	95340	Phone 3	[REDACTED]

Our counter is open 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, it is best to arrive ½ hour before each closing time to allow for processing.

[REDACTED]
Chief Building/Construction Project Official
City of Merced
Inspection Services
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-5781
[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org

From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 9:53 PM
To: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>
Subject: Re: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Please see attached maybe this also helps I checked what I could it took me 30 min to find this utilizing the city's website. Nothing in permits issued regarding the PIV being removed. They had some modifications around the [REDACTED] area but that's all I could find.

Cheers,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

"If water runs through it...we do it"

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From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 7:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)> [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: Re: Additional concerns:Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Hello Denise,

The APN and address are as follows :

APN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Merced, CA [REDACTED]

Also, Public works should have a work order for the work performed that morning roughly 1 [REDACTED] 2024 for a [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. This information would be nice too.

Cheers,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829



<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

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From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 4:44 PM
To: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: RE: Additional concerns:Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Will you please provide the address?

Our records are by address, and I want to ensure we are looking into the proper location.

Our counter is open 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, it is best to arrive ½ hour before each closing time to allow for processing.



Chief Building/Construction Project Official
City of Merced
Inspection Services

678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-5781
[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org

From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org
Cc: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org
Subject: Re: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm writing to follow up regarding the emails below, as it has been some time and I have not yet received a response.

I'm attaching four photos that raise concerns about recent modifications made to the fire protection system at [REDACTED], which appear to have taken place on or shortly after [REDACTED] 2024. One of the images shows an indicating shut-off valve equipped with a tamper switch that controls the incoming water to the fire system. Notably, the City of Merced is in possession of a similar valve and tamper switch at [REDACTED] and was also observed onsite on [REDACTED]

Unless I'm mistaken, modifications to a fire system—particularly those involving indicating valves with tamper switches—require prior review and approval, with submitted plans to the Building Department. Before initiating a formal Public Records Act request, I would appreciate it if you could confirm whether any such plans were submitted and approved for this modification.

Given the potential implications for both public safety and the protection of the water system, I strongly encourage the City to thoroughly review this installation.

Please let me know if any additional information is needed. I look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

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From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 9:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org
Cc: [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org
Subject: Re: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your prompt attention and response to this matter.

Outlook for iOS

Cheers,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

[REDACTED]

[Check out our website!](#)

"If water runs through it...we do it"

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From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 7:27:28 AM
To: Michael Morin [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: Additional concerns: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

Thank you again, we will address this with our Public Works Department [REDACTED]
Fire Backflows should always have plans submitted etc. to the building Dept. for review to ensure fire sprinklers will work.
Agreed, there is a 2nd concern with protecting the City's water system.

Our counter is open 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, it is best to arrive ½ hour before each closing time to allow for processing.

[REDACTED]
Chief Building/Construction Project Official
City of Merced
Inspection Services
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 384-5781
[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)

From: Michael Morin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2025 6:55 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@cityofmerced.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org)>
Subject: SPAM: Follow-up on backflow device concerns

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Good morning [REDACTED]

I wanted to follow up on one of your questions and also bring up additional concerns regarding the backflow device in question. The backflow device at [REDACTED] that was a concern is, in fact, a fire backflow detector assembly that Public Works was installing. Similarly, the backflow device at [REDACTED] is also a fire backflow.

I understand that the backflow device installed may be appropriate for fire system requirements, but the protection of the public water supply and the safety of the water remain critical concerns when installing backflow systems. Additionally, Public Works made modifications to a private fire line to allow a contractor to install a backflow device inside the building. However, this backflow device may not be properly sized according to state law. As a general requirement, backflow devices should be at least the same size as the incoming water lateral.

I believe that whoever made the modifications to the fire system and allowed the backflow to be installed further from the meter/service connection and undersized may be in violation of state regulations, as well as those set by or more agencies Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the American Water Works Association (AWWA), the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), [California Administrative Code of Regulations, Title 17](#) or the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Please report this matter to the appropriate agency or city department for further investigation. Being aware of this matter is a big concern and I feel deserves urgency so these installations don't continue to happen without proper oversight.

Let me know if you need any additional information.

Outlook for iOS

Best,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829
[REDACTED]

[Check out our website!](#)

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Public Works Denial vs. Documented Backflow Installations

While the City's Public Works Department has denied involvement in installing private backflow devices, its own work order records tell a different story. In one case, Public Works crews excavated, replaced a service line, and tied it into a customer's system with a newly installed backflow device. This direct involvement contradicts prior statements and shows the City performing work that typically requires a licensed contractor and formal inspection. Such actions raise serious concerns about compliance with licensing laws, permitting requirements, and fair competition, as well as the integrity of the City's representations to the public.

Request Number: PRR-[REDACTED]

From Michael Morin [REDACTED]

Date Fri 4/4/2025 10:11 AM

To [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org <[REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>

Cc cityclerk [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>; [REDACTED]@cityofmerced.org>

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm writing to follow up on your response to Public Records Request PRR-[REDACTED] and to respectfully submit a correction based on recent developments.

In contrast to the City's official position—stating that Public Works does not perform backflow installations on private property—I have firsthand documentation that contradicts this claim.

During a site visit to [REDACTED] Public Works [REDACTED] [REDACTED] explicitly stated that the City installed the backflow device for the private entity [REDACTED] further mentioned that the Public Works Department “installs backflows all the time.” This statement was made in the presence of multiple witnesses and stands in direct conflict with the City's response to PRR-[REDACTED] which asserted:

1. No contracts or agreements exist for private property backflow installations.
2. There is no program for such installations.
3. No invoices, work orders, or labor records exist.
4. No resolutions apply.

The installation of a backflow device for [REDACTED] a private commercial entity—represents a clear example of Public Works engaging in private-[REDACTED] work, despite claims to the contrary. Furthermore, such work is regulated under California Code of Regulations Title 16 § 832.18 and Business and Professions Code § 7028, which require that it be performed by a licensed plumbing contractor.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that PRR-[REDACTED] be reopened or amended to accurately reflect these facts. If the Public Works Department has indeed been performing regulated plumbing work on private property, the City is obligated to maintain corresponding records and ensure compliance with contractor licensing, public works laws, and prevailing wage requirements.

Please advise how you would prefer I proceed in order to ensure this matter is formally addressed.

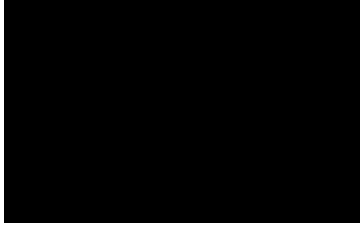
Sincerely,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator

MCM Plumbing

CSLB #1002279

AWWA #13829



<https://mcimplumbing209.com>

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Re: Re: City of Merced, CA - Records Request PRR-[REDACTED]

From [REDACTED]@request.justfoia.com>

Date Thu 3/20/2025 8:03 AM

To [REDACTED]

Good Morning,

[REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] for the Public Works Department.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
Assistant City Clerk

On Tue, Mar 18, 2025 at 9:41 am, Michael Morin wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response regarding my request (PRR [REDACTED]). I appreciate the information provided by the Public Works Department.

For my records, could you kindly provide the name and title of the individual or individuals who compiled or provided this response? This will help ensure I have the appropriate point of contact should any further clarification be needed.

I appreciate your time and assistance. Looking forward to your response.

Thank You,

Michael C. Morin
Owner and Operator
MCM Plumbing
CSLB #1002279
AWWA #13829

[REDACTED]
<https://mcmplumbing209.com>

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From: JustFOIA Notification



Dear Requestor,

The request [Request Number: PRR-\[REDACTED\]](#) has been completed. Per the Public Works Department:

1. We do not have any contracts/agreements/grants for private property backflow installations.
2. We do not have a program for "backflow prevention device installations on private property", so there are no emails/memos/etc.
3. No invoices/work orders/labor records for private backflow installs (we do not do the installation).
4. No resolution.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
City of Merced
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 388-8650
[REDACTED]cityofmerced.org



City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # [REDACTED]

Assigned To: [REDACTED]

Priority [REDACTED]

Date Submitted [REDACTED]

Date Scheduled [REDACTED]

Date Requested [REDACTED]



LOCATION	CONTACT	CONTACT PHONE	REQUESTING DEPARTMENT
			WATER SYSTEM

CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE

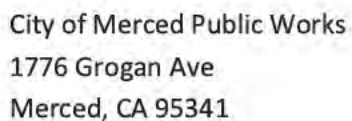
ACTIVITIES			
TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1	BCRP - BACKFLOW REPAIRS	BACKFLOW REPAIRS - Water crew to prep for swing check removal and new fire service backflow install at [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED]	

COMMENTS		
COMMENT DATE	COMMENT BY	COMMENT DESCRIPTION
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Prepped parts for swing check removal.
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Excavated and prepped for swing check removal.

COST DETAIL						
TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
Total:						\$68.00

CUSTOM FIELDS					
FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES



Work Order # [REDACTED]
Assigned To: [REDACTED]

Date Submitted: 01/20/2018

Date Scheduled _____

Date Requested [REDACTED]



CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE

TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1.	BCRP - BACKFLOW REPAIRS	BACKFLOW REPAIRS - Water crew to remove fire swing check located on the [REDACTED]	-

TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
					Total:	\$1160.96

FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request

Request number : WF0437651 Closed

INVESTIGATE WATER SERVICE

Facility ID :

Node Range : 0 to 0

Customer ID : 0

LM location ID :

General location :

Requestor :

Requesting department : PWMT PW - WATER

Request date/time . . . :

Scheduled start date . :

Actual :

Requested completion . :

Scheduled :

Actual :

Close date :

More...

F3=Exit F5=More detail F7=AR customer F8=Contact F9=Charges
F10=Comments F12=Cancel F20=Customer functions F24=More keys

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request Comments

Request number :
INVESTIGATE WATER SERVICE
Request status : CL Closed

Detail Description

WATER CREW TO POT HOLE FROM FIRE SERVICE TO
DOMESTIC AND DETERMINE WHERE SERVICES ARE TIED TO
EACH OTHER.
FOUND DOMESTIC SERVICE TIED TO FIRE SERVICE.
INSTALLED NEW 4" SERVICE LINE AND TIED INTO
CUSTOMERS 3" DOMESTIC LINE WITH NEW 3" BACKFLOW.
FOUND FIRE HYDRANT ON SITE TO BE INTERNAL OFF OF
CUSTOMERS FIRE SERVICE.

Bottom

Press Enter to continue.

F3=Exit F12=Cancel



City of Merced Public Works
1776 Grogan Ave
Merced, CA 95341

Work Order Field Sheet

Work Order # [REDACTED]

Assigned To: [REDACTED]

Priority [REDACTED]

Date Submitted [REDACTED]

Date Scheduled [REDACTED]

Date Requested [REDACTED]



LOCATION	CONTACT	CONTACT PHONE	REQUESTING DEPARTMENT
[REDACTED]			WATER SYSTEM

CITIZEN ADDRESS	CITIZEN CONTACT	CITIZEN PHONE

ACTIVITIES

TASK	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	ASSET
1	INSTALL BACKFLOW	REMOVE EXISTING SWING CHECK AND INSTALL NEW 4" FIRE DOUBLE CHECK BACKFLOW	-
2	INSTALL BACKFLOW	INSTALL BACKFLOW	-
3	INSTALL BACKFLOW	INSTALL BACKFLOW	-

COMMENTS

COMMENT DATE	COMMENT BY	COMMENT DESCRIPTION
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Removed swing check and installed new 4" backflow. Work complete 9/1/2023 DA
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	inventory listed in comments that were not found in system
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1- 4" mj/fl elbow 2-4" fl/fl elbow
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Hydro excavated down to investigate the backside and get parts ordered for new backflow.
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Hydro excavated down to investigate the backside and get parts ordered for new backflow.

COST DETAIL

TASK	DATE	DETAIL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE	TOTAL
Total:						\$1126.51

CUSTOM FIELDS

FIELD NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	DEFAULT	ACTUAL VALUE

ADDITIONAL NOTES

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request

Request number : [REDACTED] Open

EXCAVATE TO INSTALL BACKFLOW

Facility ID :

Node Range : 0 to 0

Customer ID : 0

LM location ID : [REDACTED]

General location :

Requestor : [REDACTED]

Requesting department : PWMT PW - WATER

Request date/time . . . :

Scheduled start date . . :

Actual :

Requested completion . . :

Scheduled :

Actual :

Close date :

More...

F3=Exit F5=More detail F7=AR customer F8=Contact F9=Charges
F10=Comments F12=Cancel F20=Customer functions F24=More keys
Work request has comments.

CITY OF MERCED
Display Work Request Comments

Request number :

EXCAVATE TO INSTALL BACKFLOW

Request status : OP Open

Detail Description

WATER CREW TO EXCAVATE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW
BACKFLOW DEVICE. CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM INSTALL.
WATER CREW TO REPLACE METER IN VAULT WITH SPOOL
AND REMOVE VAULT.

Bottom

Press Enter to continue.

F3=Exit F12=Cancel