NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #17-01 AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

Due to an issue with the appointment of one of the Planning Commissioners, this item that was originally heard by the Planning Commission on October 18, 2017, will need to re-considered. Therefore, a public hearing will be held by the Merced City Planning Commission on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard in the City Council Chambers located at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, concerning Zoning Ordinance Amendment #17-01, initiated by the City of Merced. This application involves changes to the Merced Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) which would replace Merced Municipal Code Section 20.44.170 ("Medical Marijuana and Cultivation") with a new Section 20.44.170 ("Regulation of Commercial Cannabis Activities – Commercial Cannabis Business Permit Required"); amend Section 20.10.020 and Table 20.10-1 ("Commercial Zoning Districts"); amend Section 20.12.020 and Table 20.12-1 ("Industrial Zoning Districts"); and add Land Use Table 20.44-1 to regulate all commercial cannabis activities and cultivation for personal use in the City of Merced. In general, the regulations would allow Commercial Cannabis Businesses, including cultivation, distribution, manufacturing, deliveries, and dispensaries/retail sales, in certain zones with a Commercial Cannabis Business Permit.

An environmental review checklist has been filed for this project, and a categorical exemption has been prepared (i.e., no further environmental review would be required) under the California Environmental Quality Act. A copy of this staff evaluation is available for public inspection at the City of Merced Planning Department during regular business hours, at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA. A copy of this document can also be purchased at the Planning Department for the price of reproduction.

All persons in favor of, opposed to, or in any manner interested in this request for a Zoning Ordinance Amendment are invited to attend this public hearing or forward written comments to the Director of Development Services, City of Merced, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. The public review period for the environmental determination begins on October 26, 2017, and ends on November 8, 2017. Please feel free to call the Planning Department at (209) 385-6858 for additional information. If you challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Merced at, or prior to, the public hearing.

After the Planning Commission makes its decision on this matter, the matter will also be considered at a public hearing before the City Council. A separate notice of that public hearing will also be given.

/s/Kim Espinosa

October 23, 2017 Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager

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