

Three ways to get on the City Council agenda

The City Council and City Staff value your opinions and want to hear your concerns. There are three ways to present an issue or concern to the City Council so that they can begin to take it under consideration:

1 Oral Communications**

Fill out a "Request to Speak" form before or at the City Council meeting.

Turn it in to a City Clerk at the meeting.

You will have 3-5 minutes to speak.

"Request to Speak" forms are available at the City Council meeting and also at <http://www.cityofmerced.org/depts/cityclerk/default.asp>.

2 Written Petitions and Communications**

Submit a letter(s) or written petition(s) to City Council. If a letter or petition arrives less than a week prior to the meeting, it will be included with the next regular City Council agenda.

There is no special form or format required.

3 City Council Comments**

Contact a City Council Member

Seek his/her support to sponsor the item.

City Council Member contact information is available from the City Clerk and also at the City's website at ([http://](http://www.cityofmerced.org/depts/city_council/default.asp)

www.cityofmerced.org/depts/city_council/default.asp.)

** Your item will not likely be acted upon by the City Council immediately after you present it because the State's Open Meeting Laws require notice before the City Council can vote.

See Next Steps

NEXT STEPS: After you have presented your issue or concern before the City Council:

If a City Council Member wants the entire City Council to consider the issue or concern.

The item will be scheduled for further discussion at least thirty (30) days later so that the City staff can research it and the City Council can prepare for the discussion.

This request must be agreed with by at least one other Member of the City Council.

Get your issues and concerns heard



Marilynne Manfredi of M-Dog addresses the Merced City Council at a recent meeting. Council meetings can be viewed live on Comcast Channel 96 and on the Internet and are also archived on YouTube. Go to the City's website, www.cityofmerced.org, for more information.

When presenting your issues or concerns, please state the following:

- ✓ The issues or concerns to be presented.
- ✓ The actions the City Council should take.
- ✓ The reasons why the actions should be taken.

Merced City Council

Mayor Stan Thurston

Council Members:

Bill Blake

Tony Dossetti

Noah Lor

Mike Murphy

Josh Pedrozo

Mary-Michal Rawling

Contact the City Council by email at Citycouncil@cityofmerced.org, by calling 385-6834 or writing to Council members at the Civic Center address below.

Council meetings

The Council meets on the first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Civic Center, 678 W. 18th St. When Monday is a holiday, the Council meets the next day. The agenda is posted online at www.CityofMerced.org.

Contacting us

www.CityofMerced.org, contains City Council information, the Muni Code, General Plan and other information. Contact the Newsletter at newsletter@CityofMerced.org, call the Public Information Office at 385-6232 or write:

Merced Civic Center

Attn: Public Information Office

678 W. 18th St.

Merced CA 95340

The Civic Center is open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., except holidays.

Call us

City Council	385-6834
City Manager	385-6834
City Attorney	385-6868
City Clerk	388-7100
Airport	385-6873
Code Enforcement.....	385-6861
Finance	388-7900
Inspection Services	385-6861
Personnel.....	388-7100
Planning Department.....	385-6858
Public Works (7:30-4:30) ...	385-6800
After hours	385-6905
Recreation	385-6855
Utility payments.....	388-7289

IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Fire Department.....	385-6891
Police Department	385-6912

Ask the City: Awww, look at the cute kitty

Can you put some information into the newsletter about spaying and neutering dogs and cats?

A request at a Council meeting

Done! Dogs may be man's (and woman's) best friend, but they aren't always treated that way. And neither are cats, rabbits, and all the other pets that people bring into their homes and then grow tired of and set free.

Last year in Merced County there were 2,180 animals euthanized because they were abandoned, and most of them were healthy animals, according to M-dog officials who spoke at a recent City Council meeting.

Spaying and neutering your pets is one way to help end the cycle. Another way is to adopt rescue animals when you are looking to bring a pet into your family. And the third way, of course, it to be a responsible pet

owner, who gets your pet spayed or neutered and also makes sure your pet gets vaccinated and keeps the vaccinations up-to-date. And don't forget to license your dogs!

There are a number of clinics that offer low-cost spaying and neutering services and also vaccination services. M-Dog is just one of the many organizations that serves as a clearinghouse or information and assistance. M-Dog has partnered with the City of Merced on the Merced Dog Park located at Yosemite Avenue and R Streets.

M-Dog supplies the doggy bags at the park. To join M-Dog or for information go to www.mdogs.org or call 209-631-3235.



Thor has been fixed.

Think Green

Spring Cleanup program almost here

Please don't start collecting so much stuff or you might end up on one of those hoarders shows on cable TV.

And if it is a health hazard, do yourself and your neighbors a favor and get rid of it immediately.

We will be having our Spring Cleanup on the weekends of April 13/14 and April 20/21. Drop off hours will be between 6:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

A flier will be mailed to every utility customer with details about what kinds of materials will be accepted, the drop off locations and hours of operation.

Home appliances and metal items will be accepted, but please separate from your waste. Same goes for your computers, TVs and electronic equipment.

This is only for Merced residents or people who can show a utility bill.



This service is paid for by refuse rate payers, so they are the only ones who get to use this service.

The drop off sites will be at:

- *Merced College (LeHigh Drive lot)
- *Merced High (G St. lot)
- *Golden Valley High (Childs Ave. lot)
- *Merced Fairgrounds (11th and G lot)

Public comments wanted on the City's Bike Plan

There will be a second open forum for public input to revise the Merced Bike Plan on Weds., March 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Sam Pipes Room in the Merced Civic Center, 678 W. 18th St.

The City of Merced Planning Division and the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) has begun to update the City's 2008 Merced Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP). This document is necessary to compete for funds made available each year

by Caltrans for a variety of bike-related improvements.

More information is available at the City's Planning Division's website at cityofmerced.org.

If people can't make the public workshop they can submit written comments. Send those to our partner: MCAG, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, or fax to (209) 723-0322 Attn: Ty Phimmason, or e-mailed to ty.phimmason@mcagov.org.