

P&CS DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER UPDATES



BUDGET UPDATE

- Department has entered into agreements with Merced City School District to cover costs of programming for students Tk-6th grades in both Flag Football and Basketball- the contract will cover the cost of staff required to run the program and some supplies- Approximately \$180,000 FY25/26
- Department is working with Weaver School District to offer modified version of P&CS sport programs through afterschool clinics. Contract is yet to be determined.
- Department is working with MCOE to create and pilot science-based weeklong Zoo Camps for school visits. Requesting \$5,000 per. This would be a significant increase in revenue for Merced Applegate Zoo.
- Department has received authorization from Merced County to use allocated funding for CP42 South
 - Assessing priorities and costs to add additional field (5 total), court lighting, and additional parking and restrooms
 - Will know what additions will be added by next month



Program Updates- SPORTS

- Adult Softball (Fall ball)
 - 690 players
- NFL Flag Football
 - Weekly practices and weekend games August-October- 200 players
 - 75% are playing for free



PROGRAM UPDATES- SUMMER AQUATICS



- Big Kahuna Cannonball contest
- Huge Thank you to our Summer Aquatics Staff for another amazing summer
- Major appreciation to CVOF for sponsoring lessons this summer- Fees went down from \$65 per session to \$25 per session

PROGRAM UPDATES- MAZ

- Merced Applegate Zoo
 - Design ongoing for renovation. Should be complete this month and construction to start in November
 - Mermaid and Pirates event brought in over 1,200 visitors in the month of August
 - Huge turnout considering the heat!
 - New Docents were brought on and carryout demonstrations with animals, food preparation and exhibit maintenance.
 - August was National Night Out and Merced Police Department provided the Zoo a check for over \$1,200 from the annual Cops for Critters trunk or treat event in October. Thanks Merced PD!



1,203
VISITORS

Our Summer Mermaids and Pirates event was a huge success thanks to your support!

Beyond learning, our special events build social skills through group activities, encourage family bonding, and inspire a lifelong appreciation for science and the natural world—all while giving children memorable experiences they carry with them as they grow.

Thank you to our committed supporters!



Program Updates- Special Events



Capital Improvement Projects

Merced Applegate Zoo

Merced Regional Sports Complex

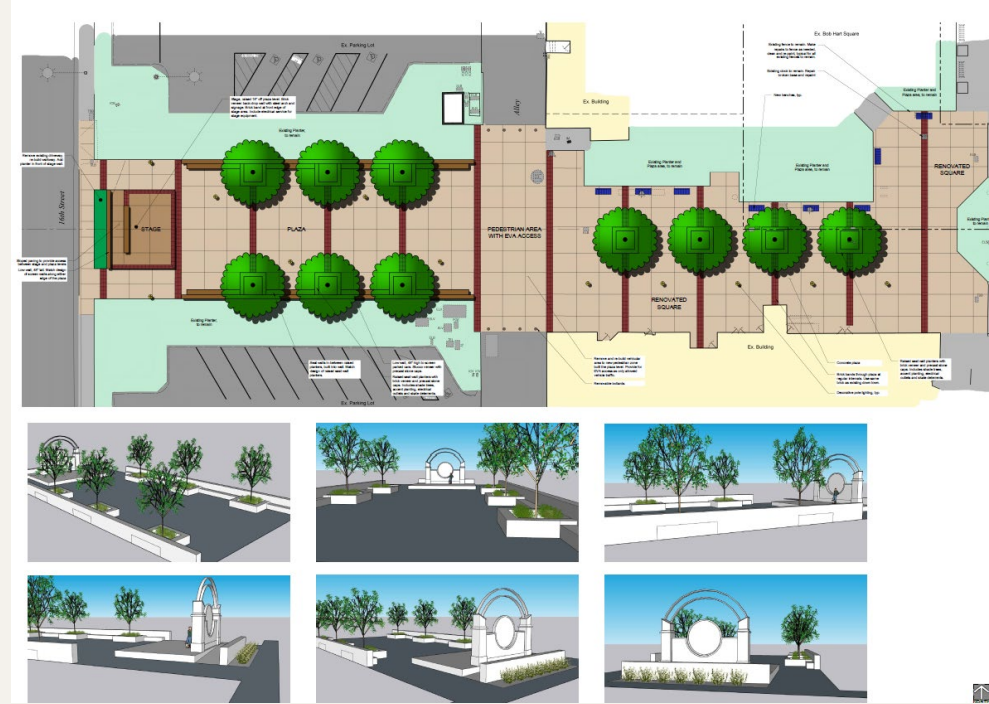
Bob Hart Square

General Vang Pao Park

Kiddieland







General Vang Pao Park

- Playground Purchased- all-inclusive design
- Monument Awarded the CA Arts in Parks Grant \$78,000
- Phase 1 design almost complete
- Construction to start this Winter, opening scheduled Spring 2026

Playground Highlights

- 2-12 year old wheelchair accessible platform based play area with incorporated shades and music panels
- On grade, triple wide hill slide with transfer station
- Shade covered Swing Area
- Wheel chair accessible merry go round
- Rope climber for kinesthetic interaction



Aletha June Playground

GENERAL VANG PAO PARK

A new all-inclusive themed playground



GENERAL VANG PAO MONUMENT



General Vang Pao Memorial



Pebble Harp



General Vang Pao Portrait in Steel



Concrete Bench w/ Wood Top & Stone Base

Bronze Donor Plaque

Rice Field Int. w/ Terraced Seating



HIGH SPEED RAIL

- City is working actively with HSRA representatives to ensure Merced remains a priority for initial phase 1 station location
- P&CS is using PROS Plan efforts to help determine type of locations that would accommodate future indoor recreation facilities such as a community center and a recreation center.
- P&CS has plans being reviewed by City Engineer to move into Merced Senior Community Center this Winter to support ongoing programming at the two important venues (McCombs Youth Center and Merced Senior Community Center).
 - City is in discussion with both users of current facilities to imagine multi-generational facilities in the future and how there programs may fit within those parameters.



COMMUNITY PROGRAM AND FACILITY SPONSORSHIPS



We Put the Unity in Community



Questions and Answers