

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER MERCED

P. O. BOX 1450
MERCED, CA 95340

May 11, 2020

City of Merced Recreation and
Parks Commission
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Re: Wahneta Hall Endowment Trust Fund

Dear Parks and Rec Commissioners:

We submit the following request and information with respect to the Wahneta Hall "Endowment Fund:

1. **Amount Requested:** Maximum of required distribution
2. **Purpose of Request:** To operate and maintain train in Applegate Park during 2020 season.
3. **Reasons Request Qualifies for Consideration:** Under the terms of the Wahneta Hall Trust, the income from the endowment fund has to be used to establish and maintain a mini train system and/or establish and maintain a band concert program at Applegate Park. Failure to use the funds in accordance with the trust terms is cause for the trust gift to lapse. The Kiwanis Club of Greater Merced has operated and maintained the train system in Applegate Park for almost 50 years.
4. **Reasons Request Should be Considered Favorably:** Operation of the train system in Applegate Park is operated as a community service to the children and parents of the City of Merced. The costs of operation exceed the revenues. Ticket costs are purposely low to serve all in the community. The train has been a popular feature of the park and has provided a memorable experience for the thousands of children and parents who have ridden it over the years.
5. **Covid-19 Impact:** We are shut down and regret not being able to serve the community. However, we still have to maintain the park and the rides without any income. Therefore, this year we have a greater need for some grant/trust assistance.

Your kindest attention to this request is appreciated.

Very truly yours,
KIWANIS OF GREATER MERCED


Kiwanis Kiddieland Committee