



# CITY OF MERCED

City Council Chamber  
Merced Civic Center  
2nd Floor  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## Minutes

### City Council/Public Finance and Economic Development Authority/Parking Authority

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Monday, May 3, 2021

6:00 PM

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#### A. CLOSED SESSION ROLL CALL

- Present:** 5 - Mayor Matthew Serratto, Council Member Fernando Echevarria, Council Member Delray Shelton, Council Member Bertha Perez, and Council Member Sarah Boyle
- Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Kevin Blake, and Council Member Jesse Ornelas

#### B. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor SERRATTO called the Closed Session to order at 5:04 PM.

**Clerk's Note:** Council Member BOYLE arrived at 5:07 PM.

- B.1.** **SUBJECT:** CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS -- Agency Designated Representative(s): Travis Lindsey and Janell Van Bindsbergen, Lozano Smith, Attorneys at Law; Employee Organizations: International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1479 and Merced Association of City Employees (MACE). AUTHORITY: Government Code Section 54957.6

- B.2.** **SUBJECT:** CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS - Properties: APN #'s 049-200-005, 049-200-020, 049-200-022, 049-200-019, 049-200-023, 049-200-017, 049-200-021, 049-200-024, 049-200-025, 049-220-018, 049-220-019, 049-220-016, 049-220-020, 049-220-015, 065-030-004, 049-240-016, 049-240-017; Agency Negotiator: Stephanie Dietz, City Manager; Negotiating Parties: Foreclosure Trustee - WT Capital Lender Services and City of Merced; Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

**Clerk's Note:** Council adjourned from Closed Session at 5:40 PM.

#### C. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor SERRATTO called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

- C.1. Invocation - Captain Ryan Miller, Salvation Army Merced

Council observed a moment of silence for the invocation.

C.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Council Member ECHEVARRIA led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**D. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Matthew Serratto, Council Member Fernando Echevarria, Council Member Delray Shelton, Council Member Bertha Perez, and Council Member Sarah Boyle

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Kevin Blake, and Council Member Jesse Ornelas

D.1. In accordance with Government Code 54952.3, it is hereby announced that the City Council sits either simultaneously or serially as the Parking Authority and the Public Financing and Economic Development Authority. City Council members receive a monthly stipend of \$400.00 by Charter for sitting as the City Council; and the Mayor receives an additional \$100.00 each month as a part of the adopted budget and Resolution 2020-86. The members of the Parking Authority and the Public Financing and Economic Development Authority receive no compensation.

**E. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

There was no report.

**F. CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

**F.1. SUBJECT: Proclamation - Bike Month**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Received by a BAC Commissioner

Council Member BOYLE presented the Bike Month Proclamation to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Chair Greg FRIEDMAN.

**F.2. SUBJECT: Proclamation in Support of Merced's Asian American Community**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Received by members of Merced's Asian American Community

Mayor SERRATTO presented a proclamation in support of Merced's Asian American Community to members of the Merced Lao Family, the Lao Association of Merced and the Hmong Culture Camp.

**F.3. SUBJECT: Proclamation - Municipal Clerks Week**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Received by Jennifer Levesque, Assistant City Clerk

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Council Members ECHEVARRIA and SHELTON presented the Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation to Assistant City Clerk Jennifer LEVESQUE, Deputy City Clerk John TRESIDDER and Records Clerk Devin LOTEZ.

## G. WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Clerk's Note:** Emails were received for the following agenda items and were forwarded to Council prior to the meeting.

Item L.1. - Ramon RODRIGUEZ, Daniel GARIBAY, and Alyssa CASTRO.

## H. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Anissa FRAGOSO, Merced Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President - spoke on the upcoming Mercado on Main Street starting on May 5th and continuing through the summer.

Adam LANE, Merced LGBTQ+ Alliance President and Gabriela SPIVA - updated the Council on the upcoming Pride events.

## I. CONSENT CALENDAR

Item I.6 Award of Bid and Approval of Construction Contract with Standard Demolition, Inc. for the Well Site 3 Tank Removal, Project No. 117047, in the Amount of \$274,500; was pulled for separate consideration.

### Approval of the Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Council Member Echevarria, seconded by Council Member Shelton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

### I.1. **SUBJECT: Reading by Title of All Ordinances and Resolutions**

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Ordinances and Resolutions which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and a summary title may be read with further reading waived.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**City Council** - Adopt a motion waiving the reading of Ordinances and Resolutions, pursuant to Section 412 of the Merced City Charter.

**This Consent Item was approved.**

**I.2. SUBJECT: Information-Only Contracts for the Month of April 2021**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Notification of awarded Non-Public Works contracts under \$33,000 and of Public Works contracts under \$71,862.

**This Consent Item was approved.**

**I.3. SUBJECT: Approval of City Council/Public Financing and Economic Development/Parking Authority Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2021**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Official adoption of previously held meeting minutes.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council/Public Financing and Economic**

**Development/Parking Authority** - Adopt a motion approving the meeting minutes of April 19, 2021.

**This Consent Item was approved.**

**I.4. SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement for Landscape Maintenance Services with EMTS, Inc., for Maintenance of Various Community Facilities Districts, in an Annual Amount of \$251,310 for a Two (2) Year Term Beginning July 1, 2021 Through June 30, 2023, with an Option to Extend the Agreement for Three (3) Additional One (1) Year Term(s)**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers approving a professional services agreement with EMTS, Inc., for maintenance services at various Community Facilities Districts, including Bellevue Ranch East & West, Bright Development, Compass Pointe, Compass Pointe Apartments, Cottages, Cypress Terrace 6 & 7, Franco, Lantana Estates, Mansionette Estates #5, Mercy Hospital, Moraga, Northwood Professional Center, Provance, Sandcastle, Tuscany, University Park, and University Park II.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

A. Approving a Professional Services Agreement with EMTS, Inc., in the annual amount of \$251,310, to provide landscape maintenance services at various Community Facilities Districts for two years, with an option to renew for a maximum of (3) three additional one-year periods, effective July 1, 2021 (subject to Council's approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 budget); and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager or designee to sign the necessary documents and execute up to three (3) future 1-year contract extension amendments for a not-to-exceed limit of a 3% annual increase over the prior year expenditure.

**This Consent Item was approved.**

**I.5.**

**SUBJECT:** Award of Bid and Approval of Agreement for Supplies and Services with Stommel Inc., dba Lehr Auto Electric, and Authorization to Purchase Public Safety Vehicle Parts in an Amount not to Exceed \$97,291.57

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers awarding the bid and approving an agreement with Stommel, Inc., dba Lehr Auto Electric, for the purchase of Public Safety vehicle parts in order to outfit six Police patrol vehicles and one K-9 vehicle in the amount of \$64,291.57, as well as purchase any other parts needed from the bid parts list throughout the remainder of the fiscal year not to exceed \$33,000.00 above the bid amount.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

A. Awarding the bid for the supply of the requested Public Safety vehicle parts to Stommel Inc., dba Lehr Auto Electric; and,

B. Approving the Agreement for Supplies and Services with Stommel Inc., dba Lehr Auto Electric; and,

C. Approving purchases of Public Safety vehicle parts in an amount not to exceed \$97,291.57 from Stommel Inc., dba Lehr Auto Electric; and,

D. Authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute any necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

I.7.

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of \$7,448.04 in Fiscal Year 2018 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) Funds and Authorization to Purchase and Install Two (2) Vehicular Repeaters

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers accepting \$7,448.04 in Fiscal Year 2018 SHSGP funds for the purchase and installation of two (2) Vehicular Repeaters as revenue, appropriating supplemental funds, and using pooled cash to cover the appropriation until grant funds are reimbursed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

- A. Accepting Fiscal Year 2018 SHSGP grant funds in the amount of \$7,448.04 to account 001-0901-324.02-00-Other State Grants, and;
- B. Appropriating \$7,448.04 to account 001-0901-522.26-00-Supplies and Services / Other Equipment O & M to purchase and install two (2) vehicular repeaters; and,
- C. Authorizing the use of pooled cash to cover the appropriation until grant funds are reimbursed.

This Consent Item was approved.

I.8.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of a Finding of Public Convenience or Necessity for the Sale of Alcohol for the New Arco AMPM to be Located at 1295 West Yosemite Avenue (Land Use Determination #21-02)

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides options for the City Council to consider making a Finding of Public Convenience or Necessity (PCN), as required by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), to issue a Type 20 alcohol license ("off-sale general" allowing the sale of beer and wine) for the new Arco AMPM to be located at 1295 West Yosemite Avenue.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion approving the Finding of Public

Convenience or Necessity to allow Arco AMPM, to be located at 1295 West Yosemite Avenue, to obtain a Type 20 ABC license for “off-sale general” allowing the sale of beer and wine (Option #1 as shown in the “Council Action” section of this Administrative Report).

This Consent Item was approved.

I.6.

**SUBJECT:** Award of Bid and Approval of Construction Contract with Standard Demolition, Inc. for the Well Site 3 Tank Removal, Project No. 117047, in the Amount of \$274,500

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers awarding a contract in the amount of \$274,500 to Standard Demolition, Inc. to remove the elevated water storage tank at Well Site #3 located at 511 West 12th Street.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

- A. Awarding the bid for the Well Site 3 Tank Removal, Project No. 117047, to Standard Demolition, Inc., in the amount of \$274,500; and,
- B. Authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute the necessary documents and to approve change orders not to exceed 10% of the total contract.

Mayor SERRATTO pulled this item for a report from staff.

City Engineer Michael BELTRAN explained the reasons for removing the water tower.

Council discussed the significance of the water tower to residents in South Merced.

**A motion was made by Council Member Perez, seconded by Council Member Echevarria, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**J. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

J.1.

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Granting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for American Guard Services to Engage in Private Patrol Services

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers approving a Resolution granting and issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity to American Guard Services.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion approving **Resolution 2021-29**, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, granting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to American Guard Services.

**Clerk's Note:** Items J.1. and J.2 were combined as a single Public Hearing.

Police Lieutenant Alan WARD gave a brief presentation on the security companies wanting to do business within the City of Merced and the required background checks that were completed.

Mayor SERRATTO opened the Public Hearing for items J.1. and J.2. at 6:44 PM and closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 PM due to lack of public comment.

**A motion was made by Council Member Echevarria, seconded by Council Member Boyle, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

J.2.

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Granting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Shield Private Security to Engage in Private Patrol Services

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers approving a Resolution granting and issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity to Shield Private Security.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion approving **Resolution 2021-30**, a

Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, granting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to Shield Private Security.

**A motion was made by Council Member Echevarria, seconded by Council Member Boyle, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**J.3.**

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Categorical Exemption and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Sections 20.74 (Appeals), 20.44.170 (Commercial Cannabis Businesses), 20.64 (Administrative Responsibility), 20.68 (Permit Requirements), and 20.70 (Public Notice And Hearings) of the Zoning Ordinance Regarding Appeals and the Number of Votes Required for Planning Commission Action

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Adopt a Categorical Exemption and Introduce an Ordinance amending various sections of the Zoning Ordinance regarding appeals and the number of votes required for Planning Commission action.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

A. Adopting a Categorical Exemption (Environmental Review #21-03); and,

B. Introducing **Ordinance 2523**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, Amending Sections 20.74 (Appeals), 20.44.170 (Commercial Cannabis Businesses), 20.64 (Administrative Responsibility), 20.68 (Permit Requirements), and 20.70 (Public Notice And Hearings) of the Merced Municipal Code Regarding the Timing of Appeals and the Number of Votes Required To Adopt Planning Commission Actions.

Planning Manager Kim ESPINOSA gave a slideshow presentation on proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance regarding appeals and the number of votes required to approve Planning Commission actions.

Mayor SERRATTO opened and subsequently closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 PM due to lack of public comment.

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A motion was made by Council Member Perez, seconded by Council Member Echevarria, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**J.4.**

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for General Plan Amendment #20-02, Site Utilization Plan Revision #2 to Planned Development #12, Changing the Land Use Designation from Commercial Office (CO) and Industrial (IND) to Business Park (BP) for Approximately 3.38 Acres Located at the Northeast Corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59; Introduction of an Ordinance Approving Site Utilization Plan Revision #2 to Planned Development #12, Including a Mini-Mart with Fuel Island, a Drive-Through Business, and an Office/Retail Building; and Approval of a Legislative Action Agreement for the Project

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Request for City Council approval to change the General Plan and Site Utilization Plan designations for a parcel of approximately 3.38 acres located at the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59 to allow a commercial development, including the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

A. Adopting **Resolution 2021-32**, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration for General Plan Amendment #20-02 and Site Utilization Plan Revision #2 to Planned Development #12 for a parcel containing approximately 3.38 acres located at the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59; and approving General Plan Amendment #20-02 for the same parcel changing the General Plan Designation from Commercial Office (CO) and Industrial (IND) to Business Park (BP); and,

B. Introducing **Ordinance 2524**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, approving Site Utilization Plan Revision #2 to Planned Development (P-D) #12 changing the land use designation from "Commercial Office" (CO) and "Industrial" (IND) to "Business Park" (BP) for

a parcel of approximately 3.38 acres of land generally located on the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59; and,

C. Approving the legislative action agreement and authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Principal Planner Michael HREN gave a slideshow presentation describing the request for City Council approval to change the General Plan and Site Utilization Plan designations for a parcel of approximately 3.38 acres located at the northeast corner of Olive Avenue and State Highway 59 to allow a commercial development, including the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Council and Mr. HREN briefly discussed the project and potential tenants for the location.

Mayor SERRATTO opened and subsequently closed the Public Hearing at 6:59 due to lack of public comment.

**A motion was made by Council Member Boyle, seconded by Council Member Shelton, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**J.5.**

**SUBJECT: Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Approving Substantial Amendment #1 to the 2020-2024 Consolidated and 2020 Annual Action Plans to Amend Expected Funding Sources, Expected Program Income, Funding Amount for Project #1- CDBG: Administration, Funding Source for Project #3: Public Facility and Infrastructure, and Associated Text Changes Related to a Change in Funding Source for the Childs and B Affordable Housing Project; Authorizing the City Manager to Execute all Documents, Agreements, and Certifications Resulting from this Amendment; Authorizing Staff to Make these Amendments to the Plans and Submit all Required Documents to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers the first Substantial Amendment to the 2020-2024 Consolidated and 2020 Annual Action Plans to amend expected funding sources, expected program income (PI), funding for Project #1: Administration, Funding Source for Project #3: Public Facility and Infrastructure, and

associated text changes related to a change in the funding source for the Childs and B Affordable Housing Project; authorizes the City Manager to execute all related documents, agreements, and certifications; and authorizes staff to make amendments the plans and submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion adopting **Resolution 2021-31**, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, approving substantial amendment #1 to the 2020-2024 Consolidated and 2020 Annual Action Plans to amend expected funding sources, expected program income, funding amount for Project #1- CDBG: administration, funding source for Project #3: Public Facility and Infrastructure, and associated text changes related to a change in funding source for the Childs and B Affordable Housing Project; authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents, agreements, and certifications resulting from this amendment; and authorizing staff to make these amendments to the plans and submit all required documents to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Development Services Director Scott MCBRIDE gave a slideshow presentation on Substantial Amendment #1 to the 2020-2024 Consolidated and 2020 Annual Action Plans.

Mayor SERRATTO opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 PM.

**Clerk's Note:** The following comment was received via voicemail.

Sheng XIONG, Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability - questioned funding payback, the use for funds that are created by the payback, and administrative costs.

Mayor SERRATTO closed the Public Hearing at 7:07 PM.

Mr. MCBRIDE addressed the callers concerns and discussed the timing for use of the funding.

Council and Mr. MCBRIDE discussed savings by payback of the loan and how administrative costs are paid.

**A motion was made by Council Member Shelton, seconded by Council Member Echevarria, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

## K. REPORTS

### K.1.

**SUBJECT:** Overview of the Upcoming Redistricting Process Including the Possible Formation of a Redistricting Advisory Committee, and Approval of an Agreement with National Demographics Corporation to Assist in the Map Drawing Process in an Amount not to Exceed \$50,000

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Provides Council with a brief overview on the upcoming redistricting process and potential formation of a Redistricting Advisory Committee and authorizes an agreement with National Demographics Corporation to assist with demography work potentially adjusting the current City Council district map after release of the 2020 Census data.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

- A. Providing staff direction on the formation of a Redistricting Advisory Committee; and,
- B. Approving a Professional Services Agreement with National Demographics Corporation in a not to exceed amount of \$50,000 for redistricting consulting and demography work; and,
- C. Authorizing the City Manager or designee to sign the necessary documents; and,
- D. Approving a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$35,000 from the unencumbered, unreserved General Fund balance in the City Clerk's Division Professional Services expense account 001-0204-512.17-00.

Assistant City Clerk Jennifer LEVESQUE gave a slideshow presentation on the upcoming redistricting process, new laws and regulations, and the timeline to complete the project.

Council and Ms. LEVESQUE briefly discussed the process, the need to use a consultant to assist in applying the census data, and the potential need for a redistricting committee.

City Manager Stephanie DIETZ stated that the project could be done in steps with the hiring of the consultant to work with the census data, bringing a interim report to Council in the fall, and potentially appointing a redistricting committee at that time.

**A motion was made by Council Member Perez, seconded by Council Member Echevarria, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**Clerk's Note:** Council took at recess at 7:29 PM and returned at 7:35 PM.

**K.2.**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Recommendation of Local Artists, Artwork, and Location Process for the Utility Box Art Project

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Considers approving the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission recommendation of local artists, artwork, and location process for the utility box art project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**City Council** - Adopt a motion approving the local artist, artwork, and location process as recommended by the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission.

City Manager Stephanie DIETZ gave a slideshow presentation highlighting the submissions for the utility box art project and the process used by the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission to select the artwork.

Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Chair Colton DENNIS spoke on the quality of the artwork submitted and the process used to review and approve the submissions.

Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Ex-Officio Member Kim GARNER discussed how all of the artwork would be added to the art inventory compiled by the Commission.

Council, Mr. DENNIS, and Ms. DIETZ discussed funding, a Downtown Arts

District, and potential to expand the program.

Eddie RODRIGUEZ, Merced - spoke on the artwork he submitted for the project.

**A motion was made by Council Member Echevarria, seconded by Council Member Perez, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

## L. BUSINESS

### L.1. SUBJECT: Council Member Ornelas' Request to Discuss the Display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square for the Month of June

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Council Member Ornelas' request to discuss the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square for the month of June pursuant to City Council Administrative Policies and Procedures C-1.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Provide direction to staff on the display of the Pride Progress Flag and potential flag display policy.

City Manager Stephanie DIETZ briefly discussed Council Member Ornelas' request to display the Pride Progress Flag due to his absence from the meeting.

Adam LANE, Merced LGBTQ+ Alliance President - proposed the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square for the month of June and gave a background on the flag and its meaning.

Daniel GARIBAY, Merced resident - expressed support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square and requested a resolution of support for the LGBTQ+ community.

Devin LOTEZ, Merced resident - expressed support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square.

Alejandro JURADO, Merced resident - expressed support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag and requested a resolution of support be placed

on a future agenda.

Gabriella SPIVA, Merced resident - expressed support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square and commented on personal experiences.

**Clerk's Note:** The following comments were received via voicemail.

Alyssa CASTRO, Merced resident - expressed support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square.

Cynthia VASQUEZ, Merced resident - stated support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square.

Madison MITCHELL, Merced resident - stated support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag.

Miranda GRISWALD, Merced resident - stated support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square.

Nancy MORRIS, Merced resident - urged support for the display of the Pride Progress Flag in Bob Hart Square.

Council discussed the display of the flag for the month of June and the formation of a flag display policy and calendar to be brought to a future meeting.

**A motion was made by Council Member Echevarria, seconded by Council Member Perez, to approve the display of the Pride Progress Flag for the month of June in Bob Hart Square and direct staff to return in July with a flag policy. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas

**L.2.**

**SUBJECT:** Discussion on the Format of Future City Council Meetings and City of Merced Boards and Commissions Meetings Post COVID-19

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Discuss the format of City Council Meetings and Boards and Commissions Meetings going forward post COVID-19.

In addition, staff is seeking clarification on the following areas:

- Configuration of seating in City Council Chambers
- If all City Commissions, Committees and Boards should follow Council meetings
- If recording of City Commissions, Committees and Boards should continue via Facebook live

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Provide staff direction on the format of future City Council Meetings and Board and Commission Meetings.

Council agreed to hold the next meeting in person with Council socially distanced, for all boards and commissions to continue to broadcast meetings on social media, and to bring this item back at the first meeting in July.

**L.3.**

**SUBJECT:** Request to Add Item to Future Agenda

#### **REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides members of the City Council to request that an item be placed on a future City Council agenda for initial consideration by the City Council.

Council Member PEREZ requested an item be placed on the second meeting in July to discuss a resolution for the LGBTQ+ community.

**L.4.**

**SUBJECT:** City Council Comments

#### **REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides an opportunity for the Mayor and/or Council Member(s) to make a brief announcement on any activity(ies) she/he has attended on behalf of the City and to make a brief announcement on future community events and/or activities. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body under this section.

Council Member ECHEVARRIA discussed attending a memorial for a Soccer Academy Coach.

Council Member PEREZ thanked the LGBTQ community for attending the meeting.

Mayor SERRATTO discussed the Youth Council park cleanup, business owner relief funding, local fundraisers, the June 5th cleanup at Rahilly Park, the Lao New Year event, the upcoming alley cleanup, and the upcoming sponsorship for the Branding Iron.

Council Member ECHEVARRIA encouraged the public to attend the Mercado on Main Street event on Cinco de Mayo.

## M. ADJOURNMENT

**Clerk's Note:** The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

**A motion was made by Council Member Shelton, seconded by Council Member Perez, that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Samuel Bugarin. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Serratto, Council Member Echevarria, Council Member Shelton, Council Member Perez, and Council Member Boyle

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tempore Blake, and Council Member Ornelas