



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

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

6:00 PM

A. STUDY SESSION ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Matthew Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Sarah Boyle, Council Member Darin Dupont, Council Member Ronnie DeAnda, Council Member Michael Harris, Council Member Shane Smith, and Council Member Fue Xiong

Absent: 0

B. STUDY SESSION

Mayor Pro Tempore BOYLE called the Study Session to order at 5:01 PM.

Clerk's Note: Council Member SMITH arrived to the Study Session at 5:03 PM and Mayor SERRATTO arrived to the Study Session at 5:41 PM.

B.1.

SUBJECT: Study Session on Rezoning for the Housing Element to Meet the Requirements for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Study Session on Rezoning to meet the Requirements of RHNA.

RECOMMENDATION

For information and discussion.

Management Analyst Leah BROWN and Rincon Consultant Brenna WEATHERBEE gave a slideshow presentation on rezoning for the Housing Element that meets the requirements for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).

Council and Ms. WEATHERBEE discussed details of the procedures for all the cycles, potentially changing the zoning of a site, the efforts made for different input, and details of the zoning for districts 1 and 2.

Clerk's Note: Council Member HARRIS requested to move Closed Session before the Regular meeting.

Curtis THOMAS, Merced - urged Council to consider amending the zoning

code and spoke on small business zoning in neighborhoods.

Clerk's Note: Council Member HARRIS retracted his request to go to Closed Session.

Council, Ms. WEATHERBEE, and Mrs. BROWN discussed details of the General Plan Amendment for the Bellevue Ranch area, increasing lower income housing in District 6, potentially seeing more changes to high density, details of the Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) designations, the purpose of the Study Session, the State's mandates and guidelines on rezoning, areas with the need of affordable housing in Merced, details of the parcels listed in the Study Session, and the process of construction the site inventory.

Clerk's Note: Council Member SMITH stepped out of the Study Session at 5:44 PM.

Rick WENDLING, Merced - spoke on the State/Federal mandate for affordable housing and the University housing areas in District 6.

Council and City Manager Scott MCBRIDE discussed details of the list of sites being presented and the process of future annexations.

Clerk's Note: The Study Session adjourned at 5:48 PM.

C. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor SERRATTO called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

C.1. Invocation - Monika Grasley, Lifeline Community Development Corp

The Invocation was delivered by Monika GRASELY of Lifeline Community Development Corp.

C.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Jermaine PASTOR led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

D. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Matthew Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Sarah Boyle, Council Member Darin Dupont, Council Member Ronnie DeAnda, Council Member Michael Harris, Council Member Shane Smith, and Council Member Fue Xiong

Absent: 0

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 \$500.00 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 2024-78. The members of the Parking Authority and the Public Financing and Economic Development Authority receive no compensation.

E. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

E.1. **SUBJECT: Proclamation - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Day of Service**

REPORT IN BRIEF

Accepted by Tamera Cobb of the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee.

Mayor SERRATTO presented the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Proclamation to Jerome RASPBERRY of the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee.

E.2. **SUBJECT: Proclamation - National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month**

REPORT IN BRIEF

Received by a representative of the Valley Crisis Center.

Mayor SERRATTO presented the National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month Proclamation to a representative from Valley Crisis Center.

F. WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

Agenda Item H.5.: Barbara ALVERNAZ, Jeffrey CARTER, a Merced Resident, Peggy PALMA, Heather PHAN, and Kathy RODRIGUEZ.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick WENDLING, Merced - spoke on the history of the political parties and freedom of speech.

Cynthia KELLY, Merced SPCA, Merced - shared details of the low cost spay/neuter Clinic event, spoke on a grant the Merced SPCA is applying to that would expand care to dogs, and details of kitten seasons.

Delvina JOHNSON, Faith in the Valley, Merced - shared concerns of the

Brookedale Gardens residents and spoke on a rental registry.

Joy WIDMARK, Merced - spoke on upholding the Planning Commissions decision for the cell tower and shared details of the cell tower on Bear Creek.

H. CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item H.5. Adoption of a Resolution to Display the Council Approved Commemorative Flags at Bob Hart Square per City Council Policy C-7; was pulled for separate consideration.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, seconded by Council Member Dupont, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

H.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.

H.2. **SUBJECT:** Approval of City Council/Public Financing and Economic Development/Parking Authority/Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2024, July 15, 2024, August 5, 2024, August 19, 2024, and September 3, 2024

REPORT IN BRIEF

Official adoption of previously held meeting minutes.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council/Public Financing and Economic Development/Parking Authority/Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency - Adopt a motion approving the meeting minutes of July 1, 2024, July 15, 2024, August 5, 2024, August 19, 2024, and September 3, 2024.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.3.

SUBJECT: Approving a Design & Build Professional Services Agreement with PlayCore Wisconsin Inc. dba GameTime for the Design & Construction of Inclusive Themed Playground at Community Park 42, Merced's Regional Sports Complex, in the Amount of \$459,021.29

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the agreement for playground design and construction of work outlined in the Design & Build Services Agreement for an amount not to exceed \$459,021.29 with PlayCore Wisconsin Inc. dba GameTime.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Approving a Design & Build Professional Services Agreement with PlayCore Wisconsin Inc. dba GameTime, in the amount of \$459,021.29 for design and construction of the Merced Regional Sports Complex Playground; and,

B. Approving change orders up to 5% of the agreement; and,

C. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.4.

SUBJECT: Approval of the 2024/2025 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Report Pursuant Federal Requirements Set Forth by Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (referred to as Plan) for the 2024/2025 years as required by Title II of

the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This Plan is an update from the previous 2019/2020 years report. The Plan includes evaluations for all City owned buildings, streets, parks, programs, and services for compliance with Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion accepting and filing the 2024/2025 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Report.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.6.

SUBJECT: Approval of a Three-Year Agreement with Granicus, LLC for Agenda Management Software, Board and Commissions Software, Community Outreach Software, Live Video Streaming, Websites, Hosting, Services and Support not to Exceed \$270,210

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers waiving the competitive bidding requirement for a three-year agreement with Granicus, LLC for agenda management, board and commissions, community outreach software, live video streaming, websites, hosting, services, and support not to exceed \$270,210.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Waiving the City's competitive bidding requirement as permitted by Merced Municipal Code section 3.04.210 Code for standardization on particular types of equipment; and,

B. Approving a three-year agreement with Granicus LLC. not to exceed \$270,210; and,

C. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.7.

SUBJECT: Approval of a One Year Lease Extension Between the City of Merced and USPS (United States Postal Service) at the Bell Station (415 W. 18th Street) with an Annual Rate of \$66,759

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving a one-year lease extension with USPS for office space at Bell Station, with an annual rental rate of \$66,759.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Approving the Lease Extension Agreement with the United States Postal Service for office space at the Bell Station with an annual rental rate of \$66,759; and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.8.

SUBJECT: Approval to Extend the Term of the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) Grant Contract to June 30, 2026

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers the approval of extending the term of the CalVIP grant contract to June 30, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Approving the term extension for the CalVIP grant contract to June 30, 2026; and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.9.

SUBJECT: Approval to Purchase One (1) New Ford E-Transit Cargo Van Equipped with Flexitrax C550 System, and Necessary Attachment Equipment, from WECO Industries in the Amount of \$249,862.65 for the Sewer Division

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the purchase of one new Ford E-Transit Cargo Van equipped with Flexitrax C550 System, in the amount of \$249,862.65. Staff has identified a vehicle that will not only aid their operation but allow the City to become compliant with California Code of Regulation Section 1962 (Zero-Emission Vehicle Standards).

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Waiving the City's competitive bidding requirement as permitted by Merced Municipal Code section 3.04.210 and authorizing the purchase to be made on the grounds of sole/single sourcing; and,

B. Approving the purchase of one Ford E-Transit Cargo Van equipped with Flexitrax C550 System, in the amount of \$249,862.65 from WECO Industries for the Sewer Division; and,

C. Authorizing the City Manager to execute any necessary documents for the purchase specified above; and,

D. Authorizing the issuance of the Purchase Order and approval of change orders not to exceed 10% of the total purchase price.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.10.

SUBJECT: Approval to Purchase One (1) New Side Loader Refuse Truck, and Necessary Attachment Equipment, From Ruckstell California Sales Co., Inc., in the Amount of \$426,985 for the Refuse Department

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the purchase of one 2024 Autocar ACX64 R/H Drive with New Way Sidewinder Refuse Side-Loading body in the amount of \$426,985. Staff has identified the need to purchase a vehicle, which will assist in the standardization of equipment through the cost savings of a government procurement program (Sourcewell).

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Waiving the City's competitive bidding requirement as permitted by Merced Municipal Code section 3.04.210 and authorizing the purchase to be made with a cooperative purchase agreement through Sourcewell, a government procurement program; and,

B. Approving the purchase of one 2024 Autocar ACX64 R/H Drive with New Way Sidewinder Refuse Side-Loading body in the amount of \$426,985.00 from Ruckstell California Sales Co., Inc., through

Sourcewell contract # 110223-NWY, adding to Refuse's fleet; and,

C. Authorizing the City Manager to execute any necessary documents for the purchase specified above; and,

D. Authorizing the issuance of the Purchase Order, and approval of change orders not to exceed 10% of the total purchase price.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.11.

SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement for the Harvesting of Wastewater Treatment Plant Land Application Crops with Bradley Bertuccio Hay Baling, Inc., for the Remainder of Fiscal Year 2024/2025 in the Amount of \$101,250 and the Annual Amount of \$270,000 for Subsequent Years; the Agreement Shall Have an Initial Term Beginning March 1, 2025, Through June 30, 2027, with an Option to Extend the Agreement for Two (2) Additional One (1) Year Term(s) Ending June 30, 2029

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the Agreement for Harvesting Services with Bradley Bertuccio Hay Baling, Inc., for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024/2025 for \$101,250.00 and the annual amount of \$270,000 for subsequent years for harvesting services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Land Application fodder crops.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Approving the Agreement for Harvesting Services with Bradley Bertuccio Hay Baling, Inc., for the harvesting of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Land Application Area fodder crops in the amount not to exceed \$641,250 through June 30, 2027, with an option to extend the agreement for two additional one-year terms through June 30, 2029; and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

This Consent Item was approved.

H.5.

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution to Display the Council Approved Commemorative Flags at Bob Hart Square per City Council Policy C-7

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers adopting a Resolution to display Council approved commemorative flags in Bob Hart Square per the City Council Policy C-7.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion approving **Resolution 2025-07**, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, authorizing the display of commemorative flags on the City flagpole in Bob Hart Square for the months of February and June 2025.

Mayor SERRATTO pulled this item at the request of residents Rick WENDLING and Shelby.

Rick WENDLING, Merced - spoke on the display of different flags dividing the community.

Shelby, Merced - spoke on the time living in the Merced community and in support of the display of the Pride Flag.

Clerk's Note: There was no Council discussion.

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

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

I. ACTION ITEMS

I.1.

SUBJECT: Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 1.17 Entitled City Council Districts Adding the UC Merced Annexation Area and the Virginia Smith Trust (VST) Annexation Area to City Council District 6 of the Council District Map

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers introducing an Ordinance amending Chapter 1.17 adding the newly UC Merced Annexation area and the newly Virginia Smith Trust Annexation area to City Council District 6 of the Council District map.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion introducing **Ordinance 2576**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, Amending Chapter 1.17 Entitled "City Council Districts" of the Merced Municipal Code.

City Manager Scott MCBRIDE and Assistant City Clerk Jennifer LEVESQUE briefly discussed the introduction of an Ordinance amending Chapter 1.17 of the Merced Municipal Code to add the UC Merced annexation area and the Virginia Smith Trust (VST) annexation area.

Council, Ms. LEVESQUE, and Mr. MCBRIDE discussed the population that live in the UC Merced area, the registered voters, past actions on the annexations, and details of Lake Road.

A motion was made by Council Member Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

I.2.

SUBJECT: Award Bid to Kroeker, Inc. for the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant (CMAQ) (060) Sidewalks Parkwest and McGregor Project Number CP220064, in the Amount of \$790,216.60

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers awarding a Construction Contract to Kroeker, Inc. in the amount of \$790,216.60 for the CMAQ Sidewalks Along Parkwest and McGregor Project.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Awarding the CMAQ Sidewalks Along Parkwest and McGregor Project CP220064 to Kroeker, Inc., in the amount of \$790,216.60; and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents and to approve change orders not to exceed 15% of the total contract; and,

C. Authorizing the Finance Officer authorization to make necessary budget

adjustments.

City Engineer Daryl JORDAN briefly discussed the bid award to Kroeker, Inc. for project CP 220064 for the Parkwest and McGregor project.

Ashley SUAREZ, Merced - spoke on areas of South Merced and unincorporated areas that are missing sidewalks and to continue adding sidewalk projects.

Council Member XIONG and Mr. JORDAN discussed the reason why other bids were not selected for the project.

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

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

I.3.

SUBJECT: Approval to Execute Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0 Grant Agreements with the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) and to Accept and Appropriate the Local Suballocation Grant Funding of \$195,493 for the General Plan Update and the Regional Competitive Grant Funding of \$2,497,538 for the I Street Project for Linc Housing

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving the execution of the REAP 2.0 Grant Agreements with MCAG and accept and appropriate the Local Suballocation Grant funding of \$195,493 for the General Plan Update and the Regional Competitive Grant funding of \$2,497,538 for the I Street Project for Linc Housing.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Accepting \$195,493 from the REAP 2.0 - Local Suballocation Grant funds, increasing revenue in Fund 3000-Development Services Planning Division and appropriating the same for the General Plan Update; and,

B. Accepting \$2,497,538 from the REAP 2.0 - Regional Competitive Grant funds, increasing revenue in Fund 2014-Early Action Planning and

appropriating the same for I Street Project for Linc Housing; and,

C. Authorizing the use of pooled cash to cover the appropriation until grant funds are reimbursed; and,

D. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents; and,
Management Analyst Leah BROWN briefly discussed the approval of the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grant Agreements with Merced County Association of Governments.

Clerk's Note: There was no Council discussion.

Clerk's Note: This Agenda Item required five affirmative votes from Council.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, seconded by Council Member Dupont, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

I.4.

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Joint Application and Participation in the State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD) Homekey+ Grant Program with Up Holdings California, LLC and UP Mercy Village LP for an Amount not to Exceed \$30,000,000

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers adopting a resolution authorizing the submittal of a joint application for participation in HCD Homekey+ Grant Program with Up Holdings California, LLC and UP Mercy Village LP for an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

A. Adopting Resolution **2025-06**, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, authorizing a joint application and participation in the Homekey+ Program and authorizing the City Manager to Execute the

Standard Agreement and any related documents; and,

B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Standard Agreements if selected for such funding and any amendments thereto, and any related documents necessary to participate in the Homekey+ Grant Program; and,

Management Analyst Leah BROWN briefly discussed the adoption of a resolution authorizing a joint application and participating in the State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD) Homekey Grant Program with Up Holdings California, LLC and UP Mercy Village LP.

Council, Mrs. BROWN, and Consultant Ryan WILSON discussed details of the 1213 V Street project, demand for housing, and the timeline of the proposed project.

A motion was made by Council Member Dupont, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0

J. REPORTS

J.1. SUBJECT: Update on General Vang Pao Park Site Master Plan and Timeline

REPORT IN BRIEF

Update on park plan development, phased construction plan, area of focus for phase 1 and project timeline.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Information Only.

Director of Parks and Community Services Chris JENSEN and Melton Design Group Senior Project Manager Sarah CROSSLEY gave a slideshow presentation on an update of the General Vang Pao Park site master plan and timeline.

Tao MOUA, Chairman of the General Vang Pao project, Merced - spoke on the legacies of General Vang PAO and thanked Council for supporting their community.

Council and Mr. JENSEN discussed details of the process of Phase 1, adding restrooms in current parks, consideration of fundraising for the park amenities, the expense of the monument, potentially allocating art funding, the support received from Merced County and First 5, the recognition of General Vang PAO, areas open for community feedback, and details of all amenities.

Clerk's Note: There was no formal vote taken, item was for information only.

J.2.

SUBJECT: Update on Bear Creek Restoration Project

REPORT IN BRIEF

Update on current design efforts as part of the restoration project.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Information Item Only.

Senior Engineer Rick MADDUX, Dokken Engineering Consultants Ashley ORSABA, and LaSandra EDWARDS gave a slideshow presentation on the update of the Bear Creek Restoration Project.

Council, Ms. ORSABA, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. MADDUX discussed reaching out to state representatives to assist moving forward with the project, details of the section of Bear Creek that was analyzed, details of the West side of Bear Creek, the analysis of City Staff when choosing locations for repairs, transient activity on the creek, and details of the repairs that will be made on the creek.

Cindy KELLY, Merced - asked for the plan of the temporary relocation of cat colonies that reside on Bear Creek.

Council, Ms. ORSABA, and Mr. MADDUX discussed community engagement, the relocation of animals, and moving the project forward.

Clerk's Note: There was no formal vote taken, item was for information only.

K. BUSINESS

K.1.

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.

Clerk's Note: No future items were added.

K.2.

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.

Mayor Pro Tempore BOYLE reported on attending the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Lupian's Mexican Restaurant and the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Peace March event.

Council Member DUPONT thanked City Staff for the district 1 tour, reported on attending the Family Fun Day event, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Peace March event.

Council Member HARRIS reported on attending the Ms. Merced County Scholarship Competition, the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Lupian's Mexican Restaurant, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Peace March event, and the new sign installation at Applegate Zoo. He also spoke on the Pride Flag and the Black History Month Flag.

Council Member SMITH reported on attending the UC Coordination Study meeting as the City of Merced representative.

Mayor SERRATTO reported on attending the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Lupian's Mexican Restaurant, the Grand Opening event for La Taqueria Restaurant, spoke on the upcoming Homeless Count, and unity in the community.

Mayor Pro Tempore BOYLE thanked everyone involved in the Community Clean Up event in District 5.

L. CLOSED SESSION

Clerk's Note: Council adjourned to Closed Session at 8:04 PM.

L.1.

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION City of Merced v. VIRAAJ Investments, LLC et al., MSC Case No. 23CV-00538 Pursuant to California Government Code

Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Clerk's Note: Council adjourned from Closed Session at 8:25 PM.

M. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

There was no report.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Clerk's Note: The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, seconded by Council Member Dupont, that this Regular Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Serratto, Mayor Pro Tempore Boyle, Council Member Dupont, Council Member DeAnda, Council Member Harris, Council Member Smith, and Council Member Xiong

No: 0

Absent: 0