

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER CITY OF MERCED MEMORANDUM

TO: Stephanie Dietz, City Manager

FROM: Michael Beltran, PE, City Engineer

DATE: April 30, 2021

SUBJECT: Declaration of Emergency for Water Transmission Line on G Street, from North Bear Creek Drive to Park Avenue

Today April 30, 2021, City of Merced Public Works, Water Division, was called out for a water main break on the south bound lanes of G Street between North Bear Creek Drive and Park Ave.

Upon my arrival I notice a heavy stream of water flowing down G Street and Park Avenue. The Water Division was on site managing the water main break and Public Works Staff was working on cleaning up the debris and preventing mudding water from entering the storm system.

I started my reconnaissance to determine the amount of damaged caused by the water main break. I was told by the Water Division that the break was a 12" water main. I notice the water main was near a gas main which caused a great concern. We immediately called Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and notified other utility companies to perform a stand-by.

I also observed possible water damage to neighboring properties. I had my staff contact each available tenant to document and take photos of any possible water damage.

I started my inspection of G Street and noticed the street had uplifted approximately 6" in some spots, created sinkholes in other spots, uplifted and depressed sidewalk curb and gutter. At this time, it is impossible to determine the extent of the damage that has occurred under the roadway and sidewalks. The roadway and sidewalk are unsafe for the public to access. While we have properly barricaded the streets and sidewalk, the public continues to use the sidewalks and ride bikes down the street. This is a public health and safety hazard.

The design, advertising, bidding, and project award would take an average of 8 to 10 months to complete. Rehabilitation for the water main and roadway must begin immediately due to the uncertainty and condition of the existing water main and undermining that occurred in the roadway, curb, gutter, and sidewalks. Additionally, the proximity of the PG&E gas main to the water main is of great concern. In accordance with MMC 3.04.330, I am requesting the southbound G Street, Park Avenue to Bear Creek Drive, Water Transmission Line Replacement and Road Rehabilitation (including curb, gutter, and sidewalk) project be declared an

emergency in order for the work to commence on the morning of May 3, 2021, to protect the city water supply and allow for safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians.



Michael R. Beltran II, PE