

strategies for combating crime in their neighborhoods. Neighborhood Watch programs are located throughout the City and have been highly successful.



Criminal activity and calls for police service will increase due to population growth alone. By 2030, officer responses to incidents could increase from nearly 65,000 in 2009 to over 130,000 annually if current population trends hold true. To cope with this anticipated workload, additional officers, equipment, and facilities will need to be added. Police districts may be revised or added. The Central Station will be relocated in the future to a site in North Merced near ~~Mansionette Drive and Yosemite Avenue.~~

5.2.3 Water

Under the water rights of the Merced Irrigation District (MID), the City of Merced received its water from the Merced River via Lake Yosemite until 1917. Since then, the City has relied on groundwater as its primary water source, but groundwater is recharged almost entirely through agricultural application of surface water from the Merced River.

In 2010, the City's water supply system consisted of four elevated storage tanks with a combined storage capacity of

approximately 1.6 million gallons, and 21 wells and 14 pumping stations equipped with variable speed pumps that attempt to maintain 45 to 50 psi (pounds per square inch) nominal water pressure. The City is required to meet State Department of Health Services pressure requirements, which call for a minimum of 20 psi at every service connection (in 2010) under the annual peak hour condition and maintenance of the annual average day demand plus fire flow, whichever is stricter. All of Merced's wells are now equipped with emergency standby diesel generators.



Through the Capital Improvement Program, the City plans to increase water wells to match the requirements of development, generally one well per square mile. The City continues to monitor any ground water contamination and the cleanup of contamination upon detection. Water treatment includes fluoridation and chlorination at each well site.

Merced Water Supply Plan

Increasing urban demand and population growth, along with an increasing shift by farmers from surface water to groundwater and prolonged drought, have resulted in

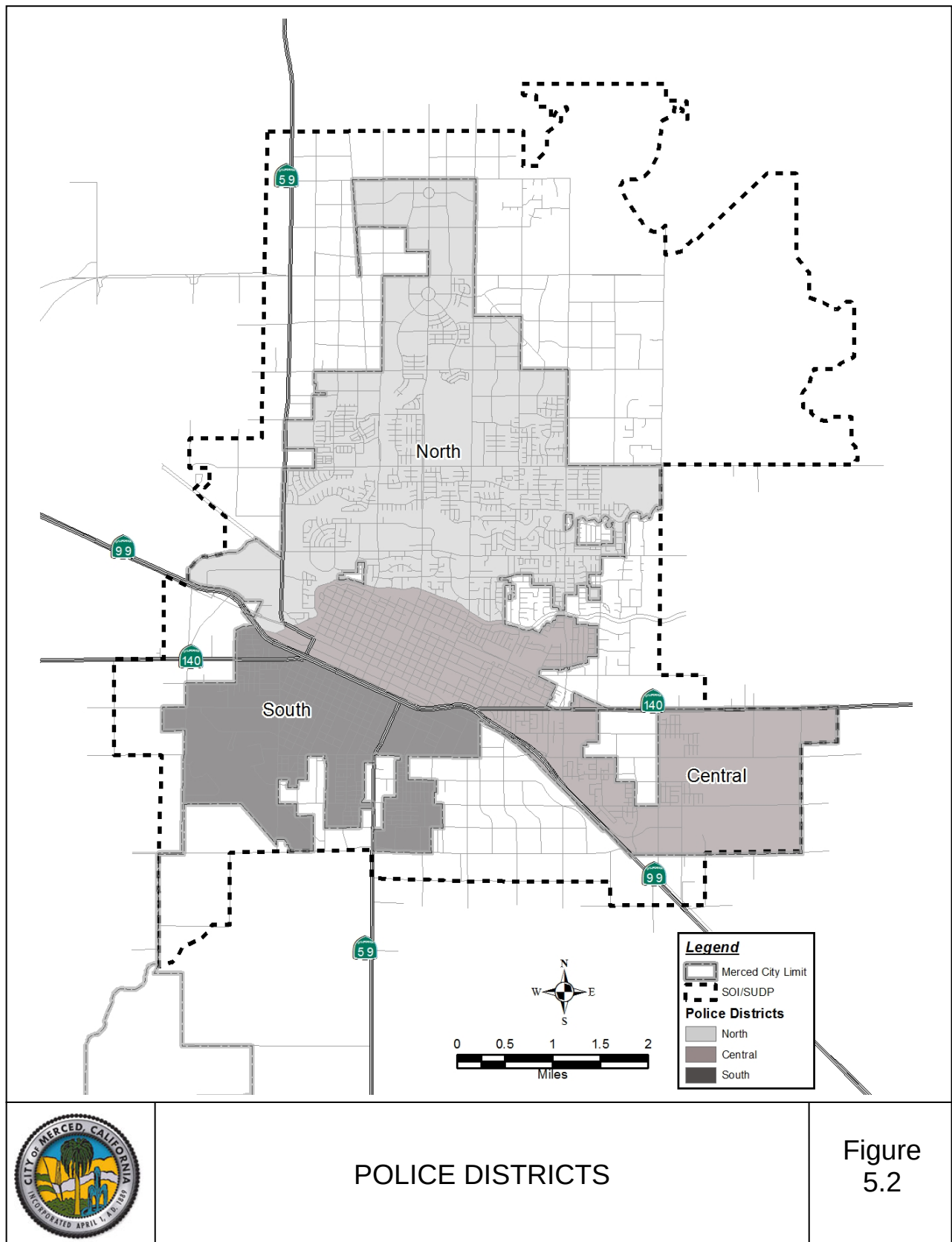


Figure 5.2