



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## Meeting Agenda

### Planning Commission

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Wednesday, October 7, 2020

7:00 PM

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

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#### NOTICE TO PUBLIC

**Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting will be conducted by teleconference and there will be no in-person public access to the meeting location.**

#### WELCOME TO THE MEETING OF THE MERCED PLANNING COMMISSION

At least 72 hours prior to each regular Planning Commission meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the City's website at [www.cityofmerced.org](http://www.cityofmerced.org) or at the Planning Division Office, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340. All public records relating to an open session item that are distributed to a majority of the Commission will be available for public inspection at the Planning Division Office during regular business hours. The Planning Commission also serves as the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Design Review/Historic Preservation Commission.

#### MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

##### MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS

Please submit your public comment to the Planning Commission electronically no later than 3 PM on the day of the meeting. Comments received before the deadline will be read as part of the record. Material may be emailed to [planningweb@cityofmerced.org](mailto:planningweb@cityofmerced.org) and should be limited to 500 words or less. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, i.e. item # or Oral Communications. Your comments will be read to Planning Commission at the appropriate time. Any correspondence received during or after the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission and retained for the official record.

You may provide telephonic comments via voicemail by calling (209) 388-7390 by no later than 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting to be added to the public comment. Voicemails will be limited to a time limit of three (3) minutes. Please specify which portion of the agenda you are commenting on, i.e. item # or Oral Communications. Your comments will be read to the Planning Commission at the appropriate time.

If you wish to leave a name and phone number and email address prior to 3 PM, technology permitting, you may be called at the time of the Public Hearing to provide your comments to the Planning Commission in real time. Due to technical limitations, any voice mails received after 3 PM may or may not be made available to the Planning Commission.

To listen to the Planning Commission meeting live, go to Facebook Live, or Comcast Public Access Channel 96).

## INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Accommodation for individuals with disabilities may be arranged by contacting the Planning Division at (209) 385-6858. Assisted hearing devices are available for meetings held in the Council Chamber.

### A. CALL TO ORDER

A.1. Moment of Silence

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

### B. ROLL CALL

### C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public who wish to speak on any matter not listed on the agenda may provide email or voicemail comments during this portion of the meeting and should follow the guidelines posted above in the **MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS** to do so.

### D. CONSENT CALENDAR

Adoption of the Consent Calendar may be made with one motion of the Planning Commission provided that any Planning Commission member, individual, or organization may request removal of an item from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration. Please see **MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS** above. If a request for removal of an item from the Consent Calendar has been received, the item will be discussed and voted on separately. With Consent items, there is generally no staff presentation but staff is available for questions.

D.1. [20-593](#)      **SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of September 9, 2020

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of September 9, 2020

**Attachments:**      [M09-09-2020 DRAFT.pdf](#)

### E. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

Members of the public who wish to speak on public hearings listed on the agenda will be heard when the Public Hearing is opened, except on Public Hearing items previously heard and closed to public comment. After the public has commented, the item is closed to further public comment and brought to the Commission for discussion and action. Further comment will not be received unless requested by the Commission. To submit comments to the Commission, please review the **MODIFIED PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS** listed above.

**E.1. [20-473](#)**

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to consider the Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200, submitted by Rick Telegan, on behalf of BP Investors, LLC. This request is to modify Condition #10 of City Council Resolution No. 2015-33 to allow the construction of a part-width roadway for Merrill Place (extended east of G Street).  
\*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

**ACTION**

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Recommendation to City Council

Environmental Review #20-20 (*CEQA Section 15162 Findings*)

Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200

**CITY COUNCIL:**

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

Environmental Review #20-20 (*CEQA Section 15162 Findings*)

Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200

**SUMMARY**

This is a request is to modify Condition #10 of City Council Resolution 2015-33 to allow the construction of a part-width street (Merrill Place) east of G Street, to the western edge of property owned by BP Investors, LLC (see the location map Attachment A). BP Investors, LLC obtained Conditional Use Permit approval (CUP #1200) in 2015, to construction a 216-unit apartment complex on a 9.8-acre parcel as shown on the site plan at Attachment B (refer to the Background section of this report for updates on the number of units). However, in order to build this project, they need access to G Street via Merrill Place. To date, BP Investors, LLC, has been unable to obtain the necessary right-of-way for Merrill Place (extended). Therefore, Mr. Telegan, on behalf of BP Investors, LLC, is requesting a modification to the conditions of approval for Conditional Use Permit #1200 to allow Merrill Place to be constructed as a part-width road from G Street to the western edge of the apartment project site (refer to Attachment A).

Merced Municipal Code (MMC) Section 18.12.020 - Streets - Conditions of design Section F (2) allows a part-width street to be constructed upon

recommendation of the Planning Commission and subject to the approval of the City Council.

Condition #21 of City Council Resolution #2015-33 states that if the necessary right-of-way needed for Merrill Place cannot be obtained by the developer, the City would take action to obtain the necessary right-of-way. However, subsequent to the approval, it was determined by the Interim City Attorney at the time, Jolie Houston, that this condition would not be enforceable as the City cannot force the dedication of right-of-way only to benefit a specific project. Therefore, staff is recommending this condition be eliminated.

Staff is recommending the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council the modification of Condition #10 to allow the construction a part-width street for Merrill Place and the deletion of Condition #21.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval of Environmental Review #20-20 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings) and the applicant's request to allow a part-width street be constructed for Merrill Place, east of G Street, subject to the approval of the modification of Finding B "Traffic/Circulation" of Exhibit B, and the modification of Condition #10 and deletion of Condition #21 of Exhibit C (Conditions of Approval) of City Council Resolution #2015-33, as shown on Attachment G.

**Attachments:**

[Location Map - Partial Width Road.pdf](#)

[Site Plan 8.3.2015.pdf](#)

[Parcel Map for Bandoni.pdf](#)

[VTSM #1291.pdf](#)

[186 Units.pdf](#)

[Site Plan 128 Units.pdf](#)

[City Council Res #2015-33 with recommended changes 10.7.20.pdf](#)

**E.2. [20-597](#)**

**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of October 21, 2020, due to lack of items

**ACTION:**

Cancel the Planning Commission Meeting of October 21, 2020

#### **F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**F.1. [20-594](#)**

**SUBJECT:** Report by Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

**ACTION**

Information only.

F.2. [20-595](#)

**SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

- Oct. 5      City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(In Person)**  
7          Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
19        City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
21        Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(To be Cancelled)**  
27        Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
Nov.2      City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
4          Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
16        City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
18        Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(May be Cancelled)**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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**File #:** 20-593

**Meeting Date:** 10/7/2020

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*Report Prepared by: Jessie Lee, Development Services Technician*

**SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of September 9, 2020

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of September 9, 2020

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Planning Commission Minutes of September 9, 2020



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## Minutes Planning Commission

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Wednesday, September 9, 2020

7:00 PM

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### A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson HARRIS called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Clerk's Note:** This meeting was held via teleconference per Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 and roll call votes were taken.

A.1. Moment of Silence

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Commissioner DELGADILLO led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### B. ROLL CALL

**Commissioners:Present** 4 - Chairperson Michael Harris, Robert Dylina, Dorothea White, and Jose Delgadillo

**Commissioners:Absent** 2 - Stephanie Buttici, and Vice Chair Mary Camper

### C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments.

### D. CONSENT CALENDAR

**A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Delgadillo, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Harris, Dylina, White, and Delgadillo

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Buttici, and Camper

**D.1. SUBJECT:** Planning Commission Minutes of August 19, 2020

**ACTION:**

Approving and filing the Planning Commission Minutes of August 19, 2020

This Consent Item was approved.

**D.2.**

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of a Resolution Recommending to the City Council Denial of the Proposed Modifications to the Pre-Annexation Development Agreement for the Absolute-Bright Annexation

**ACTION:****PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Recommendation to City Council

Environmental Review #20-15 (*Categorical Exemption*)

Modification of Pre-Annexation Development Agreement

**CITY COUNCIL:**

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

Environmental Review #20-15 (*Categorical Exemption*)

Modification of Pre-Annexation Development Agreement

**SUMMARY**

At the Planning Commission meeting of August 19, 2020, the Planning Commission voted to recommend denial of the request to modify the Pre-Annexation Development Agreement for the Absolute-Bright Annexation. This report provides the Planning Commission Resolution, along with the findings for denial, for the Planning Commission to formally adopt their action to recommend denial to the City Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Planning Commission should make a motion to adopt the resolution at Attachment A formalizing their action to recommend denial of the requested modifications to the Pre-Annexation Development Agreement for the Absolute-Bright Annexation.

**ATTACHMENTS**

A) Planning Commission Resolution #4044

This Consent Item was approved.

**E. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS****E.1.**

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and for Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1314 for Yosemite & G, LLC., property owners; to subdivide Approximately 21.5 Acres of Land into 17 Lots; the Property has a Neighborhood Commercial (CN) General Plan designation, is Zoned Planned



Development (P-D #72), and is Generally Located at the Northeast Corner of Yosemite Avenue and G Street. \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

**ACTION:** Recommendation to City Council

- 1) Amendment to Legislative Action Agreement with Yosemite & G, LLC

Approve/Disapprove/Modify

Environmental Review #20-13 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings)

Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1314, Contingent on the

City Council's Approval of the Amendment to the Legislative Action Agreement

**SUMMARY**

The project site is located at the northeast corner of Yosemite Avenue and G Street (Attachment 2). The applicant is proposing to subdivide two parcels of approximately 21.5 acres of land into 17 lots (Attachment 3). The site is vacant except for City of Merced Storm Pump Station #10, which will remain. The amendment to the Legislative Action Agreement requires City Council Approval. The proposed Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map and associated Environmental Review #20-13 require the approval of the Planning Commission. Staff is recommending approval.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission:

- a) Recommend Approval by City Council of the Amendment to the Legislative Action Agreement, and
- b) Approve Environmental Review #20-13, Negative Declaration, and
- c) Contingent on the City Council's Approval of the above Amendment to the Legislative Action Agreement, Approve Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1314, including the adoption of the Draft Resolution at Attachment 1, subject to the Conditions in Exhibit A and the Findings/Considerations in Exhibit B of the Draft Resolution.

Principal Planner HREN reviewed the report on this item. For further information, refer to Staff Report #20-451.

Public testimony was opened at 7:14 PM.

Speakers Via Teleconference in Favor:

NEIL ANGELILLO, Applicant, Fresno

JACK JACKSON, Applicant, Fresno

JIM XU, Engineer for Applicant, Merced

Mr. ANGELILLO requested to modify Condition #24 to include "if fire sprinklers are required." He informed the Commission that some of the buildings are small enough that they would not require fire sprinklers.

Mr. ANGELILLO also asked for clarification regarding the discrepancy between the language in Condition #27 of Exhibit A of Planning Commission Resolution #4046 and Condition #27 of the Legislative Action Agreement ( Attachment 5 of Staff Report 20-451).

There were no speakers in opposition to the project.

Public testimony was closed at 7:21 PM.

Mr. HREN clarified that per Deputy Fire Chief WILSON, the addition of the language, "if fire sprinklers are required" was agreeable because a fire connection would only be required if the building needed fire sprinklers.

Mr. HREN clarified that the discrepancy between the language in Condition #27 of Exhibit A of Resolution #4046 and Condition #27 of the Legislative Action Agreement (Attachment 5 of Staff Report 20-451) was a typographical error, and the correct language can be found in the Legislative Action Agreement.

(Note: ~~Strikethrough~~ deleted language, underline added language.)

- "24. Each building shall be provided with a Fire Department Connection, if fire sprinklers are required.
- "27. All storm water shall be either (a) retained onsite and metered out to the City's storm water system or (b) directed to the basin immediately to the east of the project site in accordance with City Standards, subject to a storm drain plan approved by the City Engineer. The applicant shall submit calculations to the City showing, to the satisfaction of the City Engineer or designee, that the basin to the east of the project site has enough capacity for the proposed plans."

A motion was made by Member Dylina, seconded by Member White, and carried by the following vote, to find that the previous environmental review (Initial Study #19-28 for General Plan Revision #3 to Planned Development #72) remains sufficient and no further documentation is required (CEQA Section 15162 Findings), and recommend to City Council approval of the Amendment to Legislative Action Agreement, and approve Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map #1314, ), contingent on City Council's approval of the Legislative Action Agreement and subject to the Findings and forty (40) Conditions set forth in Staff Report #20-451, modifying Conditions #24 and #27 as shown above (RESOLUTION #4046):

**Aye:** 4 - Harris, Dylina, White, and Delgadillo

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Butticci, and Camper

## F. INFORMATION ITEMS

**F.1.** **SUBJECT:** Report by Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

### **ACTION**

Information only.

Planning Manager ESPINOSA briefed the Planning Commission on items for the next few Planning Commission meetings.

**F.2.** **SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

Sept8	City Council, 6:00 p.m. ( <b><i>Tuesday, By Teleconference</i></b> )
9	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. ( <b><i>By Teleconference</i></b> )
21	City Council, 6:00 p.m. ( <b><i>May be by Teleconference</i></b> )
23	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. ( <b><i>May be Cancelled</i></b> )
Oct. 5	City Council, 6:00 p.m. ( <b><i>May be by Teleconference</i></b> )
7	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. ( <b><i>By Teleconference</i></b> )
19	City Council, 6:00 p.m. ( <b><i>May be by Teleconference</i></b> )
21	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. ( <b><i>By Teleconference</i></b> )
27	Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m. ( <b><i>By Teleconference</i></b> )

## G. ADJOURNMENT

**Clerk's Note:** The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

A motion was made by Commissioner DELGADILLO, seconded by Commissioner WHITE, to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - Harris, Dylina, White, and Delgadillo

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Butticci, and Camper



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

File #: 20-473

Meeting Date: 10/7/2020

### Planning Commission Staff Report

*Report Prepared by: Julie Nelson, Associate Planner*

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to consider the Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200, submitted by Rick Telegan, on behalf of BP Investors, LLC. This request is to modify Condition #10 of City Council Resolution No. 2015-33 to allow the construction of a part-width roadway for Merrill Place (extended east of G Street). \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\*

### ACTION

#### PLANNING COMMISSION:

##### Recommendation to City Council

- 1) Environmental Review #20-20 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings)
- 2) Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200

#### CITY COUNCIL:

##### Approve/Disapprove/Modify

- 1) Environmental Review #20-20 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings)
- 2) Modification of Conditional Use Permit #1200

### SUMMARY

This is a request is to modify Condition #10 of City Council Resolution 2015-33 to allow the construction of a part-width street (Merrill Place) east of G Street, to the western edge of property owned by BP Investors, LLC (see the location map Attachment A). BP Investors, LLC obtained Conditional Use Permit approval (CUP #1200) in 2015, to construction a 216-unit apartment complex on a 9.8-acre parcel as shown on the site plan at Attachment B (refer to the Background section of this report for updates on the number of units). However, in order to build this project, they need access to G Street via Merrill Place. To date, BP Investors, LLC, has been unable to obtain the necessary right-of-way for Merrill Place (extended). Therefore, Mr. Telegan, on behalf of BP Investors, LLC, is requesting a modification to the conditions of approval for Conditional Use Permit #1200 to allow Merrill Place to be constructed as a part-width road from G Street to the western edge of the apartment project site (refer to Attachment A).

Merced Municipal Code (MMC) Section 18.12.020 - Streets - Conditions of design Section F (2) allows a part-width street to be constructed upon recommendation of the Planning Commission and subject to the approval of the City Council.

Condition #21 of City Council Resolution #2015-33 states that if the necessary right-of-way needed for Merrill Place cannot be obtained by the developer, the City would take action to obtain the necessary right-of-way. However, subsequent to the approval, it was determined by the Interim City Attorney at the time, Jolie Houston, that this condition would not be enforceable as the City cannot force the dedication of right-of-way only to benefit a specific project. Therefore, staff is recommending this condition be eliminated.

Staff is recommending the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council the modification of Condition #10 to allow the construction a part-width street for Merrill Place and the deletion of Condition #21.

## RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval of Environmental Review #20-20 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings) and the applicant's request to allow a part-width street be constructed for Merrill Place, east of G Street, subject to the approval of the modification of Finding B "Traffic/Circulation" of Exhibit B, and the modification of Condition #10 and deletion of Condition #21 of Exhibit C (Conditions of Approval) of City Council Resolution #2015-33, as shown on Attachment G.

## DISCUSSION

### Project Description

The applicant is requesting a modification to the conditions of approval for CUP #1200 to allow the construction of a part-width street for Merrill Place, east of G Street to the eastern edge of the project frontage (Attachment A). Per MMC Section 18.12.020, part-width roads are allowed with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approval of City Council. By allowing the part-width road, the developer would be able to construct the 128-unit apartment complex approved by CUP #1200.

The part-width road would be constructed within the existing 37-foot-wide the City currently has. The construction of the part-width road would include one travel lane in each direction (east and west) as well as sidewalk, curb, gutter, bike lane, streetlights, etc. on the south side of the street.

The construction of the part-width street would allow the developer to build the 128-unit apartment complex approved in 2015.

Surrounding uses as noted in Attachment A.

Surrounding Land	Existing Use of Land	City Zoning Designation	City General Plan Land Use Designation
North	Vacant	RP-D #61/R-1-5	Village Residential (VR)/Low Density Residential (LD)

South	Vacant/Agriculture	P-D #53	Village Residential (VR)
East	Vacant	County	Village Residential (VR)
West	Vacant	R-1-5	Low Density Residential (LD)

### Background

In 2015, the applicant submitted CUP application #1200 to allow the construction of a 216-unit apartment complex (Attachment B). The Planning Commission denied the request. However, the developer appealed the Planning Commission decision and the City Council approved Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #1200 on appeal.

Although the original plan included 216 units, in December 2015, the developer subsequently revised the plans reducing the number of units to 186 (refer to revised plans at Attachment E). Because this was a reduction in the number of units, the revision was approved administratively. The developer again revised the plans in September 2016, further reducing the number of units to 128 units (Attachment F).

As previously described in this report, the City has had discussions with Bright Development to try to get the additional right-of-way needed. Although Bright is willing to dedicate the right-of-way with their final map, they have not agreed to make the dedication prior to the final map recording. Therefore, the applicant is requesting the part-width street be allowed.

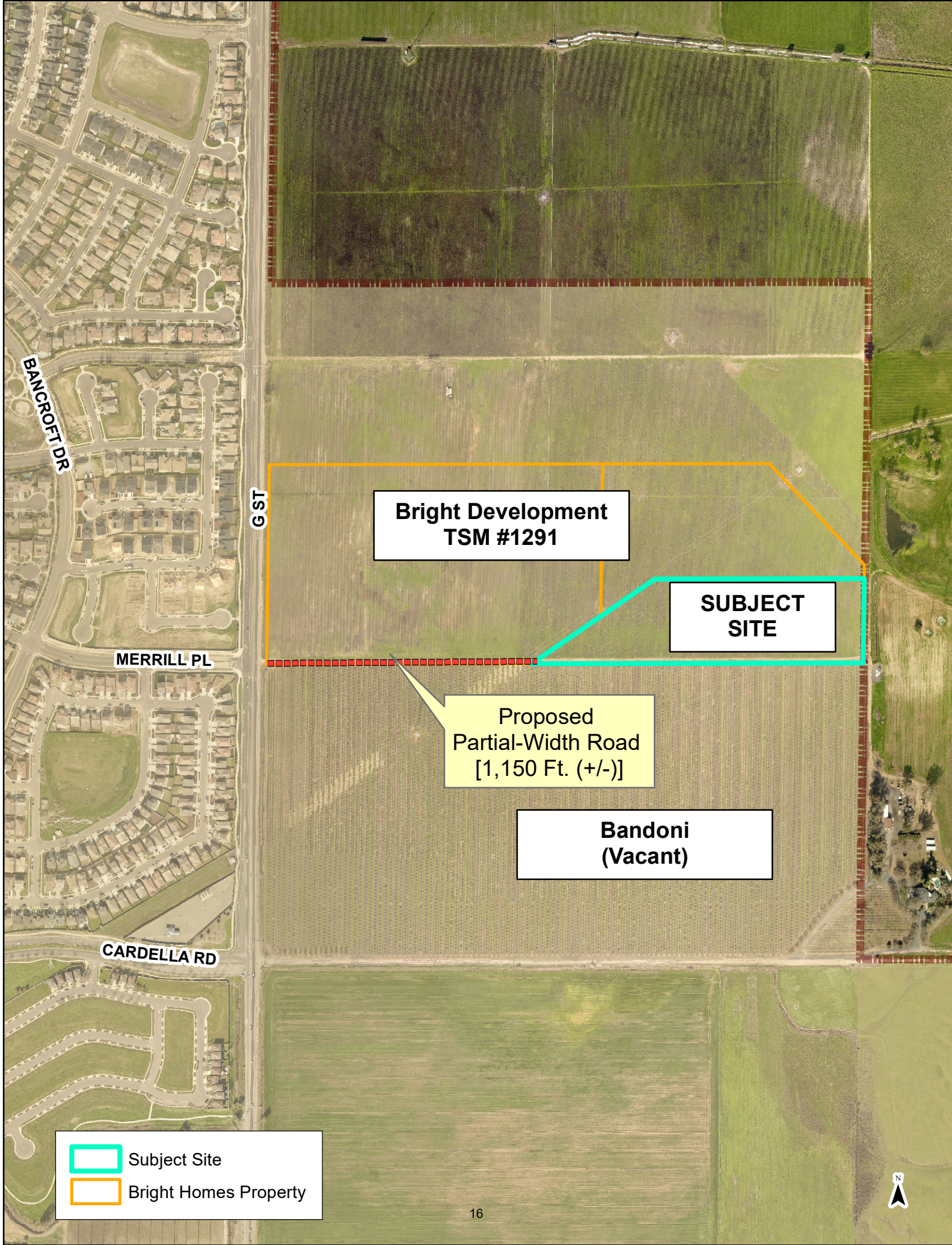
### Findings/Considerations

Please refer to Exhibit B (Findings), including the recommended modification of Finding B "Traffic/Circulation" and Exhibit C (Conditions of Approval), including the recommended modification of Condition #10 and deletion of Condition #21 of City Council Resolution #2015-33 at Attachment G.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A) Location Map
- B) Site Plan - 216 units
- C) Parcel Map for Bandoni-Sunset, LP
- D) Bright Development TSM
- E) Site Plan 186 Units
- F) Site Plan 128 Units
- G) CC Resolution #2015-33 (with proposed revisions)





**Bright Development  
TSM #1291**

**SUBJECT  
SITE**

Proposed  
Partial-Width Road  
[1,150 Ft. (+/-)]

**Bandoni  
(Vacant)**

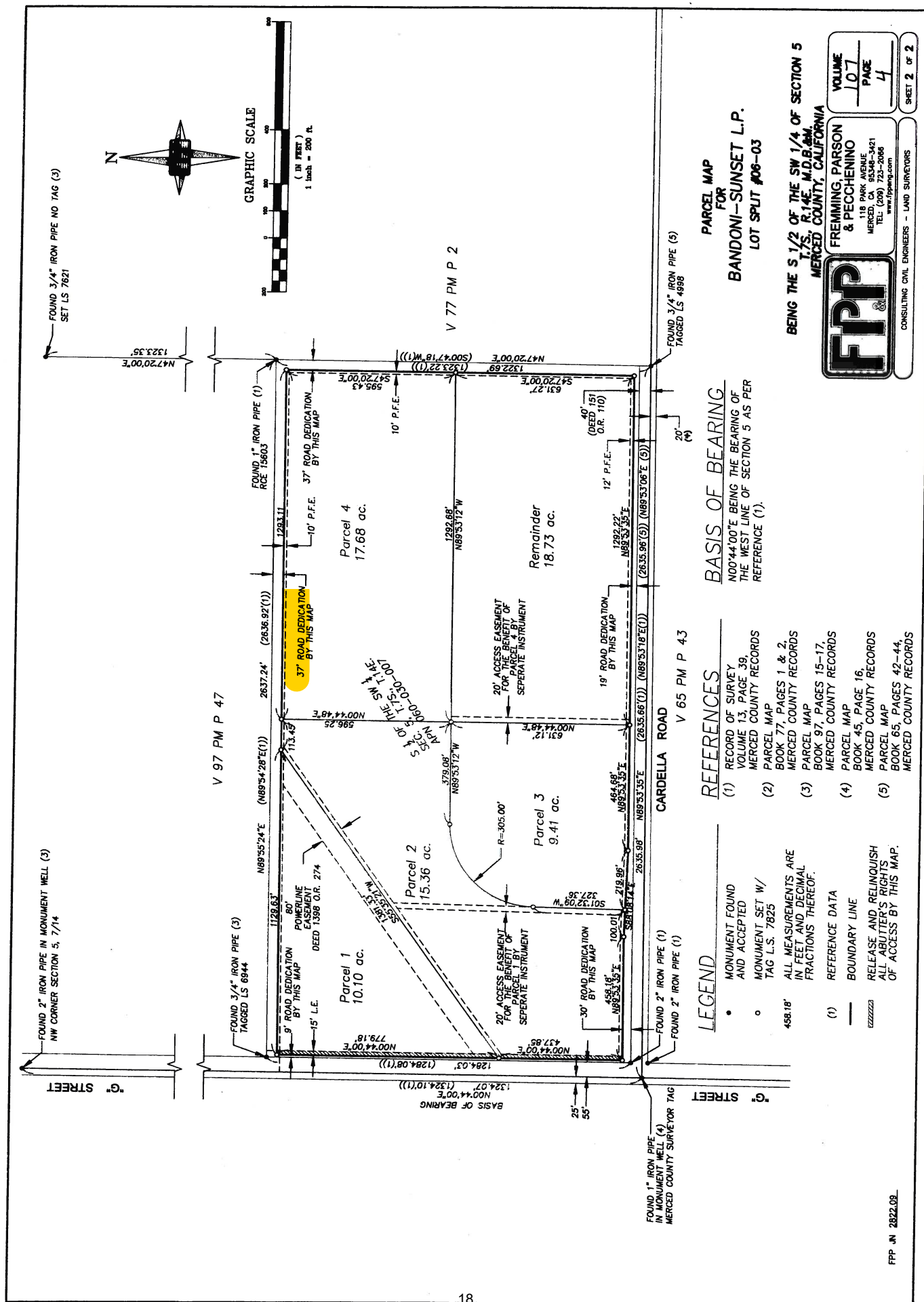
Subject Site

Bright Homes Property









Modified Map Approved by  
the Planning Commission  
October 3, 2018.

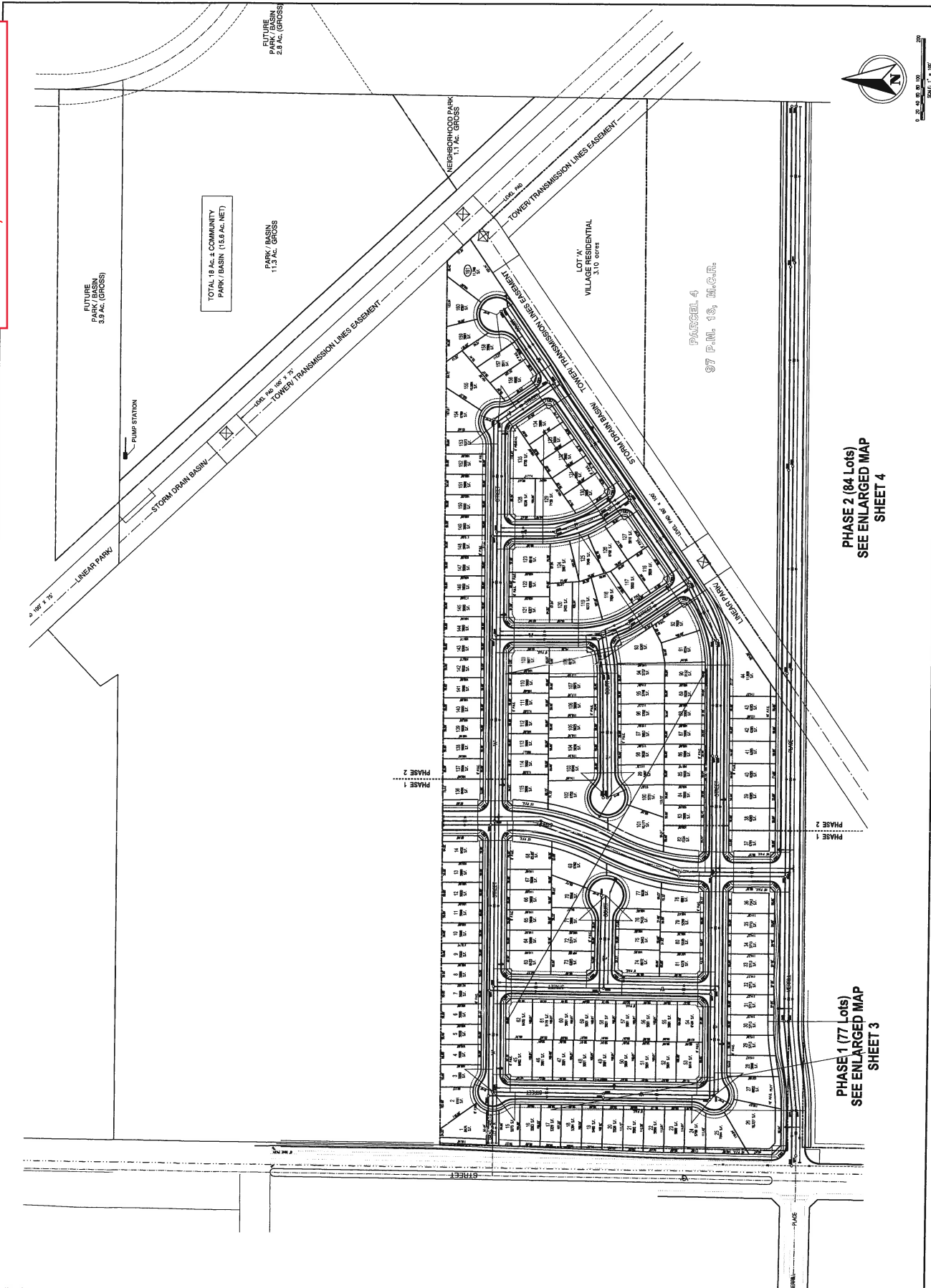
**GOLDEN VALLEY**  
ENGINEERING & SURVEYING  
1700 West Main Street, Suite 100  
Merced, CA 95341  
Phone: (209) 723-3254  
Fax: (209) 723-3254

PROJECT: BRIGHT DEVELOPMENT  
SUBDIVISION MAP  
DATE: April 2018  
DRAWN BY: RICK R.  
CHECKED BY: J. L. JONES  
SCALE: AS SHOWN  
SHEET NO.: 15-001  
SHEET NAME: BRIGHT DEVELOPMENT  
1500 N. Carpenter Rd., Bldg. 30  
Merced, CA 95341  
PH: (209) 526-3242

CALIFORNIA  
PORTION SECTION 5 & 8, T.17 S., R.14 E., M.D.B. & M.  
**BRIGHT DEVELOPMENT**  
MODIFIED VESTING TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP FOR

PROJECT: BRIGHT DEVELOPMENT  
SUBDIVISION MAP  
DATE: April 2018  
DRAWN BY: RICK R.  
CHECKED BY: J. L. JONES  
SCALE: AS SHOWN  
SHEET NO.: 15-001  
SHEET NAME: BRIGHT DEVELOPMENT  
1500 N. Carpenter Rd., Bldg. 30  
Merced, CA 95341  
PH: (209) 526-3242

2



PHASE 2 (84 Lots)  
SEE ENLARGED MAP  
SHEET 4

PHASE 1 (77 Lots)  
SEE ENLARGED MAP  
SHEET 3

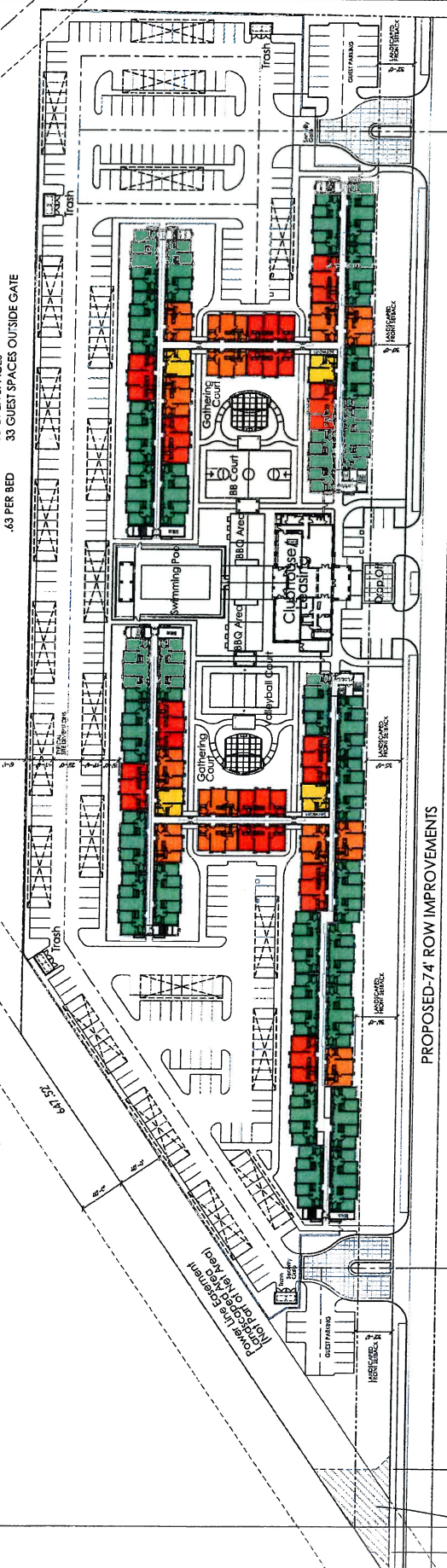
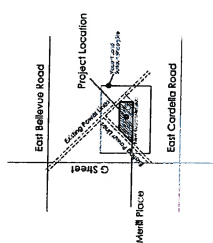


# Project Data:

Land Area:	Total	9.8 Acres
Land Area:	8.03 Acres (Less Road and Power Easements Deductions)	
Gross Land Area:		
Net Land Area:		
Preliminary Building Area:		
Building:	234,261 Sq. Ft.	
Cubhouse:	5,691 Sq. Ft.	
Carports:	33,170 Sq. Ft.	
Preliminary Building Area:		
Building Coverages: (Excludes Carports)	84,681 Sq. Ft.	24.20%
Driveway Area: (Includes Carports)	132,612 Sq. Ft.	37.91%
Landscape and Open Space Areas: (Power and Open Space Easement Not Part of Net)	132,404 Sq. Ft.	37.89%

# Project Buildout Plan-Total Unit Building Count:

UNIT TYPE	TOTAL UNITS	UNITS AREAS
UNIT #A - One Bedroom/1 Bath	12 UNITS	603 SF
UNIT #B - Two Bedroom/2 Bath	39 UNITS	845 SF
UNIT #C - Two Bedroom/2 Bath	39 UNITS	1013 SF
UNIT #D - Four Bedroom/2 Bath	90 UNITS	1270 SF
TOTALS:	180 UNITS	
PARKING REQUIRED:	277 TOTAL SPACES	
	1.75 to 1/ First 30 and 1.5 to 1 thereafter	
PARKING PROVIDED:	380 TOTAL SPACES	
	2.12 PER UNIT	
	184 CARPORTS	
	163 OPEN SPACES	
	.43 PER BED	
	33 GUEST SPACES OUTSIDE GATE	



PROPOSED-74' ROW IMPROVEMENTS



CONCEPT  
SITE PLAN  
Sheet A1  
Scale 1"=40'-0"  
December 12, 2015

**APPROVED**

Multifamily Housing Concept  
Merced, California

BP Investors, LLC

Received December 16, 2015  
Approved Administratively  
December 21, 2015

LEE JAGOE ARCHITECTURE  
INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 1871  
PESSEL BEACH, CALIFORNIA 93751  
(831) 992-7011 FAX (831) 241-6285  
LEEJAGOE@GMAIL.COM

2701 W. JACKSON AVE. SUITE 2000  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95210  
(209) 937-9285 FAX (209) 937-9347  
DIAGRAM@CHINGMAIL.COM

# Project Data:

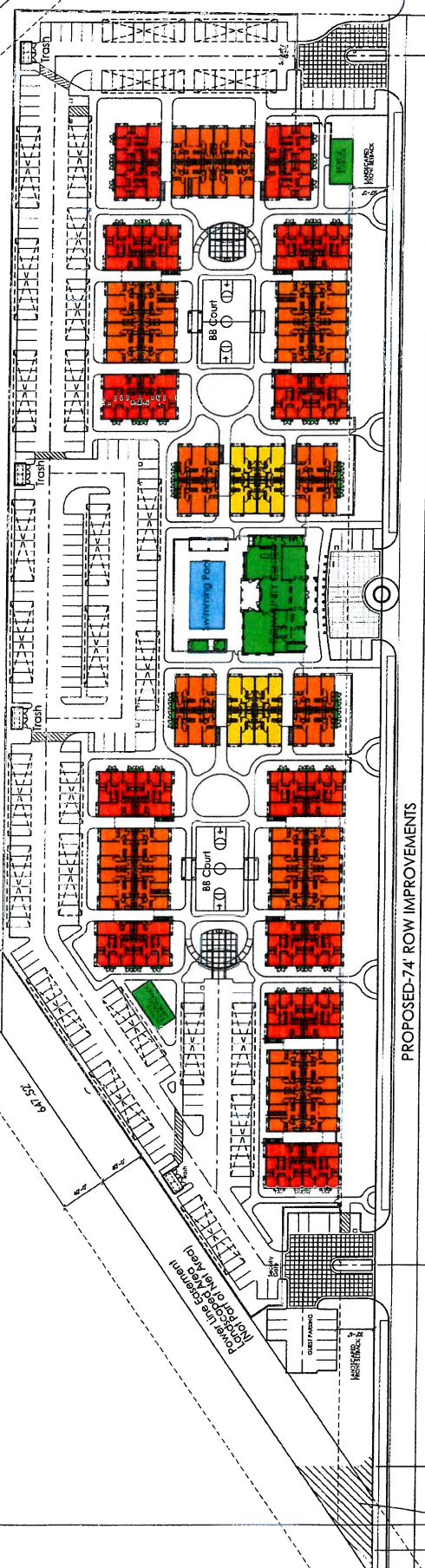
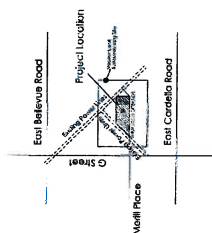
**Land Area:**  
 Gross Land Area: 9.8 Acres  
 Net Land Area: 8.03 Acres (less Road and Power Easements Deductions)  
**Preliminary Building Area:**  
 Building: 151,568 Sq. Ft.  
 Clubhouse: 5,150 Sq. Ft.  
 Bike Storage/Pool Bldg: 1,920 Sq. Ft.  
 Carports: 39,240 Sq. Ft.  
**Preliminary Building Area:**  
 Building Coverages: (Excludes Carports) 90,628 Sq. Ft.  
 Driveway Area: (Includes Carports) 117,569 Sq. Ft.  
 Landscape and Open Space Areas: 141,594 Sq. Ft.  
 (Power and Open Space Easement Not Part of Net)  
 Floor Area Ratio: 4535 to 1.00

**Total**  
 9.8 Acres  
 151,568 Sq. Ft.  
 5,150 Sq. Ft.  
 1,920 Sq. Ft.  
 39,240 Sq. Ft.  
 90,628 Sq. Ft.  
 117,569 Sq. Ft.  
 141,594 Sq. Ft.  
 4535 to 1.00

# Project Buildout Plan-Total Unit Building Count

UNIT TYPE	TOTAL UNITS	LOWER FLOOR UNITS AREAS	UPPER FLOOR UNITS AREAS
UNIT #A - One Bedroom/1 Bath	16 UNITS	720 SF	745 SF
UNIT #B - Two Bedroom/2 Bath	64 UNITS	1074 SF/1075 SF	1128 SF/1137 SF
UNIT #C - Four Bedroom/2 Bath	48 UNITS	1260 SF	1327 SF
Common Area Facilities			
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>128 UNITS</b>		

**PARKING REQUIRED:**  
 1.75 to 1/ First 30 and 1.5 to 1 thereafter  
**PARKING PROVIDED:**  
 352 TOTAL SPACES  
 218 CARPORTS  
 106 OPEN SPACES  
 29 GUEST SPACES OUTSIDE GATE  
 27.5 PER UNIT



**APPROVED**

Proposed R.O.W. extension from adjacent site as shown on separate Tentative Map as prepared by others. Proposed distance from westernly centerline of the proposed extension to R.O.W. centerline is approx. 115 feet. Proposed R.O.W. width is 74 feet.



**SITE PLAN**  
**Sheet A1**  
 Scale 1"=40'-0"  
 August 26, 2016

**Multifamily Housing Concept**  
 Merced, California

**BP Investors, LLC**

LEE-JAGOE ARCHITECTURE  
 INCORPORATED

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015- 33**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA,  
APPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW  
#15-07 (CEQA SECTION 15162 FINDINGS)  
AND GRANTING AN APPEAL BY B.P.  
INVESTORS, L.P. CONCERNING THE  
ACTION OF THE PLANNING  
COMMISSION RESULTING IN THE  
DENIAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT  
#1200 AND THEREBY APPROVING  
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #1200 TO  
ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 216  
UNIT APARTMENT COMPLEX ON A 9.8  
ACRE PARCEL GENERALLY LOCATED  
ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MERRILL  
PLACE (EXTENDED), APPROXIMATELY  
1,200 FEET EAST OF G STREET**

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Merced (“Planning Commission”) at its regular meeting of May 20, 2014, held a public hearing, and considered Conditional Use Permit #1200 (CUP #1200) to allow the construction of a 216 unit apartment complex on a 9.8 acre parcel generally located on the north side of Merrill Place (extended), approximately 1,200 feet east of G Street; and property being more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, after hearing all of the evidence and testimony and after exercising its independent judgment and review, the Planning Commission continued the public hearing to June 17, 2015, to allow staff to prepare Findings and a resolution for denial of CUP #1200; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2015, the Planning Commission re-opened the public hearing. After hearing all evidence and testimony and after exercising its independent judgment, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution #3051 denying CUP #1200; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant (B.P. Investors, L.P.) appealed the Planning Commission decision to deny Conditional Use Permit #1200; and



WHEREAS, the City Council held a noticed public hearing on August 3, 2015, at which time all those interested in the matter were provided the opportunity to speak or to provide written or oral testimony regarding the application.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCED DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, FIND, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.  
Based upon the evidence and testimony in the record at the City Council public hearing, the City Council exercising its independent judgment and review, hereby adopts Environmental Review #15-07 (CEQA Section 15162 Findings), pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

SECTION 2. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT. Based upon the evidence and testimony in the record at the City Council public hearing, the City Council exercising its independent judgment and review, hereby upholds the appeal thereby approving Conditional Use Permit #1200 together with the original findings and conditions of approval contained in Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11 Addendum, which are attached hereto as Exhibits "B" and "C."

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Merced at a regular meeting held on the 3rd day of August 2015, by the following vote:

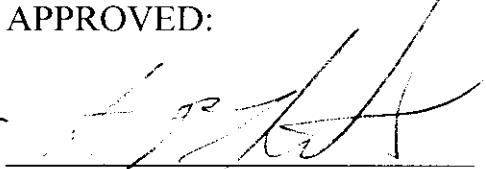
AYES: 4                      Council Members: BLAKE, DOSSETTI, MURPHY, PEDROZO

NOES: 2                      Council Members: BELLUOMINI, THURSTON

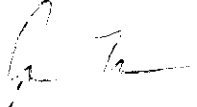
ABSENT: 1                      Council Members: LOR

ABSTAIN: 0                      Council Members: NONE

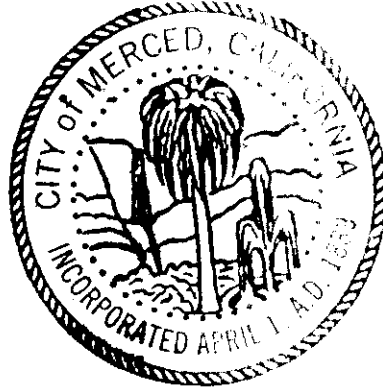
APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
JOHN M. BRAMBLE, CITY CLERK

BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant/Deputy City Clerk

(SEAL)



APPROVED AS TO FORM:


 7/14/5  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney      Date



EXHIBIT A  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Parcel 4, as shown on that certain map entitled “Parcel Map for Benber Property” recorded in Book 97, Page 17, of Merced County Records; also known as Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) 060-030-039.



**FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL  
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) #1200**

Note: <u>Underlined</u> text is added text, <del>striketrough</del> text is deleted text.
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**General Plan Compliance and Policies Related to This Application**

- A) The proposed project complies with the General Plan designation of Village Residential (VR) and the zoning designation of Residential Planned Development (RP-D) #61. The Village Residential General Plan designation is a residential designation that allows for a density of 7 to 30 dwelling units per acre for a minimum average of 10 dwelling units per acre. This designation is intended to provide for the development of mixed-use, medium-density urban “village” centers within ¼ mile of Village Commercial Core areas. A range of densities and dwelling types are permitted in Village Residential areas as long as the average minimum density of 10 dwelling units per acre is met.

As currently shown on the Land Use Diagram of the *Merced Vision 2030 General Plan*, the subject site is part of approximately 97 acres designated for Village Residential development (Attachment H of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). The proposed density of 22 dwelling units per acre is within the allowable range for land designated as Village Residential. The remaining land within the area could be developed at a slightly higher (not to exceed 30 dwelling units per acre) or a substantially lower density (minimum of 7 dwelling units per acre) as long as the average overall within this area is at least 10 dwelling units per acre.

As this area develops, it would be served by the Neighborhood Commercial areas located on both the north and south sides of Cardella Road as well as the parks to the north of the subject site, and a school that would be located within the area.

The proposed project complies with the following General Plan policies as set forth in the *Merced Vision 2030 General Plan*:

Land Use Policy 1.6: Continue to pursue quality single-family and higher density residential development.

Land Use Policy 1.2.a: Encourage higher-density residential developments within walking distance (approx. 1/4 mile) of commercial centers.

Land Use Policy 3.1.c: Plan areas for higher density development within 1/4 mile of locations identified as transit hubs and commercial centers.

Land Use Policy 1.2: Encourage a diversity of building types, ownership, prices, designs, and site plans for residential areas throughout the City.

**Traffic/Circulation**

- B) The project site would be located on the north side of the future intersection of Merrill Place (extended) and a north/south collector road connecting Merrill Place to Cardella Road (Attachment I of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). Because these roads have not been constructed, there is no data available to show existing traffic volume. Both Merrill Place and the future north/south road would be major collectors and have a 74 foot right-of-way with two travel lanes and bike lanes. Refer to Figure 4.24 of the *Merced Vision 2030 General Plan* found at Attachment J of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11 for the lane configuration.

Note:  
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text is added  
text,  
~~striketrough~~  
text is deleted  
text.

The intersection of Merrill Place and G Street would be constructed in the same configuration as the intersection on the west side of G Street (Attachment K of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). This intersection will eventually be signalized either with the development of the parcels adjacent to G Street or as a City Project.

With Phase One of the project, Merrill Place would be extended from G Street east to the eastern edge of the project frontage. Condition #10 requires the full roadway to be constructed with two 12-foot-wide travel lanes and striping for bike lanes. Full improvements are required along the north side of the road along the project frontage, but only the travel lanes, bike lanes, curb, gutter, and street lights are required for the southern half. A sidewalk will be required along the entire north side of Merrill Place, however, to provide for pedestrian to G Street. However, if the necessary right-of-way cannot be obtained to construct Merrill Place at its ultimate width of 74-feet, a part-width road may allowed in compliance with Merced Municipal Code Section 18.12.020.

Phase Two of the project would be required to construct the north/south road connecting Merrill Place and Cardella Road. If Cardella Road has not been improved by the time Phase Two of this project is constructed, improvements to Cardella Road would be required to allow Fire Department access (Condition #13).

Primary access to the site would be near the western edge of the property (Attachment B of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). A secondary entrance would be provided on the east side of the property. As shown on the site plan at Attachment B of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11 the entrance would be located near the southeast corner of the site. Due to concerns from the Fire Department about being able to get their Fire Engine in and out of the site, Condition #29 requires this entrance to be moved to the north to align with the internal drive aisle on the north side of the apartments or an additional entrance added to align with this drive aisle allowing the Fire Engine access to the site.

According to the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual (8th Edition), the Average Daily Trips (ADT's) for Apartments based on the number of units is 6.65 trips per unit. Based on this rate, the project would generate 998 Average Daily Trips with the first Phase (150 units) and an additional 439 trips with Phase Two. Peak Hour Trips (PHT's) for one hour between 4 and 6 p.m. are calculated at a rate of 0.62 trips per unit, resulting in 93 PHT's for Phase One and an additional 41 trips for Phase Two.

Pedestrian access is provided throughout the site with sidewalks which would also connect to the public sidewalk along Merrill Place. Because this complex would be gated, Condition #28 requires pedestrian gates be provided to allow access to the public sidewalk on Merrill Place.

### **Parking**

- C) The parking requirements for apartments are 1.75 spaces for each unit up to 30 units and 1.5 spaces for each unit over 30. Based on this formula, the project would be required to provide 233 spaces with Phase One and 99 spaces with Phase Two for a total of 332

parking spaces. The developer is proposing to construct all the required parking with Phase One and provide an additional 30 spaces above the minimum requirement. Out of the 362 total spaces provided, 224 would be covered with carports and 108 spaces would be open. The tenant parking is provided primarily to the north of the buildings with a small number of spaces to the east and west of the buildings. Seventeen parking spaces are provided in front of the clubhouse/leasing building.

The Zoning Ordinance requires parking spaces based on the number of units within an apartment complex, not based on the number of bedrooms. As long as the project complies with the minimum number of spaces required per unit, the project is in compliance with the regulations set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.

Because the entire parking area would be installed with Phase One, excess parking would be provided for this phase. As mentioned above, the minimum parking requirements for the 150 units to be constructed with Phase One is 233 spaces. Therefore, there would be an excess of 129 spaces provided with the first phase of construction.

If the developer decides to add an additional entrance/exit on the east side of the project to accommodate a fire engine, a few parking spaces may be lost. Staff would confirm at the building permit stage that sufficient parking is provided to meet the minimum requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

The developer would also be working with UC Merced to provide bus service to the site. If this is accomplished, it could reduce the need for students to have vehicles. Condition #27 requires that if a bus stop is provided it either be located on site or additional right-of-way be dedicated to provide a turn-out for the bus.

Condition #25 also requires bicycle parking be provided. The California Green Code requires bicycle parking to equal at least 5% of the total number of vehicle parking spaces. For this development, if 332 vehicle parking spaces are provided, 17 bicycle parking spaces would be required. Bicycle storage areas are provided on each building near the stairways.

### **Public Improvements/City Services**

- D) Roads: As described in the Traffic/Circulation section above, the project would be responsible for constructing Merrill Place from G Street to the eastern edge of the project site. With Phase Two of the project, the construction of the north/south collector road connecting Merrill Place and Cardella Road would be required. All roads would be required to be constructed to City Standards, providing two vehicle travel lanes and bike lanes on each side of the road. Conditions #10 through #13 spell-out the road improvements required.

Water: A water main line would have to be installed in Merrill Place to serve the subject site. The water main would have to be extended from G Street to the eastern edge of the project site. As required by Condition #18, the water main shall be “looped” to prevent dead-end lines. This means the water main would need to be extended back to G Street and connected to the main line to accomplish the “looping.” The design and location of

the loop would be reviewed and approved by the City Engineer and/or Public Works Director.

Sewer: A sewer main would also be required to be installed in Merrill Place to serve the subject site. This development would be responsible for the installation from G Street to the eastern edge of the subject site.

Storm Water: Storm water is required to be maintained on site with Phase One. This could be accomplished by providing a drainage basin in the area where Phase Two would be constructed. At the time of Phase Two, if the storm water cannot be contained on site, the developer would be required to provide an alternative for the storm water. When the site was annexed, it was envisioned that drainage swales would be installed under the PG&E power lines running along the western side of the property. The swales would direct the water to a basin in the park located to the north of the site. Conditions #15, #16, and #17 address the requirements for storm water and the timing of the future basin.

Bike Path: This project would be required to construct a portion of the bike path running parallel with the PG&E power lines on the western side of the site (Condition #19). The project would be required to construct the path along the west property frontage.

Reimbursement for Improvements: Per the Merced Municipal Code, the developer would be eligible for reimbursement by the property owners of the adjacent properties where he installed public improvements as follows:

- Sewer/Water Lines – eligible for reimbursement for up to 10 years.
- Streets – eligible for reimbursement for up to 15 years.

### **Building Design**

- E) The proposed buildings would share the same building elevations (Attachment C of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). The proposed height of each building would be 45 feet 3 inches tall (3 stories). The buildings vary the dimension of the front of each unit creating more visual interest with variation in depth. The color palette proposed is primarily earth tones (see the color palette at Attachment L of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). The exterior materials would be a mixture of stucco and siding. Awnings over some of the windows are staggered between the first, second, and third stories providing some variation to the elevation. The roof has a fairly steep pitch to help balance the appearance of the buildings and would have a metal roofing finish in a brown color to coordinate with the rest of the color palette. All entrances to the units would be from inside the complex. No doors are facing the street.

The buildings are designed in clusters with the entrance to each unit off a common corridor. Elevators as well as an exterior stairway would be provided for each building. Bicycle storage is provided next to the elevators and stairways.

Each building would be provided with a mixture of 1, 2, and 4 bedroom units. Refer to the table below for the breakdown of the number of units and the floor plans at Attachment D of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11 and the building layout by bedroom at Attachment E of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11.

#### **UNIT BREAKDOWN BY BEDROOM/BATH**

<b>Unit Type</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Phase 1 Units</b>	<b>Phase 2 Units</b>	<b>Total Units</b>
1 Bedroom/1 Bath	542 s.f.	9	3	12
2 Bedroom/1 Bath	782 s.f.	24	3	27
2 Bedroom/2 Bath	916 s.f.	30	18	48
4 Bedroom/2 Bath	1,270 s.f.	36	15	51
4 Bedroom/4 Bath	1,339 s.f.	51	27	78
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>216</b>

The clubhouse/leasing building would be located near the center of the site. This building would provide leasing services as well as amenities for the tenants. Amenities within the clubhouse include a fitness room, game room, social room, a small kitchen/dining area for tenants and guests to cook in and eat, vending machines, and restrooms. Refer to the floor plan at Attachment M of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11 for details on the clubhouse amenities.

#### **Site Design**

- F) As described above, the site is accessed from two driveways - one from Merrill Place and the second from a private road extending north from Merrill Place at the east side of the property. Depending on how the applicant decides to address Condition #29 requiring access for the City's Fire Engine, a second access could be located on the east side off of the private road. The parking lot layout provides access throughout the site. A vehicle could enter the site from any driveway and be able to travel through the site and out the other side. Each entrance/exit would be gated to provide security for the tenants. A driveway entrance/exit is provided on Merrill Place to serve the clubhouse/leasing building. Condition #30 requires entrance/exit signs at this location to prevent conflicts between vehicles since the driveways are located so close to each other.

The buildings are situated toward the front of the property with the parking bordering the buildings on the north, west, and east. Due to the varying depth of the buildings, the front setback along Merrill Place would vary from 17 to 25 feet.

In addition to the amenities provided within the clubhouse, there are several outdoor amenities provided as well. There is a pool, two gathering areas, and a basketball court. Sidewalks provide connections between the buildings and from the buildings to the amenity areas.

#### **Landscaping**

The front setback area and the open space areas between the buildings would be provided with landscaping. Condition #38 requires a detailed landscape sprinkler plan be provided at the building permit stage. All landscaping and irrigation is required to comply with the City's water conservation ordinance as well as all state-mandated water conservation requirements. The use of artificial turf or xeriscape is encouraged.

### **Neighborhood Impact/Interface**

- G) The project site is located within an undeveloped area. The closest house would be approximately 1,000 feet to the south of the site. There are still several acres of land being farmed in the area. The site designated for the City Park is currently being leased for farming and some of the land owned by the Bandoni family to the south and east continues to be farmed.

While there are no other housing units nearby, the development of three-story apartment buildings could impact future development. Based on past testimony from the community, most people living in single-family homes don't want to live next to a three-story building. However, because the surrounding property to the north, south, and east is also designated for Village Residential, it is likely that higher density housing would be constructed in those areas so the impact would be less for a higher density development. The property to the west is zone R-1-5 and currently has an approved tentative map for the construction of 168 single-family homes (TSM #1291 for Bright Development). The owner of this property, CEB Holdings, LLC (Bright Development) received a public hearing notice and obtained copies of the plans as well as the staff report for this item. As of the date of this report, staff has not received any comments from CEB Holdings, LLC, or the Bandoni family.

### **Signage**

- H) Per a letter from the applicant dated April 14, 2015, the applicant does not anticipate any signing for the project at this time. However, if in the future signing is proposed, it would be required to comply with the North Merced Sign Ordinance and Merced Municipal Code Section 17.36.572 – Apartments or Condominiums. No off-site signs are allowed, so there could be no signage for the project adjacent to G Street.

### **Land Use/Density Issues**

- I) The project site is designated for Village Residential uses which allow a minimum of 7 dwelling units per acre and a maximum of 30 dwelling units per acre, but the overall density within a Village Residential area should average 10 dwelling units per acre. The proposed project is at the upper end of the density range, providing 22 dwelling units per acre. Because this project would be primarily to provide student housing for UC Merced, the number of people within the complex could be higher than that typically found in an apartment complex rented primarily to families. The project would provide a total of 678 bedrooms. According to the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey Data (2009-2013), the average number of people per household within the City of Merced is 3.21 persons compared with a statewide rate of 2.94 persons. Based on this data, the average number of people occupying this apartment complex in Phase One could be 482 people or 50 people per acre. After the completion of Phase Two, the number could increase to 693 people or 71 people per acre.

If each bedroom is occupied by a single occupant, the maximum number of people occupying the apartment complex in Phase One would be 465 people or 48 people per acre. Phase Two would add an additional 213 people for an overall total of 678 people or 70 people per acre.

**Number of People Based on One Person/Bedroom**

<b>Unit Type</b>	<b>Phase 1 Units</b>	<b>Phase 2 Units</b>	<b>Total Units</b>	<b>No. of People/Unit</b>	<b>Total No. of People</b>
1 Bedroom/1 Bath	9	3	12	1	12
2 Bedroom/1 Bath	24	3	27	2	54
2 Bedroom/2 Bath	30	18	48	2	96
4 Bedroom/2 Bath	36	15	51	4	204
4 Bedroom/4 Bath	51	27	78	4	312
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>216</b>		<b>678</b>

Recent testimony at a Planning Commission meeting indicated that under certain federal and state guidelines, an apartment complex could allow a maximum of two persons per bedroom. Under this scenario, the number of people occupying this project could increase to 1,356 (the complex provides a total of 678 bedrooms). Although the occupancy could rise to this level, it's unlikely that every bedroom within the complex would have two people occupying it. If it's assumed that no more than 30% of the units would have two people per bedroom, the number of occupants would be reduced to 881 people. This number would equate to 91 people per acre.

By comparison, if this property were zoned R-4 which allows one unit for every 1,000 square feet of lot area or approximately 44 units/acre, this site could have up to 422 units with no discretionary review required.

Because development within a Planned Development requires Conditional Use Permit approval, the Planning Commission is able to review this project. However, the Commission should keep in mind that the zoning allows density up to 30 units per acre. Therefore, if the Commission wishes to deny this request, it should be based on design elements or other issues not related to the density.

#### **Compliance with Residential Planned Development (RP-D) #61**

- J) When RP-D #61 was established, development standards were adopted to ensure development within this area would be consistent, provide the uses intended, and integrate well with the surrounding community. These standards addressed land uses and building and site design standards (Attachment N of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). This project complies with the density and land use requirements. However, the building height exceeds the standard, the front setback is less than required by the standards, and the front door location is not facing the street.



**Building Height:** The maximum height allowed under the development standards for RP-D #61 is 35 feet. The proposed apartment buildings would be 45 feet 3 inches tall (Attachment C of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). In comparison, the maximum height requirement within an R-4 zone (which would allow apartments) is 40 feet tall. The actual height of the building walls is approximately 30 feet tall. The additional height is due to the pitch of the roof (6:12). However, reducing the roof pitch would affect the appearance of the buildings. The higher roof line helps balance the appearance of the buildings making them more aesthetically pleasing.

**Building Setback:** According to the design standards, the front setback should be a minimum of 30 feet. The proposed site design shows the setback varies from 17 to 25 feet (see Site Plan at Attachment B of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). In order to achieve the 30-foot setback, the open space area between the buildings would have to be reduced or the area between the buildings and the carports would have to be reduced. In an R-4 zone, the minimum front yard setback is only 15 feet. While the proposed design does not comply with the design standards, it seems reasonable to allow the reduced setback given the fact that the proposed setback is greater than what would be required by standard apartment zoning and to allow more useable open space for the tenants.

**Building Façade:** The design standards require the building façade to have the front door facing the street. The proposed project does not include this design feature. The building design has the doors facing inward and the exterior elevation has windows (refer to the building elevations at Attachment C of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11). However, the exterior elevation also incorporates a variety of materials and the use of awnings to help add interest and variety to the elevations. In addition, because the project is a gated community, doors facing the street would not provide as much security as the proposed design.

Condition #34 allows the project to vary from the design standards as described above.

### **Environmental Clearance**

The Planning staff has conducted an environmental review of the project in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and concluded that Environmental Review #15-07 is a second tier environmental document, based upon the City's determination that the proposed development remains consistent with the current general plan and provisions of CEQA Guidelines, Section 15162 (Expanded Initial Study #04-02 for Pending Annexation/Pre-Zoning Application #04-01 adopted by the Merced City Council on April 17, 2006). A copy of the Section 15162 Findings can be found at Attachment O of Planning Commission Staff Report #15-11.

1. The proposed project shall be constructed/designed as shown on Exhibit 1 (site plan) and Exhibit 2 (elevations) -- Attachments B and C of Staff Report #15-11, except as modified by the conditions.
2. All conditions contained in Resolution #1249-Amended (“Standard Conditional Use Permit Conditions”—except for Condition #16 which has been superseded by Code) shall apply.
3. The proposed project shall comply with all standard Municipal Code and Subdivision Map Act requirements as applied by the City Engineering Department.
4. The Project shall comply with all applicable conditions set forth in Resolution #2871 for Pending Annexation and Pre-zoning Applications #04-01 and the Establishment of Residential Planned Development (RP-D) #61 previously approved for this site. The project shall comply with the Design Standards for RP-D #61, except as modified by these conditions.
5. The project shall comply with all applicable mitigation measures required by Expanded Initial Study #04-02 approved with the annexation of this site (Annexation #198).
6. All other applicable codes, ordinances, policies, etc., adopted by the City of Merced shall apply.
7. The developer/applicant shall indemnify, protect, defend (with counsel selected by the City), and hold harmless the City, and any agency or instrumentality thereof, and any officers, officials, employees, or agents thereof, from any and all claims, actions, suits, proceedings, or judgments against the City, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, and any officers, officials, employees, or agents thereof to attack, set aside, void, or annul, an approval of the City, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, advisory agency, appeal board, or legislative body, including actions approved by the voters of the City, concerning the project and the approvals granted herein. Furthermore, developer/applicant shall indemnify, protect, defend, and hold harmless the City, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, against any and all claims, actions, suits, proceedings, or judgments against any governmental entity in which developer/applicant’s project is subject to that other governmental entity’s approval and a condition of such approval is that the City indemnify and defend (with counsel selected by the City) such governmental entity. City shall promptly notify the

developer/applicant of any claim, action, or proceeding. City shall further cooperate fully in the defense of the action. Should the City fail to either promptly notify or cooperate fully, the developer/applicant shall not thereafter be responsible to indemnify, defend, protect, or hold harmless the City, any agency or instrumentality thereof, or any of its officers, officials, employees, or agents.

8. The developer/applicant shall construct and operate the project in strict compliance with the approvals granted herein, City standards, laws, and ordinances, and in compliance with all State and Federal laws, regulations, and standards. In the event of a conflict between City laws and standards and a State or Federal law, regulation, or standard, the stricter or higher standard shall control.
9. Community Facilities District (CFD) formation is required for annual operating costs for police and fire services as well as storm drainage, public landscaping, street trees, street lights, parks and open space. CFD procedures shall be initiated before building permit issuance and shall be completed prior to final certificate of occupancy for the first building. Developer/Owner shall submit a request agreeing to such a procedure, waiving right to protest and post deposit as determined by the City Engineer to be sufficient to cover procedure costs and maintenance costs expected prior to first assessments being received.

### **Public Improvements**

10. The project is required to construct Merrill Place (a Collector Road with a 74-foot right-of-way) from G Street to the eastern edge of the project site. The ultimate road width shall be constructed per City Standard ST-2 and Figure 4.24 (Collector Street Cross-Sections) of the *Merced Vision 2030 General Plan* to include a 5-foot wide bike lane. The north side of Merrill Place along the project frontage shall include full improvements (i.e., the travel lane, sidewalk, curb, gutter, 5-foot-wide bike lane with striping, street trees, park strip landscaping, and street lights). The north side of Merrill Place from G Street to the project's western edge shall include the travel lane, 5-foot-wide bike lane with striping, street lights, curb, gutter, and sidewalk. The south side of Merrill Place shall include the travel lane, 5-foot-wide bike lane with striping, street lights, curb, and gutter. The developer shall be eligible for reimbursement for any improvements that do not front the project site in accordance with Merced Municipal Code Section 17.58.030 and 17.58.040. If sufficient right-of-way has not been obtained at the time the project has been constructed to build Merrill

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Place to its ultimate width of 74-feet, in accordance with Merced Municipal Code Section 18.12.020, a partial width-street may be constructed. In this case, Merrill Place shall be constructed in the existing right-of-way. The design of the part-width street shall include full improvements on the south half of the street (i.e., the travel lane, sidewalk, curb, gutter, 5-foot-wide bike lane with striping, street lights, park strip and landscaping). The north half of the right-of-way shall include, at a minimum, the travel lane and AC ditches for drainage as required by the City Engineer. Final design of the part-width road shall be approved by the City Engineer. The developer shall be eligible for reimbursement of street improvements in accordance with MMC Section 17.58.

11. A median shall be installed in Merrill Place at the intersection with G Street to match the median on the west side of G Street. Design of the median and striping of the road shall be approved by the Engineering Department at the building permit stage.
12. With the second phase of construction, the project shall construct an all-weather access road (a minimum of 24 feet in width) within the 37-foot current right-of-way to the satisfaction of the Fire Department connecting Merrill Place to Cardella Road to the south (approximately 1,300 feet). Curb, gutter, and striping for the bike lane shall be installed on both sides of the road if feasible. The developer shall be eligible for reimbursement as described in Condition #10.
13. If Cardella Road has not been improved to City Standards by the time Phase 2 of the project is constructed, the developer shall provide paved access meeting Fire Department requirements along Cardella Road from G Street to the newly constructed north/south collector road required by Condition #12.
14. All landscaping in the public right-of-way shall comply with State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 2015-0032 "To Adopt an Emergency Regulation for Statewide Urban Water Conservation" or the most recent water regulations adopted by the State and City addressing water conservation measures. If turf is proposed to be installed in medians or parkstrips, high quality artificial turf (approved by the City Engineer and Development Services Director) shall be installed. All irrigation provided to street trees or other landscaping shall be provided with a drip irrigation or micro-spray system.
15. With Phase 1 of this project, storm water may be contained on-site if documentation is provided and approved by the City Engineer showing

sufficient capacity is provided for Phase 1. At the time of construction of Phase 2, storm water shall be conveyed and contained off-site unless sufficient capacity is provided on-site.

16. If storm water containment cannot be achieved on-site, and no other development has occurred in the area requiring the construction of the drainage basin at the City park site located north of the project site, the developer shall be required to construct a basin on the park site that would provide sufficient capacity for this project. The applicant shall provide all required documentation to demonstrate sufficient capacity would be provided by the basin. Design and location shall be approved by the City Engineer. The developer shall provide the City with a minimum six month notice prior to commencing construction of the basin to allow the City to notify any lessees of the park site.
17. If drainage swales are proposed under the PG&E power lines, documentation shall be provided showing that the easement granted to PG&E would allow such use. The swales shall be designed to discharge to an approved drainage basin. The design and location of the swales shall be approved by the City Engineer.
18. A water line is required to be installed to serve the project site. This line shall be installed in Merrill Place and extended from G Street. In order to ensure water quality, a fire hydrant shall be installed at the eastern end of the water line to allow water to be released and not become stagnate within the main line. The water line shall be sized appropriately to provide sufficient fire flow as well as domestic water flow. The applicant shall provide documentation from a Fire Protection Engineer at the time of building permit submittal showing the required size of the water main line to provide adequate fire protection to the site. The City Engineer, Chief Building Official, and Fire Chief shall approve the water line size and location of the fire hydrant.
19. The project developer shall construct the Class 1 Bike Path planned to run parallel to the western property line underneath the PG&E Easement with the first phase of construction.
20. The intersection of G Street and Merrill Place shall be constructed per City Standards for the intersection of an arterial road and collector road including the construction of a 150-foot long deceleration lane on G Street south side of Merrill Place and a 150-foot acceleration lane on G Street north side of Merrill Place.

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21. ~~If additional right of way is required for construction of roadways or any other public improvements, the developer shall work with the affected property owners to obtain the necessary right of way. If, after diligent efforts have been made, the developer and the affected property owners are unable to reach an agreement, the City will take steps to obtain the necessary right of way with the applicant paying all costs for such actions.~~
22. The sidewalk along Merrill Place shall be designed to match the “meandering” pattern of the sidewalk along Merrill Place on the west side of G Street.
23. All new utilities are to be undergrounded.

### **Circulation and Parking**

24. A minimum turning radius of 33 feet inside, curb-to-curb and 49 feet wall-to-wall for fire apparatus access must be provided throughout the project. Refuse containers or other items shall not be permitted to be placed in the required clear space of the turning area.
25. Bicycle parking shall meet the minimum requirements of the California Green Building Code.
26. All driveways shall comply with the City of Merced Standard for commercial driveways and are to be reviewed by the Fire Department as part of the review of the improvement plan submittals.
27. The developer shall work with UC Merced Transit and Merced County Transit to determine if a bus stop would be required at this location. If a bus stop is required, it shall be located on site or additional right-of-way shall be dedicated to accommodate a bus turn-out on the street. The location and design of any bus stops along public streets (whether used for Merced County Transit buses, UC Merced Transit Buses, or any other transportation provider) shall be approved by the City Engineer. All bus stops shall meet handicap accessibility requirements and be approved by the City of Merced prior to service being initiated.
28. If the entire complex is gated, pedestrian access gates shall be provided to allow pedestrian access to the sidewalk along Merrill Place. At a minimum at least two pedestrian access points shall be provided between the main entrance and the clubhouse, and at least one pedestrian access provided between the clubhouse and the east edge of the property.

29. The entrance on the east side of the project site shall be moved north to align with the internal drive aisle on the north side of the apartments or an additional entrance may be added in this location. The road accessing the driveway on the east side is a private road and must be paved to meet requirements for Fire Department access.
30. To prevent conflicts between cars entering and exiting the driveways in front of the clubhouse/leasing building, signs shall be provided to clearly mark the eastern driveway as entrance only and the western driveway as exit only.

### **Construction**

31. Prior to any demolition work, the applicant shall obtain all necessary approvals from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and a demolition permit from the City of Merced Inspection Services Division if required.
32. The developer shall use proper dust control procedures during site development in accordance with San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District rules.
33. All construction activity shall be conducted in accordance with City of Merced standards for times of operation.

### **Building Design**

34. The building height is approved as proposed at 45 feet 3 inches, the exterior elevation is approved without the front door facing the street, and the setback is approved to vary from 17 to 25 feet.
35. All mechanical equipment shall be screened from public view.
36. Containers for refuse and recycled goods shall be stored in enclosures that are designed with colors compatible with the buildings and shall be constructed to meet City Standards. At the Building Permit stage, the developer shall work with the City's Refuse Department to determine the best location for these enclosures to ensure proper access is provided for City Refuse Trucks.
37. The project shall comply with the City's Multi-Family Design Standards in Merced Municipal Code Section 20.54.290.

### **Landscaping and Lighting**

38. Concurrent with or prior to the submittal of each Building Permit Application, the applicant shall submit to the Development Services Department a detailed landscape plan that is consistent with the City's Water Efficient Landscaping & Irrigation Ordinance (Merced

Municipal Code 17.60) and all state-mandated drought restrictions.

39. Irrigation for all on-site landscaping shall be provided by a drip system or micro-spray system in accordance with the State's Emergency Regulation for Statewide Urban Water Conservation or any other state or city mandated water regulations dealing with the current drought conditions.
40. The on-site landscape design shall include the use of xeriscape landscaping and avoid the use of turf as much as possible.
41. Parking lot trees shall be installed per the City's Parking Lot Landscape Standards. Trees shall be a minimum of 15-gallons, and be of a type that provides a 30-foot minimum canopy at maturity (trees shall be selected from the City's approved tree list). Trees shall be installed at a ratio of at least one tree for each six parking spaces. The trees may be located in planter areas that protrude into the parking areas, or which run along the edge of the parking areas and shall be located to accommodate any carport or shade structures (details to be worked out with Planning Staff).
42. All private outdoor walking and vehicle and bicycle parking areas shall be properly lighted with ground-mounted lights.

#### **Safety**

43. All buildings shall be designed to include commercial fire sprinklers (13-system) as required by the California Fire Code. Eight-foot wide access-ways to the buildings through the parking lots shall be provided; handicapped loading zones may not be used for this purpose. Details will be worked out with Staff at the building permit review stage.
44. Fire Hydrants shall meet minimum fire-flow requirements and located in accordance with City of Merced codes and standards. The maximum spacing between hydrants is 500 feet. The placement of fire hydrants and the number of hydrants for the site is to be worked out with the Fire Department no later than the review of building permit plans.
45. If Entrance Gates are to be proposed at the main driveway entrances/exits, adequate vehicle stacking room and a Knox-box with "click-to-enter" technology for the Fire Department shall be provided. Details to be reviewed by the Planning and Fire Departments as part of the review of the building permit submittals.





# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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**File #:** 20-597

**Meeting Date:** 10/7/2020

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*Report Prepared by: Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager*

**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of October 21, 2020, due to lack of items

**ACTION:**

Cancel the Planning Commission Meeting of October 21, 2020



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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**File #:** 20-594

Meeting Date: 10/7/2020

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### **Planning Commission Staff Report**

**SUBJECT:** Report by Planning Manager of Upcoming Agenda Items

**ACTION**

Information only.



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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File #: 20-595

Meeting Date: 10/7/2020

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### Planning Commission Staff Report

**SUBJECT:** Calendar of Meetings/Events

- Oct.5 City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(In Person)**  
7 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
19 City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
21 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(To be Cancelled)**  
27 Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission, 4:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
Nov2 City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
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4 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(By Teleconference)**  
16 City Council, 6:00 p.m. **(May be by Teleconference)**  
18 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m. **(May be Cancelled)**