



# 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, February 13, 2018

6:00 PM

---

#### Multicultural Arts Center Town Hall

#### A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor MURPHY called the Town Hall Meeting at 6:01 PM.

**Clerk's Note:** The Town Hall Meeting was held at the Multicultural Arts Center 645 W. Main Street, Merced, CA 95340.

A.1. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

#### B. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Pro Tempore Jill McLeod, Council Member Joshua Pedrozo, Council Member Matthew Serratto, Mayor Mike Murphy, and Council Member Kevin Blake

**Absent:** 2 - Council Member Michael Belluomini, and Council Member Anthony Martinez

#### C. OPENING COMMENTS

C.1. Mike Murphy - Mayor

Mayor MURPHY welcomed everyone to the Town Hall and had the Council Members introduce themselves.

**Clerk's Note:** Council Member MARTINEZ arrived at 6:03 PM.

**Clerk's Note:** Council Member BELLUOMINI arrived at 6:07 PM.

#### D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Fernando ECHEVARIA, Merced - spoke on the homeless problem in the downtown area. Suggested a no camping law. He also spoke on diversity in City Hall, hiring a Latino Police Chief, having steel play equipment at parks, a cat neutering program, and using shot spotter technology.

Steve RUSSOS, Merced - spoke on getting a shading system at playgrounds, creating a cradle to career initiative, rent control, and a

---

downtown preschool for staff and people who work in the area.

Gloria CONLIN, Merced - spoke on neighborhood blight, a safe streets program, parks, downtown business double tax and what that tax money is used for.

Rick MCMILLION, Merced - spoke on bringing back the benches downtown.

Ahmed AHMADI, Merced - asked about the City and County boundaries. He spoke about the need for communication between City and County agencies, railroad quiet zones, and downtown revitalization.

Mary HOFMANN, Merced - spoke on bringing back the downtown benches, focusing on sections of downtown to fix then extending out, and property ownership of downtown spaces.

Mary UPSHAW, Merced - spoke on how the State of the City affected her and made her want to do something positive for the city.

Twyla REECE, Merced - spoke on more shading for the playgrounds, ground covering for the playground, railroad quiet zones, street improvement, and shot spotter technology.

Diana ODOM GUNN, Merced - spoke on railroad quiet zones and interest in the old fire station. She also asked about the future of the old police station once the new station is built.

Isai PALMA, Merced - spoke on cannabis tax, a task force to decide where the cannabis tax money should go, youth activities, and ADA compliance sidewalks.

Eric MOORE, Merced - spoke on the cannabis tax.

Larry MORSE, Merced - spoke on designating a task force or sub-committee to meet with Cities that have successful downtowns.

Wayne EISENHART, Merced - spoke on communication between

---

agencies, downtown benches, trash cans on bear creek, cleaning up the alleys, brighter bike sharing lanes, 21st and K intersection 4-way stop, and the State of the City.

Chris MEDINA, Merced - asked about UC Merced Student engagement.

John HOFMANN, Merced - spoke on stop sign issues at 21st Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way.

Ryan HELLER, Merced - spoke on the importance of the State of the City message.

Victor COSTA, Merced - spoke on preventing crimes and Office of Neighborhood safety programs.

Jeremy MARTINEZ, Merced - spoke on the Continuum of Care Program regarding homelessness.

Alejandro CARRILLO, Merced - spoke on the impact of the refuse center on Yosemite Avenue and Highway 59.

Michael PIERICK, Merced - spoke on the Boys and Girls Club programs.

## **E. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council thanked everyone for attending the Town Hall Meeting.

## **F. ADJOURNMENT**

**Clerk's Note:** The Town Hall Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.