AGENDA ITEM #F.
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING DATE: October 25, 2011

CITY OF MERCED
Development Services

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission
FROM: Julie Sterling, Associate Planner
DATE: October 25, 2011
SUBJECT: Overview of the Martin Luther King Jr. Way Revitalization Plan Progress to Date

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ACTION REQUIRED:

- Discussion/Suggestions

BACKGROUND

The City of Merced received an Environmental Justice Grant from Caltrans to address transportation and land use challenges and opportunities along Martin Luther King Jr. Way, and the area bounded by State Highway 99 and Childs Avenue, and "M" Street and "G" Street (see Attachment A). A comprehensive effort is underway to accomplish four Project objectives involving transportation and land use challenges and opportunities along Martin Luther King Jr. Way. The 14-member Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee has had five meetings so far and has reviewed the Background Report (Existing Conditions), given feedback on the objectives, and discussed topics including the review of several scenarios for the future MLK Jr. Way corridor, the process and costs involved with the scenarios, the potential for obstacles, setting priorities for improvements and infrastructure, and possible land uses for the future "Focus Area."

DISCUSSION

The Martin Luther King Jr. Way Revitalization Plan is a policy implementation document. Its purpose is to identify future improvements relevant to transportation and safety within the Focus Area and along the Corridor that will culminate in a future project. When the plan is completed, it will be handed over to the Redevelopment Advisory Commission (RDAC) upon City Council adoption of the Revitalization Plan.

The above-mentioned Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee has discussed bicycle lanes on Martin Luther King Jr. Way versus re-directing bicyclists to "G" and Canal Streets due to safety conflicts. It should be noted that the Official Bike Plan (see Attachment B) does not designate existing or future bike facilities on Martin Luther King Jr. Way. One enhancement option would be to consider Canal Street as a predominant pedestrian/bicycle/transit road given the "future" improvements to one of our South Merced landmarks – McNamara Park. There have been no decisions made thus far. Staff is in the process of crafting the plan and would welcome ideas from the Bicycle Advisory Commission.

Attachments:

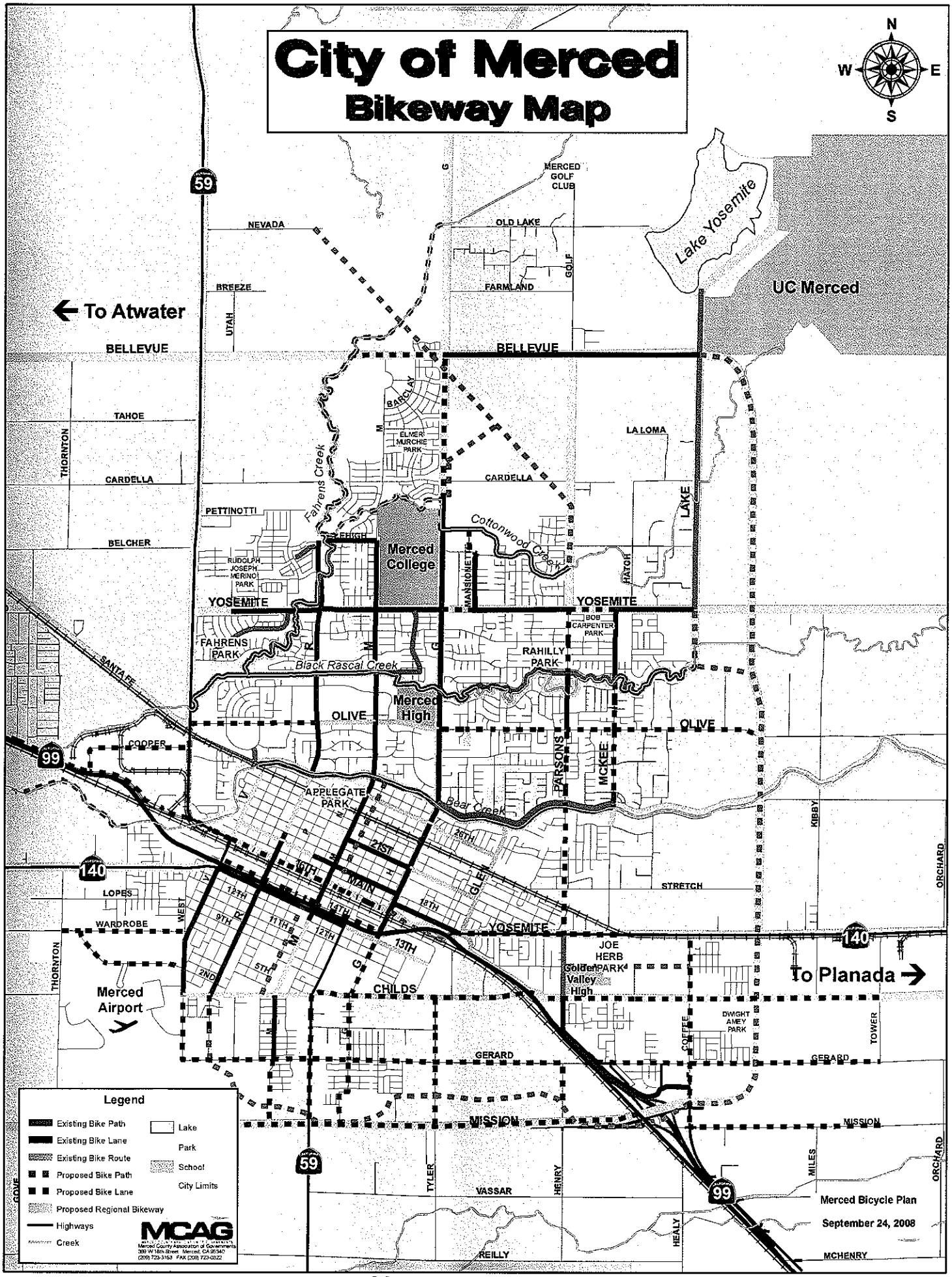
A. Martin Luther King Jr. Way Focus Area
B. Bikeway Map

Js:MLKJrWayUpdateforBAC

Martin Luther King Jr. Way "Focus Area"

ATTACHMENT A

2008 BIKE PLAN



ATTACHMENT B