NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #13-01 AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

A public hearing will be held by the Merced City Council on Monday, June 3, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard in the City Council Chambers located in the Civic Center at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, California, to consider the introduction of the Ordinance entitled:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS IN CHAPTERS 2.20, 'PLANNING COMMISSION,' 17.36, 'SIGNS,' AND 17.54, 'HISTORIC PRESERVATION,' AND CHAPTER 20.86, 'SITE PLAN AND ARCHITECTURAL APPROVAL,' OF THE MERCED MUNICIPAL CODE."

This ordinance is intended to amend the Municipal Code to shift the duties previously assigned to the Design Review Commission/Historic Preservation Commission to the Planning Commission and City staff for projects within the Downtown area and historic preservation projects. Other changes to the Municipal Code would re-title references within the sign code to the Merced Redevelopment Agency and Redevelopment Areas, which no longer exist, without changing the sign requirements themselves in any manner.

On May 8, 2013, the Planning Commission considered this matter at a duly noticed public hearing, and recommended that the City Council adopt a Categorical Exemption regarding Environmental Review #13-06, and recommended approval of amendments to the above sections of the Zoning Ordinance:

An environmental review checklist has been filed for this project, and a Categorical Exemption from further environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act has been issued. A copy of this exemption is available for public inspection at the City of Merced Planning Department during regular business hours, at 678 West 18th Street, Merced, California. A copy of this document can also be purchased at the Planning Department for the price of reproduction.

All persons in favor of, opposed to, or in any manner interested in this request for a Municipal Code Amendment are invited to attend this public hearing or forward written comments to the Director of Development Services, City of Merced, 678 West 18th Street, Merced, California 95340. Please feel free to call the Planning Department at (209) 385-6858 for additional information. If you challenge this action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City at, or prior to, the public hearing.

	/s/ Kim Espinosa	/s/ Deneen Proctor
May 17, 2013	KIM ESPINOSA,	Deputy City Clerk
	Planning Manager	