

Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the
Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
for the

City of Merced

2015/2016

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Part I

Introduction

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

for the

City of Merced

I. INTRODUCTION

Introduction

This report is intended to meet the federal requirement that local governments comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504). This law was adopted by Congress in 1990. It requires local governments to ensure that the services, programs and activities they provide be accessible to persons with disabilities. In order to ensure this accessibility, governments must evaluate themselves and plan to make appropriate modifications. The product of this effort is this report, titled "Self Evaluation and Transition Plan." Herein referred to as "Plan."

This report describes physical changes, which the City of Merced will undertake, and has completed since the last report, to make the services it provides accessible to the community. It also describes policies and procedures intended to make sure that accessibility is an ongoing effort and highlights the need for education and professional involvement in effective accessibility programs.

Part I of the Plan describes the physical changes and policy changes intended to make City programs and services accessible. Part II consists of evaluation of all policies, programs and services for all City facilities, identifying deficiencies to accessibility. The Transition Plan uses these evaluations as the basis for its recommendations.

ADA Compliance Committee

The Self Evaluation and Transition Plan are drafted by the ADA Compliance Committee. The ADA requires provisions for public participation in the process of preparing the Plan. The Committee meets every quarter to update the members on all ADA related issues. The committee consists of members from Police, Fire, Finance, Personnel, Facilities, Building, Planning, Visitors Center, Housing, insurance, Public Works, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Parks and Community Services.

Principal Architect John C. Sagin, Jr. AIA, chairman of the committee, has attended both the 2010 & 2011 AIA National Convention and took numerous courses at both conventions dealing with ADA requirement, plus the following seminars; "Accessibility, Safety and Pattern Lifts and Elevators", "Understanding ADA Compliance and Guidelines", "Detectable Warnings", "Universal Design is Good Design", "Accessibility 2015, Architecture Beyond Sight", "Accessibility 2015, Designing For All", "2015, California Accessibility CE Course".

Access to City Services and Facilities

Both the ADA and Section 504 require that services, programs and activities operated by a public agency be readily accessible to individuals with disabilities. This does not necessarily mean that each facility must be accessible; some facilities may not be used by the public. Where programs and activities used by the public are not accessible, a change of venue to an accessible location may fulfill the accessibility requirement.

The emphasis on accessible programs and activities over physical facilities explains why the particular recommendations of this Plan do not include corrections to all of the physical deficiencies identified in the evaluation of facilities.

Streets and Sidewalks

Since the City has jurisdiction over public streets and sidewalks, the Plan must include a schedule for providing ramps, or other means of access, where pedestrian walks cross curbs. The ADA provides that priority be given to walkways serving government offices and facilities, transportation, places of public accommodation, and places of employment.

Public and Employee Access

The Plan must address the access needs of two groups of people: those being served by the City and those serving the public, i.e., City staff.

The focus of this Self Evaluation and Transition Plan is largely on public access, as the ADA provides that access for employees may be provided on the basis of need. In other words, it is not required that employee areas be made accessible in advance of hiring a person with disabilities; but upon hiring (or upon disablement of an employee), work areas need to be provided or modified to appropriately achieve accessibility.

Plan Organization

The remainder of this Plan consists of:

- *Physical or program changes required to comply with ADA, for signage generally, and for each City department.

- *Discussion of streets and sidewalks.

- *Policies to further implement the ADA.

Part IV contains the facilities analysis for implementation.

ADA Compliance Update

The City of Merced has a yearly program to update its standard designs. The designs are reviewed for compliance with new ADA standards when they become available.

The City of Merced continuously looks at existing conditions as part of its review process and recommends corrections as needed.

The City of Merced has both a Maintenance & Operations budget and a Capital Improvement Budget each year for improvements to be made to existing areas identified to be corrected.

Part II

Physical Facilities Programs & Services

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

for the

City of Merced

II. PHYSICAL FACILITIES PROGRAMS & SERVICES

City Buildings and Departments

A. Civic Center, 678 West 18th Street

1. FIRST FLOOR

a. Support Services

- 1) Employee Benefits
- 2) Liability Insurance
- 3) Unemployment Insurance
- 4) Insurance Administration and Workers Compensation
- 5) Personnel

b. City Clerk / Records

c. Finance

d. Parks and Community Services

e. Information Technology

Support Services

Employee Benefits

The mission of the Employee Benefits Division is to provide the accounting mechanism through which the City pays the cost of health, long-term disability, life and: accident death and dismemberment, dental, and vision insurance for all eligible employees.

Monies are budgeted in departmental operating accounts and then transferred during the year into an employee benefit fund from which benefit payments are actually made.

Liability Insurance

The mission of the Liability Insurance Division is to provide an accounting mechanism through which the City pays the cost of general liability, property and fire, boiler and machinery, and employee crime insurance premiums. Money is budgeted in departmental operating accounts and then transferred during the year into a liability insurance fund from which the expenses are actually paid out.

Unemployment Insurance

The mission of the Unemployment Insurance Division, a self-insured fund, is to provide benefits to employees who have left the City service and qualify under state law for unemployment compensation.

Insurance Administration and Workers' Compensation

The mission of the Workers' Compensation Division is to provide technical support for the administration of the self-insured workers' compensation program, including preparation of reports, benefit payments, coordination with our third party workers' compensation administrator and the City of Merced legal office in preparing claims for settlement.

Personnel

The mission of the Personnel Division is to ensure fair and impartial administration of the City's personnel program.

City Clerk / Records

The mission of the Records Division is to provide efficient and professional support services to the citizens and employees of Merced by maintaining a complete, accurate, and historical record of City business.

Finance

The Finance Department fulfills the duties and responsibilities of fiscal administration for the City as set forth in the City Charter. Those duties require all departmental staff to serve the public interest and maintain the public's trust by exercising due diligence and professionalism in conducting the City's financial affairs.

Parks and Community Services

The activities of Parks and Community Services are planned and carried out in order to promote, maintain and develop the quality of life in our community.

The Parks and Community Services Department is responsible for the operation of a variety of recreational programs and facilities in the community. These programs and facilities are either operated entirely by the City or as a co-sponsored and collaborative effort with other entities and community organizations.

These programs and facilities are either operated entirely by the City or as a co-sponsored and collaborative effort with other entities and community organizations.

Youth Basketball

Recreational Basketball league that serves boys and girls ages 10 to 13.
School District facilities utilized for practices and games.

Recreation Swimming

Recreational swimming available at two sites: McNamara Park and Golden Valley High School, Lifeguards are on duty.

Swim Lessons

Contract program providing swim lessons at City pools. Last year the City offered swim lesson to children with special needs.

Zoo Camp

Summer activity camp for youth ages 6 to 13 at the Applegate Park Zoo. Participants are involved in nature studies, arts and crafts, specialized tours, zoo games, and an excursion to another zoo in the area.

Dance

Contract program using City and school facilities. Offerings include variety of dance classes such as Jazz, Ballet, or Polynesian dancing.

Creative Arts

Contract program using City and school facilities. Offerings include cake decorating and various arts and crafts courses.

Martial Arts

Contract program offered at City and school facilities by certified instructors. Offerings include Tae Kwon Do, Karate, Jujitsu, and aerobics.

Sports Instruction

Contract programs offered at City and school facilities. Courses include Tennis lessons and Scuba Diving.

Adult Basketball

Recreational basketball league for adults. Program costs covered by fees. Practice and league play conducted at school facilities.

Adult Softball

Recreational softball league for adults. Program costs covered by fees. Games and practices conducted on City facilities. Spring, Summer, and Fall leagues for men and women as well as co-ed offerings.

Volunteer Program

Support and recognition of community volunteer efforts.

Pool Rentals

City pools with lifeguard services are available for group rental.

Ball field Rentals

City ball fields are available for rent for team practice on weekends and tournaments when not in use by City-sponsored programs. Fees cover facility supervision, lights, field preparation and maintenance.

Facility Rentals

Facilities that are available for rent include the Rotary Scout Hut, Applegate Park Soroptimist Picnic Shelter, Joe Herb Park Picnic Shelter, Applegate Park Gazebo, Rahilly Park Picnic Shelter, Merced Open Air Theatre (MOAT), and the Samuel C. Pipes meeting room. Fees are set at private and non-profit rates.

Senior Community Center

This facility is used for senior citizen activities Monday thru Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. It is operated and maintained by staff with assistance from senior volunteers. The facility is available for public rental on weekends and evenings.

Applegate Park Zoo

The zoo, which is located in Applegate Park, serves as a recreational and educational facility for the entire community. The City operates the zoo with financial and volunteer assistance from the Merced Zoological Society.

Youth Sports Complex

The Merced Youth Sports Complex is being developed as a collaborative effort between the City and the Merced Youth Sports Complex Association (MYSCA).

Merced Youth Baseball Association

Co-sponsored program with the Merced Youth Baseball Association for youth ages 5 to 16. The recreational league, which serves the majority of the participants, begins in April and continues through July. A competitive league offers activity year round.

A year-to-year service agreement is in effect in which the City provides publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. The Youth Baseball Association also benefits from City use agreements with local school districts as a co-sponsored program.

Merced Youth Softball Association

Co-sponsored program with the Merced Youth Softball Association for ages 6 to 16; practice and league play runs from May to August.

A year-to-year service agreement is in effect in which the City provides publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. The Youth Softball Association also benefits from City use agreements with local school districts as a co-sponsored program.

Merced Youth Soccer Association

Co-sponsored program with the Merced Youth Soccer Association for ages 6 to 18. The recreational league which serves the majority of the participants begins in August and continues through November. A competitive league offers activity year round.

A year-to-year service agreement is in effect in which the City provides publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. The Youth Soccer Association also benefits from City use agreements with local school districts as a co-sponsored program.

Merced Atlas Soccer Academy

Co-sponsored program with the Merced Atlas Soccer Academy for ages 6 to 18. The recreational league which serves the majority of the participants begins in August and continues through November. A competitive league offers activity year round.

A year-to-year service agreement is in effect in which the City provides publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. Merced Atlas Soccer Academy also benefits from City use agreements with local school districts as a co-sponsored program.

Merced Cougars Youth Football Association

Co-sponsored program with the Merced Cougars Youth Football Association for youth ages 9 to 14. The recreational league begins in August and continues through November.

A year-to-year service agreement is in effect in which the City provides publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. The Youth Football Association also benefits from City use agreements with local school districts as a co-sponsored program.

Boys and Girls Club

The city has a ten-year agreement with the Boys and Girls Club to provide publicity, scheduling, use of facilities and assistance with reimbursable purchases. It is operated and maintained by staff with an assortment of Youth programs. The facility is available for public rental on weekends and evenings.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

The Parks and Community Services Department has identified the need to increase accessibility of programs and facilities prior to the adoption of the ADA. Budget considerations make it necessary to do long range planning and those recommendations are included in Part II, Transition Plan.

Information Technology

Information Technology's mission is to provide information services, data processing, and telephone services to all City departments and coordinate information services to other agencies and the general public, remain technologically current so as to advise and assist in selecting

computer hardware and software, and provide system analysis and programming services for improved production, performance and professionalism within the City.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

All first floor departments are adjacent to an accessible parking lot with properly signed and designated handicapped parking spaces. Access to the lobby is wheel chair ramped and the front doors are wheel chair accessible. Although counter heights may be too high for persons of short stature or in a wheelchair, counter personnel have been directed and trained to assist customers as necessary in the lobby area.

There is a public "drop slot" for paying utility bills outside of the Civic Center, and an interior drop slot, accessible, for paying utility bills. In addition, most utility bills can be paid by mail.

The public restrooms are all wheelchair accessible.

A computer station for the blind has been added to the first floor lobby.

2. SECOND FLOOR

- a. Engineering
- b. Planning
- c. Inspection Services
- d. One-Stop Processing
- e. Council Chambers

Engineering

Recognizing the importance of the City's infrastructure, the Engineering Design/Standards Division will assist the Public Works Department and other City departments in developing major capital improvement projects with an increased focus on pavement management to protect the City's investments; reduce the current deficiencies; repair and maintain utilities; and, assist the development community in updating standards of engineering.

Planning

The Planning Division seeks to assist the community as it grows in defining and achieving its future development goals, meeting its long-range land use, circulation, and public facilities needs, and maintaining its quality of life. Their vision is for Merced to continue to be a special place in terms of livability and opportunity.

Inspection Services

The Inspection Services Division is responsible for plan checking of all public and private structures, issuance of all construction permits, and inspection of all development to insure compliance with various federal, state, and local laws and codes to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare. In addition, Inspection Services insures that City-owned projects are built to the City's satisfaction regarding design, codes, and usability, and that

operations of local businesses and special events are conducted in a manner reflecting a balance between regulations and user needs.

One-Stop Processing

The One-Stop Application Processing procedure involving the Engineering, Planning and Inspections Services Division provides a professional level of development services support to the general public, applicants, City departments, Planning Commission, and the City Council. Program areas include customer assistance, one-stop processing, development review, review of improvement plans, zoning and subdivision, code enforcement, and special projects.

Council Chambers

Space is available at the rear of the Council Chambers to accommodate a person in a wheel chair. A portable microphone is available at each meeting and individual units are available for the hearing impaired for all meetings that use this facility.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

All second floor access is accomplished via an accessible elevator. Door width, lobby area and counter height are suitable for most any accessibility situation. An adjacent stairway provides reasonable access. Although counter heights may be too high for persons of short stature or in a wheelchair, counter personnel have been directed and trained to assist customers as necessary in the lobby area.

When public meetings are held, staff utilizes suitable locations such as the City Council Chambers, Sam Pipes Room, or Third Floor Conference Room. Public restrooms are wheelchair accessible.

3. THIRD FLOOR

- a. City Council/Mayor
- b. City Attorney
- c. City Manager
- d. Economic Development
- e. Housing

City Council/Mayor

The City Council serves as the legislative and policy-making body of the City of Merced. It consists of six members elected for four-year terms and the Mayor elected every two years.

The Mayor and Council members will continue working together as a team, representing all Merced constituents, in order to make Merced a city which:

- a. Maintains a high quality of life for its citizens.
- b. Demonstrates a positive attitude and approach in dealing with all segments of the community.

- c. Shows sensitivity and awareness of community needs and issues.
- d. Respects the diversity of its community.
- e. Develops creative and affordable solutions and alternatives to meet community needs.
- f. Is service-oriented, efficient, and progressive in its approach to problem resolution and use of resources.
- g. Offers economic development opportunities beneficial to its citizens.
- h. Maximizes teamwork and encourages individual involvement and personal growth, so that the community achieves its goals and contributes to society as a whole; and.
- i. Creates and maintains an enjoyable atmosphere in which to live and work.

City Attorney

The City Attorney acts as legal advisor and counsel for the City Council, City Manager, City administrative Economic Development and others as required in representing the City in litigation and directing the City's legal service.

City Manager

The City Manager must ensure that the organizational values of the City are key elements as budgets are prepared and business conducted. These values include an organizational outlook directed to the future; an entrepreneurial, competitive approach to city services; recognition of the value of public investment and the wisdom of maintaining the investment; decision-making at the most appropriate level; and, accountability and reward for excellent performance.

Economic Development

Efforts focus on economic development downtown, in other areas of the City, and include funding for affordable housing.

Housing

The City of Merced Housing Department strives to create and maintain affordable housing for low to moderate income residents by using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and BEGIN funds.

BEGIN is a State administered program utilizing Federal HOME funds to provide first-time homebuyer assistance.

CDBG and HOME are Federal funds provided to the City of Merced on a formula basis, with the amount dependent upon the allocation level established by Congress. HOME funds can only be used for housing activities, while CDBG can be used for broader community development purposes within established guidelines.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

All third floor offices are wheelchair accessible as are the third floor conference room and the public restrooms. The third floor doesn't have any counters; all areas are staffed with a receptionist at a desk.

B. Transportation Building – 690 West 16th Street

Adam Grey, for Assembly has moved into the building. The building was previously remodeled to meet handicap requirements. No additional work is required.

C. Fire Department

The Fire Department maintains five stations:

Engine Company 51 – 99 East 16th Street

Engine Company 52 - 1400 Falcon Way

Engine Company 53 - 800 Loughborough Drive

Engine Company 54 - 1425 East 21st Street

Engine Company 55 – 3520 North Parsons Avenue

Fire Department Training Center - 27th and K Streets

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

With the exception of its administrative offices, the Fire Department is a special use, non-public access facility.

Currently, the administrative offices occupy a portion of Station No. 51, downtown, which is wheelchair accessible.

D. Police Department

Central Station - 611 West 22nd Street

South Station - 11th and Canal Streets

The Merced Police Department maintains the traditional mission of protection of life and property. Additionally, the department is committed to establishing a sense of order and security in the neighborhoods of our community. The department seeks to accomplish its missions by treating all persons with respect and dignity, and by establishing on-going working relationships that allow input and direction in the use of resources.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement is part of the Police Department. The Code Enforcement office is responsible to investigate the requests of citizens for code violations within the City and recommend actions to correct those situations.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

All operations of the Police Department are housed at Central Station, 611 West 22nd Street with one community sub-station. The sub-station is a storefront operation in the local neighborhood.

The lobby of this facility is accessible by wheelchair. However, due to security concerns, the counter is not only high, but has a glass separation between the lobby area and interior offices. Counter staff has been directed to assist customers as necessary in the lobby area and there are interview rooms available for private conversation, which are also wheelchair accessible.

The second floor is not accessible to the general public due to security reasons. However, should the need arise; it is accessible by elevator and stairway.

E. Public Works Department, Grogan Avenue Corporation Yard

1. Public Works Administration
2. Facilities Maintenance
3. Fleet Management
4. Refuse Collection
5. Storm Drains
6. Street Sweeping
7. Street and Subdivision Trees
8. Street and Streetlight Maintenance
9. Water

Public Works Administration

The Public Works Operations - Administration Division provides administrative support to Public Works Operations Divisions to ensure the continued maintenance of Public Works infrastructure and service delivery to protect the health and safety of the community.

Facilities Maintenance

The Building/Facilities Maintenance Division is dedicated to providing quality preventative maintenance and daily care to enable all customers' full use and enjoyment of City facilities.

Fleet Management

The Fleet Management Division is dedicated to providing quality preventative maintenance and repair to vehicles and equipment necessary to maintain delivery of quality City services.

Refuse Collection

The Refuse Division ensures the citizens of Merced are provided with adequate solid waste services, which help protect the public health and preserve community quality of life, while meeting Federal and State mandates.

Storm Drains

The Storm Drain Division ensures that storm drainage facilities function to protect the community and environment.

Street Sweeping

The Street Sweeping Division helps preserve the quality of life in Merced by providing street sweeping services, which meet Federal, and State mandates.

Street and Subdivision Trees

To strive to maintain the health and vitality of the urban forest while eliminating hazardous conditions.

Street and Streetlight Maintenance

The Street Maintenance Division provides a comprehensive maintenance program to ensure that all paved streets, parking facilities, alleys and bikeways, including Class I bike lanes, are maintained in a safe and serviceable condition. In addition, ensure that all traffic control devices, signage and streetlights function in a safe, continuous manner and meet all State and local standards.

Water System

The Water Department provides City residents with a safe, clean, continuous supply of drinking water.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

The primary customer service access to this department is at the Finance Department in the Civic Center. Public access to the Corporation Yard is very limited. The parking lot has signed, designated handicap parking. The administrative offices are not wheelchair accessible but there is a training room which is and could be utilized should the need arise.

As the public entity having authority over streets, roads and walkways (other than state highways, and private roads), the City of Merced is responsible for developing a transition plan that "includes a schedule for providing curb ramps or other sloped areas where pedestrian walks cross curbs, giving priority to walkways serving entities covered by the Act, including State and local government offices and facilities, transportation, places of public accommodation, and employers, followed by walkways serving other areas."

To develop an effective and accurate transition plan, City staff inventoried all existing curb ramps and sidewalks in the public right-of-way including State highways and determined which areas were deficient. While it is clear that past priorities have been given to providing access to those entities covered in the Act, it is also clear that deficiencies exist.

The City has a number of programs to address the deficiencies:

- Annually funded capital improvement projects for curb ramps and sidewalks.

- Transportation capital improvement projects such as traffic signal revisions, street widening, etc. They include primarily arterial streets and State highways. As standard practice, these projects provide curb ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian push buttons at signals, etc.
- Annually funded maintenance implemented by City, crews repair existing accessible facilities and at times install new curb ramps and sidewalks.
- Development review procedures for private projects require new ramps and new, or repaired, sidewalks as off-site improvements.

F. Purchasing Department, Applegate Park

The Purchasing Department provides centralized purchasing and warehousing services to various City departments. This includes holding bid openings at this facility, storing a variety of materials in an on-site warehouse, and holding on-site public auctions to dispose of surplus material and equipment, at various times through the year.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

This facility is remodeled and has handicapped parking, accessibility and restrooms available to the public.

No additional work is required at this time.

G. Wastewater Treatment Plant, (WWTP) Gove Road

Wastewater/Sewer System

The Wastewater/Sewer Division's mission is to ensure that customers are provided with dependable, continuous, sanitary sewer service.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant provides treatment for all wastewater discharged to the treatment system to protect the environment and the health of the community.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

This facility is in an isolated location, which would have limited need for public access. Any public meetings would utilize the facilities at the Civic Center. The Administration and office area at the WWTP is wheelchair accessible and handicapped parking is provided in the front of the Administration building.

The WWTP has undergone a recent upgrade to the facility and all new facilities were designed to meet ADA Requirements

H. Merced Regional Airport, 20 Macready Drive

As a major factor in the economic and physical development of the City of Merced, the Merced Regional Airport will continue to develop as part of the nation's air transportation system. The Airport is the Region's only commercial airport and insures the safety and adequacy of services (commercial, corporate, and general aviation) to the residents of Merced, in conformance with environmental needs and regulations.

In addition it houses the Airport Manager and Staff. The restrooms are handicapped accessible, and a new code compliant ramp has been installed.

The Airport parking lot has designated handicapped parking, signage, and accessible to the terminal. The terminal is leased to Great Lakes Airlines. A new terminal building is being planned.

The Facility is scheduled to be replaced over the next 10 years.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

Until the new terminal is built, the City of Merced has numerous projects to upgrade the facility to meet ADA accessibility. The terminal has been upgraded with ADA handicap bathrooms, drinking fountains, and a ramp was added to the entrance. Also handicap parking spaces with signs were added to the parking lot.

In addition to ADA compliance upgrades to the Commercial Terminal and parking lot, the airport's Hangar Café restaurant has recently been remodeled. The Hangar Café remodel added new ADA compliant restrooms and an ADA compliant entrance and now complies with all ADA standards.

I. Information Technology – Shannon Arcade – 632 W. 18th Street

Information Technology has a satellite office space housing the administration, web design and support.

This facility is in an isolated location, which would have limited need for public access. Any public meetings would utilize the facilities at the Civic Center.

J. Merced Multicultural Arts Center – 615 West Main Street

The Multicultural Arts Center is leased on a ten year basis to the Merced County Arts Council Inc. to provide public arts, dance, music, and disadvantaged & handicapped programs.

This facility is accessible from both the street and alley and has an elevator to all three floors. The bathrooms are handicapped accessible.

K. Bell Station South Building – 415 West 18th Street

The GSA (General Services Administration) – the agency of the federal government which oversees all federal buildings – formally transferred ownership of the Bell Station, located at 415 W. 18th St. Merced CA., to the City of Merced on August 31, 2007. The City was awarded the deed to the Bell Station – at no cost – after years of uncertainty as to the building’s future. The City renewed the lease with the United States Postal Service and negotiated a contract to keep the post office in its convenient, downtown location.

Merced businesses, residents, and community leaders all agree that the Bell Station is a centerpiece of the community. The Bell Station has served the City of Merced since 1933, one of only five non-residential buildings in Merced on the National Register of Historic Places. The City strives to maintain the historic character of the building, while at the same time making leasable office space available.

One half of the Bell Station is occupied by the United States Postal Service and the other half is made up of 3,349 sq. ft. of leasable office space. The City markets the leasable office space at a very affordable rate.

As part of the requirements for purchase, the City was to construct a unisex handicapped accessible bathroom. This project was completed in 2008.

L. Rossotti – Ed Zoo-Cation Building – Applegate Park

The City constructed this education facility as part of its Capital Improvement Projects. It has handicapped parking, entrance and bathrooms. This project was completed in 2009.

Part III

Policies to Implement the ADA

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

for the

City of Merced

III. POLICIES TO IMPLEMENT THE ADA/SECTION 504

Introduction:

The foregoing part of the report focused on a physical assessment of the City services and programs. In order to fully implement the ADA, it is also necessary to adopt a number of policies. These policies ensure that accessibility is an ongoing consideration into the future.

1. City of Merced Administrative Policies and Procedures.

Nondiscrimination in employment - The City is currently establishing policies and procedures to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which will include nondiscrimination and reasonable accommodation. ADA language has been negotiated with each of the employee bargaining units and has been made a part of each Memorandum of Understanding.

Discrimination on the basis of disability against an applicant or an employee, who is a qualified individual with a disability, by a supervisor, management employee, or co-worker is not condoned and will not be tolerated. This policy applies to the job application process and to all terms and conditions of employment including, but not limited to, hiring, placement, promotion, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, transfer, leave of absence, compensation, and training.

Any retaliation against a person for filing a discrimination charge or making a discrimination complaint is prohibited.

All complaints of discrimination on the basis of disability will be promptly and objectively investigated by the ADA Coordinator or his/her designee. Disciplinary action up to and including termination will be instituted for discrimination on the basis of disability.

2. Personnel Rules. An ongoing commitment to accessibility requires an education component. It must address two areas:

For Staff: Information training about disabilities and discrimination based on disability, the requirements of the ADA and the City's policies and programs as they relate to disabled people, the complaint process for employees and the public, expectations of staff members in carrying out the City's policies. Education must be ongoing, explain that access barriers are often subtle, and involve training in conflict resolution, a mandated aspect of the ADA complaint process.

For the Public: Information about how to gain access to the City's programs and facilities, where to go for information, and the complaint process.

Designated City staff is currently required to participate in cultural diversity training, and management level staff is required to participate in affirmative action training. It is appropriate to expand these programs to include accessibility matters. Individual departments with special responsibilities for accessibility consideration should have additional training.

3. Professional Assistance. As City departments implement the ADA, continued input and consultation by the disability community is in order to fully achieve accessibility. An ongoing

and effective compliance program will require that the City utilize assistance by disabled persons in training and orientation to both City employees and the public as to the provisions of the ADA and resulting modifications by the City to its programs, policies and facilities.

4. Wheelchair Seating. During assembly situations, such as performances and meetings, provisions shall be made to provide for wheelchair seating that is dispersed throughout the viewing area. Such dispersal shall provide lines of sight and choice of admission pricing comparable to those offered to the general public. All such seating shall adjoin accessible routes for emergency egress and permit people who use wheelchairs to sit with companions.

5. Requirement to Stand or Wait in Line. Persons with disabilities, including those using assistive devices for standing or in wheelchairs, shall be provided an area adjacent to service windows or entrances to events in which to wait for their companions or for their place in line to reach the point of service or entrance. Staff operating the facility shall provide a means of identifying the person's place in line, especially if the line is to serve on a first-come, first-served basis.

6. Electronic Barriers to Access.

a. Presence of Repetitive Sounds (i.e. Beeping) or Flashing Lights. Repetitive sounds and flashing light will be eliminated where possible. Warning signs will be posted at entrances to spaces where repetitive sounds or flashing lights are present and alternative forms of accessing services will be provided.

b. Fluorescent Lighting. (1) When new lighting systems are designed, every effort possible should be made to provide systems that do not have the flutter/cycling "flaw" that has been problematic to persons with seizure disorders; (2) A supply of portable lamps should be made available for use in City facilities when fluorescent lighting limits employee and/or citizen participation.

c. Microwave Ovens or other Radio Wave Generation. Microwave ovens are to be placed in rooms adjoining areas such as employee lounges when possible. Alternately, microwave ovens (or other radio wave emitting equipment) should be placed in a corner or along a wall as far as possible from entrances and paths of travel.

7. Working Animals. Working dogs, such as guide dogs and service dogs, shall not be precluded from entering any City facility while performing their respective tasks of assisting their owners.

8. Toxic, Hazardous and Harmful Materials. Some materials in general use are toxic to some individuals. This includes, but is not limited to: carpet cleaners, pesticides/herbicides/fertilizers, cleaning agents, maintenance materials, solvents, glues, adhesives, caulks, formaldehyde, certain paints, inks and papers, photocopy/laser print machines, gas heating and cooking appliances, and chemicals in portable toilets. These materials will be addressed according to the following steps:

a. Eliminate hazardous and toxic materials when possible.

b. Choose the least toxic products and methods of application available for each situation.

c. Adequately ventilate areas where hazardous materials are used.

d. Ensure that information on materials used is available to employees and the public. Provide information on alternative materials, which are nontoxic, or least toxic.

e. Provide signage indicating that use of hazardous or toxic materials is a) planned in the near future, b) is under way, c) has recently been completed. Such signage shall be a significant distance from the site of usage to warn of the use of hazardous materials and to allow persons to not walk into contaminated areas, especially persons with environmental disabilities.

f. Provide alternative access to services for those persons for whom the materials remain a barrier.

9. Smoke-and Fragrance-Free Environments. The City has adopted policies of smoke- free environments on its properties.

10. Accessibility and City Employees. As required by the ADA, accommodations will be made for newly hired disabled persons, or in case a City employee becomes disabled.

11. Public and Employee Access

The Transition Plan must address the access needs of two groups of people: those being served by the City and those serving the public, i.e., City staff.

The focus of this Self Evaluation and Transition Plan is largely on public access, as the ADA provides that access for employees may be provided on the basis of need. In other words, it is not required that employee areas be made accessible in advance of hiring a person with disabilities, but upon hiring (or upon disablement of an employee), work areas need to be provided or modified to appropriately achieve accessibility.

Plan Organization

The remainder of this Plan consists of:

*Physical or program changes required to comply with ADA, for signage generally, and for each City department.

*Discussion of streets and sidewalks

*Policies to further implement the ADA

Part IV contains the facilities analysis for implementation.

PART IV

Transition Plan & Policy/Program Compliance Summary

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with
Disabilities Act of 1990

for the

City of Merced

IV. TRANSITION PLAN

The City of Merced has created an ADA Committee to meet quarterly, and report progress on the Transition plan. In addition it will review any complaints and recommend corrective measures. The Committee will direct staff to do another self-evaluation in 2017.

Access to City Services and Facilities

The City of Merced has requested staff to review all City facilities for compliance with ADA requirements and notify staff of all items that have been completed.

Streets, Handicapped Ramps and Sidewalks

Streets:

The Public Works Department has an ongoing GIS project surveying the individual intersections for ramps or non-ramps. The majority of the City has been surveyed and a map has been created showing the locations and the results.

This map is used in the selection of ramp locations to be added each year with the ADA yearly ramp projects.

In addition to the ADA yearly projects, any commercial or residential construction is required to upgrade ramps or sidewalks that are in non-compliance, as part of the approval for construction.

All road reconstruction and overlay projects that extend into the intersection will also provide new ramps where ramps are not now provided.

Handicapped Ramps:

The Public Works Department, along with the Engineering Department, has identified and prioritized the areas to be corrected based on usage, traffic, safety and relationship to commercial and school facilities.

The residential areas and high use pedestrian areas are determined to be the best locations to concentrate our efforts. The following is a list of ramps, noted as needing to be fixed from our field survey: Ramps shown **bold** have been completed since our last report. Projects slated for this year are not yet determined, but the city has approximately \$40,000 for sidewalk and ramp improvements.

Ramps completed:

1	Buena Vista Drive & San Ramon Court	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
2	Buena Vista Drive & San Jacinto Court	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
3	Buena Vista Drive & San Felipe Court	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
4	Buena Vista Drive & San Luis Rey Court	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
5	Buena Vista Drive & San Rafael Court	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014

6	Buena Vista Drive & Rivera School	5 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
7	East Donna Drive & Paulson Rd	1 Ramp	Reconstructed - 2014
8	Coffee Rd & Childs Ave	1 Ramp	Reconstructed - 2014
9	East Donna Drive & Paulson Rd	1 Ramp	Reconstructed - 2014
10	Coffee Rd & Childs Ave	1 Ramp	Reconstructed - 2014
11	“M” Street & Yosemite Ave	4 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2014
12	11 th Street & Canal Street	4 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
13	11 th Street & K Street	4 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
14	McKee Rd & Silver Drive	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
15	Yosemite Ave & Lake Rd	1 Ramp	Constructed - 2015
16	M Street & 26 th Street	1 Ramp	Constructed - 2015
17	M Street near Merced Community College Bus Stop	1 Ramp	Constructed - 2015
18	Fairfield Drive & Collins Drive	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
19	Carrol Ave & Merced Ave	3 Ramps	Constructed - 2015
20	R Street & 19 th Street	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
21	M Street & Loughborough Drive	3 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
22	M Street & Buena Vista Drive	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015
23	M Street & Donna Drive	2 Ramps	Reconstructed - 2015

Staff will work to identify funding sources (including federal and state grants) for the construction of ADA compliant sidewalks and access ramps. Given the many competing needs facing the City of Merced, such sidewalks and access ramps will be installed as the necessary funding becomes available.

The City of Merced did improve McNamara Park in 2014. The improvements consisted in a new restroom with all new ADA requirement, new sidewalks, artificial turf, park benches, a new handicap accessible splash pad, and restriped the parking lot. The City also widened doors in the Youth Center and added ramps.

The City is in the process of upgrading Stephen Leonard Park. The upgrades include removing the existing swimming pool and adding an ADA accessible splash pad, shade structures, zip line area, climbing rock, and a skate park. These improvements will be followed with new lighting, new sidewalk and access ramps to play areas. The project will also consist of repairing all the sidewalk around the park.

Sidewalks:

The City of Merced has a yearly project to replace sidewalks that are cracked, raised or non-compliant for ADA and safety. The Public Works Department along with the Engineering Department evaluated and prioritized the locations. This year alone Public Works replaced 356 feet of sidewalks that were out of compliance and made repairs to 1,852 trip hazards in various locations throughout the City. The repairs are an ongoing project.

CIP Projects are slated for both 2015/ 2016 in the City's programs to repair or replace hazardous sidewalks.

Bike Paths:

The City of Merced sees the needs to improve the conditions for bicyclists, promoting as a means of transportation with the associated benefit of improved air quality, and improving safety conditions for bicyclists. The City is in the process of installing new bike paths along various locations as specified in the Bicycle Master Plan.

Current Projects:

- Construct new bike paths on Silverstone Drive from McKee Road to Yosemite Avenue. This path will connect existing bike paths to UC Merced.
- New ADA accessible bike shelters along M Street will allow bicyclist to rest and make any some repairs to their bicycles prior to continuing on the activity.

Future Projects:

- Construct a new bike path from 16th Street easterly along Bear Creek to local shopping centers along Olive Avenue and continuing northerly to Fahrens Park.

Traffic Signals

The Signal Department has determined that new pedestrian audible devises were in need of repair. Our Technicians replace 40 intersections within with new Wilcox devises.

Public and Employee Access

The Transition Plan must address the access needs of two groups of people: those being served by the City and those serving the public, i.e., City staff.

The focus of this Self Evaluation and Transition Plan is largely on public access, as the ADA provides that access for employees may be provided on the basis of need. In other words, it is not required that employee areas be made accessible in advance of hiring a person with disabilities, but upon hiring (or upon disablement of an employee), work areas need to be provided or modified to appropriately achieve accessibility.

Plan Organization

The remainder of this Plan consists of:

- *Physical or program changes required to comply with ADA, for signage generally, and for each City department.

- *Discussion of streets and sidewalks

- *Policies to further implement the ADA

Part IV contains the facilities analysis for implementation.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

With estimated cost and time frame

A. Streets and Sidewalks:

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

1.	ADA ramp & sidewalk projects 2015 /16	30 ramps	\$400,000	15/19
2.	Additional City ramps – CIP Projects	200 ramps	\$1,000,000	15/22
3.	Private Retrofit	25 ramps	\$0.00	15/19
4.	Retrofit in Commercial Areas	40 ramps	\$0.00	15/19
5.	Ramps in Residential Areas	810 ramps	\$5,000,000	15/22

B. City Hall - 678 W. 18th

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

1. Accessible Counters or signage with alternate location for accessible writing surface. Study underway to find an equitable solution. In 2014 the City installed a pullout counter top on the first floor to assist people in wheel chairs.

C. Fire Department

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

The Fire Department maintains five stations:

Engine Company 51 – 99 East 16th Street
Engine Company 52 - 1400 Falcon Way
Engine Company 53 - 800 Loughborough Drive
Engine Company 54 - 1425 East 21st Street
Engine Company 55 – 3520 North Parsons Avenue

Fire Department Training Center - 27th and K Streets

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

With the exception of its administrative offices, the Fire Department is a special use, non-public access facility.

Currently, the administrative offices occupy a portion of Station No. 51, downtown, which is accessible.

Engine Company 51 - 16th Street

Accessible entrance signs	1	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	1	@	\$1,500.00	15/19
Accessible countertop	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19
Replace Doors/ Hardware	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19

Engine Company 52 - Falcon Way

Curb cuts and walk	1	@	Completed	
Accessible entrance signs	1	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Replace Carpet			Completed	
Replace Doors/ Hardware	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19

Engine Company 53 - Loughborough Drive

Note: This Station is scheduled to be replaced, if funding becomes available, in the next 5 years.

Curb cuts and walk	1	@	\$1,500.00	15/19
Accessible entrance signs	1	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Replace Carpet	1	@	Completed	
Replace Doors/ Hardware	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19

Engine Company 54 - East 21st Street

Accessible entrance signs	1	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	1	@	\$1,500.00	15/19
Replace Doors/ Hardware	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19
Replace Carpet			Completed	

Engine Company 55 -North Parsons Avenue

No Issues

D. Police Department

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

The Merced Police Department maintains the traditional mission of protection of life and property. Additionally, the department is committed to upgrade the facilities it uses until a new police facility can be built.

The Police Department did vacate its north station this year due to budget constraints, and has no plans at this time to reopen a facility in the north end of town.

The City of Merced has selected and purchased a site for a new Central Police Station to be built in 2020. The facility will be a totally new building and built to ADA standards. Until that time the City of Merced continues to make all necessary arrangements and corrections.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

All operations of the Police Department are housed at Central Station, 611 West 22nd Street and a South sub-station located at 11th and Canal Streets.

Central Station

The lobby of this facility is accessible by wheelchair. However, due to security concerns, the counter is not only high, but has a glass separation between the lobby area and interior offices. Counter staff has been directed to assist customers as necessary in the lobby area and there are interview rooms available for private conversation, which are also wheelchair accessible.

The second floor is not accessible to the general public due to security reasons. However, should the need arise; it is accessible by elevator and stairway.

Central Police Department – West 22nd Street

Police is moving forward to obtain a site for a new Central Police Station. Expected construction for the new station is within the next 10 years.

Braille restroom, elevator signs	5	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Door assist	1	@	\$2,000.00	Completed
Accessible entrance signs	4	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	1	@	\$1,500.00	15/19
Accessible Parking	1	@	\$2,500.00	15/19
Accessible Bathrooms	1	@	\$9,500.00	15/19
Accessible Drinking Fountain	1	@	\$3,500.00	15/19

South Police Sub-station – 11th and Canal Streets

Door assist	1	@	\$2,000.00	15/19
New drinking fountain	1	@	\$2,000.00	15/19
Accessible entrance signs	4	@	\$ 15.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	1	@	\$1,500.00	15/19
Accessible Parking	1	@	\$2,500.00	15/19
Accessible Bathrooms	1	@	\$3,500.00	15/19

E. Public Works Department, Grogan Avenue Corporation Yard

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

1. Public Works Administration
2. Facilities Maintenance
3. Fleet Management
4. Refuse Collection
5. Storm Drains
6. Street Sweeping
7. Street and Subdivision Trees
8. Street and Streetlight Maintenance
9. Water

Public Works Operations - Administration

The Public Works Operations - Administration Division provides administrative support to Public Works Operations Divisions to ensure the continued maintenance of Public Works infrastructure and service delivery to protect the health and safety of the community.

Facilities Maintenance

The Building/Facilities Maintenance Division is dedicated to providing quality preventative maintenance and daily care to enable all customers' full use and enjoyment of City facilities

Fleet Management

The Fleet Management Division is dedicated to providing quality preventative maintenance and repair to vehicles and equipment necessary to maintain delivery of quality City services.

Refuse Collection

The Refuse Division ensures the citizens of Merced are provided with adequate solid waste services, which help protect the public health and preserve community quality of life, while meeting Federal and State mandates.

Storm Drains

The Storm Drain Division ensures that storm drainage facilities function to protect the community and environment.

Street Sweeping

The Street Sweeping Division helps preserve the quality of life in Merced by providing street sweeping services, which meet Federal, and State mandates.

Street and Subdivision Trees

To strive to maintain the health and vitality of the urban forest while eliminating hazardous conditions.

Street and Streetlight Maintenance

The Street Maintenance Division provides a comprehensive maintenance program to ensure that all parking facilities, paved streets, alleys and bikeways, including Class I bike lanes, are maintained in a safe and serviceable condition. In addition, ensure that all traffic control devices, signage and streetlights function in a safe, continuous manner and meet all State and local standards.

Wastewater/Sewer System

The Wastewater/Sewer Division's mission is to ensure that customers are provided with dependable, continuous, sanitary sewer service.

Water System

The Water Department provides City residents with a safe, clean, continuous supply of drinking water.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

The primary customer service access to this department is at the Finance Department in the Civic Center. Public access to the Corporation Yard is very limited. The parking lot has signed, designated handicap parking. The administrative offices are not wheelchair accessible but there is a training room which is and could be utilized should the need arise.

As the public entity having authority over streets, roads and walkways (other than state highways, and private roads), the City of Merced is responsible for developing a transition plan that "includes a schedule for providing curb ramps or other sloped areas where pedestrian walks cross curbs, giving priority to walkways serving entities covered by the Act, including State and local government offices and facilities, transportation, places of public accommodation, and employers, followed by walkways serving other areas".

To develop an effective and accurate transition plan, City staff inventoried all existing curb ramps and sidewalks in the public right-of-way including State highways and determined which areas were deficient. While it is clear that past priorities have been given to providing access to those entities covered in the Act, it is also clear that deficiencies exist.

The City has a number of programs to address the deficiencies:

- Annually funded capital improvement projects for curb ramps and sidewalks.
- Transportation capital improvement projects such as traffic signal revisions, street widening, etc. They include primarily arterial streets and State highways. As standard practice, these projects provide curb ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian push buttons at signals, etc.

- Annually funded maintenance implemented by City crews repair existing accessible facilities and at times install new curb ramps and sidewalks.

- Development review procedures for private projects require new ramps and new or repaired sidewalks as off-site improvements.

Public Works

Van Restriping	1	@	\$100.00	15/19
Van accessible parking space	1	@	\$500.00	15/19
Railing Modifications	2	@	\$1,000.00	15/19
Replace Carpet	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19
Audible signals	2	@	\$1,000.00	15/19
Accessible countertop	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19
Accessible signs	4	@	\$ 15.00	15/19

Maintenance Garage

Braille accessibility signs	3	@	\$15.00	15/19
Remodel restrooms	2	@	\$12,000.00	15/19
Van accessible parking space	1	@	\$500.00	15/19
Handicapped Parking Spaces	2	@	\$500.00	15/19
Door Modifications	4	@	\$500.00	15/19
Carpet Modifications	1	@	\$4,500.00	15/19
Audible signals	2	@	\$1,000.00	15/19

F. Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Wastewater Treatment Plant provides treatment for all wastewater discharged to the treatment system to protect the environment and the health of the community.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

This facility is in an isolated location, which would have limited need for public access. Any public meetings would utilize the facilities at the Civic Center. The Administration area is wheelchair accessible and handicapped parking is provided.

The City of Merced has finished construction for the expansion and retrofit of the wastewater treatment plant.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Wastewater Treatment Plant is continuing to upgrade its facilities. To date projects include a new laboratory building, remodeling the EOC lab building, replacing hand railing, and constructing a new solids storage building.

G. Airport

As a major factor in the economic and physical development of the City of Merced, Merced Regional Airport will continue to develop as part of the nation's air transportation system. The Airport is the Region's only commercial airport and insures the safety and adequacy of services (commercial, corporate, and general aviation) to the residents of Merced, in conformance with environmental needs and regulations.

In the City's new Airport Master Plan a new terminal building is identified for construction within the next 5 years. The new terminal will replace the existing terminal.

Policy/Program Compliance Summary

The Airport Terminal and parking lot have been brought up to full compliance with ADA requirements.

Required Physical/Program Modifications:

Airport Terminal : None at this time

Airport Café

Airport Café has added two new ADA accessible bathroom facilities and an entrance to the restaurant was made ADA Compliant.

ADA Bathrooms	2	@	\$20,000.00	Completed
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Airport FBO – Gateway Air Center

Gateway has added one new ADA accessible bathroom facilities and entrance was made ADA Compliant to the site.

ADA Bathroom	2	@	\$10,000.00	Completed
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H. Recreation and Parks Facilities

McNamara Park

The City received a 2.6 million dollar grant to upgrade the McNamara Park Facilities. Included will be eight handicap ramps at the corner of "K & 11th Street and Canal & 11th Street. The grinding of sidewalks that have lifted around the park, replacement of sidewalks that are cracked and uplifted. New sidewalks are being added to the playground area, ADA compliant, new handicap ramp to the new pavilion, and new handicap bathrooms are being built. ADA drinking fountains will be added. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2013.

Required Physical/Program Modifications

Stephen Leonard Hall

Braille restroom signs	2 @ \$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	15/19
Entrance Accessibility signs	2 @ \$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	15/19

Rotary Scout Hut

New restrooms for facilities		\$ 25,000.00	15/19
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Merced Open Air Theatre (MOAT)

New restrooms for facilities		(see city park sites)	
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Applegate Zoo

Braille restroom signs	2 @ \$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	15/19
Van accessible parking space	4 @ \$500.00	\$2,000.00	15/19
Sidewalks		\$5,000.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	2 @ \$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	15/19
Accessible Parking	4 @ \$2,500.00	\$10,000.00	15/19

Ada Givens Park & Pool

Braille restroom signs	2 @ \$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	15/19
Van accessible parking space	4 @ \$500.00	\$2,000.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	2 @ \$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	15/19

Merced Dog Park

New facility built in 2009 with ADA compliant restroom facilities, walkways, parking and ramps.

City Park Sites – all Parks not listed above:

The City of Merced has a program for upgrading its existing Parks over the next 10 years. The parks have been identified and the majority of the work would be sidewalks, ramps, new drinking fountains and fiber for the playground areas. Additional van accessible handicapped parking spaces would be added. These renovations will be brought to the City Council for future CIP projects.

Renovations		\$ 300,000.00	15/19
New Restrooms	4@ \$ 20,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	15/19
Handicapped Parking	8@ \$ 8,000.00	\$ 64,000.00	15/19
Curb cuts and walk	10 @ \$1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00	15/19

ADA Grievance Procedures

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Merced. The City's Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Deneen Proctor
ADA Coordinator/Director of Support Services
678 West 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator or designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, the ADA Coordinator or designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Merced and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator or designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the City Manager or designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the City Manager or designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the City Manager or designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator or designee, appeals to the City Manager or designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the City of Merced for at least three years.

End of Report