

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #16-02 AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
NEGATIVE DECLARATION

A public hearing will be held by the Merced City Planning Commission on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard in the City Council Chambers located at 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, concerning Zoning Ordinance Amendment #16-02, initiated by the City of Merced. This application involves changes to the Merced Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) which would amend Chapter 20.84, "Medical Marijuana and Cultivation," and Chapter 20.20, "Professional/Commercial Office," to the Merced Municipal Code to allow commercial medical marijuana/cannabis dispensaries in the Professional/Commercial Office (C-O) zones and Planned Developments with Commercial Office designations by Conditional Use Permit subject to certain restrictions; allow commercial deliveries of medical marijuana in the City; and to allow the cultivation of 12 immature plants or 6 mature plants per parcel/lot, either indoors or outdoors, of marijuana/cannabis for personal medical use by a qualified patient or primary caregiver in all zones and specific plan areas in the City of Merced, with certain restrictions regarding visibility and distance from the property line.

An environmental review checklist has been filed for this project, and a draft negative declaration has been prepared (i.e., no further environmental review would be required) under the California Environmental Quality Act. A copy of this staff evaluation ("Initial Study") 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 Zoning Ordinance 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, CA 95340. The public review period for the environmental determination begins on April 28, 2016, and ends on May 18, 2016. Please feel free to call the Planning Department at (209) 385-6858 for additional information. If you challenge the decision of the Planning Commission 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 of Merced at, or prior to, the public hearing.

After the Planning Commission makes its decision on this matter, the matter will also be considered at a public hearing before the City Council. A separate notice of that public hearing will also be given.

April 22, 2016

/s/ Kim Espinosa
Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager