

For Immediate Release

Candice Steelman
209-723-3153, ext. 308
Candice.steelman@mcagov.org

MCAG One Voice Delegates Prepare for Sacramento Visit

*48 delegates briefed on 8 issues covering transportation,
economic development, education, healthcare, and water*

MERCED, Calif., Feb. 11, 2008 – As part of the One Voice program organized by the Merced County Association of Governments, elected officials, key staff, and business owners will visit legislators in Sacramento this week to seek funding or policy change on eight issues.

Elected officials include Supervisor Mike Nelson, Chair of the MCAG Governing Board, Gustine Council Members Frank Amaral and Joe Oliveira, Los Banos Council Member Anna Brooks and Los Banos Mayor Tommy Jones, Dos Palos Council Member Johnny Mays, Atwater Mayor Pro tem Lesa Rasmussen, and Merced Councilman Bill Spriggs. In addition, Merced County Health Care Consortium, UC Merced, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, Merced Union High School District, and Merced County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDCO) will send representatives.

From the business community, realtors Carole McCoy and Gail McCullough, Mario Rendon of PG&E, and 17 members of the Merced Boosters Club will make their first visit to Sacramento with One Voice.

“The purpose of One Voice is to join together and advocate positions that are important for Merced County,” explains Nelson. “Some of our issues this year include financial help for small cities to attract economic investment, improving healthcare, and developing a comprehensive water plan.” Other topics covered this year are in transportation and education.

Delegates travel at their own expense. Sponsors pay for some incidental expenses, most meals, and a reception. This year’s sponsors are Merced Chamber of Commerce Boosters Club, Brookfield Land, PG&E, Merced Union High School District, Merced County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDCO), and Citizens for the Betterment of Merced.

For more information and to see all of the One Voice projects, go to www.mcagov.org/onevoice.htm

#

About MCAG

MCAG is an association of city and county governments, with members who meet to solve regional problems such as transportation, solid waste, and air quality. More information can be found at www.mcagov.org , or by calling (209) 723-3153, ext. 308.