

Request: \$30,000,000 to assist with the replacement of an antiquated Police Headquarters, construction of a combined new Fire Station and Regional Public Safety Training Complex.

Description: The Merced Police Department has outgrown its current headquarters facility on W. 22nd Street. The original building was constructed in 1959 and no longer meets the space, operational, security, and technological needs of the Police Department. A new Fire Station is needed due to the continued growth of the City of Merced, specifically related to the UC Merced 2020 project and growth in North Merced. This new station will be constructed in partnership with Merced College and incorporate the development of a Regional Public Safety Training Complex.

Site Search: The City has hired a consultant to conduct a needs assessment and facility condition analysis on the current police headquarters and a site considered for the new headquarters. The final assessment is completed and design options are being developed for the Council to consider in partnership with locations for the new headquarters. The City currently owns 3.5 acres on the Merced College campus and will work to partner with Merced College to develop a Regional Public Safety Training Center with the construction of the new Fire Station.

Necessity: Antiquated facilities continue to impair the City's ability to recruit and retain Police Officers and Firefighters. In order to serve and protect the community, state-of-the-art facilities are needed with digital connectivity, communications, and technology. In addition, these facilities will provide access to community rooms and increased community programs. Once public safety personnel are hired, training often occurs out of state, causing the disruption of services to the community. With the construction of a Regional Public Safety Training Facility, employees can receive their initial education and on-going session within the same area they serve.

Design & Construction: Staff estimates that the new Police Headquarters will cost more than \$35 million, a new Fire Station will cost more than \$8 million, and a Public Safety Regional Training Facility will cost more than \$20 million.

Beneficiaries:

- Merced residents and businesses
- Local and state judicial system
- Current sworn and civilian personnel
- Future sworn and civilian personnel
- State of California



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