

**Request:** \$18,000,000 to assist with the replacement of an antiquated Police Central Station with a state of the art 50,000 square-foot Police Headquarters.

**Description:** The Merced Police Department has outgrown its current headquarters facility on W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. The original building was constructed in 1959, has been remodeled twice, and no longer meets the space, operational, security, and technological needs of the Police Department. A new Police Headquarters will also allow Police functions to be centralized to one location such as the evidence storage facility. It is now time to plan for the present and future needs of the Police Department.

**Site Search:** Over 25 sites were evaluated for a new Police Headquarters. Staff used 21 site location factors to evaluate each potential property. After a lengthy and detailed site search, the City Council directed staff to proceed with acquiring the Merced Sun-Star facility for the new Police Headquarters.

**Necessity:** According to Police Chief Norman Andrade, the antiquated Police Headquarters is impairing the City's ability to recruit and retain Police Officers. In order to serve and protect the community, a state of the art facility is needed with digital connectivity, communications, and technology. Security in public buildings is becoming more essential. The current Police Headquarters has outdated security hardware, leaving the current sworn and civilian personnel vulnerable to attack.

### Design & Construction:

Staff estimates that the new Police Headquarters will cost approximately \$35 million dollars. Funds will be used to design and construct the following:

- 50,000 square foot building (plus future expansion)
- Parking for 196 vehicles (plus future expansion)
- Long-Term Evidence Storage Facility
- Dispatch & Emergency Communications
- Accommodate 189 sworn personnel and 80 civilian personnel

### 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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