



*****PRESS RELEASE*****

**Fresno City Council Unanimously Votes to
Create Fresno Youth Council**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FRESNO — Councilmember Esmeralda Soria and Council President Oliver Baines led the effort to establish the Fresno Youth Commission during the June 4th Council Meeting. With a 7-0 vote, the council unanimously voted to give young people a voice in local government.

“The goal of the Commission is to bring our young people to the decision-making table on issues within the jurisdiction of the city, where they can work to create positive change in our community,” stated Councilmember Soria, “this will provide an opportunity for true leadership development among our youth”. Council President Oliver Baines further commented, “With the adoption of the ordinance, young people will have their voices heard in City affairs and issues of special concern to youth, including crime prevention, jobs for youth, health and wellness, accessible public transportation, recreational facilities and open space.”

The Fresno Youth Commission will be comprised of young people from throughout the city ages 15-22 years old. Commissioners will be appointed by each Councilmember and the Mayor. The Commission is expected to develop and maintain an annual strategic plan and work on youth outreach as well as bring forth their concerns to local government officials.

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