

# Councilmember Esmeralda Soria

## *The work continues in District 1!*

Making Neighborhoods Safer and Stronger

2020 Edition 1

Dear Residents,

We have been working hard on your behalf and are happy to share about new District 1 businesses, groundbreaking, local events, neighborhood improvements, recognition of local community members and organizations, and special projects in District 1.

In 2019, we continued to give back to our community, beautified our neighborhoods, invested in next generation leaders, and made important decisions that will impact the future of the City of Fresno. This would not be possible without you. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
*Esmeralda Soria*



**Esmeralda★Soria**  
**Fresno City Councilmember District 1**

*Bringing City Hall To You!*

For questions or concerns please contact my office at  
(559) 621-7817 or email us at: [District1@fresno.gov](mailto:District1@fresno.gov)

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FPPC #1402344  
1341 N. Lucerne Lane Fresno CA 93728

# Beautifying Our Neighborhoods

## Snapshot of Public Works Improvements in District 1

### Weldon & Thorne Sidewalk Repairs



### Ashlan and Hughes Safety Barricades



### Weldon & Thorne Park Strip Repairs



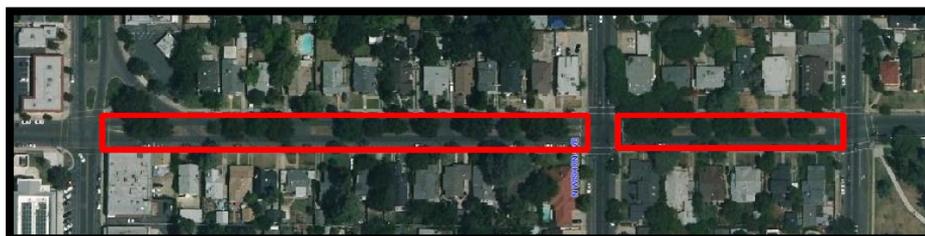
### Historic Wilson Island Street Signs



### Olive and Wishon Street Overlay



### Repairing deteriorated pavement and restriping on Weldon between Van Ness and Maroa Ave.



*Dear Residents,*

*I am happy to report that several neighborhood projects have been completed this year. Although we have a long list of projects still pending, we have made a substantial amount of progress.*

*Beautifying our neighborhoods is a priority of mine, which includes trimming our trees, improving our sidewalks, repaving our streets, cleaning our alleys, and improving effectiveness and efficiencies of our Code Enforcement Division.*

*Change does not happen overnight and I thank you for your patience.*

*Sincerely,*

*Esmeralda Soria*

# Working Hard to Find Solutions

## Important Steps to Tackling Homeless Crisis

In 2019, Councilmember Esmeralda Soria supported a Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), providing nearly \$3 million in funding designated for homeless services including: Triage Centers, Outreach Services, Homeless Employment Programs, Homeless Family Services and Homeless Youth Services. On June 27, 2019 Councilmember Soria and the City Council approved agreements with Turning Point Central California and Fresno EOC to provide new funding supporting triage shelters for homeless adults and youth.



Councilmember Soria actively participates on the City of Fresno Council Subcommittee for Homelessness and was recently **appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to serve on a statewide Governor's Homeless Task Force.**

Over the span of a couple of months, the City of Fresno has made more than 200 beds available for the homeless. The Golden State Center, the Welcome Center, and the Hacienda Campus are now operating as Triage Centers with minimal requirements from our homeless community and an investment of \$100,000 from the city will go towards workforce development.



## Bringing Resources West of Highway 99



Councilmember Soria was able to provide a \$10,000 District 1 Grant to the newly constructed Granville-Teague Community Resource Center. The center is a "mixed use professional building" in partnership with private and public donors. This center includes a Multi-Purpose Event Center for Community and Cultural Events, conference room for local group meetings, a full service Regional Fresno County Branch Library, Central Unified Resource Center, and Centro La Familia Advocacy Services Center. This hub has brought much needed resources to the West of Hwy 99 area.

## Job Opportunities for Our Youth



Councilmember Soria along with several Fresno Stakeholders, have been working on a proposal for Youth Jobs in the City of Fresno. As part of those efforts they have surveyed potential and existing employers to gain insight on the needs that exist with regards to skill sets among employers. Over \$370,000 have been committed to provide internship opportunities for our youth via the first official City of Fresno Youth Jobs Program.



# District 1 Projects

## Crosswalk Art & Quigley Park Renovation

### Crosswalk Art Project Olive & Wishon and Echo & Weldon Avenues



Through a California Arts Council Grant, the Fresno Arts Council, Councilmember Soria, and lead artist, Mauro Carrera transformed 8 crosswalks into 8 public art installations this year by adding painted embellishments between designated pedestrian traffic lines. Designs of each crosswalk were created and applied in collaboration with surrounding residents and businesses. A big thanks to our local volunteers for their help!

## Quigley Park Renovation Project



Councilmember Soria allocated a portion of her district parks budget for the master planning of the restoration and rehabilitation of Quigley Neighborhood Park. Quigley Park is a public, 8+ acre Neighborhood park located at 808 W Dakota in District 1 adjacent to Williams Elementary. An assessment based on park conditions in the city's masterplan states that "Quigley was designated one of the highest priority parks in the city by community members." Several community meetings have been held near Quigley Park to gain input from community members on what improvements they would like to see. A masterplan was then developed from resident suggestions and a proposal for a Prop 68 grant in the amount of \$8.5M was submitted. Funding for renovations is pending grant proposal decision.



## 2019 Holiday Toy Distribution



The 2019 year ended with our holiday giving tradition. Over 300 children experiencing homelessness received a toy this season as part of District 1's 7th Annual Holiday Toy Drive. All our families deserve to experience the joys of this Holiday Season. A big thank you to our business sponsors who helped collect toys and gave contributions to make this event possible again this year. Thank you to our community volunteers for assisting us in the wrapping of the gifts.



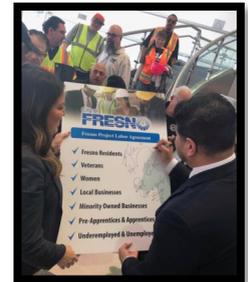
# Investing in the future!

## Ongoing & Completed Projects!

### Fresno Airports Expansion and Project Labor Agreement

In July 2019, the Fresno City Council approved a Project Labor Agreement for the construction of the Fresno Airport expansion (FATforward). The City of Fresno previously held a ban (2000-2014) on City negotiated PLA's. This is only the 2nd City of Fresno negotiated PLA.

The PLA will create a pool of diversity in the workforce hiring that will reflect the levels of residents who are economically challenged or disadvantaged, such as minorities, women, small businesses, veterans and local hires. The creation of this agreement will bring 2,143 new jobs, and investment of \$115 Million for construction will bring increased terminal capacity and 900 covered parking stalls and economic impact of \$320 Million.



### Central Unified High School Groundbreaking



Central Unified School District broke ground on its new High School which is expected to open in Fall of 2021. The yet to be named school will be located on the northeast corner of Ashlan and Grantland Avenues. The two story high school will include unique features such as a community plaza outdoor mall that leads to an indoor campus mall with a beautiful glass ceiling. The campus will accommodate 2500 students.

### City Hall Veterans Memorial



A new Veterans Memorial was unveiled at City Hall honoring the 464 local service members who gave their lives in more than a century of American Wars. The black trio of academy granite slabs reach 220 inches in length and up to 80 inches tall. The \$80,000 construction cost was provided through private donations.



## Look for these upcoming projects in 2020!

## Over \$7 Million in Investments!

- Traffic Light** - Shields and Harrison
- Street Repair** - Marks (Ashlan to Dakota)
- Street Repair** - Dakota (Hughes to Marks)
- Street Repair** - Santa Fe/Indianapolis/West to Tielman
- Traffic Signal** - Marty and Weber
- Traffic Signal Upgrades** - Shaw and Polk
- Traffic Signal Upgrades** - Clinton and Weber
- Traffic Signal, Sidewalk, Bike Lane** - Gettysburg and Polk

**Design/Acquisition-Polk** (West Side Gettysberg to Shaw)

**Design** - Ashlan (Polk to Cornelia) improvements widening, raised median, bike lanes and sidewalks (project to be completed in 2022\*)

**Paving** - Ashlan (Cornelia to Polk) - In Fall of 2020\*, when development-related utility work is complete.

**Olive Ave Streetscape** - Yosemite to Roosevelt

**Tree Trimming:**  
Clinton/Shields/Palm to West

**Tower District Beautification:**  
Tower District Overhead Street Lighting  
Art Enhanced Trash Cans

**Railroad Quiet Zone (Safety Improvements):**  
Improvements required to apply for quiet zone.  
Substitute Safety Measures - Shields Crossing  
Substitute Safety Measures - Maroa Crossing

**Tower District Specific Plan Update**

\*All dates given are based on current schedules and are subject to change based on weather and any unforeseen circumstances.

# Special Events & Recognitions

*This year we celebrated many special events and recognized many deserving individuals for their positive impact in the community. We celebrated the grand openings of Bad Axe Throwing, Centro La Familia Resource Center West of 99, the Living Well Center, the Scott Polenz Family and Marriage Therapy, Full Circle Olympic, and the Lincoln Pub and Grub. This year we also recognized organizations that have been working to improve the lives of our residents through their advocacy efforts, resources, and leadership training. Organizations such as Access Plus Capital, Resources for Independence Central Valley, Fresno State's College of Social Sciences, the Hmong Leadership Cohort, the National Women's Political Caucus, the Workforce Investment Board's Pre – Apprenticeship Program, and the San Joaquin Political Academy.*

## Special Recognitions



Recognizing 30 Years of Fresno Reel Pride Film Festival in the Tower District!



Congratulating our new sworn in Naturalized Citizens ages 4 -18!



Recognizing the first City of Fresno Latina Councilwoman Esther Padilla!



Recognizing trailblazer Paige Alexis Morales, a young female wrestler from Aspen Valley Preparatory Academy!



Celebrating Women's History Month!

## Local Events



Echo & Weldon Annual Block Party!



District 1 National Night Out!



Annual Labor Day Pancake Breakfast!



FCC State of the College Breakfast!



West Shaw Estates Block Party!



Chinese New Year Parade in Downtown Fresno!



Annual Mall 2 Mall Bike Ride from Manchester to Fresno City Hall!

# Investing in the next generation of Leaders!

## District 1 Summer Interns



A big thanks to our 2019 Summer Interns (from right) Nico Stacy-Alcantara, Anastasia Bates, Conner McKnight, Harkiran Kaur, Celida Garcia, Jaskeet Raika, Isabel Hernandez, and Pawan Brar (not pictured).

## 1st Hmong Leadership Cohort



Congratulations to the 1st Hmong Leadership Cohort on a successful completion of this program. This program is helping shape our next generation of Hmong leaders!

## Kepler Scholars: Local Heroes



It was a privilege to honor our brave local heroes (the Kepler Neighborhood School Volleyball Team) for their bravery in helping a local woman who was attempting to jump off the Stanislaus bridge. While the woman was hanging, about to fall, the students encouraged her and reminded her that her life was worth it, and asked their Coach to call 911. This act of bravery saved this woman's life. We are beyond proud of these young students!

## CLASA Students go to DC!



Proud to have presented, along with Councilmember Esparza, Fort Miller CLASA students a contribution that will make their trip to DC possible! Kudos to Ms. Sepulveda for having a vision for her students.

## District 1 Young Councilmember Program Class of 2019



Congratulations to the District 1 Young Councilmember Program Class of 2019 graduates. This year will mark the 4th year of this program where over 30 students have graduated from and learned about civic engagement and leadership opportunities.

## Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project



Excited to continue supporting the Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project in their efforts to inspire and motivate students to become future leaders of the San Joaquin Valley!

## Dailey Elementary Charter School



Every year, I participate in the National Read Across America Day. This year I had the honor of reading to the 2nd graders at Dailey Elementary Charter School!



# Esmeralda★Soria

Fresno City Councilmember **District 1**

## City of Fresno Service Phone Numbers



District 1 Office 621-8000

Report issues in District 1, request proclamations, certificates, or to be added to our listserv to be notified about upcoming events and community meetings.



One-Call Center 311

Report Homeless Encampments, Potholes, Graffiti, Streetlights Out, Abandoned Vehicles, Missed Trash Pick-up and other inquiries.



Fresno Police Department 621-7000

**NON-EMERGENCY**



Mosquito Abatement 268-6565

## MEET THE DISTRICT 1 TEAM

*We are here to serve you!*



**Terry Cox**, Chief of Staff  
P: (559) 621-7810  
E: Terry.Cox@fresno.gov



**Joe Martinez**, Council Assistant  
P: (559) 621-7812  
E: Joe.Martinez@fresno.gov



**Itzi Robles**, Council Assistant  
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**Jaskeet Raika**, Intern  
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E: Jaskeet.Raika@fresno.gov



**Jazmin Gallardo**, Intern  
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E: Jazmin.Gallardo@fresno.gov



**Celida Garcia**, Intern  
P: (559) 621-7816  
E: Celida.GarciaLopez@fresno.gov

**Get Involved** - These committees serve District One.

- District One Project Review Committee
- Tower District Design and Review Committee
  - The Youth Commission
  - Young Councilmember Program
- Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Call our office for vacancies or apply online at:

<https://www.fresno.gov/cityclerk/boards-commissions/board-commission-application/>

**Involúcrese** – *Estos comités sirven y benefician al Distrito Uno.*

- *El Comité de Revisión de Proyectos*
- *Comité de Diseño y Revisión del Distrito Tower*
  - *La Comisión de Jóvenes*
  - *Programa de Concejales Juveniles*
- *Comité Asesor de Bicicletas y Peatones*

*Llame a nuestra oficina para posiciones vacantes o encuentre la solicitud en el internet:*

<https://www.fresno.gov/cityclerk/boards-commissions/board-commission-application/>



**FresGO** is a free, easy to use real-time app for residents to report issues. Available on the App Store and Google Play. Scan to download now.

## Follow us on Social Media!

For more District 1 News visit our website at:  
<https://www.fresno.gov/citycouncil/district-1/>

If you would like to receive District 1 News via our listserv please send us your request to [District1@fresno.gov](mailto:District1@fresno.gov)



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