



James L. Brown
County Executive Officer

2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 385-7636
(209) 385-7673 Fax
www.countyofmerced.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mike North 209-726-2744

October 6, 2020

MERCED COUNTY NEEDS YOUR IDEAS FOR A NEW PARK IN FRANKLIN-BEACHWOOD

Merced County is applying for a State grant to create a new park in the Franklin-Beachwood area (also known as Beachwood-Franklin). The grant is intended to build, expand, or improve parks in underserved communities.

Although there are park needs throughout Merced County, Franklin-Beachwood is an excellent candidate for this unusual grant opportunity. "The State is interested in awarding park grant funds to communities with less than three acres of parkland per 1,000 residents", said Merced County Supervisor Daron McDaniel. "Franklin-Beachwood residents currently have ZERO acres of park space".

The grant can provide as much as \$8.5 million to create a park offering features such as picnic shelters, recreation center, soccer fields, playground, walking path, and other amenities. To begin the process, the County is offering an online survey to determine the recreation features most desired for a new park.

The County also plans to hold an in-person outdoor workshop, and a series of virtual meetings to receive more community input on park needs.

The grant is due in December, and award announcements are expected by approximately July 2021. You can vote on the Franklin-Beachwood Park grant by completing a survey at: countyofmerced.com/FranklinBeachwoodParkSurvey. The survey will be available in both Spanish and English until October 20, 2020.

For more information, call Merced County Special Projects Coordinator Patti Dossetti at 209-385-7637 ext. 4467.

– 30 –

For more information regarding Merced County, please visit our website at www.countyofmerced.com