



Mission Critical Is Possible

By Renee Mathis, Director



It's that time again: time to reflect on the accomplishments of this past year in the Planning and Development Services

Department on big projects, small projects, personnel changes, and everything in between.

Our dedicated team is passionate about shaping the future of our community by working closely with residents, businesses, and stakeholders all year long. In this annual newsletter, we will provide you with a glimpse into our latest projects, ongoing and complete, as well as some major planning updates, while also celebrating various successes that contribute to the overall growth of our vibrant and sustainable city. Sprinkled throughout this newsletter you will read about staffing changes and retirements, amazing core value recipients, and professional personnel accomplishments that are driven by an inspiring work atmosphere in the Department. Stay informed and engaged as we navigate the exciting world of Planning and Development Services' mission critical objectives of supporting a thriving city for everyone's enjoyment!

To each Planning and Development Services staff member, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your hard work and dedication. You are the heart of this department and I value your contributions immensely. I look forward to another year of working together and achieving great things for Clovis.

Cheers, Renee

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Building A New

by Doug Stawarski, Building Official

The Building Division has been working closely with Administrative

Services to build a new feature into our on-line portal process. A new law, Senate Bill 379, goes into effect September 30 that requires the City of Clovis to implement an online, automated permitting platform that verifies code compliance and issues permits in real time. This platform will collect fees and issue permits in real time without any human interaction. This is a very big deal as we issue close to 2,000 solar permits each year. On May 8th, the Clovis City Council approved the new fee structure that was required to be able to design and implement this process. Looking forward, our plan is to utilize our new platform to allow for the same process to be used in issuing other permit types.



Who's New In Building



Eric Smith
Plans Examiner
August 2022
Enjoys time with family

Who's New In Planning



Liz Salazar
Assistant Planner
July 2022
SFSU Allumni
Enjoys Travel



Marissa Jensen
Assistant Planner
August 2022
FPU Alumni
Enjoys the Coast



McKencie Perez
Senior Planner
September 2022
Enjoys time with daughter

The Planning Update

by Lily Cha, Senior Planner

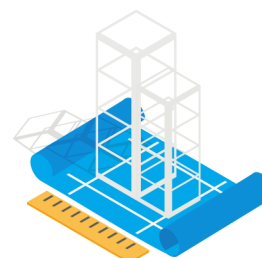
The last year was one filled with challenges to say the least. For a good part of the year, the Planning Division operated with a slim staff. However, luck was on our side with the eventual recruitment of Liz Salazar, Marissa Jensen, and McKencie Perez before the close of the fiscal year. With such amazing additions to the team, it is no surprise that the Planning team has



Ruben Amivizca
Engineer II
December 2022
Enjoys attending Cars & Coffee



Mariham Iskandar
Engineer II
March 2023
Enjoys Painting



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bounced back so quickly. Although the Planning Division saw a decline in entitlement applications with approximately 126 applications, staff kept busy with complex multi-year CEQA projects, policy documents, and keeping up with the many state legislations impacting localities. Here are some of the projects that kept the Planning Division busy last year:

The Housing Element – The Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update has been in the works since early 2021, under the guidance of the City's selected consultant, Ascent Environmental, Inc. After months of data gathering, outreach and coordination, and public review, staff was finally able to submit the draft Housing Element to HCD for review on May 18, 2023. HCD has 90-days to review the document and provide comments to the city. Council will be notified of any updates made to the draft before resubmittal to HDC for subsequent review (60 days).

General Plan Update Review and Audit (GPU) – Staff worked closely with the consultant (DeNovo), on the first phase of the two phased approach to the City's GPU. Staff will be returning to council with the audit report in the next coming months.

Tract Map 6205 – CEQA for the Sphere of Influence (SOI) increase, annexation, and subdivision tract map for the area northeast of Shepherd and Sunnyside Avenues.

United Health Centers(UHC) – Planning staff reviewed two separate UHC sites and buildings. The first is located near Herndon Avenue and Tollhouse Road; and the second is located near Dakota and Clovis Avenues.

Peach Medical Complex – A phased site plan for an approximately 130,150 square foot medical office complex was approved for development at the northwest corner of Herndon and Peach.

Who's New In Construction Management



Rami Abunamous
Engineering Inspector
June 2022
Enjoys Motorcycles
& working out



Ciro Ambriz
Engineering Inspector
August 2022
Enjoys playing
outdoor soccer



Karl Lenhof
Engineering Inspector
July 2023
Enjoys Fishing &
Glamping



Johnny Jackson
Engineering Inspector
July 2023
Enjoys Riding his
motorcycle

Who's New In Engineering Administration



Jomar Rushdan
Management Analyst
August 2022
Enjoys Ministry in
his church





PLANNING PROJECTS

- UHC (DAKOTA AND CLOVIS)
- UHC (HERNDON AND TOLLHOUSE)
- PEACH MEDICAL COMPLEX



Development Review Unit Ever-Changing

by Sean Smith, Supervising Civil Engineer

DRU continues to adapt to an ever-changing working environment. We have lost employees to retirement and on-boarded new ones. We continue to learn about the impacts of evaluating projects by their vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and how to reasonably mitigate the projects impacts. The review and conditioning process has become more streamlined with over 130 projects and over 160 conditions processed. Our digital dependency is growing as we move away from paper and hard copies in our reviews, even in the tracking of our processes. Our efficiency with Energov, our digital permit processing system, continues to improve. Energov will eventually become our record-keeping system for conditions, plan checking, reimbursements, and fee processing as well. The DRU Team has embraced these ever-changing environments as opportunities to improve and grow, which makes me excited about the future of the group.



Who's New In CIP



Jacob Redelfs
Engineer I
February 2023
Enjoys Volleyball &
Vacationing with
Family

Who's New In Administrative Services



Aaron La Mattina
Staff Analyst
July 2022
Enjoys singing,
hiking & CrossFit



Muyu Wu
GIS Technician
September 2022
Enjoys Legos, Clay
sculpting & crafts



Mikhaila Arnold
Principal Office Assistant
July 2023
Enjoys watching
kids explore and play
sports & the beach



Construction Management Year in Review

by Travis Saether, Construction Manager

Here in CM, we have continued our mission to improve the City through oversight partnerships with the development community and contractors from around the state to build and maintain our city wide infrastructure. During the summer capital season there were a wide variety of projects underway, coming to a close, and kicked off.



Nees Avenue widening, in conjunction with Caltrans, The Well Community Church, and various other private entities is being paved out.

Shaw Ave is still underway and has fired back up after a weather driven hiatus. The much anticipated completion of **Landmark Square** is now firmly on the horizon as PGE surprised all of us a week early with supplying power. **Fire Station 6** has come to a close along with the **modular training facility** which is currently being used as the temp housing for the firefighters displaced by the demolition and reconstruction of **Fire Station 2**. Our **annual slurry project** is well underway, with a sundry of staff chasing down a massive operation around the City. The month of May brought the close of the **six alley projects** west of Pollasky and North of Shaw. On our development side, our staff is still chasing down housing tract work within the City of Clovis, but we have seen a real uptick in the commercial side of things with various site plan reviews including the **Well Community Church** and other projects throughout the city. Overall, the department has 417 open permits in various stages that my staff of seven oversee for

the betterment of our community.

Our personnel has had quite the change up over the course of the last year. Navjot has left us for a position in CIP as a traffic engineer, to which we wish him the best of luck and are extremely proud of him for pursuing his professional development. We were fortunate enough to hire **Ciro Ambriz**, **Karl Lenhof**, and **Johnny Jackson** this last year. **Ciro** has stepped right into Nav's old duties chasing down encroachments, of which he has been doing a phenomenal job and his aptitude for the position is appreciated. **Karl** & **Johnny**, much like **Ciro** and a number of our other staff members, joins us from the ranks of the City of Fresno. **Karl** started at Fresno in Construction Management on December 8, 2008. You may ask how I know that date off of the top of my head, well that's because **Karl** and I started on the same day in the same department in the same organization all of those years ago. **Karl** brings a lot of experience with him and has been a valued asset in his short time with us. **Johnny** worked his way up in the water department at the City of Fresno and is our most recent hire. I look forward to the growth of **Ciro**, **Karl** and **Johnny** over the coming years and am fortunate to have them with me at the City of Clovis. Our senior staff **Kris Diaz** and **Matt Buller** tie it all together and keep the flow of CM consistent. I am extremely proud of my staff this year and have thoroughly enjoyed watching their growth and development. I am thankful for all they do and look forward to many more years with them.



Promotions In PDS



Thad Avery
City Engineer
June 2023
Enjoys Golf with his
PDS peers & time
with his family



Fernando Copetti
Supervising Civil Engineer
June 2023
Enjoys time with
family & Formula One
racing



Tatiana Partain
Management Analyst
July 2022
Enjoys a good book &
Family



Tiffany Lijuba - Silguero
Engineer II
November 2022
Enjoys Yoga &
spending time with
family



Nav Chahal
Engineer I
January 2023
Enjoys farming
almonds & traveling
the world



Jorge Aguilera
Engineer II
June 2023
Enjoys Sports &
time with the guys



Federal Safety Grant Awarded for Pedestrian Improvements

by Tatiana Partain, Management Analyst

In March 2023, Caltrans
announced their awardees
for the Cycle 11 Highway



Safety Improvement Program Grant. Engineering Admin was pleased to be informed that Clovis was selected to receive \$194,000 to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at two different locations within the City. The locations for these pedestrian improvements are at the roundabout located at Owens Mountain Parkways and Temperance Avenue, and at the trail crossing at San Jose Avenue and Locan Avenue. This project is an example of the commitment our Engineering Division has in pursuing the next generation of technology to improve pedestrian safety throughout the City. RRFBs are a step in that direction; according to the Federal Highway Administration, they can reduce crashes with pedestrians by up to 47%. This project is set to kick off in early 2024.



2022-23 Community Investment Program (CIP) Year in Review

by Thad Avery, City Engineer

CIP is continuing with the trend of working on projects large enough to take over six months to construct. When projects take that much time to construct, it usually means that there are many more hours on the front end to get those projects construction ready. Emphasizing the collaboration the team has had with the CM team during project construction, the engineering team has done a great job of ushering these projects through funding, acquisition, environmental and design prior to getting to construction. This past year some of the notable projects that were taken into construction were:

Loma Vista Village Green, Nees Avenue Widening from Minnewawa to Clovis,

Fire Station 2 rebuild, and **Well 35** Drill and Develop. As typical with every year, we had many street rehabilitation projects also, so if you drove down an old road in Clovis that suddenly looked like new, that was a result of the CIP.

For the past few years we have not increased our staff in CIP, but every year we have added some new faces. This year we added three new faces. Tiffany Ljuba-Silguero switched from DRU to CIP in November. She brings her development experience and fresh outlook to the CIP team. Navjot Chahal made a move from CM over to traffic in our CIP section in January. He is now in charge of soaking up the knowledge about the in's and out's of traffic. Jacob Redelfs also joined us in February from the private sector. He is an up-and-coming bright engineer that chose the City of Clovis Engineering Department as his new family instead of Caltrans. In June, Fernando Copetti took over as CIP Manager. He was promoted from within the CIP team, so his replacement will be the first new face you will hear about next year. That new face will have to meet some high expectations, since the current CIP team is probably the best group of engineers that CIP has had.



Joe Alexander
Engineering Technician II
Retired
37 years



Mike Harrison
City Engineer
Retired
39 years



John Cross
Engineer II
Retired
32 years



Administrative Services & Support

by Ryan Nelson, Administrative Services Manager

PDS Administrative Services is comprised of people from different disciplines that handle all the general office support to allow the three divisions to focus on their subject matter work. This past year, Administrative Services has been focusing on growth within all three of our teams.



Administrative Team

All our staff within our Administrative Team made consistent efforts to improve departmental processes and create efficiencies. While most of these were small tweaks, they have saved the department many hours of time monthly eliminating unneeded redundancies with things like timekeeping processing. Catreena Mahoney, one of our Principal Office Assistants (POA), passed her first anniversary with the City. She is exceptionally creative and is a wizard with newsletters! Both she and our Staff Analyst, Aaron La Mattina, assist with our department events and have raised the bar. Be it our monthly birthday parties, or our week-long celebration of our staff during the Annual Public Works Week, they do an amazing job of bringing staff together and recognizing everyone. Aaron joined us this last year promoting from his former role in Public Utilities. In addition to events, Aaron oversees communications, public records requests, and assists with department-wide projects. We welcomed Mikhaila Arnold to the team in July as our second POA.

Mikhaila is sharp and her ability to manage office tasks and work with staff have made her a perfect addition to the team. Our Fourth Administrative Team member is Louisa Radford, who is our Scanning Technician who works tirelessly in overseeing digitizing all of our paper archives.

GIS Team

Our Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Technician, Jonas Chanh, celebrated his second year as a member of the City of Clovis team. This year they were joined by our new GIS Intern, Muyu Wu, who is a recent graduate of Fresno State. In July Muyu promoted to GIS Technician and has joined Jonas full-time. Together they have been reevaluating and updating old processes to make the city more efficient, focusing on California's Next Generation 911 project updating the City's systems.

Business Workflow Team

This Team is comprised of our Business Workflow Analyst, Chris Catalano, and Specialist, Tyler Brown. Both Chris and Tyler have been in their roles for two years. The two worked together to launch a new major release of our Enterprise Permitting and Licensing System and launched non-residential online applications and multi-departmental fully-electronic plan reviews! They are currently working to onboard all of the Planning Divisions' workflows into the system this summer and are developing an online real-time permitting system for solar applications by September.





Lily Cha - Planning
Senior Planner
April 2022



Cat Mahoney - Admin Services
Principal Office Assistant
July 2022



Joyce Roach - Planning
Planning Technician II
October 2022



Tim Barker - CIP
Civil Engineer
January 2023



Michelle Maldonado - GIS
GIS Analyst
April 2023



Marissa Jensen - Planning
Assistant Planner
July 2023

EXCEPTIONAL CORE VALUES

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
- **STEWARDSHIP**
- **TEAMWORK**
- **RESPONSIBLE ACTION**
- **ENJOYING WORK**
- **LEADERSHIP NOW**

THE EXCEPTIONAL CORE VALUES PROGRAM BEGAN IN JULY OF 2019. THIS PROGRAM PROVIDES FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS IN PDS WHO DISPLAY AND EXHIBIT OUR CORE VALUES!

22' - 23' CORE VALUES WINNERS