

PRESS RELEASE

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Participate in the University Community Plan Planning Fair!

Merced County invites you to take part in a major planning effort that will help shape the University Community planned to support the future University of California Merced Campus. A series of Planning Fairs will be held beginning on Saturday, June 10th at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center as part of a long-standing invitation to become involved in the new community's planning.

Events will be held in communities throughout the region including Delhi, Madera, Modesto and Los Banos. These open house events will provide opportunities for the community to comment on plan concepts and to make suggestions about current recommendations. The major objectives of the fairs are to provide information about the planning principles that will guide the development of the new community and seek input from the public on those guiding principles. County Supervisor Kathleen Crookham has declared, "We strongly encourage everyone interested in this exciting planning effort to attend one of the fairs being held in June. The planning fair is an excellent vehicle for community members to provide input into the planning process, in addition to being updated on where we are in the process."

A regional perspective is being sought to gain as much public input as possible on the impacts and possibilities this new community will bring to the Central Valley. The events are scheduled for:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Saturday, June 10 | Merced Multicultural Arts Center | 10:00 am – 2:00 pm |
| Monday, June 12 | Delhi Educational Park Cafeteria | 7:00 – 9:00 pm |
| Tuesday, June 13 | Madera Senior Center | 7:00 – 9:00 pm |
| Wednesday, June 14 | Modesto Centre Plaza | 7:00 – 9:00 pm |
| Thursday, June 15 | Los Banos-Merced County Spring Fair, Floral Building | 7:00 – 9:00 pm |



MERCED COUNTY
 UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLAN

Displays will be available showing the planned community site, growth forecasts for the community, and the major concepts of the University Community Plan. Participants will be invited to comment on the planning principles through interactive exercises that will solicit opinions on such topics as land uses, economics, open spaces, natural resources and community design, among others. Activities for children will be provided at the Saturday Planning Fair at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center.

If you are curious about these events and/or would like more information prior to the Planning Fairs, visit the County of Merced Web site at: www.merceducp.org or call the County of Merced at 209.385.7654.

The University Community Concept Plan (UCCP) was developed and published in 1999 to create a framework for the development of a new community and how it will relate to the UC campus. The Plan established the foundation for the planning and development of the new community that will anchor the UC Merced campus. The planning process has been a collaborative effort between the County of Merced, University of California, the Virginia and Cyril Smith Trusts who are major landowners within the planning area, the City of Merced, and the Merced Irrigation District. Myriad stakeholders have been involved from the inception of the planning process; current efforts include regular meetings of the Community Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC), local landowners, various community, agricultural and environmental groups, and entities previously listed.

