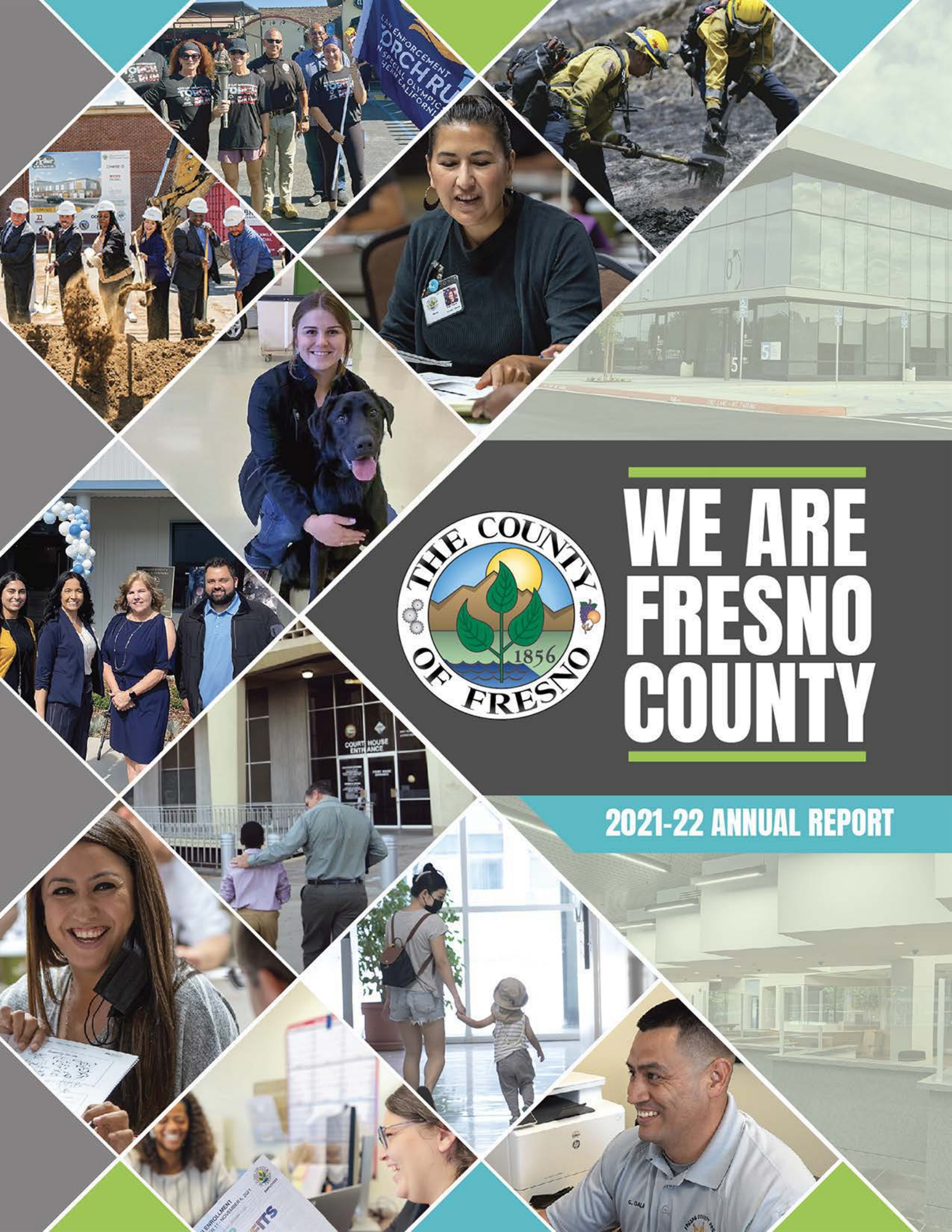


WE ARE FRESNO COUNTY

2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

FRESNO COUNTY VISION, MISSION, AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

VISION

Working together for a quality of life for all.

MISSION

To provide excellent public services to our diverse community.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **STEWARDSHIP**
  We will lead and follow as stewards of our region, caring responsibly for our community assets. We will work together to achieve the greatest, long-term benefit for the community as a whole.
- **BOUNDARY CROSSING AND COLLABORATION**
  We are willing to cross political, social, ethnic and economic boundaries and partner with others to achieve community outcomes. We will lead "beyond the walls" to create an inclusive, cohesive community through partnership and collaboration.
- **COMMITMENT TO OUTCOMES**
  We are willing to take responsibility for tasks and achieving specified outcomes. We are committed to staying involved until the tasks are completed.
- **"ART OF THE POSSIBLE" THINKING**
  We believe that anything is possible in the Fresno region. We will envision "success without limitations" and then backward map a specific, attainable strategy for achieving that vision.
- **POWER PARITY**
  We respect all persons and recognize that there are diverse viewpoints. Positional power will not determine a strategy or preferred outcome, merit will. Viewpoints from diverse constituencies will be proactively sought to ensure the best possible outcomes for the community.
- **ASSET-BASED APPROACH**
  We are focused on using a strengths-based, asset-oriented approach to people and issues. We believe that positive change occurs when we appreciate value and invest in what is best in our people and community.
- **RESPECTING DIVERSITY**
  Respecting and embracing ethnic and cultural diversity. We acknowledge the rich cultural and ethnic communities of our region. We will actively include all communities in our decision-making process and will embrace their inclusion in key positions and committees in our County.

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MEET YOUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS







CHAIRMAN

BRIAN PACHECO

DISTRICT 1

BIOLA
CANTUA CREEK
EASTON
FIREBAUGH
FIVE POINTS
HELM
HERNDON
HIGHWAY CITY
KERMAN
MENDOTA
MERCEY HOT SPRINGS
ROLINDA
SAN JOAQUIN
THREE ROCKS
TRANQUILLITY



STEVE BRANDAU

DISTRICT 2

CLOVIS
FASHION FAIR
FIG GARDEN
FRESNO
FRESNO STATE UNIVERSITY
MANCHESTER
PINEDALE
RIVER PARK
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER
WOODWARD PARK



VICE CHAIRMAN

SAL QUINTERO

DISTRICT 3

CALWA
CLOVIS
EASTERBY
FRESNO
FRESNO CITY COLLEGE
FRESNO FAIR
FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
GRANITE PARK
MALAGA
MAYFAIR
TOWER DISTRICT



BUDDY MENDES

DISTRICT 4

BURREL
CARUTHERS
COALINGA
DEL REY
FIVE POINTS
FOWLER
HURON
KINGSBURG
LANARE
LATON
MALAGA
ORANGE COVE
PARLIER
REEDLEY
SANGER
SELMA
RAISIN CITY
RIVERDALE



NATHAN MAGSIG

DISTRICT 5

AUBERRY
BIG CREEK
CENTERVILLE
CLOVIS
DINKEY CREEK
DUNLAP
FRESNO
FRIANT
HUME LAKE
HUNTINGTON LAKE
KINGS CANYON
MILLERTON
MINKLER
MIRAMONTE
PINE FLAT
PINEHURST
PRATHER
SANGER
SHAVER LAKE
SQUAW VALLEY
SUNNYSIDE
TARPEY VILLAGE
TOLLHOUSE
WONDER VALLEY

MESSAGE FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER PAUL NERLAND



WE ARE FRESNO COUNTY

Gratitude & Optimism

It is one of the greatest honors of my life to serve as <u>your</u> County Administrative Officer (CAO) for the County of Fresno. Isaac Newton once stated, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants". To that end, I am indebted to the Board of Supervisors, the prior CAO, department heads and our entire County family for the leadership, vision, and fiscal responsibility that provided such a strong foundation to build upon as I came into this role. I am grateful to our diverse and dedicated County employees for their hard work and dedication over the last fiscal year. The County as an organization is only as strong as its employees. For the County team, public service is not a job; it's a calling; to work together for a quality of life for all. **We are dedicated to our mission to provide excellent public services to our diverse community**. After all, this is **<u>our</u>** community and together, we are making a real difference. **We are Fresno County!**

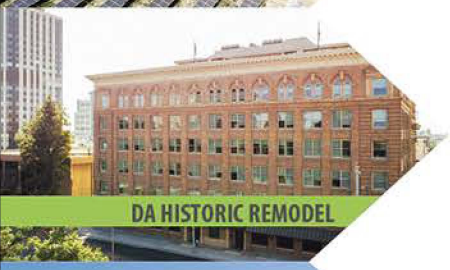
A YEAR OF ACTION & TRANSITION

This fiscal year has been a time of transition and bold action at the County of Fresno. Leadership transition included a new CAO, new Director of Behavioral Health, new Director of Public Health, new Public Defender, and a new Director of Social Services. Operational transition included moving beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and refocusing efforts on public health and behavioral health priorities in the County. Transitions to brand new facilities and infrastructure included:



JJC SOLAR PROJECT

- ✔ The **largest solar project in County history at the Juvenile Justice Campus (JJC)** consisting of nearly 9,000 panels and expected to cover 80% of the JJC's annual electrical demand.



DA HISTORIC REMODEL

- ✔ **Renovation & remodel of the historic Rowell Building as the new home of the District Attorney's office**. The newly renovated building has more than 270 workspaces ranging from offices to cubicles, six conference rooms, a media briefing room and a large break room.



SOCIAL SERVICES REMODEL

- ✔ **Renovation & remodel of the Selma Regional Center** as the home of the Department of Social Services Selma team. The remodel included modernization of facilities, the addition of an enclosure for County cars, state-of-the-art audio and visual equipment, and a resource room.



NEW ANIMAL SERVICES

- ✔ **Construction & opening of a brand-new Animal Services facility**. The new location is nearly 20,000 square feet of space that allows all the animals to be fully indoors in a climate-controlled environment.



CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

- ✔ The **consolidation of Child Welfare Services into the remodeled former Costco**. This state-of-the-art facility of 138,355 square feet provides upgraded, modernized facilities for approximately 586 Department of Social Services employees and includes family-friendly visitation rooms, resources to assist youth in preparing for adulthood, child and youth-friendly areas for youth in transition, and the Hope Plaza center for community events and meetings.

Additionally, the County effectively negotiated with 21 bargaining units representing nearly 7,000 employees and approving competitive salary and benefit increases for employees.



The County's ongoing commitment to promote public participation was showcased during the **Fresno County Redistricting** process and the "earmarking/allocation" process regarding the County's $194M allocation of **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** funds.

REDISTRICTING

During the Fresno County Redistricting process, the County, with the help of a communications firm, developed and implemented a comprehensive, multi-pronged outreach plan that engaged our diverse community through in-person meetings, bilingual Zoom meetings, multilingual printed materials, direct contacts with community-based organizations (over 120 of them), multilingual radio messages, social media posts, and even a dedicated website that includes translation in over 40 languages.

ARPA

During the process to determine how to spend the County's $194M allocation of the ARPA funds, the County utilized the knowledge and contacts acquired during the redistricting process and engaged our community and community-based organizations through multilingual surveys, remote multilingual Zoom meetings, and social media posts.

To date, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors has "earmarked" 65 projects totaling $194M, and "approved/allocated" funds for 23 of those projects, totaling $123.9M in ARPA funds.

The 23 projects are designed to support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and range from:

a.) Providing funding assistance to local hospitals to combat COVID-19 outbreak surges,

b.) Funding the replacement of groundwater wells in disadvantaged communities such as Malaga, Tranquillity, and Riverdale,

c.) Funding assistance for construction of affordable homes, and

d.) Funding to enhance homelessness initiatives.

The County is conducting formal vetting of the remaining 42 earmarked projects to determine eligibility for ARPA funding.

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS - OUTREACH

I am especially proud of the County's renewed commitment to better "tell our story" and communicate with you directly through educational videos, enhanced social media, surveys, community engagement, and this very booklet informing and celebrating the County's success.

THE FUTURE IS CHALLENGING BUT BRIGHT

Although the County's accomplished many things this year, we face many challenges and opportunities in the new fiscal year and beyond. The economic outlook remains uncertain and as our community struggles with record-setting inflation, a cooling housing market, and increased demand for County services.

I am confident that the proposed County budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 is fiscally responsible while also making appropriate investments ensuring meaningful services. Over the next fiscal year, the County **will complete** the first General Plan update since the year 2000, complete and open critical infrastructure projects (Sheriff's Office Area 2 Substation, West Annex Jail), refocus on employee engagement and communication, develop a countywide strategic plan, and focus on measurable outcomes related to our mission of **providing excellent public services to our diverse community**.

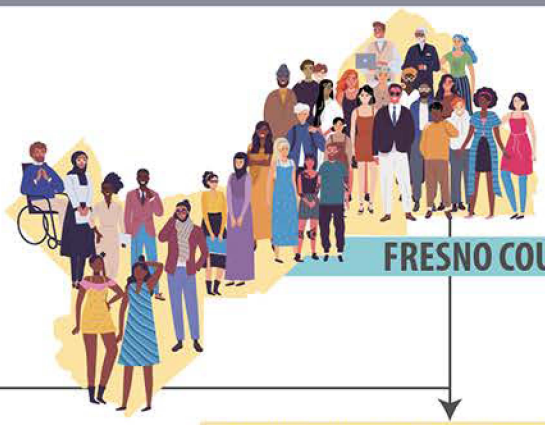
Please join me in celebrating the last year and looking with hope to the future. **We Are Fresno County!**

Paul Nerland
County Administrative Officer

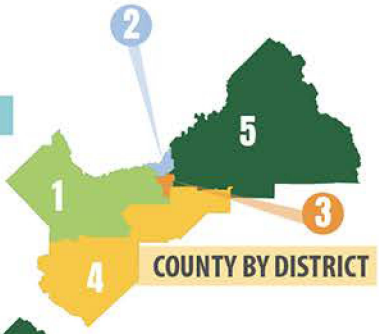


FRESNO COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

WE ARE FRESNO COUNTY



FRESNO COUNTY ELECTORATE



COUNTY BY DISTRICT

FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS





BRIAN PACHECO	STEVE BRANDAU	SAL QUINTERO	BUDDY MENDES	NATHAN MAGSIG
DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5



COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
PAUL NERLAND



COUNTY COUNSEL
DANIEL C. CEDERBORG



CLERK OF THE BOARD
BERNICE SEIDEL

ELECTED OFFICIALS



ASSESSOR-RECORDER
PAUL DICTOS, C.P.A.



AUDITOR-CONTROLLER/
TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR
OSCAR J. GARCIA, C.P.A.



COUNTY CLERK/
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
JAMES A. KUS



DISTRICT ATTORNEY
LISA SMITTCAMP



SHERIFF-CORONER
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR
MARGARET MIMS

APPOINTED DEPARTMENT HEADS



AGRICULTURAL
COMMISSONER/SEALER OF
WEIGHTS & MEASURES
MELISSA CREGAN



DEPARTMENT OF
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
KARI GILBERT



INTERNAL SERVICES/
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
ROBERT W. BASH



PUBLIC DEFENDER
ANTOINETTE TAILLAC



PUBLIC WORKS
& PLANNING
STEVEN WHITE



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
PUBLIC GUARDIAN
SUSAN HOLT



HUMAN RESOURCES
RISK MANAGEMENT
HOLLIS MAGILL



LIBRARY
RAMAN BATH



PUBLIC HEALTH
DAVID LUCHINI



SOCIAL SERVICES
SANJA BUGAY

APPOINTED BY OTHER ENTITIES

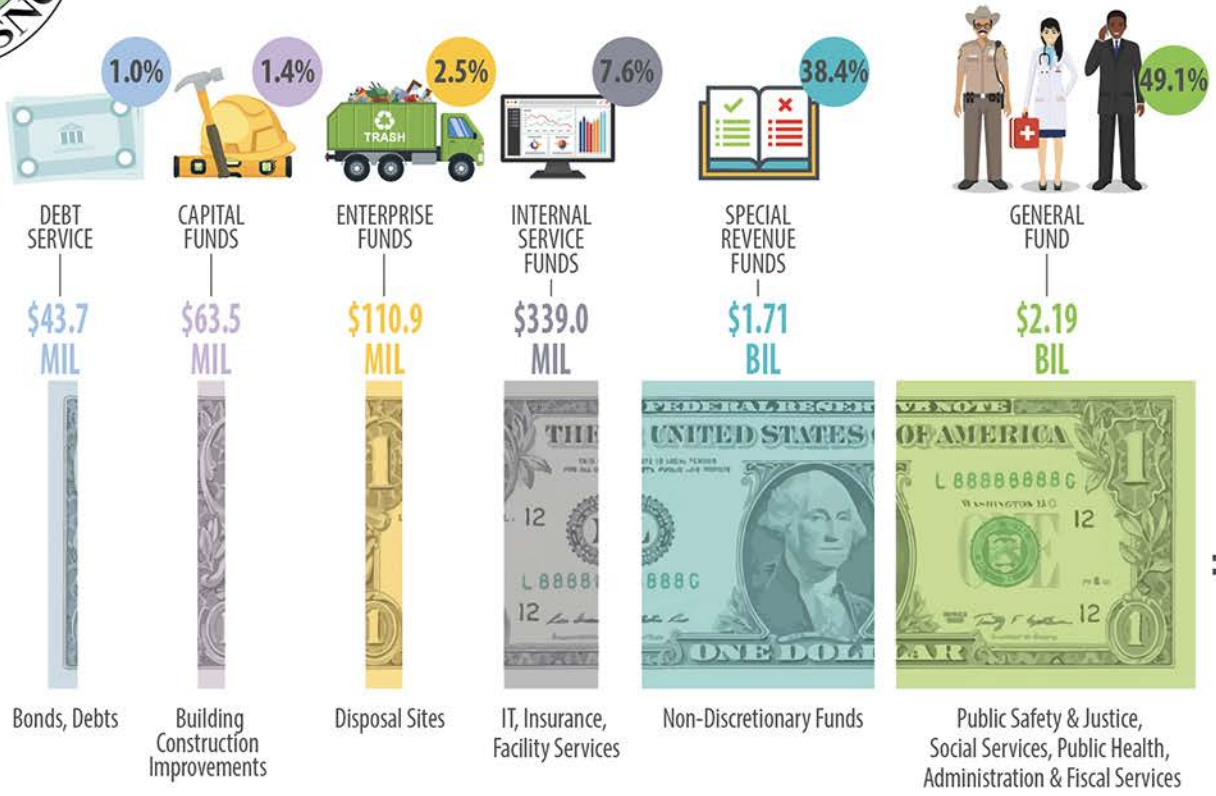


CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
KIRK HAYNES

BUDGET AT A GLANCE AND NET ASSESSED VALUE

FRESNO COUNTY BUDGET AT A GLANCE

WHERE DO YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO?



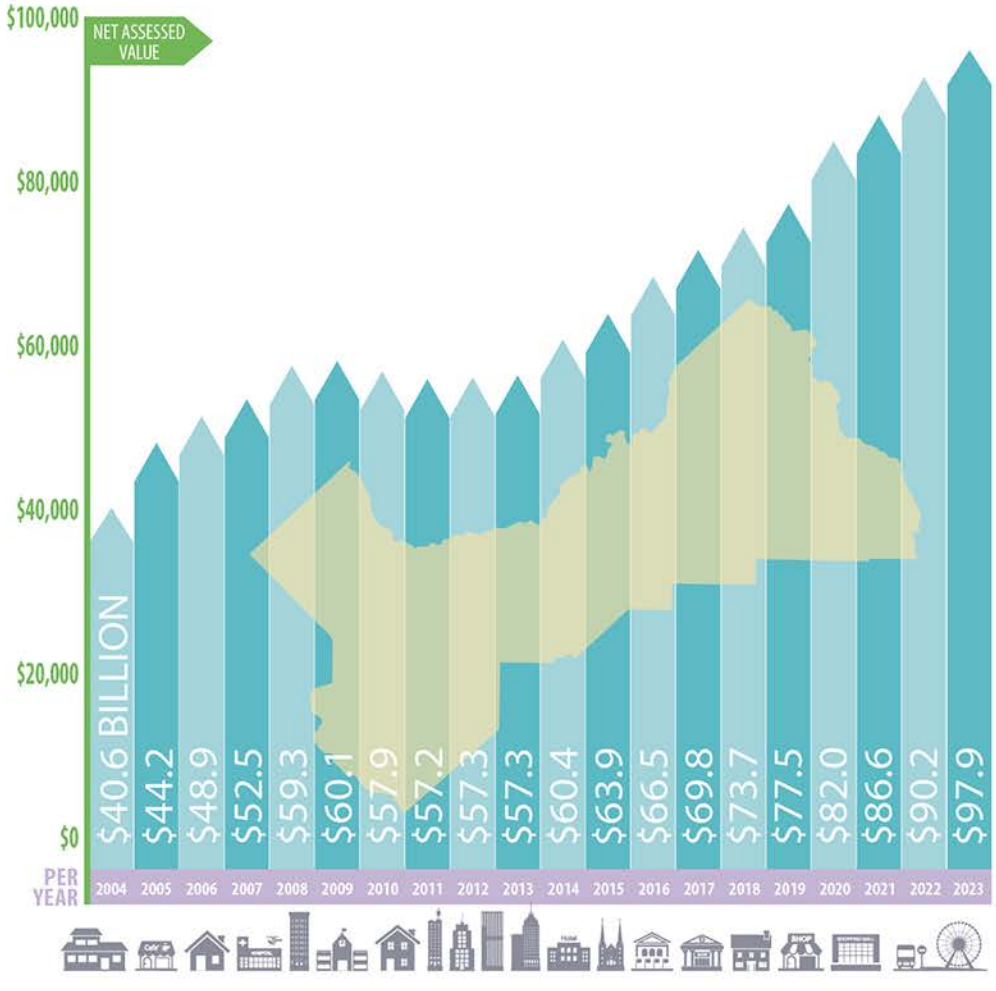
FRESNO COUNTY NET ASSESSED VALUE

Secured Property Taxes and Property Tax In-Lieu of Vehicle License Fees (VLF) are the largest sources of discretionary revenues. These taxes are determined on the assessed value of real and personal property within the County. To the right is a 20-year history of property tax values in the County of Fresno.

The FY 2022-23 Preliminary Net Assessment Roll of $97.9 billion represents an 8.5% ($7.6 billion) increase over the FY 2021-22 assessed value. This increase is approximately 4.3% greater than the FY 2021-22 increase of $4.2% ($3.6 billion).

2014 marked the first year since 2008 in which the County realized significant increases in assessed value. Fresno County's net assessed value has seen steady 4% to 5% growth over the last 9 years.

Although 2023 represents the largest increase in assessed values since 2008, the County is preparing for the cooling housing market, rising interest rates, and their anticipated impact to assessed value growth in the next few years.

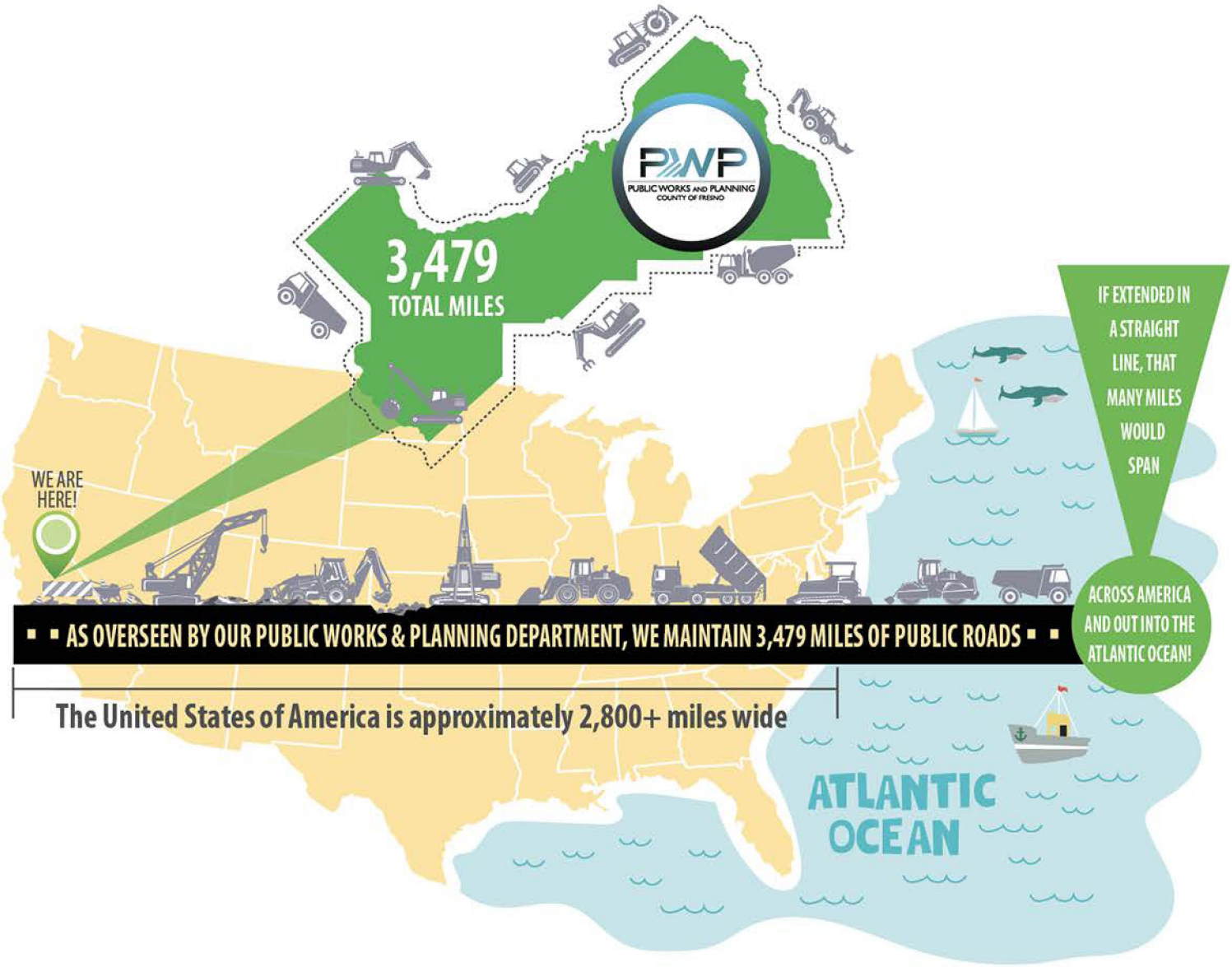


Net Assessed Value (in $Billions)

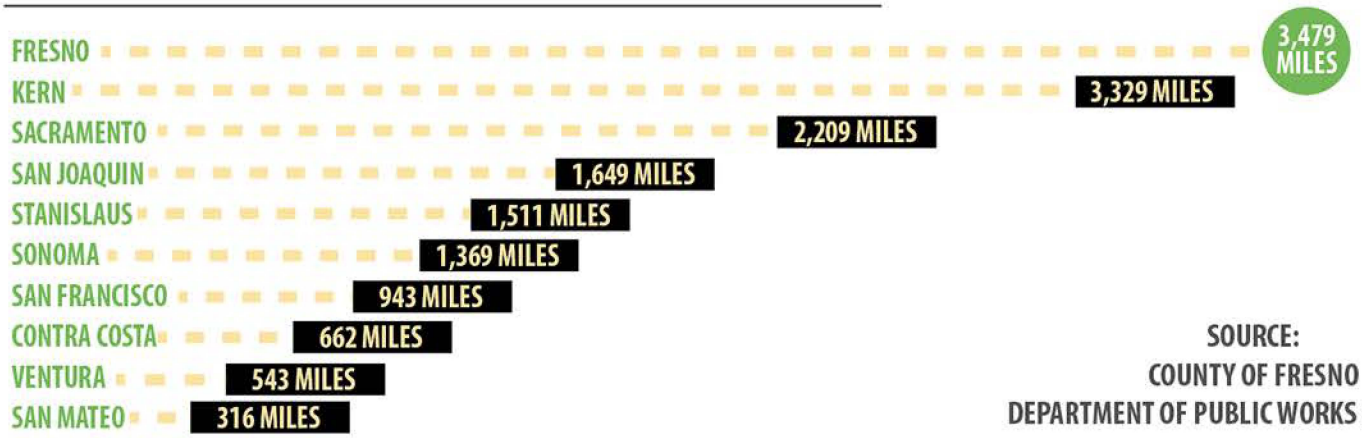
SOURCE: COUNTY OF FRESNO ASSESSOR

FUN FACT: FRESNO COUNTY ROADS

The County of Fresno maintains more county roads than any other county in the State of California.



MAINTAINED COUNTY ROADS COMPARED TO OTHER CALIFORNIA COUNTIES



SOURCE:
COUNTY OF FRESNO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

ARPA



Last year, the **County Administrative Office (CAO Office) began a strong community engagement initiative to solicit input and diverse ideas on how the County of Fresno (County) should invest its $194 million of stimulus funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)**, State Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). The CAO's Office coordinated online community surveys, statements for potential investment areas from community-based organizations, held community webinars, and received funding application requests from small businesses, nonprofits, and special districts. As of June of 2022, the County Board of Supervisors has earmarked 65 programs scheduled to be funded either in whole or part by the County's allocation of SLFRF.

To date, the Board of Supervisors has completed the vetting and approved the allocation of approximately $123.9 million of its SLFRF allocation in support of 23 programs which set a path forward in support of a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. In the following months, the CAO's Office will continue work with County department heads and award subrecipients to further vet the remaining 42 programs with estimated funding value of $70.1 million for eligibility under the SLFRF Program.



CREEK FIRE / BEFORE CLEANUP



CREEK FIRE / AFTER CLEANUP

CREEK FIRE RECOVERY

In 2020, the Creek Fire, the largest single-origin fire in recent state history, consumed more than 379,000 acres before being contained and forced the evacuation of thousands of people from their homes in the County and neighboring Madera County. The fire damaged or destroyed at least 927 structures in both the counties of Fresno and Madera and fire suppression costs have been estimated at $193 million. The CAO's Office, acting as the lead in the recovery efforts, continues to work with Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Office of Emergency Services, and various County departments to recover over $10 million in fire damage claims. The Creek Fire's impact to the environment and beauty of the Sierra National Forest will be a visual reminder for decades to come.

FENTANYL CAMPAIGN



The dangers of fentanyl have proliferated every community and age group throughout the country, including the County which experienced a sharp increase in fentanyl-related overdoses and deaths in the past two years. The CAO's Office responded by partnering with the District Attorney and collaborating with several departments and external agencies to quickly create fentanyl awareness campaigns. The messages, ranging from educating the public about the dangers of fentanyl to how to use Naloxone in the event of an overdose, have appeared on billboards, social media, English and Spanish television and radio stations.

The county also has two informative web pages:

BROWSE **fresnocountyca.gov/fentanyl**

ONLINE **opioidsafefresno.org**

The campaign has since been adopted by other law enforcement agencies throughout the state and the Assemblyman Jim Patterson introduced legislation (AB 2365) to create a state grant to fund outreach, prevention, and awareness of the fentanyl crisis. AB 2365 will fund six pilot projects throughout the state focused on reducing fentanyl overdoses and use. Local government agencies (education, law enforcement, public health, etc.) would apply for these grant funds.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



HOMELESSNESS

Through Fiscal Year 2021-22, in partnership with providers, the CAO's Office toured sites locally and in the state of Texas to learn about housing alternatives to better serve persons experiencing homelessness. These alternatives included accessory dwelling units, repurposed travel trailers, prefabricated modular housing, pallet shelters, and a center for service engagement. Collaboration continued with the fifteen cities within the County to learn more about their housing challenges and consider city- and/or region-specific solutions, such as the temporary use of hotels, co-location of resources or potential hotel conversion options using Homekey funding from the State. A platform to report and track encampments was launched, enhancing cross-jurisdictional coordination to growing encampments. These encampments are supported with the County's contracted outreach and engagement team. Coordination of physical health and mental health services continue, including access to Medi-Cal services, linkage to providers, access to isolation beds for those testing positive for COVID-19, and shelters moved from emergency response to ongoing site mitigation to the impacts of COVID-19. Joint service planning, establishment of communitywide priorities, initiating the conversion planning of a former hotel into affordable housing, and establishment of permanent supportive housing supported with mental health services will continue to end homelessness for those served.



REDISTRICTING

From 2000-2010, the County experienced a 16% increase in the overall population and from 2010-2020, there was an 8% increase in the population. The County's Redistricting process in 2021 was a collaborative success that included a comprehensive model for community outreach and more access to information and mapping resources than ever before. The process yielded 155 communities of interest identified from the public workshops and public hearings and over 20 draft maps submitted by the public to the advisory commission. The supervisorial district boundary map, adopted by the County on December 14, 2021, retains three effective Latino, Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP), Majority-Minority districts and has a population deviation of 1.48%. In addition, the adopted supervisorial district boundary map complies with the Federal Voting Rights Act and the U.S. and California constitutions, is contiguous, and to the extent practicable, keeps Communities of Interest, Cities and Census Designated places undivided. The map also has easily identifiable boundaries, and to the extent practicable, keeps each supervisorial district boundary compact, and it does not favor or discriminate against a political party.



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

In June 2021, the CAO's Office made a commitment to increase internal communications as well as improve the dissemination of County events, news and emergency alerts to residents and community-based organizations. The process began with staffing a communication office to produce more informative videos for social media and employees, plan first-class events that highlight new buildings or initiatives that better serve residents, and coordinate with other department public information officers to share information to a wider audience. The CAO's Office will be soliciting input from County residents and employees on how to improve communication and engagment—the results of that information will help guide the strategic communication plan going forward.



FIND US AT ALL SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:

FACEBOOK: @FresnoCountyCA

INSTAGRAM: @fresnocounty_ca

TWITTER: @FresnoCountyCA

TIKTOK: @fresnocountyca

YOUTUBE: bit.ly/FresnoCountyYouTube

NEXTDOOR: nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/fresno/county-of-fresno/

LINKEDIN: https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-county-of-fresno/mycompany/

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE *and* WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Melissa Cregan
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

The 2020 total crops value:

$7,979,650,000

TOP 3 CROPS


1 ALMONDS


2 GRAPES


3 PISTACHIOS

Our staff completed regulatory **pest control treatments on 2,987 properties to protect Fresno County's $1.05 billion grape industry** and to control the spread of the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter to uninfested California counties.

Completed **quality control inspections covering a combined total of 7.9 million cartons** of lettuce, table grapes, and melons to ensure that only the best quality produce reached the market and consumer's tables.

Our Weights and Measures Division staff **completed inspection on 298 petroleum stations, 2,224 weighing and measuring devices, and 16 weighmaster locations** to ensure that Fresno County consumers are getting their dollars' worth with every purchase of any commodity sold by weight or measure.

Issued 17,773 Phytosanitary Certificates to facilitate export of agricultural products to over 100 countries around the world. The work of our staff to inspect these commodities plays a significant role in Fresno County's ability to feed the world!

The Department obtained a new USDA Detection K9. Kaitlyn DeMott and her new partner Brodee, a 1.5-year-old Labrador Retriever, completed their 7-week training program at the National Detector Dog Training Center in Newnan, Georgia in May. Kaitlyn and Brodee inspect agricultural packages coming into Fresno County for exotic pests, playing a key role in keeping invasive pests out of our agricultural areas and natural environment.

Our pest detection programs deployed and serviced 11,397 insect traps for a variety of pests including: Asian Citrus Psyllid, European Grapevine Moth, Japanese Beetle, Spongy Moth, Khapra Beetle, Fruit Flies, Red Imported Fire Ant, Apple Maggot, and Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter. Detecting invasive pest infestations early is key to successfully eradicating the pest before it becomes established.

Pesticide Regulatory Program staff provided training and outreach to 3,176 people at 43 events in English, Spanish, Hmong, and Punjabi. Topics included Fieldworker Safety, Drift Prevention, Respiratory Training Protection Requirements, Decontamination Procedures, and Restricted Materials Permit Requirements.

The Department treated 1,064 miles of road shoulders within Fresno County to eliminate or greatly reduce weed cover. This is an important safety measure for Fresno County residents as overgrown weeds cause visibility issues for motorists and increase fire hazard.

Treated approximately 200 acres of Water Hyacinth in the waterways of the San Joaquin River system. Water Hyacinth is an invasive aquatic plant that proliferates rapidly and forms large mats that negatively impact ecosystems and render areas impassable by watercraft. The Department of Agriculture and Weights & Measures uses a small boat to treat areas of the river impacted by Water Hyacinth and prevent spread to new areas.







Fresno County is the number one ag producer in California and the nation!



BRAND NEW OFFICE TO SERVE YOU INCLUDING A DRIVE-THROUGH THAT OPENS IN 2023!

ASSESSOR/RECORDER



Paul Dictos, CPA
Assessor-Recorder

The Fresno County Assessor-Recorder is focused on serving the community as effectively as possible. To that end, the Department has beautifully remodeled a 19,000-square-foot, two-story building on the southeast corner of Van Ness and Merced (the former home of Noble Credit Union) for the exclusive use of the Fresno County Recorder. The Department opened in the new building on July 11, 2022.

Before, County residents found downtown parking, paid for it, then navigated the Hall of Records to find the correct floor for service. The new state-of-the-art facility addresses all of these issues.

The next time citizens need a copy of a vital record (birth, death, or marriage certificate) or to record a map or a sale of a property, they will have easy access and free parking. The vital records section is among the most frequently visited, so it is now located on the first floor of the new building for ease of access versus the previous location on the third floor of the Hall of Records.

What else can we do to provide more convenience for our citizens? How about a drive-through? **The Assessor-Recorder's office is proud to now provide the very first drive-through in the State of California for vitals record customers**, which opens in a few months. All of this was accomplished without the use of debt or tax dollars! No other county in the State offers this service. Both the building acquisition and improvement costs are paid with fees for services rendered.

STOP BY OUR NEW OFFICE FOR SERVICES!

1250 VAN NESS AVENUE • FRESNO, CA 93712

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER/ TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR



Oscar J. Garcia, CPA
Auditor-Controller/
Treasurer-Tax Collector

The Fresno County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office (ACTTC Office) provides governmental accounting and financial services and promotes public trust by providing exemplary accounting and financial services to our public, business, and governmental customers.

The ACTTC Office recently introduced a tool for county residents to look up their property tax. The new link allows residents to view the property tax due, payment dates, breakdown of property tax due for the current or prior property tax year, historical records through property tax year 2017-18, and delinquency status, if property tax is defaulted. Residents can print duplicate copies of Secured, Supplemental, and Unsecured property tax bills for all available property tax years.

ONLINE **https://fcacttcptr.fresnocountyca.gov/**











DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

WHERE *Hope* & HEALING UNITE



Susan Holt, LMFT
Director of Behavioral Health

Susan Holt, LMFT was appointed the **new Director** of the Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) in April 2022 after serving as the Interim-Director since December 2021. Ms. Holt has been working with the department for over twenty years.

Handle With Care Plus+ is a pilot program funded through the Department's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). The County has funded this $1.5 million dollar, three-year pilot project with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, The Resilience Center, Fresno Police Department, Fresno Unified School District, and Brain Wise Solutions. The project is an adaptation of the evidence-based model (Handle with Care). This pilot with four local schools will provide real-time responses to life-changing events experienced outside of the school by the child and supports to the family via a Parent Café.



Supportive Housing Expansion - In collaboration with other county and community partners, Fresno County helped to launch three new housing developments in Fresno. These have added 560 units in Fresno County (250 of which are for persons/families served by the Behavioral Health System). These are the results of over $18 million dollars in successful No Place Like Home and Special Needs Housing Projects. The Department has also invested $7.2 million dollars for the next five years to provide services at these new housing locations:

1. **Villages at Broadway**
2. **Villages at Paragon**
3. **The Arthur at Blackstone**



Both the Suicide Prevention Collaborative and community input were instrumental in the development and approval of the **Suicide Prevention Follow-Up Call** this year. This model has effectively reduced future suicide attempts and connected people to care. This is a pilot that is funded through one of the County's Innovation Projects which are part of the County's MHSA Plan. This is a $1,000,000 investment over the next three years. Deaths by suicides are decreasing due to these cross-sector collaborations.

Fresno County DBH spearheaded the second virtual **Multi-County Suicide Prevention Summit 2021** which had the support and participation of seven counties. Over 1,000 people registered from across the County and even people from around the world viewed the summit.

In January 2022, the Department implemented the first phase of its **2022 Loan Repayment Program**. This project will provide $10,000 in educational loan repayment to qualified behavioral health professionals working in the public behavioral health system of care. This is a project funded in part by the State, requiring using local MHSA Workforce and Education and Training for some of the funding match requirement.

The Suicide Prevention Collaborative unveiled a **firearms safety project** in September during Suicide Prevention Month. First Responders and seven different law enforcement agencies from around the County attended the press event and supported the project.

In an effort to increase awareness of opioids and fentanyl use as well as promote life-saving Naloxone and treatment info, DBH developed a specific web page:

ONLINE **opioidsafefresno.org**

DBH also worked with the Department of Public Health and others to help access harm reduction.

Fresno County DBH continued to work with Univision to engage and educate its large Latino and Spanish-speaking communities. This year it was involved with Univision's **Zoo Day** and outreached to thousands. The event is Univision's largest community event each year. The Department began working with Univision earlier in the year on several different topics including mental health, wellness, substance use, opioids/fentanyl, and youth prevention. The Department participated and provided outreach to a large number of Latino, and more specifically, mono-lingual Spanish speakers.



Mental Health Night at the Grizzlies Game
The Fresno Grizzlies wore special jerseys on this night as part of a joint effort to raise awareness as part of May's Mental Health Month. The event included a resource fair before the game and stigma reduction messages and testimonials from various players. Throughout the month and during the game, mental health wellness promotion was done in collaboration with the Grizzlies.

DBH collaborated with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) to secure $6 million in Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) funds in order to open four Student Wellness Centers. These funds not only supported efforts to create wellness centers at school sites in several communities, but also dedicated wellness teams at those locations (Fresno Pacific University, Tarpey Village, Fowler, and Riverdale).

Congratulations!
ON RECEIVING THE PLATINUM PROGRAM AWARD!



DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES



Kari Gilbert
Director of
Child Support Services

The Western Intergovernmental Child Support Engagement Council (WICSEC) presented the Platinum Program award to the Fresno County Department of Child Support Services (Fresno County DCSS), recognizing the child support program that consistently and comprehensively exemplified the best in child support over 2020-2021. In response to the statewide closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Fresno County DCSS was the first local child support agency to pivot to a decentralized call center, implementing immediate telework, sending all staff home, and standing up a remote Call Center environment within two hours.

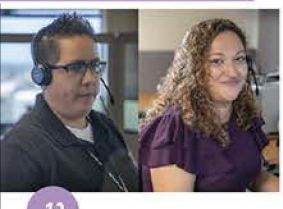
Throughout the various closures,
Fresno County DCSS
continued to
PROVIDE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES

Answered approximately
9,500 calls
per month

Kept
CALL ABANDONMENT RATE
at less than 1%

By focusing on immediate responsiveness, their average customer wait times remained at 20 seconds and 85% of calls were resolved during a five-minute phone call. During this challenging time, Fresno County DCSS Federal Performance Measure 4 (Collections/ Distributions of Arrears) increased from 61.8% to 78.3%, and Federal Performance Measure 5 (Cost-Effectiveness) increased from $3.99 to $4.11 per dollar collected. Additionally, customer complaints went down 15.7%.

CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH



Fresno County DCSS celebrated August 2021 as Child Support Awareness Month with a campaign to Paper the County with approximately 250 flyers placed in businesses throughout the County. The Department also launched its first Fresno City bus advertisement campaign.

CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
was blanketed throughout the County!

We have also worked closely with the State Department of Child Support Services to successfully pilot a Debt Reduction Program and a Simplified for Services Program which both were successful and evolved from pilots into statewide program functions. We have strived to improve our communication with customers by utilizing text and email communication as well as establishing video interviews as needed. This new way of conducting business was launched in 2020 and significantly enhanced in 2021 as we found it helpful to customers as well as a mechanism to improve efficiencies and services.

In 2021, we successfully launched an Alternate Work Schedule (AWS) for staff. We now have the Traditional Work Schedule (TWS) which is Monday to Friday, 8-hour days, and we have the AWS which is Monday through Friday, 9-hour days and one 4-hour day. It has been a long-time goal for the Department to offer more flexible start times to enable employees to have a better work life balance.

DCSS Management and supervisors have worked diligently to ensure the health and safety of our staff over the duration of this pandemic. As spikes occurred staff were asked to work remotely. As time went on, we utilized practices to measure performance, helped employees navigate various challenges associated with the pandemic all while striving to meet and exceed state performance standards and providing quality customer care. In early spring, we returned staff to onsite work in a rotational fashion, first assigning days and eventually allowing staff to select days to work onsite. The pandemic has caused us to shift our paradigm when it comes to how staff work and where they work. Staff who enjoy working onsite more or completely, exercise that option. Staff who want to take part in the remote work, exercise that option. Overall, when it comes to staff work schedules and locations, we are adapting to being highly flexible as long as we can carry out the mission and responsibilities of the County and child support program. To date, we have had great success and very few hiccups.



We have also launched what is known as "hoteling." This concept allows cubicle or office space to be freed up when not occupied due to remote working. This has allowed us to continue to grow our staffing levels in accordance with our increased funding. We are able to concentrate newer staff into particular locations to ensure training needs are met and supervisors are more closely aligned with the newer staff who are not ready to work independently. Staff who are able to work independently check out their work locations up to 30 days in advance and can sit where the space is available. Allowing staff to select days to work onsite, coupled with selecting locations to work facilitates and reunites staff who haven't seen each other in person in months or possibly a couple of years. They enjoy the opportunity to plan onsite workdays and locations together and reconnect while carrying out the mission of child support. This is a fairly new concept and process, but as time goes on, we are seeing more staff move about the department trying new locations in our decentralized department.

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Bernice Seidel
Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors





The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is a customer service-oriented department. It provides a range of services to the public, the Board of Supervisors and County staff. It is also the official repository of County records.

The Office of the Clerk of the Board employs five full-time staff who are responsible for:

- **Providing the Board of Supervisors with detailed Agendas and Supporting Documentation** so they may conduct the public's business effectively at their meetings, as well as recording and publishing actions taken by the Board of Supervisors.
- **Providing and disseminating of all board directives, policies and laws of the County's legislative branch**; provides members of the public with agendas, notices of public hearings, access to public records, and the opportunity to attend the open meetings of the Board of Supervisors; provides copies of all records, including current and historical, that the Clerk of the Board is required to maintain; assists other departments, entities, and the public with research and retrieval of information; retrieves and certifies documents for court.
- **Preparing, updating and maintaining the official rosters of all Boards, Commissions and Committees as well as the names of appointees who serve at the pleasure of the Board**; administers oaths of office for various appointed boards, commissions and committees members.
- **Processing assessment appeal applications (Appeals);** schedules and publishes hearings in accordance with legal requirements; maintains minutes and official records; provides administrative support to Assessment Appeal Board members; and provides assistance and education to the general public on assessment appeals process.
- **Publishing the Fresno County Ordinance Code which contains all of the legislation passed into law by the Board of Supervisors** with the exception of Land Use ordinances. The County Ordinance Code is published several times per year.
- **Accepting and reviewing Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700**. The Form 700 is a public document intended to alert public officials and members of the public to the types of financial interest that may create conflict of interest. Specified Officials must file their Form 700 with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

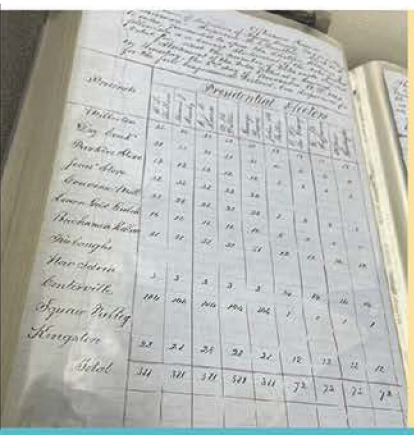


COUNTY COUNSEL

Daniel C. Cederborg
County Counsel

The County Counsel represents the County and its officials in civil litigation, defends the County in administrative law proceedings, provides written and oral legal opinions to County staff, and acts as legal advisor to County boards, commissions, committees, and special districts upon request.

Where there is no law, there is no freedom
~ John Locke



Historical records are lost without a proactive plan to maintain and preserve them. **The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is currently working with Kofile Technologies, Inc. on a project to preserve and archive approximately 231 volumes of Ordinances and Minutes as held by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors**. These records date back to Fresno County's inception in 1856 and many volumes contain pages with tears, water damage and overall signs of age. Preservation of this collection ensures the survival of source originals and the protection of the County's early written history.



COUNTY CLERK/ REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



James Kus
County Clerk / Registrar of Voters

The County Clerk/Registrar of Voters experienced one of its busiest years in recent memory in fiscal year 2021-2022. In September 2021, the Department successfully put on the first Statewide Recall held in California in 19 years.

FOR THE FIRST TIME:

Fresno County crossed the **500,000 registered voters** *threshold.*

262,000 voters participated *in the Recall Election by mail.*

Or they visited one of the **44 Vote Centers**, *available across Fresno County opened with two months' notice.*

In November of 2021, the County held the scheduled Uniform District Election (UDEL) for three jurisdictions. Additional Special Elections were called for the month of April 2022, with half the County involved in the Congressional District 22 Special Primary Election on April 5, 2022, and a smaller group of school districts having Special Vacancy Elections on April 12, 2022. These special elections flowed directly into the Consolidated Statewide Primary, held on June 7, 2022.

Over 458,000 individual voting interactions occurred throughout the year.

Only the November 2021 UDEL and June 2022 Elections were scheduled as regularly occurring elections.

DURING THE FISCAL YEAR, THE CLERK SERVICES DIVISION:

Assisted **5,600 couples** *with marriage licenses*

Performed **3000 civil ceremonies**

Over **7,000 local businesses** *completed fictitious business name applications.*

The Department also helped 13,378 constituents through the passport process; this represents a 107% increase in passport services from the last pre-pandemic year. Overall, the Clerk Services Division is currently assisting one-third more customers compared to before the pandemic began.



DISTRICT ATTORNEY





Lisa Smittcamp
District Attorney

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office officially relocated to the **Historic Rowell Building** in early 2021 and was able to host a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on September 16, 2021. The seven-floor building houses almost all of the office's nearly 300 employees as well as several conference rooms, a training room, and a family justice room.

The updated furniture and workspaces promote an improved and positive working environment for the entire DA staff.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Collaborating with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies:

- **IN NOVEMBER OF 2021** — **15** DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS participated in OPERATION SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS
- The week netted over **100** FELONY ARRESTS and took **40** FIREARMS
- It also took **$140,000** in DRUG MONEY OFF THE STREETS
- **IN MAY OF 2022** — DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS in joint operation netted **115** FELONY ARRESTS
- **173** MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS more than **200** PAROLE & PROBATION SEARCHES and the seizure of **33** ILLEGAL FIREARMS

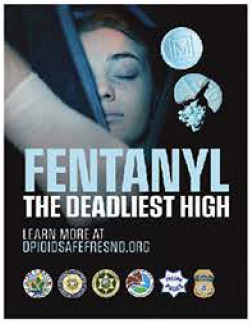
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Similar to other departments, the District Attorney's office participates in numerous events to benefit the community.

- *Partnered with Clovis Community Medical Center and 15 other local law enforcement agencies to launch the* **Pink Patch Project** *to* **raise money and awareness for breast cancer.**
- **World Ag Expo** *DA staff met with the public and explained what they do and how they assist the community.*
- **AMOR** *(Alliance for Medical Outreach and Relief) helped* **donate and distribute food to over 300 families** *in Mendota in November of 2021. In December, adopted two Mendota families during the* **adopt-a-family holiday campaign.**
- *7th Annual* **Support Blue Run** *in February of 2022 at Woodward Park.*
- **Raised almost $6,500 for the Walk Like MADD** *event and* **received a trophy for being the top contributing law enforcement agency** *in the Central Valley for 2021.*



Sponsored and participated in the **2021 Flame of Hope Law Enforcement Torch Run** *for Special Olympics in June of 2021.*



THE FENTANYL CRISIS

District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp has been very vocal about the importance of educating the community on the dangers of fentanyl and having her office join forces with the Fentanyl Overdose Response Team (FORT), which includes state and federal law enforcement agencies. The office partnered with the County Administrative Office and other County departments and partners to bring as much awareness to this problem through social media, television, and billboard campaigns. The office also has a designated prosecutor to handle cases with the aim of holding dealers responsible when victims overdose on fentanyl-laced pills.



OPERATION NO FLY ZONE

In April 2022, **local, state, and federal law enforcement officials completed a five-month-long operation, the largest investigative operation in Fresno's history.** This operation yielded nearly 50 felony arrests, many of which were linked to the most violent street gang in Fresno County. The gang is believed to be connected to up to six homicides, 35 shootings, and over 80 criminal acts. In addition to confiscating 48 firearms, the operation prevented two mass shootings and 19 other shootings.



SUPPORT DOGS

Nikko and North are two goldendoodle siblings that joined the office as service dogs in July of 2021. The dogs know 60 commands, but more importantly, offer compassion and emotional support to crime victims, witnesses, and others during the course of the investigation and prosecution of cases. They each have a Senior District Attorney Investigator assigned as their handler, and each of the handlers has prior experience as a K-9 officer.

We take care of our employees and all departments

SO WE CAN PROVIDE EXCELLENT SERVICES TO ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS!

HUMAN RESOURCES



Hollis Magill
Director

- **Hollis Magill was hired as the Director of Human Resources.**
- **Remote Work Guidelines were completed**, allowing County employees to successfully transition to this work model.
- Risk Management created the **Transitional Work Assignment Program** for **Return-to-Work Opportunities** and rolled out the program to all County departments.
- **The Safety Team launched the Safety Award Pilot Program** on January 31, 2022, offering the opportunity for employees to bring safety ideas to Risk Management for potential grant funding.
- **Awarded the PRISM Eagle award** in collaboration with Internal Services for the development of the County's COVID Application.
- Labor Relations also **saved the County thousands of dollars** through proactive timesheet reviews.
- Employment Services completed 16 classification studies and 46 salary surveys to meet the evolving needs of our County. **This included consolidating classifications and adjusting salaries to increase the starting salaries of the County's lowest-paid classifications and ensure compliance with State minimum wage.**
- Finalized HR review and **provided Salary Resolution Amendment appendices** for 70 Board Agenda Items, which have resulted in changes to position allocations, classification structures, and **compensation increases** throughout the County.
- **Human Resources is going paperless!**
- **Employee Benefits launched the award-winning 6th annual Save Today! Campaign**. This year, 550 unique employees participated, 214 increased their contributions, and 52 employees enrolled.
- **457 Deferred Compensation participation has increased** to 57%, up from 34% in 2015.
- The **new Prepare Today! was launched**. This was a first-year campaign to emphasize how to make the most of your benefits, such as life insurance and updating the beneficiaries.



Hired nearly **1,000** **new County employees**

Via **291** **recruitments** since July 1, 2021

Which is a **38% increase** in the **average number of recruitments** conducted annually **since FY 2018-19!**

INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Robert Bash
Director

The Internal Services Division (ISD) provides supportive services for all County departments and other associated organizations (our customers).

THROUGH THE HARD WORK OF OUR FIVE DIVISIONS:

FACILITY SERVICES · FLEET SERVICES · INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY · PURCHASING SERVICES · SECURITY

SERVICES INCLUDE:

Computer Support • Graphic Design • Facility Maintenance
Fleet Maintenance • Networking Solutions
Mail Services • Printing Solutions • Real Estate Leasing
Security Management • Vehicle Acquisition

WE ARE HERE TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS FOR THE COUNTY'S PROBLEMS

In this fiscal year, ISD completed several construction remodels including:



NEW! RECORDER'S BUILDING



IMPROVEMENTS for the PLAZA BUILDING



NEW! PUBLIC HEALTH LAB



We also **collaborated with Forefront Power to complete the largest single solar energy system at a public sector site** at the Juvenile Justice Center on American Avenue in Fresno.

OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT ISD:



JANUARY OF 2022
ISD coordinated the distribution of **37,500 COVID-19 home tests.**



CREATED TOBACCO RETAILER MAPS BY DISTRICT
Detailing density and proximity to schools.



UPDATED VACCINE CLINIC REPORTS
2nd dose coverage rates, demographic analysis, updates and increased age range and coverage detail.

COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



Raman Bath
County Librarian



This year,
Fresno County residents checked out over...



2,000,000
physical books

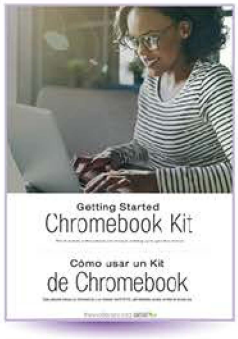
750,000
electronic and audio books.



That's almost
3 books per resident!

PROJECT KEYWORD PROM

This year, many high school events started to return after COVID. Unfortunately, many teens still face financial barriers and may not always participate in these critical milestones.
To ensure Fresno County teens got a chance to have something to wear to prom, **the Library had our first-ever prom outfit drive and giveaway**. Over 150 teens received outfits for prom free of charge. The community supported the program so much that the Library was able to donate dresses and suits back to local high schools and community benefit organizations.



TECH 2 GO

With the growing importance of access to digital resources, **the Library introduced a pilot program funded by the State Library to make laptops and hotspots available for checkout**. Before this program, many Fresno County Public Library patrons only had access to the internet and a computer while in the Library.



NOW, FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY CARDHOLDERS CAN HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT HOME FREE OF CHARGE FOR THREE WEEKS AT A TIME.

INCREASED ACCESS TO INTERNET

This year, the Library introduced new equipment that allows our rural and mountain Library branches to have a faster and broader range of internet access. Many of these locations have been underserved due to a lack of local infrastructure. Now **the Library is capable of amplifying its internet connection from the downtown Fresno branch to our rural and mountain communities**.



CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS PASSES







In partnership with the First Partner's Office and the California State Library, State Parks are providing **free vehicle day-use passes to over 200 participating State park units to library-card holders across California**. Fresno County Public Library is excited to make these passes available locally so that our community can more easily visit our beautiful State Parks. Library card holders can check out State Parks Passes for up to three weeks at a time.



MOBILE LITERACY VEHICLE

The Mobile Literacy unit is based on the West Side of Fresno County, traveling to communities like Mendota, Tranquillity, San Joaquin, Five Points, Halfway, Oro Loma, and Cantua Creek. The Mobile Literacy staff is bilingual in English and Spanish. **The goal is to assist the parents and caregivers in preparing their children, age 0 (before birth) up to age 5, for school entry and success.**

RETURN TO NORMAL SERVICES

This year, the Library returned to the pre-pandemic level of services and hours of operation. We are again offering in-person programs like children's story time and meeting spaces for the residents of Fresno County. While many virtual programs are still available, **Library branches are fully open to serve the community**.





COMMUNITY SERVICE IS A BIG PRIORITY WITH US!

PROBATION



Kirk Haynes
Chief Probation Officer



FIVE DIVISIONS TO SERVE YOU:

Adult

Crime Victim Assistance

Juvenile

Realignment

Juvenile Justice Campus (JJC)



THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICE DIVISIONS:
Adult, Crime Victim Assistance, Juvenile, Realignment and the Juvenile Justice Campus (JJC).

THE ADULT SERVICES DIVISION PROVIDES A VARIETY OF SERVICES TO THE COURTS AND PUBLIC:

- Adult Offender Work Program
- Domestic Violence
- Sex Offender and Child Abuse Unit
- Drug Suppression Unit
- Superior Court Investigation Unit. This Division provides services to defendants ages 18-30 working in a collaborative effort to achieve successful re-entry for these individuals into the community while reducing recidivism to enhance public safety.

THE JAMES ROWLAND CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE CENTER has been in place since 1975, **providing comprehensive services to approximately 7,000 victims and witnesses annually**. Victim Witness Advocates work with victims of gang and domestic violence, human trafficking, elder and child abuse, homicide, and sexual assault while working in collaboration with the justice partners, service providers, and community-based organizations to provide both direct services and referrals for services.

THE JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION provides services to transitional aged youth and is comprised of the following officer units: Court, Campus, Supervision, and Placement. Officers in the Juvenile Division **coach and mentor youth toward positive change, helping them build lasting positive thought processes to assist with making better choices**. Officers do this by holding youth accountable and sharing in successes such as graduations and incentivizing completion of programming.

THE REALIGNMENT DIVISION **was developed because of the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 109, the Public Safety Realignment Act, which shifted the responsibility of supervision of state prisoners after release to the counties**. This Division is comprised of the following units: AB 109, Pretrial, and the Adult Compliance team. This Division works with adults under supervision that have committed violent offenses by utilizing evidence-based practices to develop case plans to assure offenders receive services to allow for successful reintegration into the community. This Division also assists the Court in making fair and prompt release decisions at arraignment hearings to maintain the integrity of the judicial process by securing offenders for trial, and protecting victims and witnesses while providing community safety.

JJC COMMITMENT & DETENTION FACILITIES - THE JUVENILE JUSTICE CAMPUS (JJC) FACILITY is **used primarily to detain and provide a variety of treatment services to youth who have committed a law violation while their cases are being processed through the Juvenile Court**. In addition to holding youth pending court action, the JJC also provides secure confinement to youth serving court ordered commitments as well as commitments to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) pursuant to SB 823. The JJC also provides services to youth who are pending placement with other juvenile justice jurisdictions and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) placements.











PUBLIC DEFENDER



Antoinette Taillac
Public Defender

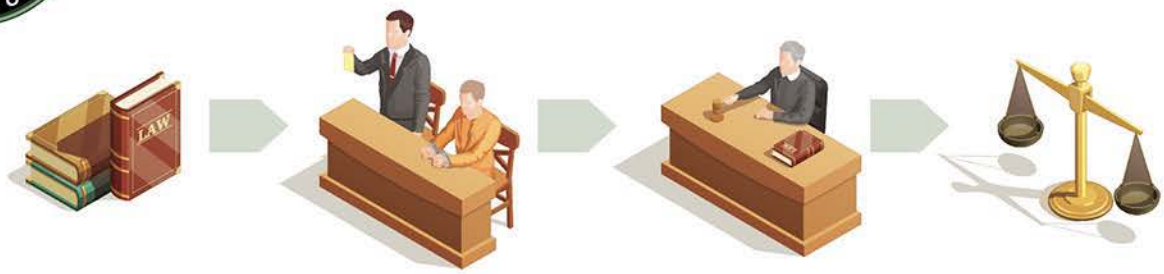
OUR MISSION

The mission of the Public Defender's Office is to vigorously protect and defend the rights of indigent clients as guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Our goal is to provide full and fair legal representation with respect and compassion for all.

It is the goal of the Public Defender's Office to protect every client's constitutional rights, to defend against discriminatory treatment and disproportionate punishment, and to ensure that no one who is innocent is ever wrongfully convicted.



"There can be no equal justice where the kind of trial a man gets depends on the amount of money he has."



PUBLIC DEFENDER HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Board confirmed the appointment of **Antoinette Taillac, effective July 26, 2021, to the position of Public Defender** pursuant, Fresno County Charter Section 16.



- On September 17th, 2021, during the annual Pacific Juvenile Defender Center's statewide conference, our very own **Senior Defense Attorney JoAnna Edwards was given the Juvenile Defender of the Year Award**. This is a huge honor and a recognition of all the hard work and tenacious advocacy that JoAnna does on behalf of the youth of Fresno County.



- In December 2021, the **Public Defender's Office participated in the AMOR adopt-a-family campaign** by delivering wrapped Christmas presents to their adopted family of six from Mendota.





- Congratulations to our Defense Social Work Practitioner**, Randi Balderama, who was awarded a scholarship from the Central California Area Social Services Consortium (CCASSC) for the research and findings she completed during her internship** at the Public Defender's Office. **Her thesis, "Mitigation Use in the Resentencing of Juveniles Formerly Sentenced to Life Without Parole," is groundbreaking for the field of social work.** A research project such as Randi's has never been done in Fresno County and has been critical in expanding social work services within our office.



- The Fresno County Public Defender's Office is **proud to be a part of a collaborative effort with the other justice partners to prevent future drunk driving and its dangerous consequences**. We unequivocally support the use of rehabilitation and treatment in this collaborative court as a means to significantly reduce DUI recidivism. Three people graduated from Fresno County's DUI court.



- On May 6th, our very own **Senior Defense Attorney Stephanie Negin was sworn in as a Superior Court Judge**. Congrats to the Honorable Stephanie Negin!

- In February 2022, **we were happy to be able to send so many attorneys to the 45th annual Capital Case Defense Seminar in Monterey.** Put on by CACJ and CPDA, it is the largest death penalty seminar in the nation.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Congratulations!
On receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools for FCDPH's work with the schools during COVID-19!

HEALTHY FRESNO COUNTY
Better Together



David Luchini
Public Health Director

David Luchini was promoted to Public Health Director on October 2, 2021.

FACTS ABOUT OUR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)



We now have
40 dispatchers on call for you 24 hours a day!



All calls are taken from metropolitan and rural parts of Fresno, Kings, and Madera County.

EMS dispatchers receive about a quarter of a million calls a year!

MERRILL AWARD

The Big Fresno Fair Joint Health & Safety Public Outreach Program, in partnership with the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH), received top honors from the Western Fairs Association (WFA) 99th Convention & Trade Show in Reno in February 2022. The Merrill Award recognizes fair programs that demonstrate outstanding vision, leadership, and excellence. Components of this fair program included a "Be Smart. Play Safe. Stay Healthy" Media PSA Campaign with the FCDPH, ABC 30, and Univision Fresno.

ANIMAL SHELTER

The County of Fresno held a ribbon cutting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, to celebrate the official opening of the new animal services facility, which houses the Fresno Humane Animal Services (FHAS). The new facility provides numerous benefits to both the animals and staff that were not available at the previous location in the old morgue. The current location allows all the animals to be fully indoors in a climate-controlled environment.

2021-2022 FLU SEASON
DRIVE-THRU VACCINATION EVENT



SEPTEMBER 25, 2021



Assessed the response of the Fresno County Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program.



Public Health staff were able to vaccinate **500 individuals** in **less than 3 hours.**

RAPID AT-HOME TEST KITS

The Fresno County Department of **Public Health made over 37,000 iHealth At-Home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests available to residents through a new online order program.** The at-home test kits arrived in Fresno County on January 14, 2022. Working with the County's Internal Services Department, Graphic Communication Services, community-based organizations, FCDPH distributed kits to residents in vulnerable zip codes throughout the County. FCDPH also worked with the Fresno Chapter of the California Restaurant Association to help ensure that employees and staff had rapid tests available.



PUBLIC HEALTH HERO AWARD AT THE 2021 STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS – LATOYA WOODS

On September 30, 2021, **Latoya Woods was named the 2021 Public Health Hero of the Year.** This award recognizes the outstanding efforts of one individual or group in the healthcare sector who went above and beyond in the fight against COVID-19. Latoya is a Public Health Nurse in the Community Health Division and was instrumental in the COVID-19 response. Working as the Medical Investigation Team program lead, she oversaw the hiring of staff, and contracted state and school district staff. Latoya was promoted to Program Supervisor in May 2021. Under her leadership, 50 members staffed the COVID-19 public information line, conducted contact tracing and case investigation and collaborated with school districts and congregate living settings on contact tracing and case investigations.



PUBLIC HEALTH LAB

In July 2021, the Fresno County Department of **Public Health unveiled the new public health lab,** which is now located at 4525 E Hamilton Avenue, 2nd Floor, Fresno, CA 93702.

The new lab includes the latest cutting-edge equipment to quickly expedite the testing of everything from COVID-19 and tuberculosis to rabies, measles, STDs, and other infectious diseases.



EMS- AA INTEGRATION INTO HIE

The Department of Public Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division secured state grant funding called +EMS which allowed EMS Patient Care information to be included in the Health Information Exchange (HIE). This system was implemented on October 1, 2021, and **allows paramedics in the field at the scene of a medical incident to access patient health care information that provides important information to assist in the treatment of the patient.**

The provision of ambulance health care data into the Health Information Exchange gives hospitals and private physicians a complete picture of the patients' care throughout the entire health care system.

AT PWP, WE STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND SOCIAL QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF FRESNO COUNTY.

PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING



Steven White
Public Works & Planning Director

OUR MISSION

The Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning (PWP) is a multi-disciplinary department of over 400 professionals dedicated to providing quality public services in the following areas:

- **Public Infrastructure**
- **Building Design & Construction**
- **Road Maintenance**
- **Housing and Community Development**
- **Building Permitting**
- **Inspections and Use Planning**
- **Natural Resource Conservation**
- **Landfill and Recycling**
- **Water and Sewer Services**
- **Park Services**
- **Geographic Information Systems Services**

and

- **Tourism**

IN 2021, THE PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

- **Laton Sidewalk Improvements:** *Outstanding Bikeway & Trails Project of the Year-2021*
- **Laton Community Sidewalk Improvements:** *Outstanding Bikeway & Trails Project of the Year-2021*
- **Fresno Canal Bridge Replacement at McKinley Avenue:** *Outstanding Structural Engineering Project of the Year-2021*
- **Outside Canal Bridge Replacement at Russell Avenue:** *Outstanding Small Project of the Year-2021*
- **Italian Bar Road Bridge over Redinger Lake (San Joaquin River):** *Outstanding Bridge Project of the Year-2021*
- **Joseph Harrell:** *Outstanding Civil Engineer in the Public Sector-2021*

TOP PROJECTS

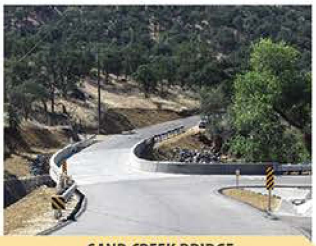
SAND CREEK BRIDGE

$2,697,777 (Completed in May 2022)

The **original bridge on Ennis Road was removed and replaced with an engineered bridge structure capable of handling current traffic and 100-year stream flows.** It offers a smoother and straighter curve to travel. This is located in the Squaw Valley area of Fresno County.



SAND CREEK BRIDGE
BEFORE



SAND CREEK BRIDGE
AFTER

GOLDEN STATE/AMERICAN AVE INTERSECTION

$3,100,000 (Expected to be completed in September 2022)

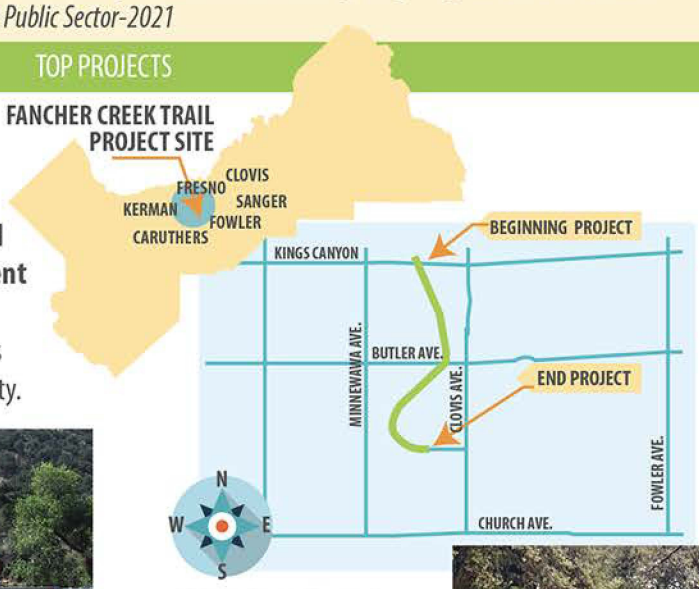
Improvements were made to Golden State Boulevard at American Avenue, including the intersections of Peach Avenue north and south of American Avenue. The road was reconstructed to have wider travel lanes and wider shoulders. There were new traffic signals installed as well as new crossing arms by Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR).



GOLDEN STATE BOULEVARD
(AFTER) 1.3 MIL



JAMES BYPASS BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS
(AFTER)



FANCHER CREEK TRAIL

$438,490
(Completed July 2022)

This is a **reconstruction of 1.12 miles of a pedestrian/ equestrian trail.**



FANCHER CREEK TRAIL
AFTER



LINCOLN AVENUE COLD PAVEMENT PROCESSING

LINCOLN AVENUE COLD PAVEMENT

$10.3 million (completed in August 2022)

This project is a **reconstruction and overlay of Lincoln Avenue from SR 145 to Fig Avenue, totaling approximately 14.5 miles.**

This used a new technique in which the old pavement is processed on site and the recycled material is then placed back with an overlay on top.

JAMES BYPASS BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS on MANNING AVE.

$5,200,000 (completed in June 2022)

Removed and replaced the 2 bridges with newly engineered bridge structures capable of handling current traffic ratings and 100-year stream flows.

SHERIFF-CORONER



Margaret Mims
Sheriff-Coroner-
Public Administrator

PROJECT TEDDY BEAR



The Fresno County Sheriff's Office continues its partnership with the Assistance League of Fresno. The organization regularly makes donations of hundreds of teddy bears to our department.

Our staff members give away these bears to children during difficult times and they make a world of difference in comforting them.

The students who make up the Assisteens of Fresno volunteer their time to make this project happen and we are lucky to have such generous youth members in our community

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!



THE FRESNO COUNTY **JAIL** IS COMPRISED OF **3 FACILITIES:**

MAIN JAIL
★
NORTH ANNEX
★
SOUTH ANNEX

In total, there are nearly **3,300+ bed spaces**

Avg. Daily Population **3,000+ inmates**

In addition to local detainees, the jail has approximately **800 state prisoners** due to prison realignment and contracts with the U.S. Marshal's Office to house **145 federal prisoners**

SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRACKING DOWN ON ILLEGAL TRASH DUMPING

The Fresno County Sheriff's Ag Task Force and the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning have increased efforts to combat the ongoing problem of illegal trash dumps which damages the environment and ruins the quality of life in areas of our County.

This is a three-year partnership with funding allocated specifically for trash dumps. Deputies working in the field are using different tactics to try and curb this crime, but they could use the public's help.

If you witness trash dumping in progress, please report it right away.



Safely get descriptions of the suspects, their vehicles, and license plates



If possible, discreetly take photos. Make your report to Sheriff's dispatchers at 559-600-3111

You can email your photos to: agcrimes@fresnosheriff.org

PLEASE DO NOT REPORT EXISTING TRASH PILES WHERE NO ONE IS AROUND

This information should not be routed through the Sheriff's Office dispatchers. If you wish to report an existing dump site, contact the County's Department of Public Works and Planning at:

REPORT **https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/public-works-planning**

Those who litter will be prosecuted and may face fines, jail time, and cleanup fees.





SHERIFF'S CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HONORED FOR SAVING MAN FROM BEING STRUCK BY PASSING TRAIN

In October 2021, **Correctional Officer Haros was awarded the Life Saving Medal under Valor** for pulling a suicidal man (31 years old) out of harm's way from an oncoming train.



SWEET SWOP OP
WE BELIEVE IN GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY ALL YEAR LONG

The Fresno County **Sheriff's SWAT Team made it an easy day for Girl Scouts Troop 5004 when they bought almost all of the cookies from their stand.** Each deputy on the team pitched in their own money to pull off this effort.

TOTAL COOKIE HAUL:
100 boxes = $500 for Charity!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!







The County of Fresno thanks Sheriff Mims for her many years of service, dedication to public safety, and serving as an inspiration for countless residents.

SHERIFF-CORONER (CONTINUED)





HIKER MISSING NEAR HUNTINGTON LAKE FOUND SAFE

48

In October 2021, The Fresno County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) Team on board the **Sheriff's helicopter, EAGLE One, located 49-year-old Jolly Bose near Ershim Lake after she had been missing for 48 hours**.

A total of **35 deputies and volunteers with SAR** were deployed to search for Bose each day, around the clock.

When the team found Ms. Bose, they transported her to the Sheriff's Office command post where she was reunited with family and friends. **Though Bose endured five inches of new snow and overnight temperatures in the teens, she was uninjured and did not require any medical attention.**

10,000 SQ. FT. +

SEARCH AREA

Drones, helicopters, airplanes, horses, jeeps, and ATVs were all utilized to assist ground search teams. Yosemite National Park, California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Marin County Sheriff's SAR team assisted in the search. **The remote search area was at an elevation of more than 10,000 feet** and experiencing snowy, icy conditions.

RESCUED!

GREAT TEAMWORK EVERYONE!

HAPPY RETIREMENT!

SHERIFF MARGARET MIMS TO RETIRE AFTER 42 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE!

February 18, 2022

After much thought and reflection, I have decided to retire at the end of my current term as Fresno County Sheriff – Coroner – Public Administrator. This decision does not come easily as I still get such satisfaction out of public service, but after 42 years, the time is right for me to retire while I am still healthy and can be active with my family.

I have had a wonderful career beginning January 1980 as a police officer for the City of Kerman, then being hired in August 1983 as a Deputy Sheriff for the Fresno County Sheriff's Office. I promoted through the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Sheriff and then serving as the elected Sheriff for 16 years by the end of my current term. It was important to me when I became Sheriff to provide stability to the office. I have provided that stability and over the years we have worked our way through good times and tough times and become stronger as a result. I say 'we' because I did not accomplish this alone, it took working with not only Sheriff's Office personnel, but with the vital cooperation of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, our County Administrative Office, other County Departments and the public.

There are still projects and improvements that need to be made and I will continue to work hard for the remainder of my term in office and assist the next elected Sheriff anyway I can to provide a smooth transition.

It has been a humble honor to serve the citizens of Fresno County. Thank you to everyone who has encouraged and supported me during my career.

Thank you,
Margaret Mims
Sheriff – Coroner – Public Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



This past year, **DSS continued its mission to assist adults, children, and families to achieve health, safety, and self-sufficiency through a diverse range of programs and partnerships.**
Here are some highlights of the department's efforts throughout the year.

WE ARE **DSS**
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



Sanja Bugay
Social Services Director

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors appointed Sanja Kovacevic Bugay as the director of the Department of Social Services. She brings 20+ years of service to our team!











THE SELMA REGIONAL CENTER

This project was a remodel of an existing **21,440-square-foot, one-story building** located about 200 yards from the prior location. Work included the addition of a car enclosure for County vehicles, **state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment and modern space design including self-service options for clients**. Tenant improvement costs totaled $3.59 million. The site houses up to **102 staff who provide service to the community**.



Building 5 opened to the public on May 16, 2022

BUILDING 5 -CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

This project was a **138,355 square foot improvement to a former Costco warehouse**. This renovated building provides an opportunity to consolidate Child Welfare Services. Building improvements included **three entertainment rooms with video streaming for children who come into the office awaiting placement, state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment, and modern space design including a large event space**. Tenant improvement costs totaled $37 million. The site houses **586 staff who provide service to the community**.

Child Welfare Services has remained committed to improving outcomes for children and families. Child Welfare continues to work towards timely permanence for foster children and youth, improving social work staff retention, and improving collaboration with the court through the implementation of its System Improvement Plan (SIP).

THE ONGOING SERVICES BRANCH

This branch implemented a **Telephonic Signature option** to allow clients to correct the submission of partially completed Semi-Annual Reports to continue receiving eligibility benefits and improve the quality of service to CalFresh and CalWORKs clients.

EMPLOYEE RETENTION SERVICES

As part of an effort to support employee retention, Welcome Sessions for newly hired employees were implemented. This allowed supervisors, managers, and deputy directors an opportunity to meet and welcome groups of newly hired employees.

EMPLOYEE MORALE COMMITTEES

Committees were initiated as a collaborative effort by staff working in the new County of Fresno Clovis Campus buildings to improve staff morale, develop teamwork, and support a positive work environment. Fun activities and events are planned throughout the year.



FAMILY NIGHT EVENING EVENTS

These events were held at the County of Fresno Clovis Campus buildings and Selma Regional Center. This allowed employees an opportunity to bring family members and give them a tour of the buildings. Staff were proud to have their family members see where they diligently serve the community.

INTAKE BRANCH

Our Intake Branch created an Intake Training Workgroup to integrate onboarding our new staff into branch operations. We are pleased with the progress made and we will continue to work on developing a uniform plan for supervisors to follow when training new staff. This plan will be based on best practices shared with the group from all supervisors in the branch.

WELFARE-TO-WORK/EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Staff were equipped with the engagement tools and knowledge to help our participants create a stable home, maintain steady employment, and develop supportive relationships. Staff are better prepared to continue to deliver meaningful services to the community. **We look forward to reinforcing our intensive case management approach which will lead to great outcomes and successes for our participants.**

FRESNO COUNTY WAS FOUNDED IN 1856



DID YOU KNOW?

THE ORIGINAL COUNTY SEAT WAS LOCATED UP AT MILLERTON LAKE!

FUN FACTS ABOUT FRESNO COUNTY WHILE at WORK OR PLAY!

Visit the **largest trees on earth and the Nation's Christmas Tree** *at Kings Canyon National Park!*



The surrounding Sierra Nevada **reaches 14,000+ ft.** *at its highest elevation above the Valley floor!*



NO. OF COUNTY EMPLOYEES 7,200

BIG FRESNO FAIR!

Every year in October, more than 600,000 people come together for two weeks to enjoy **The Big Fresno Fair!**

Founded in 1884, The Big Fresno Fair is the 4th largest fair in the State and holds the rare distinction of operating in the same location at the same time of year since the very beginning! The 2022 Big Fresno Fair will mark its 139th year!





AT WORK

Coordinated the mailing of:

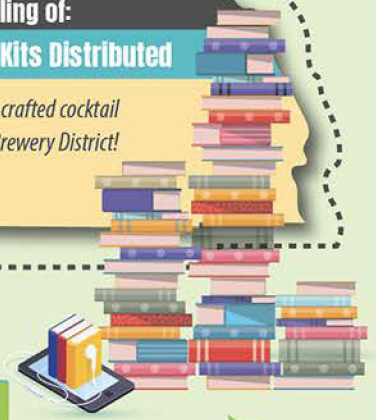
37,500 COVID Home Test Kits Distributed

THE COUNTY SPANS **6,011 SQUARE MILES**



Imbibe a brew or a carefully crafted cocktail in downtown Fresno's new Brewery District!

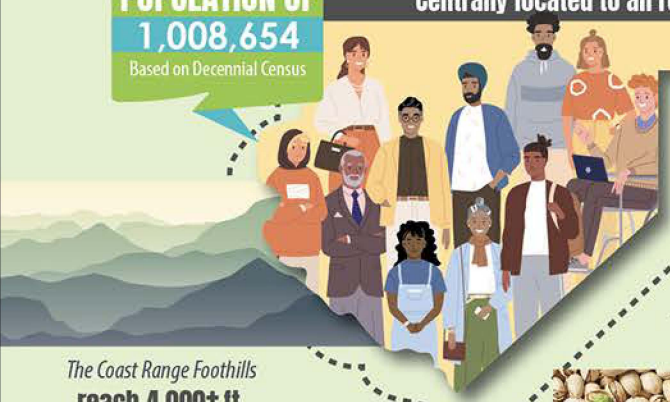




SERVING A POPULATION OF 1,008,654

Based on Decennial Census

Centrally located to all recreation!



CHECK IT OUT!

FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

This year, Fresno County residents checked out over **2,000,000 physical books and 750,000 electronic and audio books.**

That's almost 3 books per resident!



Travel the Blossom Trail in the spring to experience the beauty of our Valley fields in bloom!

Fresno County FRUIT TRAIL

And WINE TRAIL!

The Coast Range Foothills **reach 4,000+ ft.** *at their highest elevation near Coalinga!*

AT PLAY



Follow the Fruit Trail or Wine Trail year round for a bounty of Fresno County's wines, fresh nuts, fruits and vegetables!

EXPLORE and DISCOVER ALL THAT FRESNO COUNTY HAS TO OFFER!


THE COUNTY OF FRESNO
1856
WE ARE FRESNO COUNTY