

**NOTICE OF CERES CITY COUNCIL VACANCY DISTRICT 1**  
**TERM ENDS DECEMBER 2022**  
**CITY COUNCIL SEEKS APPLICANTS TO FILL DISTRICT 1**  
**CITY COUNCIL VACANCY**

The City Council is accepting applications from residents of Ceres, District 1 for appointment to fill the vacated term of City Council Member Channce Condit, who was elected to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors at the November 3, 2020 general election. The vacant term has 2 years remaining.

**ELIGIBILITY** City Council Members must be at least 18 years of age, and a resident and a registered voter in the City of Ceres, District 1.

**APPLICATION FILING REQUIREMENTS** Completed applications will be accepted in the City Clerk's office until **5:00 pm on January 26, 2021**. Applications are available from the City Clerk's office at City Hall or on the City's website at [www.ci.ceres.ca.us](http://www.ci.ceres.ca.us).

Please feel free to include additional information with your application. Your application must be signed and include your current registered voter information. Voter registration will be confirmed. **Applications can be sent to the City Clerk via email at [cityclerk@ci.ceres.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.ceres.ca.us)** or delivered in person to the City Clerk at 2220 Magnolia Street. Please contact the City Clerk at 209-538-5731 to make arrangements to personally deliver an application. Applicants will be interviewed by the City Council at a Special City Council public meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**FINANCIAL INTERESTS** City Council Members are required to complete and file a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests disclosing various financial interests. For more information on city council persons responsibilities under the Political Reform Act you can visit the FPPC website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

**PUBLIC INFORMATION** Becoming a candidate for public office means that information about you will become a matter of public record immediately. This includes any and all documents submitted to the City during the course of the application period. As such, these documents must, by law, be available to the public for inspection and/or copying.

Copies of submitted applications will be available on the City's website with personal information redacted.

**GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE POSITION** Regular meetings of the City Council are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Additional meetings may be called as necessary. In addition to regular Council business, the individual selected must be available to actively participate as a Council liaison to numerous external agencies and organizations. The City of Ceres operates under a council-manager form of government. Four members of the City Council are elected by district to over-lapping terms of four years. The Mayor is elected at large for a term of four years. The City Council is the legislative body responsible for the overall policies of the City. The Council makes all policy determinations through enactment of ordinances and resolutions and has final authority in the implementation of these policies. The Council determines how the City will obtain and spend funds and annually reviews and approves

the City's budget. The City Council appoints the City Manager and City Attorney. City Council Members receive a salary of \$500 per month.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's office at (209) 538-5731 or by email at [cityclerk@ci.ceres.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.ceres.ca.us)



**Please Return To:**  
Office of the City Clerk  
2220 Magnolia Street  
Ceres, CA 95307-3292  
(209) 538-5731  
FAX (209) 538-5650

**FILING DEADLINE: JANUARY 26, 2020 5:00 P.M.**

**CITIZEN APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO  
CITY COUNCIL**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Contact Preferred: \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE:

at above address: \_\_\_\_\_ in Ceres: \_\_\_\_\_ in County: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION:

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION (highest school year, degrees, etc.)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

LIST PAST OR PRESENT MEMBERSHIP ON THE CERES CITY COUNCIL, ANY COUNCIL  
APPOINTED COMMITTEE OR COMMISSION, AND/OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCY,  
INCLUDING THE TIME PERIODS OF MEMBERSHIP.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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(Attach additional pages as necessary.)

**PRESENT AND PAST COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE YOUR MOST IMPORTANT QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CITY COUNCIL?

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WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH WHILE A PART OF THE COUNCIL?:

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WHAT PROBLEMS, ISSUES OR CONCERN DO YOU SEE FACING THE CITY AND HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE THEY BE ADDRESSED?:

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Please list three (3) references with telephone numbers:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REQUIRED:**

Please review the attached Ceres City Council Strategic Plan Summary and provide a written response enumerating your perspective on the City Council Vision and Goals, and if you agree or disagree with the direction the Council has set for the City.

**You must complete and submit the supplemental information request with your application.**

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Date

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Signature

**A resume about yourself is welcome by the City Council Members in evaluating your application.**

(Attach additional pages as necessary.)





# CERES CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

**2020-2021  
Revised (2020)**

The intent of this update is to continue the existing Strategic Plan Summary for the next two years. A new or updated Strategic Plan will be considered in early 2021.

The future is not someplace we are going to, but one we are creating. The paths are not to be found but made, and the activity of making them changes both the maker and the destination.

John Sharr, *Loyalty in America*

## *Council's Values/Guiding Principles*

The *values* of an organization drive both the goals and strategies created and the process of implementing the strategic plan. The previous version of the Strategic Plan Summary established the following guiding values and principles that are still applicable:

The City seal's motto, "*Together we achieve*," states the underlying value of the City of Ceres. The City Council's guiding principles are:

- Be an approachable Council, with members who are involved in the community
- Treat people fairly
- Be proactive, not reactive
- Make long-lasting decisions
- Foster strong communications with the community
- Expect quality development as part of being a quality community
- Foster openness and public engagement
- Be friendly in all encounters
- Be proud of our small town atmosphere
- Respect the roles of the mayor, council members, city manager, and staff

## *Vision*

*A vision* states where the organization wants to be in the future. It should be broad and ambitious enough to serve as a guide and specific enough to be understood by people reading it. The Mayor and

Council members proposed phrases that they think could be part of a vision statement for the City. The following vision statement was created as a result:

*In collaboration with the community, together we achieve a Ceres that is an attractive, livable, safe community with beautiful neighborhoods, landscaped streets, parks, trails, facilities and vibrant commercial and entertainment amenities.*

## **Goals**

*Goals* set the framework for policies that guide the direction and focus of the organization, budget decisions and allocation of other resources, such as staff time. Goals are “up on the balcony” wide views of opportunities for change and improvement. They are statements of how you want the future to be. Goals provide the “why” (larger meaning and context) of the specific actions the agency takes. They help the management team, and Council, when they are involved, to decide which of the many worthy projects should be done and when, within available resources.

The Council has a broad range of goals and projects they wish to accomplish over the next two years. The goals fall into the following areas:

1. **Infrastructure:** Ensure that the community has adequate, well maintained infrastructure (including water, sewer, streets, traffic signals, parks, sidewalks, facilities) that fosters a quality community and supports a strong economy.
2. **Livable community:** Create a vibrant, safe, attractive and walkable community that maintains a small-town feel, with parks, trails, shopping, entertainment and other desirable amenities.
3. **Economic development:** Proactively recruit and attract businesses to Ceres in order to add to the quality of life and enhance the fiscal base of the community.
4. **Planning for the Future:** Ensure the City has plans and policies in place to attract and create desirable development, maintain and improve neighborhoods and annex land to achieve a livable community and support a strong economy.
5. **Government operations:** Provide quality services to meet community needs, assuring that the City has helpful, well trained, properly equipped and sufficient staff who partners with other public agencies to provide efficient services.
6. **Community engagement:** Establish strong relationships with all sectors of the community, recognizing its cultural diversity and increase their involvement in creating the future of the City.

## **Strategies**

*Strategies* are the means to achieve the goals. They are the individual projects that must be assigned, with resources identified, which will contribute to achievement of a goal. Projects should be achievable within the available resources, with clear direction and attainable timeframes, with periodic checking in about progress, changes or challenges.

### **Infrastructure:**

1. As part of the General Plan implementation, create a plan to accommodate all infrastructure needs for the next 50 years, (including sewer, water, parks, streets, traffic signals, storm drains, sidewalks and public facilities).
2. Complete the plans and advocate for funding for the Service/Mitchell/SR 99 interchange.
3. Update the Five Year Capital Improvement Program to reflect Council's vision, goals and priorities.
4. Complete the design for Eastgate Park, Lions Park, and Lower River Bluff Park and complete construction in 2021 or earlier.
5. Aggressively pursue the design, and implementation of the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority surface water treatment and delivery facilities.
6. Leverage Measure L and SB-1 revenues to maintain local streets and roads.

### **Livable Community:**

1. Establish the vision of a livable community as a key component of the General Plan.
2. Establish mechanisms and policies which ensure that impacts of development are paid for by the developer (e.g., off-site infrastructure installed at the time of development).
3. Pursue programs that ensure the community has adequate police and fire protection.
4. Actively pursue improving the appearance of the community by expanding the Code Enforcement efforts and implement the recommendations of the Beautification Action Committee.
5. Establish development guidelines that will promote an image of careful planning that includes amenities such as requiring landscaped medians.
6. Encourage development of housing for all economic levels of the community, including affordable, senior and executive housing.

### **Economic Development:**

1. Proactively implement the City Council's Economic Development Strategic Plan 2013-2020 consistent with the Council's long term vision and priorities, including actively attracting new businesses, with a focus on retail enterprises to capture more sales tax and desirable restaurants. Secure funding, hire a consultant and complete an update to the Economic Development Strategic Plan.
2. Proactively implement the Downtown Specific Plan that establishes the downtown as a destination point.
3. Examine commercial corridors to identify possible locations for new retail.
4. Attract entertainment venues for youth and adults.

### **Planning for the Future:**

1. Implement the General Plan to create a well-planned community for the long term.
2. Implement the new policies and procedures delineated in the updated Ceres Municipal Code.
3. Create development procedures that are clear to developers.

#### **Government Operations:**

1. Review the organization and make changes to increase efficiency and effectiveness.
2. Create and implement a staff development program.
3. Strengthen the Council/staff team in order to effectively achieve Council priorities.
4. Update the City's administrative codes, policies and procedures to ensure proper administration of the organization and effective achievement of Council priorities.
5. Increase the City's partnership with the schools and identify specific ways in which to collaborate.

#### **Community Engagement:**

1. Create better connections and communications with all segments of the community.
2. Encourage citizens to be more involved in city government. (e.g. have boards/commissions that are meaningful and with clear roles).
3. Conduct town hall meetings to engage citizenry.
4. Collaborate with community groups to achieve mutual goals.