

# CITY OF GONZALES

## 2025 SNAPSHOT



Wow! What an amazing year 2025 has been! The City has been running like a true *"little engine that could"*, working on projects that promise to transform our community. The **Dennis and Janice Caprara Community Center Complex** is almost complete with its **Grand Opening Celebration** taking place **January 10, 2026**. The new **Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility** is currently under construction with an estimated completion date of Spring 2027, and the new **Electronic Billboard** is under production with the developer planning to begin construction mid-January.

### DENNIS AND JANICE CAPRARA COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX

Phase 1 of the project brings in a new Teen Innovation Center and Teen Lounge to our community as well as a brand-new building for the local Monterey County Free Library, a meeting room, an outdoor amphitheater and plenty of outdoor spaces to enjoy. Did we also mention the new EV charging stations that will be available onsite? This exciting project is being made possible through funding from Measure X, private donations, grants, and a USDA Loan. It will be programmed with support from the Monterey County Boys and Girls Club, Olinga Learning among partnerships with CSUMB, UCSC, and Hartnell College.



### 2025 OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES

This year we had multiple deserving employees that were recognized by their peers for their hard work and dedication. Please join me in Congratulating our Outstanding 2025 Employees: Fire Chief Jason Muscio; Fire Captain, David Vasquez; Recreation Coordinator & Administrative Analyst, Jessica Olmedo; and Administrative Assistant II, Marisol Gomez. We congratulate all of them and thank them for their outstanding service.

### NEW ARTWORK

Through the support of Blue Zones Project, we were able to commission a beautiful mural that now adorns our downtown.



# TEN YEARS OF GONZALES YOUTH COUNCIL (GYC)

The idea of a Gonzales Youth Council (GYC) started over ten years ago. Today, our GYC is stronger than ever, it has been nationally recognized and has been a model for Soledad, Greenfield and Salinas. They have helped take on local issues, have helped establish policy, and have even been published in medical journals. They advocated for mental health supports and even drove the process to get the Teen Innovation Center built.

What started as an idea has had a lasting impact on the students that have been part of it. Now, past GYCers represent Gonzales in circles around the State and Nation. All 87 participants have gone on to higher education and continue to make a positive impact in the community. Some have even made their way back to the area and now serve as teachers, mentors and supporters of young people. We can't wait to see what the next 10 years of the GYC will bring! For more information on their journey, visit the City of Gonzales' website at [www.gonzalesca.gov](http://www.gonzalesca.gov).



## GRANT FUNDING

The City received multiple grants this year, including one in the amount of \$30,000 from the Office of Traffic Safety to support Gonzales PD's efforts in reducing the number of persons injured in crashes, and aid in impaired driving enforcement, and public engagement and education. In addition, the City secured \$630,000 from the County's CDBG funds to support the purchase of a brand-new Fire Truck.

## IN 2026...

- The Dennis and Janice Caprara Community Center Complex will be in operation. The Teen Innovation Center and Lounge, the Library, the Outdoor Amphitheatre, the Meeting Room, and Parking Spaces, including EV charging stations will be open.
- The Electronic Billboard will be up and running.
- We will continue to advance the construction of the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- We will continue advancing the Vista Lucia housing project.
- We will have a more modern website.
- And we will continue to be fiscally responsible and work to attract new revenue streams.

