

# City of Gonzales

## City Manager Report

January 2026



Gonzales kicked off 2026 with a bang! We opened the **Dennis and Janice Caprara Community Center Complex** on January 10<sup>th</sup> and had hundreds of Gonzales supporters come out and joined us in the festivities. It was a true community event filled with warm hearts and joyful faces. A dream come true for many who for years envisioned a place like this in their hometown of Gonzales! We would like to thank everyone that made it possible – all the donors, the foundations, the USDA, the grantors, Senator Caballero and all those who contributed to the project in one way or another. Thank You to the Gonzales Youth Council for having the vision and to the Gonzales City Council for continuing to prioritize youth leadership and development, and their continued intentional efforts to support the young people of Gonzales. Thank you!!!!

The Center is now open and being run with the support of multiple partners. The Boys and Girls Club is programming the Center Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; and the City Recreation Team, Olinga Learning and others, are working to provide programming on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturday mornings.



### Electronic Billboard



Next up, we have the unveiling of our new electronic billboard. It has been constructed and thanks to PG&E has been powered up and is ready to go. It should be up and running mid-February. It's quite a sight to see if you haven't spotted it yet off the 101 heading south of the Winery.

## 5th Street Truck Ban

The Gonzales City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2019-113 preventing the passage of long-haul trucks down 5<sup>th</sup> Street towards the Industrial Agricultural Park. This effort was enacted to protect the deteriorating infrastructure and ensure the safety of pedestrians passing through that area. Signs will be posted along Highway 101 letting truckers know to take the Alta Street and La Gloria Road exits instead. Please spread the word so that truckers know the best route to use.



## Gonzales Fire Department Parcel Tax

The City Council will be considering a Parcel Tax Measure that would go out to the electors on the June 2, 2026 election to support the Fire Department's staffing and its operations at their meeting of February 17<sup>th</sup>. With costs continuing to rise, the City needs to look at other ways to sustain this essential service. Without this funding, the Department's operations would be negatively impacted and response times would be delayed, putting us all at risk. Funding generated through the measure would strictly go to the Fire Department and there would be local oversight to ensure that is the case. For more information, visit the City's website at [gonzalesca.gov](http://gonzalesca.gov).

The Gonzales Fire Department will also be hosting an open house in late February to answer questions from the public about their needs and why this is important. Be on the lookout for the date.

## Save the Date:

 <b>MARCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR</b>	
Be sure to mark your calendars and participate in a range of activities and gatherings suitable for all! Please refer to the information below for events & reminders. For questions please call <b>831-675-5000</b> .	
	<b>Kid Power After School Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>KP After School Program:</b> Last day to register for the month of March will be March 1, 2026.   Cost: \$276/ \$345 nonresident</li> </ul>
	<b>Senior Programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair Yoga:</b> Tuesday's at 9:00AM @ the Taylor Farms Health &amp; Wellness Center   Cost: FREE</li> <li>• <b>Art Class:</b> Thursday, March 12 from 9:30AM -11:30AM @ the Gonzales Police Department   Cost: FREE</li> <li>• <b>Cooking:</b> Friday, March 13 from 11:30AM-12:30PM @ the Taylor Farms Health &amp; Wellness Center   Cost: FREE</li> </ul>
	<b>Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Walk for Health:</b> Hosted by Salinas Valley Health Friday, March 20 @ 10:00-11:00AM @ Central Park. Register online: <a href="https://svmh.wufoo.com/forms/walk-for-health-in-gonzales/">https://svmh.wufoo.com/forms/walk-for-health-in-gonzales/</a>   Cost: FREE</li> <li>• <b>Zumba:</b> Hosted by Salinas Valley Health Monday, March 9 and 16 @ 6:00PM-7:00PM @ Taylor Farms Health &amp; Wellness Center   Cost: FREE</li> <li>• <b>Community Gardening Day &amp; Food Pantry Reveal:</b> Hosted by the Gonzales Youth Council at the Gonzales Community Garden   Time: TBA   FREE</li> </ul>
	<b>City Sports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mini T-Ball Ages 2 ½ - 4 - Spring 2026:</b> Registrations OPEN   Cost: \$60 / \$75 Non Resident</li> </ul>
	<b>Community Center Programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Boys &amp; Girls Club:</b> Mondays &amp; Wednesdays: 2-6PM &amp; Thursdays: 1-6PM   Cost: FREE</li> <li>• <b>Wings of Knowledge STEAM Services:</b> Tuesdays 2-6PM   FREE</li> <li>• <b>City Drop in Services for Teens:</b> Fridays: 3-6PM &amp; Saturdays: 10AM-1PM</li> </ul>
	<b>Food Distributions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Food Bank for Monterey County:</b> Every 3rd Wednesday from 9:30AM to 10:30AM at St. Theodore's Church.</li> <li>• <b>Gonzales Community Pantry:</b> 9AM every 3rd and 4th Friday of each month at the Mission Annex on 4th &amp; Day Streets.</li> </ul>
	<b>City Council Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday, March 2, 2026 @6PM and Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 6PM in the Council Chambers.</li> </ul>
	<b>Utility Due Date</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March Utility Bill is due on Tuesday, March 24.</li> </ul>