



# CITY OF HOLLISTER

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## **IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

March 18, 2026

Reacting to a New York Times article this morning, today Mayor Stephens indicated “I am deeply shocked and saddened to hear the allegations against the late Cesar Chavez. While it is disheartening to hear the allegations, I commend civil rights leader Dolores Huerta for the courage to speak out and share her story.”

Furthermore, Mayor Stephens explained “As a Latina leader in San Benito County, where the farmworker rights movement had roots, it’s imperative to recognize the seriousness of these allegations. There is no place in society for sexual abuse toward girls or women, even if those alleged crimes occurred decades ago.”

Vice Mayor De Anda is calling on Hollister and other communities to reexamine and reconsider the appropriateness of honoring Chavez moving forward, at least until there is more clarity surrounding these allegations.

The City of Hollister will call a special meeting of the Hollister city council on March 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM to discuss the naming of City facilities and roadways.

City Manager Cortez shared that the City is ready to move forward with any direction resulting from the special meeting and will ensure that its internal training on how to identify and prevent sexual harassment continues to be implemented.

For more information, Ana Cortez at (831) 537-7020.