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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Marina Removes Public Safety Hazards at Valero Gas Station

MARINA, Calif. – In late December 2024, the City of Marina removed multiple serious public safety hazards at the First Stop & Go – Valero Gas Station, located at 3044 Del Monte Boulevard. The City took these actions to protect public safety after the owner of the gas station failed to do so in a timely manner.

The gas station canopy collapsed on Nov. 25, damaging four fuel pump islands and crushing two vehicles. Despite the City’s clear and urgent communication with the owner, the public safety hazard was not addressed for several weeks. Among other issues, the City identified an urgent need to cut electricity to underground wires that were emitting sparks. Therefore, the City took action directly to protect public safety by issuing a summary abatement notice to the owner on Dec. 19.

“With the school holiday break approaching, we were particularly concerned about the potential dangers the live wires, open fuel tanks and gas lines, and piles of rubble could pose for students visiting the still-open convenience store on the property,” said City Manager Layne Long. “We could not in good conscience sit back and wait, possibly for months, for the property owner to address this ongoing public safety hazard.”

The station owner still needs to demolish and dispose of the remaining 40-foot by 50-foot, four-column gas station canopy. At this time the City does not know when the remainder of the remediation will be completed.

The City is now exploring options to inspect similar structures in Marina to ensure this collapse was a one-off event and that other structures in the area are safe.

Property owners who are interested in having the City inspect a structure similar to the collapsed canopy are encouraged to reach out to City Code Enforcement Officer Marisa Huntley at 831-884-1292 or mhuntley@cityofmarina.org.

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