



# THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

February 10, 2023

## 2023 Third Town Hall Meeting at Weaver Middle School

On Thursday, February 9th, from 6 to 8 p.m., the Merced City Council hosted its third and final Town Hall meeting at Weaver Middle School. Residents interacted with city staff by asking questions to learn about city programs and services. During the open forum, attendees shared opinions, voiced concerns, and asked questions about a variety of topics ranging from street lighting, the shopping cart ordinance, affordable housing, youth programming, Measure C, and flood and storm related questions.

Council and city staff will use feedback from each meeting during Council’s Strategic Planning Session to review and update the City’s fiscal 2023/24 Goals & Priorities.



## HazMat Training

Three City of Merced Fire Department HazMat certified members recently participated in continued training at the Castle Training Center with other County HazMat members. Each member of the HazMat team must show proficiency on an annual basis for a number of tasks. Merced City Fire HazMat members completed tasks in personal protective equipment, monitoring, manipulation of tools, and referencing technical data. The Merced City Fire Department is proud to participate in continued training with other members in the county.



## Fundraising for Special Olympics

The Merced Police Department recently received a regional fundraising award for the 2022 Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for the Special Olympics of Northern California.

Officer Krista Stokes and Sargent Jose Barajas accepted the award on behalf of Merced PD, the partners at California Highway Patrol – Merced, and everyone who worked together to accomplish the fundraising goal. All team members are looking forward to surpassing this year's goal for the 2023 LETR.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is the most significant fundraising opportunity for Special Olympics. Merced PD continues to be honored to participate.

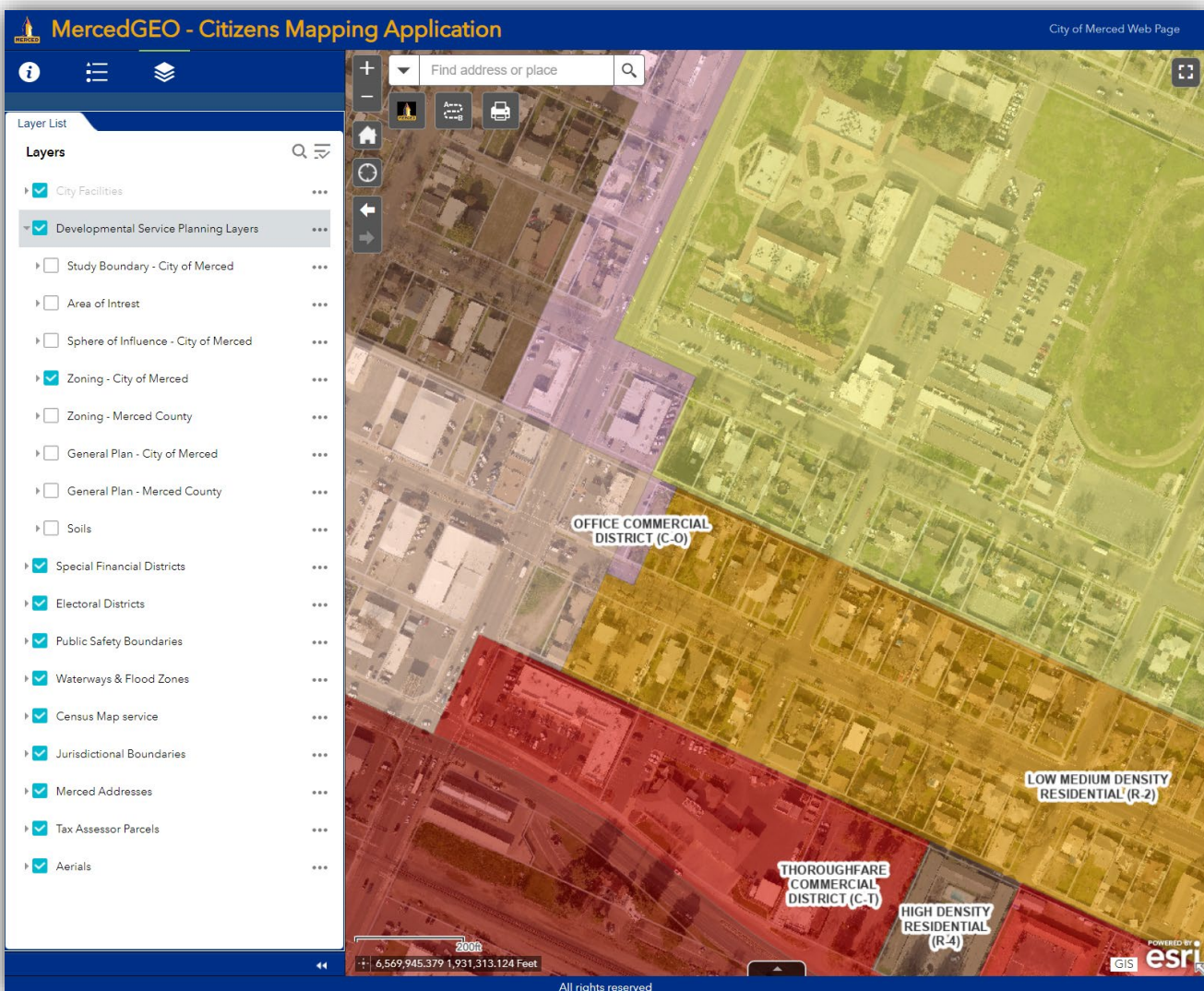
To support Special Olympics, visit [www.sonc.org](http://www.sonc.org).

## City of Merced Launches MercedGEO Mapping Application

On February 10th, the City of Merced launched the Merced GEO Mapping Application. The new application provides easy access to public information that can be accessed anytime from any device. The app offers many helpful map layers for public and developer inquiries, including public data, such as zoning, general plans, electoral districts, flood zones, and high-quality aerial imagery. In addition, MercedGEO can be accessed directly from the City webpage.

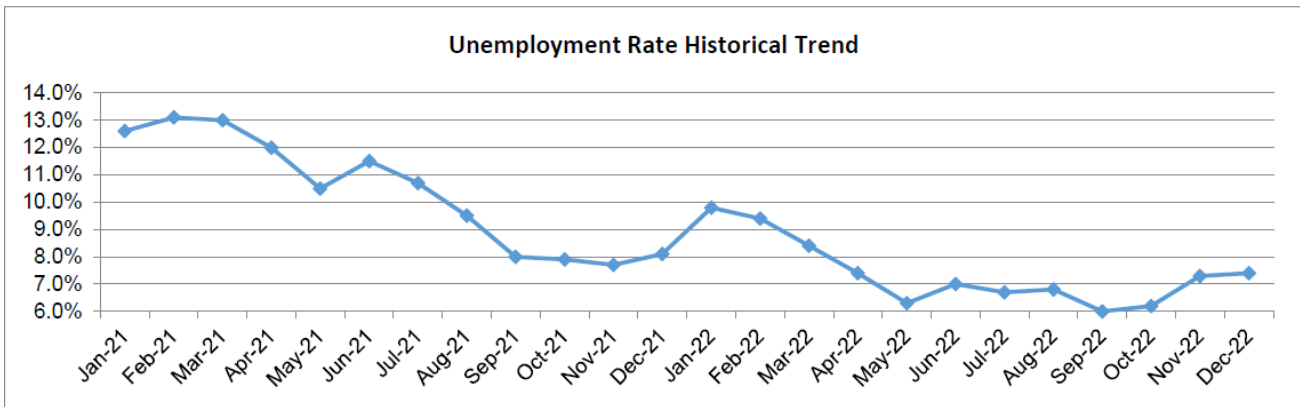
The MercedGEO app aims to provide the public with more comprehensive City related information than on other map applications.

Access the MercedGEO app through the [City of Merced](#) website under the GIS division page.



**Merced County Labor Market Information – December 2022**

The unemployment rate in Merced County was 7.4 percent in December 2022, up from a revised 7.3 percent in November 2022, and below the year-ago estimate of 8.1 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 3.7 percent for California and 3.3 percent for the nation during the same period.



**REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Flyer          | Pg. 5  |
| 2. GEO Reentry Services Graduation Flyer             | Pg. 6  |
| 3. Adult Spring Softball Registration Flyer          | Pg. 7  |
| 4. Merced Youth Softball League Flyer                | Pg. 8  |
| 5. Merced Youth Baseball Flyer - English             | Pg. 9  |
| 6. Merced Youth Baseball Flyer – Spanish             | Pg. 10 |
| 7. Tax Transparency Commission Flyer                 | Pg. 11 |
| 8. CalFresh Disaster Support Press Release – English | Pg. 12 |
| 9. CalFresh Disaster Support Press Release – Spanish | Pg. 14 |
| 10. January LMI Report                               | Pg. 17 |
| 11. PC Action Memo                                   | Pg. 19 |

# BLACK HISTORY & MLK JR CELEBRATION

# 2023

26th Year  
Anniversary  
Celebration

**FEBRUARY  
18TH**

Peace March  
Line up at Amtrak  
10am  
Peace March step off  
11am

Celebration will be held  
at the Merced Theater  
At 12pm

For more  
information  
Call us at  
(209) 421-8124



# **GEO Reentry Services Merced Day Reporting Center cordially invites you to attend our Winter 2023 Graduation Celebration.**

Please join us as we recognize the accomplishments of our program participants. We look forward to celebrating this event. Refreshments will be served.

**Wednesday, February 15, 2023 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Mondo Building  
1715 Canal Street  
Merced CA, 95340

RSVP to Krystle Dealba  
kdealba@geogroup.com or 209.723.0119



CITY OF MERCED  
**ADULT SPRING**  
**SOFTBALL**

**REGISTRATION**  
**JAN 23RD - MARCH 1ST**  
**\$550 per team**

\$275 deposit required to secure spot in the league

**MEN'S • WOMEN'S • INDUSTRIAL • COED**

**10 GAMES GUARANTEED**  
**GAMES PLAYED @ JOE HERB PARK**

**MANAGER'S MEETING**

MARCH 2ND  
SAM PIPES ROOM  
678 W 18TH ST.

WOMEN'S & COED: 5:30 PM  
MEN'S & INDUSTRIAL: 6:30 PM



MEN'S - T & W  
COED - TH  
INDUSTRIAL - FRI  
WOMEN'S - FRI

if you have any questions call 385-6235  
or email [kindavongl@cityofmerced.org](mailto:kindavongl@cityofmerced.org)

# MERCED YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

**MANDATORY FUNDRAISER:  
PIZZA FACTORY CARDS**

**IMPORTANT DATES  
DRAFT NIGHT: 2/21/23  
OPENING DATE 3/26/23**

**SPRING SOFTBALL 2023**

**\$65 T-BALL (COED)**

**\$80 FOR AGES 8-14**

Register online @  
[mercedyouthsoftball.com](http://mercedyouthsoftball.com)

FIND US ON FACEBOOK: MERCED YOUTH SOFTBALL  
LEAGUE





**REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL FEB 19**

**AGE GROUPS / COST**

4-6 Years 7-8 Years 9-10 Years 11-12 Years 13-14 Years

**SHETLAND PINTO MUSTANG BRONCO PONY**

\$70 \$70 \$80 \$80 \$90

COACHES AND ASSISTANT COACHES  
NEEDED (ALL AGE GROUPS)

**For Additional Information email:  
mercedbaseball@gmail.com**





**Inscripciones abiertas hasta Febrero 19**

### **GRUPOS DE EDAD / COSTO**

4-6 años 7-8 años 9-10 años 11-12 años 13-14 años

**SHETLAND PINTO MUSTANG BRONCO PONY**

\$70 \$70 \$80 \$80 \$90

ENTRENADORES Y ENTRENADORES  
ASISTENTES NECESARIOS  
(TODOS LOS GRUPOS DE EDAD)

Para información adicional correo electronico:  
[mercedbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:mercedbaseball@gmail.com)





# TAX TRANSPARENCY COMMISSION

## ABOUT THIS BOARD



### Roles

Review projected revenues created by voted approved sales tax (Measure C and Measure Y)



### Duties

Recommends proposed expenditures to the City Council



### Meeting

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday in February, May, August, and November at 6:00 PM

## Apply Today!

Visit [Cityofmerced.org](http://Cityofmerced.org) > Popular Links > Apply for a Board

City Clerk's Office: 678 W. 18th Street, First Floor, Merced CA 95340 | [cityclerk@cityofmerced.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofmerced.org)

# NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Social Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2023

CONTACT: (916) 657-2268

## **FOOD BENEFITS AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE IMPACTED BY RECENT STORMS**

*Disaster CalFresh Offered in Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz Counties*

SACRAMENTO — The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) today announced that individuals and families affected by the recent severe winter storms in nine counties may be eligible to receive [Disaster CalFresh food benefits](#) as part of continuing disaster recovery efforts.

A family of four with a monthly income up to \$3,130 per month may be eligible to receive up to \$939 in food benefits through this program, which is available to those who lived or worked in Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz counties between December 27, 2022 – January 25, 2023.

Those who already receive regular CalFresh food benefits will not be eligible for Disaster CalFresh.

The Disaster CalFresh program will be operated by phone, online, and in-person. Please call your local county social services offices for in-person hours or in-person assistance.

### **WHO CAN APPLY?**

Any individuals and families who lived or worked in Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz counties between December 27, 2022 – January 25, 2023, may be eligible for Disaster CalFresh food benefits if the household experienced at least one of the following as a direct result of the severe winter storms:

- At least one person in the household was not getting regular CalFresh food benefits,
- Money was spent because of the storms or related power outage,
- Money was lost from work because of the severe winter storms, or
- Money was spent because of damage to a home or business.

## HOW TO APPLY

Households may apply between February 6-10, 2023, and February 14-15, 2023, by calling their local county social services office, submitting a paper application, or submitting a pre-registration online application. In most cases, Disaster CalFresh food benefits will be available within three days of the date of a qualifying interview.

Pre-registration online applications will be available beginning February 4, 2023, and will be accepted in Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, and San Joaquin counties at [www.benefitscal.com](http://www.benefitscal.com) and in Sacramento, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz counties at [www.mybenefitscalwin.org](http://www.mybenefitscalwin.org). Applications received February 11-13, 2023, will be considered as received on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

Disaster CalFresh food benefits will be provided via an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card, which is like a debit card that can be used to purchase food items at grocery stores and other authorized retailers. If applicants are approved, their county will tell them when and where to pick up their EBT card.

On January 31, 2023, the United States Department of Agriculture approved California's request for Disaster CalFresh food benefits to enhance recovery efforts in Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz counties. The program is known nationally as the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or D-SNAP.

Additional information is available at: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/calfresh/disaster-calfresh>.

## QUESTIONS?

Clients may reach their local county social services office by calling (877) 847-3663 (FOOD) for more information. For more information about Disaster CalFresh for impacted counties, call your local county social services office:

- Calaveras: 209-754-6448
- Merced: 855-421-6770
- Monterey: 877-410-8823
- Sacramento: 916-876-4357
- San Joaquin: 209-468-1000
- San Luis Obispo: 805-781-1600
- San Mateo: 800-223-8383
- Santa Barbara: 866-404-4007
- Santa Cruz: 888-421-8080

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# COMUNICADO DE PRENSA

Departamento de Servicios Sociales de California

PARA PUBLICACIÓN INMEDIATA  
FECHA: 1 de febrero de 2023

CONTACTO: (916) 657-2268

## **BENEFICIOS DE ALIMENTOS DISPONIBLES PARA LAS PERSONAS AFECTADAS POR LAS TORMENTAS RECIENTES**

*CalFresh para desastres ofrecido en los condados de Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, St Joaquin, St. Louis, St. Matthew, St. Barbara y St. Croix*

SACRAMENTO – El Departamento de Servicios Sociales de California (CDSS) anunció hoy que las personas y familias afectadas por las recientes severas tormentas invernales en nueve condados pueden ser elegibles para recibir [beneficios de alimentos del CalFresh para desastres](#) como parte de los esfuerzos de recuperación ante desastres.

Una familia de cuatro con un ingreso mensual de hasta \$3,130 por mes puede ser elegible para recibir hasta \$939 en beneficios de alimentos a través de este programa, que está disponible para quienes vivieron o trabajaron en Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Condados de Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Bárbara y Santa Cruz entre el 27 de diciembre de 2022 y el 25 de enero de 2023.

Aquellos que ya reciben beneficios regulares de alimentos de CalFresh no serán elegibles para CalFresh para desastres.

El programa CalFresh para desastres será operado por teléfono, en línea y en persona. Llame a las oficinas de servicios sociales de su condado local para conocer el horario en persona o asistencia en persona.

### ¿QUIÉN PUEDE APLICAR?

Cualquier persona y familia que haya vivido o trabajado en los condados de Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquín, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Bárbara y Santa Cruz entre el 27 de diciembre de 2022 y el 25 de enero de 2023, puede ser elegible para los beneficios de alimentos de Calfresh para desastres, si el hogar experimentó como resultado directo de las severas tormentas invernales al menos una de las siguientes acciones:

- Al menos una persona en el hogar no estaba recibiendo los beneficios regulares de alimentos de CalFresh,
- Se gastó dinero debido a las tormentas o al corte de energía relacionado,

- Se perdió dinero del trabajo debido a las severas tormentas de invierno, o
- Se gastó dinero debido a daños en una casa o negocio.

## ¿CÓMO APLICAR?

Los hogares pueden presentar su solicitud entre el 6 y el 10 de febrero de 2023 y el 14 y 15 de febrero de 2023 llamando a la oficina local de servicios sociales del condado, presentando una solicitud en papel o presentando una solicitud en línea. En la mayoría de los casos, los beneficios de alimentos de CalFresh para desastres estarán disponibles dentro de los tres días posteriores a la fecha de una entrevista de calificación.

Las solicitudes de preinscripción estarán disponibles en línea a partir del 4 de febrero de 2023 y se aceptarán en los condados de Calaveras, Merced, Monterey y San Joaquín en [BenefitsCal](#) y en Sacramento, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Bárbara y condados de Santa Cruz en [MyBenefits CalWIN](#). Las solicitudes recibidas del 11 al 13 de febrero de 2023 se considerarán recibidas el martes 14 de febrero de 2023.

Los beneficios de alimentos de CalFresh para desastres se proporcionarán a través de una tarjeta de transferencia electrónica de beneficios (EBT), que es como una tarjeta de débito que se puede usar para comprar alimentos en supermercados y otros minoristas autorizados. Si se aprueba a los solicitantes, su condado les dirá cuándo y dónde recoger su tarjeta EBT.

El 31 de enero de 2023, el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos aprobó la solicitud de California de beneficios alimentarios de CalFresh para desastres para incrementar los esfuerzos de recuperación en los condados de Calaveras, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquín, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Bárbara y Santa Cruz. El programa se conoce a nivel nacional como el Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria en Caso de Desastres, o D-SNAP.

Información adicional disponible en: [CalFresh Disaster Response](#).

## ¿PREGUNTAS?

Para obtener más información, los clientes pueden comunicarse con la oficina local de servicios sociales del condado llamando al (877) 847-3663 (FOOD). Para obtener más información sobre CalFresh para desastres para los condados afectados, llame a la oficina local de servicios sociales de su condado:

- Calaveras: 209-754-6448
- Merced: 855-421-6770
- Monterey: 877-410-8823
- Sacramento: 916-876-4357
- San Joaquin: 209-468-1000
- San Luis Obispo: 805-781-1600

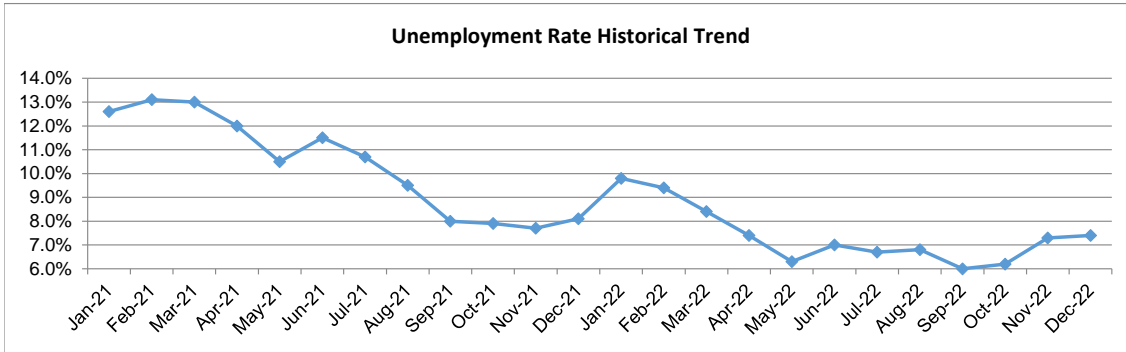
- San Mateo: 800-223-8383
- Santa Barbara: 866-404-4007
- Santa Cruz: 888-421-8080

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 MERCED METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)  
 (Merced County)

The unemployment rate in the Merced County was 7.4 percent in December 2022, up from a revised 7.3 percent in November 2022, and below the year-ago estimate of 8.1 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 3.7 percent for California and 3.3 percent for the nation during the same period.



Industry	Nov-2022	Dec-2022	Change		Dec-2021	Dec-2022	Change
	Revised	Prelim				Prelim	
Total, All Industries	88,200	85,800	(2,400)		83,600	85,800	2,200
Total Farm	15,000	13,000	(2,000)		12,900	13,000	100
Total Nonfarm	73,200	72,800	(400)		70,700	72,800	2,100
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,600	3,500	(100)		3,200	3,500	300
Manufacturing	9,600	9,600	0		9,400	9,600	200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,500	13,500	0		13,900	13,500	(400)
Information	200	200	0		200	200	0
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	0		1,900	1,900	0
Professional & Business Services	3,800	3,800	0		3,800	3,800	0
Educational & Health Services	11,100	11,000	(100)		10,600	11,000	400
Leisure & Hospitality	7,000	7,100	100		6,600	7,100	500
Other Services	1,700	1,700	0		1,600	1,700	100
Government	20,800	20,500	(300)		19,500	20,500	1,000

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality. Data may not add due to rounding  
 Labor force data are revised month to month  
 Additional data are available on line at [www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov](http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov)

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 21	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Percent Change	
			Revised	Prelim	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force (1)	114,500	117,500	116,600	115,400	-1.0%	0.8%
Civilian Employment	105,200	110,200	108,100	106,900	-1.1%	1.6%
Civilian Unemployment	9,200	7,300	8,500	8,600	1.2%	-6.5%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	8.1%	6.2%	7.3%	7.4%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	4.8%	3.8%	4.0%	3.7%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	3.7%	3.4%	3.4%	3.3%		

Total, All Industries (2)	83,600	90,100	88,200	85,800	-2.7%	2.6%
Total Farm	12,900	17,200	15,000	13,000	-13.3%	0.8%
Total Nonfarm	70,700	72,900	73,200	72,800	-0.5%	3.0%
Total Private	51,200	52,800	52,400	52,300	-0.2%	2.1%
Goods Producing	12,600	13,500	13,200	13,100	-0.8%	4.0%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,200	3,500	3,600	3,500	-2.8%	9.4%
Manufacturing	9,400	10,000	9,600	9,600	0.0%	2.1%
Nondurable Goods	7,900	8,600	8,100	8,100	0.0%	2.5%
Service Providing	58,100	59,400	60,000	59,700	-0.5%	2.8%
Private Service Providing	38,600	39,300	39,200	39,200	0.0%	1.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,900	13,500	13,500	13,500	0.0%	-2.9%
Wholesale Trade	1,200	1,200	1,100	1,100	0.0%	-8.3%
Retail Trade	8,900	8,500	8,600	8,600	0.0%	-3.4%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	0.0%	0.0%
Information	200	200	200	200	0.0%	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	0.0%	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	3,800	3,900	3,800	3,800	0.0%	0.0%
Educational & Health Services	10,600	11,100	11,100	11,000	-0.9%	3.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,600	7,000	7,000	7,100	1.4%	7.6%
Other Services	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	6.3%
Government	19,500	20,100	20,800	20,500	-1.4%	5.1%
Federal Government	700	700	600	600	0.0%	-14.3%
State & Local Government	18,800	19,400	20,200	19,900	-1.5%	5.9%
State Government	4,000	4,500	4,600	4,400	-4.3%	10.0%
State Government Education	3,400	3,800	3,900	3,800	-2.6%	11.8%
State Government Excluding Education	600	700	700	600	-14.3%	0.0%
Local Government	14,800	14,900	15,600	15,500	-0.6%	4.7%
Local Government Excluding Education	4,000	4,100	4,200	4,200	0.0%	5.0%
Special Districts plus Indian Tribes	600	700	700	700	0.0%	16.7%

**Notes:**

(1) Civilian labor force data are by place of residence; include self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding. The unemployment rate is calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Industry employment is by place of work; excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding.

These data are produced by the Labor Market Information Division of the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Questions should be directed to: Steven Gutierrez 559-230-4102 or Frances Gines 951-955-3204

These data, as well as other labor market data, are available via the Internet at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>. If you need assistance, please call (916) 262-2162.

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*City of Merced*  
**MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** February 9, 2023  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Kim Espinosa, Planning Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Actions at the Planning Commission Meeting of February 8, 2023

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At their meeting of February 8, 2023, the Planning Commission heard and found Vacation #22-04, to abandon all streets within the Paseo Subdivision to create a private, gated community at the northwest corner of Bellevue Road and G Street, consistent with the General Plan.

The Planning Commission tabled Annexation and Rezoning Application #22-01, which would annex UC Merced and Bellevue Road and pre-zone the property to “Public Facility” (P-F), at the request of the Regents of the University of California. This item will be heard at a future date.

The Commission cancelled the February 22, 2023, Planning Commission meeting due to a lack of items.

If you have any questions about these items, please feel free to contact me.

n:shared:Planning:PCMemos