



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER



*HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*

December 23, 2010

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Alan Tandy, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** General Information

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The week before Christmas is normally uneventful. This year it has been quite the opposite, due to the record rainfall which led to a gubernatorial disaster proclamation for Kern County.

City employees, at all levels and within all departments, have once again demonstrated their extraordinary ability to rise to the occasion in dealing with the difficult situation caused by the heavy rains. At the outset of the event, many of them worked continuously over the course of several days, and many have had only a few hours of sleep throughout the entire event. Their dedicated efforts effectively prevented what could have been a great deal of added damage!

Special thanks go to Raul Rojas and Brad Underwood, who led the field efforts from the Emergency Operations Center, as well as the hundreds of workers who have contributed their time and dedication to the recovery efforts.

We also take this opportunity to thank our many citizens whose lives have been disrupted this week for their patience and understanding as we continue in our work to restore their streets and neighborhoods.

## **General News**

- Since October 1949, Isabella Dam has, on four occasions, received close to the annual amount of rainfall in one month (annual average precipitation for period of 1949-2009 = 11.31"):
  - December 2010 (thru 22nd): 9.63"
  - December 1966: 11.53"
  - January 1969: 9.56"
  - February 1998: 10.60"
  
- More recognition for Mill Creek! The latest is news that Mill Creek Linear Park has been selected to receive an Award of Excellence from the California Redevelopment Association. Each year, CRA brings statewide recognition to those projects and programs which are outstanding examples of the redevelopment process that have resulted in building better communities. Mill Creek will be honored with the 2011 Award of Excellence in the Public Spaces & Linkages category. The award will be presented at CRA's Annual Conference and Expo in March.
  
- While Kern's jobless rate climbed to 15.4% (up from 14.9% at this time last year), the overall unemployment rate in California remained steady at 12.4%. Economists believe that the figures mean that things are slowly improving overall.
  
- The Police Department has secured another \$329,475 in Cal GRIP (California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention) funding. Chief Williamson reports that the monies will be used to increase prevention efforts and continue the effort to combat gang violence.

## **Miscellaneous Report**

- SMG E-zine

AT:rs:al

cc: *Department Heads*  
*Roberta Gafford, City Clerk*



# California Redevelopment Association

Redevelopment. Building Better Communities

December 17, 2010

RECEIVED  
DEC 20 2010  
City Manager's Office

Alan Tandy  
City Manager  
Bakersfield Redevelopment Agency  
1600 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 300  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Alan:

Congratulations! Your agency has been selected to receive the 2011 CRA Awards of Excellence in the Public Spaces & Linkages category for the Mill Creek Linear Park project. The award will be presented at the Awards Luncheon held in conjunction with the CRA Annual Conference & Expo on March 30 from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m. at the San Jose Convention Center.

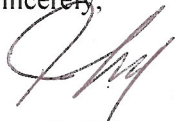
We encourage you to use this opportunity to recognize and honor your entire team, including both agency and private sector partners involved in the project. Therefore, we would like to offer a \$100 discount off the registration price to attend the three-day Annual Conference. If members of the team are unable to attend the entire conference, they are invited to attend the Awards Luncheon for \$45. Please make the above-referenced registration cost adjustments as appropriate and **note on your registration form that you are a CRA Awards of Excellence Winner.**

We are also offering your agency the opportunity to showcase your winning project during the Annual Conference. We will provide you with a 6-foot table where you may put literature or a display regarding your project and have members of your team on hand to discuss your project. In addition, extra award statuettes will be available for purchase at an additional cost. These are ideal if you would like to honor your project's developer, architect, or others. If you would like to place an order, contact Randi Dixon at (916) 448-8760.

We will contact your office soon to discuss additional materials (if needed) for the Award Video and to help make arrangements regarding your participation at the 2011 Annual Conference.

Once again, congratulations on winning a 2011 CRA Award of Excellence. This award is evidence of your contribution to "Building Better Communities" in California. We look forward to seeing you in San Jose.

Sincerely,



John F. Shirey  
Executive Director

JFS:rd

cc: Donna Kunz  
Economic Development Director



1400 K Street, Suite 204 • Sacramento, CA 95814-3916  
(916) 448-8760 • fax (916) 448-9397  
[www.calredevelop.org](http://www.calredevelop.org)

# California jobless rate stuck at 12.4%

[dkasler@sacbee.com](mailto:dkasler@sacbee.com)

Published Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010

The cash registers are ringing again this holiday, but retailers are still not convinced the recovery is for real.

They're holding off on hiring, choosing instead to have existing employees work more hours. This reluctance to add jobs is keeping unemployment sky-high in California even as most economic indicators improve.

Unemployment in the state stalled at 12.4 percent in November for the third straight month, the Employment Development Department said Friday.

A major culprit: weak holiday hiring by retailers despite strong sales reports.

All told across the economy, a net 1,600 jobs were created in California in November – a paltry sum next to the 43,200 jobs that appeared a month earlier. The October hiring mini-spree brought hope that the job market was finally kicking into gear.

Economists said the November figures don't mean the California economy is relapsing; it's just continuing to slog through a gradual, almost invisible recovery.

"It's slowly getting better. It's just so slow, it's probably hard to appreciate it," said Dennis Meyers, an economist with the state Department of Finance.

The Sacramento area's unemployment rate jumped six-tenths of a point in November, to 12.6 percent, with the region losing 2,800 jobs. A single devastating layoff at a North Highlands loan center was a key reason. But Sacramento, like the rest of the state, was also hurt by lackluster hiring by retailers.

Dimple Records is having a "very good holiday," said the retailer's co-owner Dilyn Radakovitz. But the Sacramento music chain hired just seven employees this season, which is fewer than usual. Instead, Dimple extended many of its workers' hours, Radakovitz said.

Along the same lines, Taylor's Art & Soul gift shop in Old Sacramento has seen sales improve. But co-owner Sam Taylor wasn't sure if the increase was "a nice little blip" or something more solid and sustainable.

So he and his wife held off on adding to the payroll this season.

"Like everyone else, we're waiting to hire, until we absolutely need to," he said.

The numbers also suggest Sacramento's economy remains troubled by a weak housing market and the pressures brought by the huge state budget deficit.

Sacramento "continues to lag behind the rest of the state. ... California didn't exactly post a stellar jobs report," said Jeff Michael, director of the Business Forecasting Center at the University of the Pacific.

The hiring figures may have been artificially depressed by a data-gathering problem. Some major retailers "hadn't reported all their numbers" in time, said EDD spokesman Kevin Callori. The retail sector may be in for an upward revision a month from now, he said.

And in Sacramento, the retail figures have been affected by the October fire at the Westfield Galleria at Roseville. The big mall remains one-third closed, keeping hundreds of jobs on ice.

But beyond those factors, economists and others said retailers have been very cautious about adding holiday help, even though the

shopping season is turning out better than expected.

"Retailers hired less than they normally do, for the third year in a row," Michael said. "We still haven't gotten back to that pre-crash holiday hiring."

Sacramento retailers hired just 1,800 workers in November. A typical November yields 3,100 jobs, said EDD labor market consultant Alex Alvarado.

Aside from retailing, Sacramento's job market got hammered last month by layoffs in financial services. Ocwen Financial closed its North Highlands HomeEq loan-servicing office in early November, wiping out 900 jobs. Freedom Financial, a debt-relief company, announced the layoff of 120 workers in Sacramento. Cost-U-Less Insurance of Rancho Cordova cut 91 jobs, according to state records.

All in all, a bad time for financial services.

"That's one that jumps out as certainly being an underperforming sector," Michael said.

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Call The Bee's Dale Kasler, (916) 321-1066.



## PRESS RELEASE

12/17/2010 GAAS:824:10 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Gov. Schwarzenegger Announces \$9.2 Million in Grants to Combat Gang Violence in California Communities

Continuing his commitment to combat gang violence in California, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today announced over \$9.2 million in competitive grants have been awarded to 24 cities throughout the state under the Governor's California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) initiative.

"My Administration is committed to fighting gang violence with a comprehensive approach that will keep our youth on the right track with early intervention and coordinated anti-gang efforts," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "These grants will help support California's local communities to prevent and fight gang violence, making our streets safer."

The Governor's Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy (OGYVP) received proposals from 36 cities and selected the 24 recipients through a competitive grant process. Applications were rated by expert panels on the basis of more than 20 objective factors, including the number of gang-related homicides and other crimes, demographic information and use of evidence-based practices. The expert panels were made up of representatives from sheriff, police and probation departments, local government, state grant administrators and schools and community-based organizations. In accordance with state budget language, the city of Los Angeles received \$1 million through a non-competitive grant.

"Part of the Governor's anti-gang initiative is to bring additional resources to our local communities to help combat gang violence and prevent at-risk youth from joining gangs," said Paul Seave, director of the Governor's OGYVP. "These grants will assist local anti-gang efforts, particularly those implementing strategies that have been proven to be effective."

Governor Schwarzenegger is committed to combating gang violence in California and, in 2007, introduced his CalGRIP initiative to confront the dramatic increase in gangs across the state and their proliferation in suburban and rural areas. CalGRIP combines funding from different programs and directs it towards local anti-gang efforts focused on intervention, suppression and prevention. Since CalGRIP started in 2007, grants totaling more than \$59 million in grants have been awarded to support efforts to reduce gang and youth violence including providing job training and education programs.

The grants awarded today are the fourth round of grants under CalGRIP as part of the Governor's initiative to address gang violence in a smart way at the local level. Cities are responsible for defining problems and solutions including prevention, intervention and enforcement strategies, and they must match the state's grant. Through the Governor's OGYVP, the state will work with cities to implement proven evidence-based practices. Several grantees will implement the Safe Community Partnership model that has been proven to save lives showing a 25 to over 60 percent reduction in homicides in cities around the nation such as Boston, Chicago, Indianapolis and Stockton. Many other cities will implement programs proven to reduce recidivism among high-risk youth. In order to implement these programs, cities are encouraged to partner with county agencies, educational agencies and community-based organizations.

Earlier this year, the Governor announced over \$9.2 million in the third round of competitive grants awarded to 24 cities throughout California to help combat and prevent gang violence in these communities. The Governor also joined federal, state and local law enforcement officials in Salinas earlier this year, where they announced the arrests of more than 30 gang members as part of a state, federal and local coordinated investigation into gang activity in the area.



As part of the CalGRIP initiative, the Governor announced more than \$7.5 million in grants awarded throughout the state to help at-risk youth expand their education, job training and employment opportunities. Additionally, the Governor announced \$3 million in federal stimulus money for the Bridges to Success program last March, which is designed to open career paths for youths most likely to drop out of school. The goal of the program is to help link at-risk youths with real-world jobs that offer a taste of the career opportunities available to them if they complete their education.

Below is the list of awardees that will receive a combined total of over \$9.2 million in competitive grants:

**NORTHERN COUNTIES \$502,079**

*Shasta County*

Redding \$186,981

*Sonoma County*

Santa Rosa \$315,098

**BAY AREA \$1,107,927**

*Alameda County*

Hayward \$369,309

Oakland \$369,309

*Contra Costa*

Richmond \$369,309

**CENTRAL COAST \$1,846,466**

*Monterey County*

Gonzales \$369,309

Salinas \$369,230

*Santa Cruz County*

Watsonville \$369,309

*San Benito County*

Hollister \$369,309

*Santa Barbara County*

Santa Barbara \$369,309

**CENTRAL VALLEY \$1,068,093**

*Sacramento County*

Sacramento \$369,309

*Fresno County*

Fresno \$369,309

*Kern County*

Bakersfield \$329,475

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY \$2,107,927**

Los Angeles \$1,000,000

Hawthorne \$369,309

Long Beach \$369,309

Pasadena \$369,309

**SOUTHERN COUNTIES \$2,582,508**

*Orange County*

Fullerton	\$369,309
Santa Ana	\$369,309

*San Bernardino County*

San Bernardino	\$366,654
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*San Diego County*

Chula Vista	\$369,309
Oceanside	\$369,309
San Diego	\$369,309

*Ventura County*

Oxnard	\$369,309
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**TOTAL      \$9.215 MILLION**





## **BOOKINGS**

### **Visually and Aurally Stimulating Events**

The Rabobank Arena, Theater and Convention Center hosted a smattering of events this year. Carrie Underwood sold out for the second time in a row with Sugarland not far behind; we also had the Country Throwdown, Zac Brown Band in the Country Genre. The Latin performers included: Los Tigres del Norte, Shaila Durcal, Pepe Aguilar, Joan Sebastian and Jenni Rivera. For a rockin good time you had plenty of options to choose from: Uproar Tour, Jagermeister Tour, Sublime, Paramore and Daughtry. Side splitting antics were provided by Ron White. Sporting Events were plentiful; we had two shows of WWE, CIF Basketball and Wrestling, Monster X Monster Trucks, Harlem Globetrotters and ECHL Condors Hockey. Other notable events include the Rockin Worship Roadshow, Make A Difference Tour, Hotfest 2010 featuring Ludacris, Gurdas Maan, Valentine's Super Love Jam, Disney On Ice, Yo Gabba Gabba, Beauty & the Beast, The Wizard of Oz, Rain, Cabaret, Disney Live, Camelot, The Wiggles and we will finish the year off with the Radio City Music Spectacular.

### **CIF State Wrestling & Basketball Championships**

Rabobank Arena hosted the California Interscholastic Federation Wrestling Championships; we have had this event at our facility since 2003. We are starting the bid process for 2010-2012 so hopefully we can have this wonderful event for another three years. The CIF Wrestling Championships brings in about One Million Dollars to the City of Bakersfield over the course of three days. This year we hosted the CIF Basketball Championships which like CIF Wrestling Championships bring an impressive *revenue* amount to the City of Bakersfield.

### **Brighthouse Networks Amphitheater**

We hosted 13 major events at the Amphitheater this season. Free local music night was quite popular the last Friday of each month in the summer. We also tried something new this year; a Mini-Concert Series where you can purchase dinner and have it delivered to your seat while enjoying the show. KRAB Fest was the best attended free event that has occurred at the Amphitheater with a crowd of over 5,000 people. This event featured Neon Trees, Carney, and A Day to Remember, Hawthorne Heights and Needtobreathe. Four time Dove Award Winner Natalie Grant headlined the second annual Gospel Festival in the fall and we closed the season with the last event in our Mini-Concert Series.

### **Upcoming Events**

CSUB vs. Colorado – January 2, 2011  
Condors vs. Idaho – January 7, 2011  
Condors vs. Idaho – January 8, 2011  
Grease – January 11, 2011  
Condors vs. Alaska – January 14, 2011  
Disney Live – January 14, 2011  
CSUB vs. Idaho – January 15, 2011  
Condors vs. Ontario – January 15, 2011  
CSUB vs. UC Irvine – January 19, 2011  
Monster X Tour – January 21-22, 2011  
CSUB vs. Cal State Fullerton – January 25, 2011  
ECHL All Star Game – January 26, 2011  
Jeff Dunham – January 30, 2011  
Condors vs. Ontario – February 4, 2011  
Valentine's Super Love Jam – February 11, 2011  
WWE Raw – February 13, 2011  
The Rat Pat is Back – February 23, 2011  
Harlem Globetrotters – February 28, 2011  
CIF Wrestling – March 4-5, 2011  
The Rat Pack is Back – March 31, 2011

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**DEC 21 2010**

**City Manager's Office**



## **OPERATIONS**

### **Operations**

Our main goal of 2010 was to enhance the service we provided to our guests, tenants, and other clients while continuing to find ways to reduce costs and improve efficiency. Our staff has continued to develop and succeed in these trying economic times in finding ways to enhance services but at the same time reduce costs. From a technical standpoint, we have been working on a massive lighting upgrade throughout the facility that looks promising heading into the new year. We are in the final stages of the planning which will result in approximately 50k in annual savings once the project is implemented. Through this project we hope to increase our lighting capabilities, but at the same time reduce our costs. We have also beefed up our recycling program at the facility. In only the past few months, we have diverted nearly 7,000lbs of cardboard and paper products from going into the local landfill. Our goal is to see our recycling program increase year over year.

### **Rabobank Convention Center & Theater**

The biggest project that occurred this year was repainting the entire exhibit hall. With a fresh coat of paint, we brightened the entire space and made it look decades newer. Our guests and event contacts have been more than pleased with the upgrade. We had been experiencing plumbing issues on the east side of the convention center for some time. Due to diligently attacking the problems and reporting the issues as they occurred, we were able to finally solve the problem. Our dimming system in the theater is nearly 50 years old. We recently experienced some problems with equipment failing, but we were able to acquire the parts and perform the maintenance to get the system back in working order. A few contractors who saw what we were still using were amazed that we had kept the equipment working for so many years!

### **Rabobank Arena**

When the Ice Sports Center was built a few years back we lost our back-up ice resurfacers to them. Realizing that our machine was getting older we needed a new backup machine. We were able to purchase a used machine out of Los Angeles for far lower than market value. There were some minor issues that have all been resolved. We now have a quality backup machine in case our machine or the Ice Sports Center's machine goes down.

We recently reduced our expenditures in our housekeeping department. We requested prices from all local and regional vendors. In doing so we were able to lower our overall costs. The compressors we have in our ice plant are now 12 years old. Prior to the start of the season, they were all rebuilt. We expect this to enhance our ability to draw heat from the ice surface to help us maintain a good, steady sheet of ice.

### **Ice Sports Center**

Another calendar year comes to an end and the Ice Sports Center approaches year seven! The rink hosted thousands of school children. Many first time skaters were so enthralled with skating that they signed up for hockey. The Dragons organization captured titles all over the state and our figure skating club represented us very well at competitions in southern California. Our winter playground is all ready in full swing for this year and we invite one and all to come down to enjoy the very warm festive spirit that blankets the chilly ice rink every year at this time. Happy Holidays from your friends at the rink!

# SMG E-ZINE

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Rabobank Arena, Theater and Convention Center participates every year with the American Red Cross for the CPR Saturday, this event is all day at our facility and certifies people in CPR. Other groups using the facility include the National Aids Day Candlelight Vigil, Kern County Leaders in Life Conference, Links to Life and the Alliance Against Family Violence. This year SMG, The Bakersfield Condors and Children Joining Children for Success partnered to host an event for foster children that had an impressive turnout of 3,000 children. The Bakersfield Ice Sports Center and the Arena host a 24 hour hockey-a-thon to raise money and awareness about breast cancer. Teams play 24 hours straight starting at the ice center and then switching to the arena for an all star game with local celebrities followed by a Condors Game.

When possible tickets are donated to various non-profit organizations to allow those in need to attend events. Some of those organizations include: The Police Activities League, Ebony Council and CASA. In addition, tickets were provided to local military and first responders as a thank you for their dedicated service.

Throughout the year Steve Womack was an active member in the monthly meetings of the Convention & Visitors Bureau. Ed Dorsey participated in the monthly Bob Elias Kern County Sports Hall of Fame meetings.

The Jehovah Witness Conventions were held at the Rabobank Arena this summer, for this annually occurring event each weekend has about 8,000 people in attendance.