



# City of Monterey Park News Release

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## **Monterey Park Residents and Business Owners Encouraged to Sign Up Now for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Classes**

**Monterey Park, Calif. – August 18, 2023** – The City of Monterey Park is pleased to announce that it is currently accepting applications for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training Course.

CERT is a program that educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that might impact their area and trains residents on basic disaster response skills. When a disaster such as a major earthquake strikes, emergency responders are generally focused on the most critical emergencies. Therefore, it's important for residents to have the ability to help themselves, their families and community around them leading up to and following a disaster.

The training is free to Monterey Park residents and business owners, however pre-registration is required as the class size is limited to 20 participants. Class will be held on three consecutive Saturdays – October 28, November 4, and November 11. The class will meet at 9:00 a.m. and last until 4:30 p.m. at the Monterey Park Emergency Operations Center located at 329 West Newmark Avenue.

“This is a great opportunity for residents to learn life-saving skills and basic disaster preparedness for the hazards that might impact the area,” said Captain Justin Birrell, Monterey Park CERT Coordinator.

Through classroom and hands-on experience participants in the CERT training will learn about disaster preparedness and basic response related to fire safety, disaster medical operations and light search and rescue. The course will culminate in a CERT drill, putting what participants have learned into practice.

There is no previous experience needed to participate in the training. Classes will be a combination of hands-on experience as well as lecture style, and they are designed to offer students decision-making and practical skills needed to safely assist families, neighbors and coworkers in the event of an emergency or disaster.

To register, please fill out and submit the application found at <https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/513/Community-Emergency-Response-Team>. You will be contacted to confirm your attendance in the class. For additional information, contact Captain Birrell at [jubirrell@montereypark.ca.gov](mailto:jubirrell@montereypark.ca.gov).

### **Media Contact**

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