



HCDWEBNEWS

Department of Housing and Community Development



July 13, 2018

TODAY'S NEWS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Urban Institute: How the Tax Cut and Jobs Act Puts Affordable Housing Production at Risk

By Corianne Scally, Amanda Gold and Nicole DuBois [7-11-18] // Based on our [new analysis of the National Housing Preservation Database](#), we determine that LIHTC has produced or preserved roughly 2.3 million unique units of affordable housing for eligible low-income households since 1987.

Capitol Weekly: Amid Crisis, Voters Will Confront Housing Options

By Jessica Hice [7-11-18] // As California rents and property values continue to rise, it should come as no surprise that three housing-related measures will face voters on the November ballot, targeting veterans' home loans, local rent control and housing construction for the homeless.

Capital Public Radio: Californians Tell Their Stories Of Struggling To Find Affordable Housing

By Amita Sharma [7-12-18] // (Audio) In California, an untold number of people are struggling right on the margin, just one paycheck away from living on the streets.

Bond Buyer: Berkeley Puts \$135 Million Housing Bond Before Voters

By Imran Ghori [7-12-18] // Berkeley, California, will ask city voters to support a November bond measure to provide \$135 million for affordable housing. City officials say the funds will be used to build new homes and protect existing affordable housing in the San Francisco Bay Area city.

Ventura County Star: Ventura Affordable Housing Projects Get \$1 Million Boost

By Arlene Martinez [7-12-18] // The money is coming from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, a group of banks, credit unions, insurance companies and others that fund construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

[Huffington Post: The Netherlands Plans to Build World's First Habitable 3D-Printed Concrete Homes](#)

By Senay Boztas [7-11-18] // This new technique could transform housing. The photos will provide barbecue conversation for this weekend.

LAND USE / PLANNING / REGULATION

[Planetizen: New York's "Zoning Handbook" Teaches the Intricacies of Planning](#)

By James Brasuell [7-11-18] // Amy Plitt reports that the New York Department of City Planning has released a new series of Zoning Handbooks to help laypeople understand the ins and outs of zoning in the city.

[The Planning Report: Related's Bill Witte on Rent Control & Possible Repeal by Initiative of Costa-Hawkins](#)

[6-2018] // **Bill Witte**—CEO of Related California, a major **developer** of multifamily housing in the state—expresses concern that, absent restrictions, cities might opt to expand rent stabilization to new construction or impose vacancy control, which he believes would disincentivize new construction.

HOUSING MARKETS / REAL ESTATE

[Washington Post: More Evidence of Why Trying to Save 20 Percent on a Home Down Payment Isn't Realistic](#)

By Michele Lerner [7-12-18] // It would take an average of 36 years for someone earning the median income in the District to save for a 20 percent down payment on a median-priced house, according to a recent report from U.S. Mortgage Insurers (USMI). Only Californians face a longer savings period.

MORTGAGE & FORECLOSURE ISSUES

[CoreLogic: Loan Performance Insights Report](#)

By Molly Boesel [7-10-18] // The nation's overall delinquency rate was 4.2 percent.

[The Recorder: Calif. Appellate Court Orders Governor to Return \\$330M to Fund for Distressed Homeowners](#)

By Ross Todd [7-11-18] // A California appellate court has ordered Gov. Jerry Brown [to return about \\$330 million from the state's general fund](#) to a settlement fund created to help distressed homeowners in the wake of the foreclosure crisis.

HOMELESSNESS

[The Signal: Plan to Address Homelessness Bill Endorsed by City Council](#)

By Ryan Mancini [7-11-18] // The Santa Clarita City Council has endorsed a bill authored by state Sen. Scott Wilk calling for a strategic statewide plan to address homelessness in California.

[Las Vegas Sun: Las Vegas Homeless Are Finding Steady Jobs, Thanks in Part to This Foundation](#)

By Mick Akers [7-12-18] // William Mitchell lost his manufacturing job in California and was evicted from his house. He moved to Las Vegas for a fresh start.

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT

[New York Times: Declaring War on Poverty ‘Largely Over,’ White House Urges Work Requirements for Aid](#)

By Jim Tankersley and Margot Sanger-Katz [7-12-18] // President Trump’s Council of Economic Advisers report contends that millions of Americans have become overly reliant on government help — and less self-sufficient — and provided data intended to support the administration’s goal of tying public benefit programs more closely to work.

[University of Minnesota: Access Across America: Transit 2017](#)

By Michael McCarthy [7-2018] // The 2017 edition of *Access Across America: Transit* reports that 42 of the 49 largest metros showed increases in job accessibility by transit.

[Press-Enterprise: 36 percent of Inland Empire Families Struggle to Stay Afloat Financially, Report Says](#)

By Gregory Bradbard [7-11-18] // According to a study recently released by the United Ways of California, one in three households in California struggle to meet their basic needs each month. The report, titled “[Struggling to Stay Afloat](#),” measures the estimated cost of supporting a family based on county-specific expenses across the state.

TRANSPORTATION / TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

[CityLab: Electric Double-Decker Buses Are Coming to L.A.](#)

By Claire Tran [7-12-18] // These two-tiered buses will cross between the San Gabriel Valley and the city of Los Angeles, with the intent of alleviating the region’s infamous traffic by doubling passenger capacity with a lighter environmental footprint.

REDEVELOPMENT / INFILL / REVITALIZATION

[Next City: Competing Public Visions over Large Vacant Lot in South Los Angeles](#)

By Alejandra Molina [7-13-18] // In the 20 years Rosalind Farr has been living in South Los Angeles, she has seen investments and improvements materialize in surrounding cities while her own neighborhood remains the same.

[San Francisco State University: State Cap-and-Trade Program Not Benefitting Disadvantaged Communities](#)

By Lisa Owens Viani [7-10-18] // But a [newly published study](#) by San Francisco State University, the University of California, Berkeley and others comparing emissions before and after the program began in 2013 found that disadvantaged communities are not yet benefitting — and have actually seen an increase in pollutants.

[L.A. Sentinel: L.A. County Gets \\$40 Million for Housing and Infrastructure](#)

By Jennifer Bihm [7-12-18] // “Accessible, affordable housing is the glue that keeps communities together,” said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, in light of a recent grant to Los Angeles County for affordable housing.

[Bakersfield.com: Opportunity Zones Provide Chance to Increase Private Investment in Our Community](#)

By Anna Smith [7-11-18] // (Opinion) A large portion of Bakersfield has been specially designated by the federal government, which allows private investors to receive reductions in capital gains taxes. We should seize this opportunity.

[Yuba.Net: Nevada County Recipient of \\$3,196,396 in Community Development Block Grants](#)

By HCD [711018] // Californians who live in smaller and rural communities across the state will soon benefit from \$61.5 million in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). “The CDBG program is a flexible instrument that allows us to help smaller cities and counties create jobs, homes, services, and businesses,” said Ben Metcalf, Director of HCD. “HCD is proud to award these funds to communities that have the need and desire to make critical improvements, but often lack the necessary resources to turn their plans into reality.”

[NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS](#)

[WBUR: Can Gentrification Be a Good Thing?](#)

By Linda Wertheimer [7-13-18] // (Audio panel discussion) Gentrification, is a dirty word for a lot of people, but there are some upsides when the better-off newcomers come in. Is there a way to make it work for everyone?

[Bay State Banner: Chinatown Residents Battle Gentrification in Historic Row Houses](#)

By Saphia Suarez [7-12-18] // The planned changes on Johnny Court are emblematic of changes that have ripped at the fabric of the once-insular immigrant community in Boston’s Chinatown community. Now ringed by luxury high rise condo buildings, the row houses remain one of the last bastions of relatively affordable housing in the neighborhood.

[Next City: Can NYC’s Affordable Housing Co-Ops Survive the Next Big Storm?](#)

By Emily Nonko [7-11-18] // On an early morning in June, Ana Ruiz guided a team through her brick apartment building to conduct a “**resiliency audit**” — essentially a building check-up to analyze everything that may be affected by New York’s next major storm.

DEMOGRAPHICS / QUALITY OF LIFE

NCSHA: Children's HealthWatch Study Finds Avoidable Health and Education Costs Incurred Due to Unstable Housing

By Katelynn Harris [7-11-18] // Children's HealthWatch recently published a brief addressing two questions: What are the health care and education costs of unstable housing? and Which policy solutions could create stable homes for healthier families?

ENVIRONMENT / CLIMATE CHANGE

Santa Cruz Sentinel: California's Fire Season Is off to the Worst Start in 10 Years

By Paul Rogers [7-10-18] // Through Monday morning, 196,092 acres have burned across the state since Jan. 1 — an area seven times the size of San Francisco and more than double the average by July 9 of the previous five years.

NOVA: California Cuts Emissions as Its Economy Booms

By Kelsey Tsipis [8-12-18] // According to [data released this week by the California Air Resources Board](#), California hit a major milestone in its fight against climate change ahead of schedule. In 2016, the state's greenhouse gas emissions dropped 2.7%, reaching levels last seen in 1990. It was a target set during former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's administration that the state had hoped to hit in 2020.

Center for Biological Diversity: 26 Climate Scientists Urge Gov. Brown to Phase Out California Oil Extraction

By Shaye Wolf [7-12-18] // Twenty-six prominent climate and environmental scientists sent a [letter](#) to California Gov. Jerry Brown today calling for a halt to new oil and gas projects and a fair plan to phase out all fossil fuel extraction in the state.

Inertia: California Beaches Predicted to Erode "31 percent to 67 percent" by 2100

By Dylan Heyden [7-11-18] // Up and down the California coast, city planners and state officials will be faced with a serious decision to make in the coming decades. According to a [recent study](#), if left unabated coastal erosion is likely to shrink beaches by upwards of 70 percent under sea-level rise scenarios of one to two meters.

COVERAGE INFORMATION:

California Department of Housing & Community Development WEB NEWS service coverage:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week includes electronic format articles retrieved from newspapers or news services that report housing and community development news in California and some national services. Coverage is for California newspapers

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