



HCDWEBNEWS

Department of Housing and Community Development



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TODAY'S NEWS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

[CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT: L.A.'s worsening housing affordability leading to overcrowding](#)

By Nadine Ono // Closing the affordability gap in housing has become a huge economic issue for many Californians just trying to live in certain communities, let alone being able to join the workforce there. Just ask Brent Smith. "You've got to get housing first in order to do anything," said Smith, who works as an advocate at Skid Row Housing Trust, a nonprofit that provides permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty in downtown Los Angeles.

[HOUSING WIRE: Affordability squeeze threatens ongoing growth in California](#)

A California cooling effect could put a freeze on nationwide appreciation and a sustained housing recovery, according to the latest report from Clear Capital. Since 2012, the churn of California price appreciation has buoyed the West, and helped support nationwide appreciation. But data through September 2015 reports cooling price appreciation across the state.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

[APPEAL DEMOCRAT: Program helps residents have a hand in their new home](#)

By Chris Kaufman // Until a few months ago, Sendy Gonzalez didn't know how to use a hammer. Now she lives in a house she helped build. Gonzalez, 25, and her husband, Aciel Gonzalez, 27, with their 1-year old son, Alonzo, are one of nine families moving into homes they helped build through the Community Housing Improvement Program, or CHIP.

[URBAN LAND INSTITUTE: Constraints and creativity shape affordable housing for seniors in Oakland, California](#)

By David Baker and Daniel Simons // In the first two weeks after Lakeside Senior Apartments in Oakland opened its application process for residency last year, more than 2,400 applications poured in. Constructed to house very-low-income and formerly homeless seniors, the building had just 91 units to offer. Rental rates across the Bay Area have shot up in recent years, as many people who are priced out of San Francisco seek to live across the bay.

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT

MERCED SUN STAR: Merced economy improving; forecast calls for growth

By Thaddeus Miller // Merced's economy is showing signs of recovery, with recent figures pointing to improved housing prices and employment rates, although the city has a long way to go to bounce back from the recession and the bursting of the real estate bubble.

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL: California job growth seen slowing, homes less affordable: UCLA forecast

Economists at UCLA Anderson School of Management foresee healthy growth for the nation's economy over the next two years, but California will likely experience a slowdown in employment growth. In UCLA Anderson's California forecast report, Senior Economist Jerry Nickelsburg estimates total employment will grow 2.7 percent in 2015, 2.2 percent in 2016 and 1.4 percent in 2017.

NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS

CNBC: Housing today: A 'bubble larger than 2006'

By Diana Olick // Home prices are gaining steam again, fueled by tight supply amid growing demand. Nationally, home prices were nearly 7 percent higher in August compared to a year ago, according to a new report from CoreLogic. That is a bigger annual gain than we saw during the spring market in May and June. Other monthly reports have shown the same phenomenon.

ENVIRONMENT / CLIMATE CHANGE

REALTY TODAY: California dense and air-polluted according to RealtyTrac Study

Compared to other markets in the US, California's luxury real-estate markets may not be desirable in terms of air quality, according to an analysis of data from the Environmental Protection Agency. On the other hand Luxury markets in Hawaii spearhead some of the best. The study conducted by RealtyTrac involved 1,229 ZIP Codes with an average home price of at least \$500,000 and at least 1,000 homes and condos. Housing data was covered with readings from the EPA's air-quality guide.

COVERAGE INFORMATION:

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

Tuesdays and Thursdays 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 that are available electronically via the Internet – and any significant related breaking news.

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