



HCDWEBNEWS

Department of Housing and Community Development



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TODAY'S NEWS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

[Los Angeles Times: California Governor: We're Not Spending More on Low-income Housing Because It's Too Expensive to Build](#)

By Liam Dillon [1-10-17] // Gov. Jerry Brown delivered the same message on housing in his new state budget that he did last year: California's primary problem is that it's too expensive to build here. "We've got to bring down the cost structure of housing and not just find ways to subsidize it," Brown said in a news conference Tuesday where he unveiled the budget.

[California Housing Partnership Corporation: HCD Director Says California Will Further Fair Housing Despite Trump](#)

By Dan Rinzler [1-10-17] // The federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 has for half a century required the State of California and other federal grantees to affirmatively further fair housing by reducing segregation and increasing access to opportunity for racial minorities and other protected classes under the Act. Last year HUD created a new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule to better enforce this duty and to provide technical guidance to grantees...

[Rooflines: The Real Social Engineering Ben Carson Needs to Address](#)

By Gregory Squires [1-5-17] // HUD is the nation's primary enforcer of the Fair Housing Act. This is one obligation Ben Carson will assume if he is confirmed as HUD secretary. But in his defense of Carson, *Wall Street Journal* columnist James L. Riley [points to long disproven tropes](#) about the causes of the financial crisis and longstanding patterns of racial segregation often trotted out by industry apologists. Once again, we see HUD's legal obligation to enforce the Fair Housing Act misrepresented as the cause of the recent financial crisis with the words "social engineering" on their head as Riley misreads the nation's metropolitan map.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

[Sacramento Business Journal: Brown Revisits Plan to Increase Housing Construction Statewide](#)

By Allen Young [1-10-17] // In releasing a state spending plan for the next fiscal year, Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) revisited efforts to increase new housing through

legislation that would streamline permitting and create incentives for local governments to meet housing goals. The plan released Tuesday is far less specific than a permit-streamlining proposal floated by the administration last year.

LAND USE / PLANNING / REGULATION

Los Angeles Times: L.A. Politicians Propose Banning Campaign Contributions from Developers

By David Zahniser and Emily Alpert Reyes [1-10-17] // al estate developers have long been a pivotal part of political fundraising at Los Angeles City Hall, bankrolling the campaigns of mayors, [City Council](#) members and other elected officials.

East Bay Times: San Ramon: Court Ruling Favoring 'Mello-Roos' Tax Will Stand

By Sam Richards [1-9-17] // The state Supreme Court has declined to hear an appeal of an October decision that this city can lawfully require a special tax district for residents of a planned condominium project to pay for police, streets and other city services, ending 2½ years of legal action over the matter.

HOUSING MARKETS / REAL ESTATE

GlobeSt: The Case for Investing in Affordable Housing

By Erika Morphy [1-11-17] // As the flood of capital drifts more toward core opportunities, significantly lower pricing and more attractive opportunities exist on the B and C communities. This means higher yields. Investing in affordable housing communities is an excellent move because the demand is skyrocketing.

MORTGAGE & FORECLOSURE ISSUES

CoreLogic: CoreLogic Reports 26,000 Completed Foreclosures in November 2016

[1-10-17] // National foreclosure inventory is down 30 percent from November 2015.

HousingWire: HUD Charges Bank of America with Lending Discrimination

By Ben Lane [1-6-17] // The **Department of Housing and Urban Development** announced Friday that it is charging **Bank of America** and two of its employees with discriminating against Hispanic mortgage borrowers.

New York Times: Flurry of Settlements over Toxic Mortgages May Save Banks Billions

By Landon Thomas, Jr., and Jack Ewing [12-23-16] // European banks have rushed to cut deals with prosecutors over longstanding claims that they pushed toxic mortgage securities in the years before the financial crisis.

HOMELESSNESS

New York Times: Rights Battles Emerge in Cities Where Homelessness Can Be a Crime

By Jack Healy [1-9-17] // (Video and text) Denver: Condos and townhouses are rising beside the weedy lots here where Randy Russell once pitched a tent and

unrolled a sleeping bag, clustering with other homeless people in camps that were a small haven to him, but an illegal danger in the eyes of city officials. ... Many people take shelter just beyond city limits to avoid the police.

[Sacramento Bee: Homeless Tent City Pushed by Sacramento Councilman Despite Mayor's Concerns](#)

By Anita Chabria and Ryan Lillis [1-10-17] // Councilman Allen Warren is asking the city Tuesday to consider suspending or modifying its ban on urban camping to allow for homeless encampments near his North Sacramento district. ... Warren said he has two sites in mind that could be used for homeless encampments.

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT

[Sacramento Bee: Jerry Brown Braces for Budget Changes under Trump: 'It's Going to Be a Rough Ride'](#)

By Jim Miller and Christopher Cadelago [1-10-17] // California Gov. Jerry Brown, warning about the double-barreled fiscal risk posed by Republican-controlled Washington and an impending economic downturn, presented a \$177.1 billion proposed budget Tuesday that assumes the state will take in billions of dollars less than lawmakers previously estimated.

[ABC: Brown, Legislature Differ Sharply on California Budget](#)

By Jonathan J. Cooper (AP) [1-10-17] // Always at odds when it comes to the budget, the Democratic governor and the Democratic Legislature are particularly far apart this year as they embark on six months of spending negotiations amid uncertainty about federal funding under the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump.

[Los Angeles Times: California's Budget Deficit Is Back, Gov. Jerry Brown Says](#)

By John Myers [1-10-17] // Less than four years after declaring California's budget balanced for the foreseeable future, Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) on Tuesday said the state is projected to run a \$1.6-billion deficit by next summer — a noticeable shift in the state's fiscal stability that could worsen under federal spending cuts championed by President-elect [Donald Trump](#).

[San Francisco Chronicle: Ending Obamacare Would Mean Huge Hit to California Budget](#)

[1-10-17] // (Editorial) How does California draw up a state budget when Washington Republicans may yank away billions in revenue? That's the biggest what-if question for Gov. Jerry Brown as he sketches an early season spending plan.

TRANSPORTATION / TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

[Urban Land Institute: New Report Asserts Transit Oriented Development Provides Fiscal Benefits for Local Governments](#)

[1-10-17] // ULI Washington in conjunction with ULI Baltimore and the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. Transit-Oriented Development Product Council today released a new report, [Fiscal Impacts of Transit-Oriented Development Projects](#). The

study of nearly 10,000 TOD and nonTOD apartment units within the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. metropolitan region concluded that transit-oriented development (TOD) is a responsible fiscal choice for local governments and can save them money.

REDEVELOPMENT / INFILL / REVITALIZATION

Turlock Journal: Turlock Seeing Increasing Development through Infill Projects

By Kristina Hacker [1-3-17] // As Turlock heads into 2017, residential development is on the rise; however, the large, new subdivisions that have dominated building in the past are being replaced with more infill projects.

Builder: Brandywine Homes Announces Its Third Infill Townhome Development in Norwalk, Calif.

By Mary Salmonsén [1-3-17] // Castella's 21 townhomes will add entry-level housing near Los Angeles and other job center.

NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS

Novogradac & Company: What You Need to Know about the FY 2017 Income Limits

By Thomas Stagg [12-19-17] // The income limits could be released as early as February but will likely be released again in mid- to late-March. We do have some preliminary information that makes us think that on a national level both 2017 and 2018 should see strong income limit growth.

Next City: New Petition Seeks to Block Ben Carson from Becoming HUD Secretary

By Rachel Dovey [1-10-17] // A group of experts and public officials who work on issues like fair housing and homelessness in cities [released an open letter](#) Tuesday urging the U.S. Senate to decline to confirm Carson as HUD Secretary. The letter has [more than 300 signatures](#)...

ENVIRONMENT / CLIMATE CHANGE

Los Angeles Times: Weeks of Rain Are Rapidly Reviving California's Drought-ravaged Lakes

By Louis Sahagun, Matt Stevens and Paige St. John [1-11-17] // (Video and text) Leaning against a wooden rail, environmentalist Geoffrey McQuilkin took stock of a parched geological wonderland—Mono Lake—that had been altered by a weekend deluge. Similar scenes were playing out at lakes and reservoirs across Northern California as weeks of heavy rain and snow brought them back to life.

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

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