July 29, 2019

TODAY’S NEWS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
San Diego Union-Tribune: Seniors Start Moving into Affordable Housing Complex
By Julie Gallant [7-25-19] // Seniors 62 and older who qualify for housing assistance are beginning to move into the Schmale Family Senior Residence at 430 16th St. in Ramona. With a total of 62 units, including a manager’s unit, there are 50 one-bedroom and 12 two-bedroom units.

Modesto Bee: Modesto Has Severe Housing Shortage. Here’s How and When All the Problems Started.
By Ken Carlson [7-22-19] // Modesto added over 12,000 residents in the past decade, as well as 800 new dwellings. The city needed five times that amount to meet demand.

Mission Local: 60-unit Housing Development on 14th Street Approved — Even as Neighborhood Negotiations Crumble
By Julian Mark [7-26-19] // A seven-story, 60-unit housing project on 14th Street between Woodward and Stevenson, across the street from the Armory, cleared a major hurdle Thursday as the San Francisco Planning Department voted 5-1 to let it move forward.

Mercury News: Housing Project Set to Sprout in Downtown San Jose
By George Avalos [7-29-19] // A mixed-use complex that will include 100 new homes is set to begin construction soon near San Jose’s convention center.

San Bernardino Sun: 98 Apartments Coming to Bloomington’s Affordable Housing Community
By Sandra Emerson [7-28-19] // San Bernardino County is moving forward with the next phase of its mixed-use affordable housing community on Valley Boulevard.
Press Democrat: Golis: Why Fewer People Will Be Living in Single-family Homes
By Pete Golis [7-28-19] // (Opinion) As Minnesota and Oregon actively address their housing crises, California debates solutions.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
San Francisco Chronicle: North Bay Modular Housing Factory Expands as Developers Rush to Bring down Costs
By J.K.Dineen [7-27-19] // Mare Island’s Factory OS plans to open a new factory early next year at a nearby 107,000-square-foot warehouse. Modular construction has the potential to save a renter $338 a month on a 900-square-foot Bay Area apartment project, according to a 2017 Terner Center report.

LAND USE / PLANNING / REGULATION
Tahoe Daily Tribune: California Tahoe Conservancy Evaluating Land Parcels in Meyers for Possible Future Uses
[7-26-19] // The public is invited to join a tour of the properties, referred to as “asset lands,” at 9 a.m. on Aug. 21.

Mountain View Voice: Housing Advocates File Suit against Los Altos for Blocking Project
By Kevin Forestieri [7-28-19] // Downtown project sought streamlined process under new by-right housing law SB 35.

HOUSING MARKETS / REAL ESTATE
Sacramento Bee: California Wildfire Insurance Is in Crisis. And the Real Estate Market Is Suffering
By Dale Dasler and Ryan Sabalow [7-29-19] // (Video and text) Insurance companies are not renewing clients. Available policies, at triple the current premiums, are pushing people out of their homes and sales transactions out of escrow.

Bloomberg: Black Homeownership Falls to Record Low as Affordability Worsens
By Prashant Gopal [7-25-19] // The rate of 40.6% is the lowest in data going back to 1970. With the rate for whites rising to 73.1%, the racial gap is growing.

MarketWatch: This City Has the No. 1 Most Stable Housing Market in the Country
By Jacob Passy [7-25-19] // A new study examined the staying-power of home prices across the U.S. Buying a home in Boulder, CO, is still the safest bet.
Yahoo Finance: Southern California Home Sales See Record Drop in Prices, Hamptons Not Far Behind
By Brittany De Lea (FOX) [7-27-19] // According to recent research from data analytics company CoreLogic, about 20,790 new homes and condos were sold during the month of June in San Diego, Los Angeles, Ventura, San Bernardino and Orange counties. That is a decline of 6.9 percent from the month prior and a drop of 8.8 percent from the same period last year.

HOMELESSNESS
LAHSA: FY2019 COC Program NOFA
[7-26-19] // The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition. There is approximately $2.3 billion available nationally in the NOFA Competition.

San Francisco Chronicle: Bayview Parking Lot Chosen as Site for 200-Bed SF Navigation Center
By Dominic Fracassa [7-29-19] // San Francisco officials are eyeing a Caltrans-owned parking lot in the Bayview district as the site for a 200-bed Navigation Center intended to help address the escalating homelessness crisis on the city’s southeast side.

San Francisco Chronicle: More and More Californians Are Old, Sick and on the Streets. Here’s How We Can Fight Senior Homelessness.
By Margo Kushel and Kevin Prindiville [7-28-19] // (Opinion) In the early 1990s, 11% of homeless single adults in San Francisco were 50 and older. In 2003, 37% were. Now, the numbers are much worse. Recent projections found that the number of homeless people 65 and older will triple by 2030.

NBC: Stuck in the Smoke, Homeless Prepare with Nowhere to Shelter
By Miles Furuichi [7-28-19] // Medford, OR: In just three short days the air quality around the Rogue Valley has taken a dive into unhealthy territory. Those with no shelter make due with masks.

San Francisco Chronicle: A Ticket out of Town
By Trisha Thadani [7-29-19] // For one man, a three-day bus ride back to Iowa around 2014 ended with him being homeless again, just somewhere different and much cheaper, though now he’s living in a trailer. For another, the bus ticket to Missouri in 2012 may have saved his life, reconnecting him with his family, who gave him a place to live.

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT
Sacramento Bee: Unemployment in Sacramento Region, California Ticks up in Latest Jobs Report
By Jaimie Ding [7-19-19] // The Sacramento-area unemployment rate stands at 3.8 percent as of June, up from last month’s record low of 3.1 percent in May. It is still below the unemployment rate of one year ago at 3.9 percent, mirroring the nation’s unemployment rate of 3.8 for the same period.
TRANSPORTATION / TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT
Planetizen: A Complete Streets Building Spree in Philadelphia
By James Brasuell [7-22-19] // Philadelphia has a busy schedule of complete streets projects in the works. The city has a goal of building 20 miles of protected bike lanes by 2020.

REDEVELOPMENT / INFILL / PRESERVATION
Planetizen: Rethinking Downtown Streets in a Revitalizing Pittsburgh
By James Brasuell [7-23-19] // With $5.2 billion of investment in the past 10 years, and another $3.5 billion in the development pipeline, Pittsburgh planning organizations are considering ways to rethink the streets of the city’s downtown.

NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS
KTVB: Treasure Valley Housing Crisis: 19,050 More Homes Needed by 2021
By Katie Terhune and Joey Prechti [7-24-19] // The Boise City Metropolitan Statistical Area will need to add 4,000 new apartment units and 15,050 new single-family houses in order to keep up with expected population growth.

Multifamily Housing Executive: Census Reports on New Housing for 2018
[7-15-19] // The U.S. Census Bureau was out Thursday with the 2018 Characteristics of New Housing Report, which shows number of units and details about single-family and multifamily housing types, sizes, and infrastructure.

FAIR HOUSING
FOX: Oakland Landlords May Be Forced to Clean up Their Act
By Brooks Jarosz [7-26-19] // Many of the people living in deplorable conditions say they are afraid to complain to their landlords for fear they could end up homeless. Unlike many major California cities, Oakland has no current program to proactively inspect rental properties.

DEMOGRAPHICS / QUALITY OF LIFE
CALmatters: California Migration: The Story of 40 Million
By Judy Lin and Adria Watson [7-29-19] // Wondering what the next generation of Californians will look like? Answer: Like this generation, only more so. We won’t just be racially diverse, but racially mixed. And in that picture, there’s a hint at America’s future, too.

CityLab: What the Fear Campaign against Immigrants Is Doing
By Sarah Holder [7-25-19] // Even “secure” households say they’re afraid of interacting with immigration enforcement, limiting their mobility and use of public space. ICE raids have kept people from church, school, and the doctor. Many avoided driving and reporting crimes.

ENVIRONMENT / CLIMATE CHANGE / NATURAL DISASTERS
CNET: For California’s Redwoods, Climate Change Isn't All Bad
By Kent German [7-29-19] // Among some of the tallest trees in the world, warmer temperatures are making for faster growth than ever before.
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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