



HCD WEB NEWS

California Department of Housing and Community Development

February 3, 2010

TODAY'S NEWS

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

PASADENA NEWS STAR: El Monte Transit Village loses another federal grant – by Rebecca Kimitch // A \$1 billion project to redevelop the area around the El Monte bus station has lost millions more federal dollars as the original redevelopment proposal continues to unravel. The El Monte City Council recently voted 4-1 to cancel a \$2.5 million federal grant for a green building planned at the proposed El Monte Transit Village.

http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_14321480

LAND USE / PLANNING / REGULATION

EUREKA TIMES STANDARD: Eureka votes to set \$2 million reserve for budget, extended housing element hearing – by Donna Tam // Although the Eureka City Council members agreed on setting a \$2 million operating reserve for the budget, there was contention on putting a limit on public safety cuts.

http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_14323398

PALO ALTO ONLINE: Palo Alto sued over controversial development – by Gennady Sheyner // A developer who wants to build 84 apartments and a research-and-development facility on Page Mill Road has filed a federal lawsuit against Palo Alto, claiming that city officials are illegally stifling the controversial project.

http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show_story.php?id=15591

SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS TIMES: S.F. may allow taller buildings on Cesar Chavez – by J.K. Dineen // The San Francisco Planning Department is considering rezoning a number of large Mission District parcels along Cesar Chavez Street to allow denser housing. The plan came into focus this year as a less controversial alternative to raising height limits near BART stations along Mission Street.

<http://sanfrancisco.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/stories/2010/02/01/story8.html?b=1265000400%5E2804471>

HOUSING MARKETS / REAL ESTATE

LOS ANGELES TIMES: Index of pending home sales up – by Alejandro Lazo // Contracts for home purchases in December eked out a gain over the prior month, according to data out Tuesday, one sign that the U.S. housing market might muddle through in the coming months following a huge December sales plunge.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-home-sales3-2010feb03,0,6287980.story>

MORTGAGE & FORECLOSURE ISSUES

CONTRA COSTA TIMES: Stimulus housing plan slow to take shape – by John Simerman // A year into a \$6 billion federal program to buy up, rehab and sell abandoned properties in hard-hit neighborhoods, the bulk of the first \$40 million in Bay Area grants remains unspent.

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_14319500?nclick_check=1

HOMELESSNESS

PRESS ENTERPRISE: City Council urged to approve emergency resolution allowing homeless shelter – by John F. Hill // collection of homeless advocates and church leaders urged the Murrieta City Council to allow an emergency homeless shelter in the city. Council members were set to decide late Tuesday on an emergency resolution that would allow a temporary shelter to open in the city.
http://www.pe.com/localnews/rivcounty/stories/PE_News_Local_W_sshelter03.471d673.html

SACRAMENTO BEE: Sacramento homeless man goes home with long lost daughter – by Cynthia Hubert // No one thought it would be easy. Richard Nary has moved in with his daughter and her family in a small town in Wisconsin, 35 years after leaving his wife and children, sinking into alcoholism and living on the streets of Sacramento.
<http://www.sacbee.com/topstories/story/2509103.html>

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT

OAKLAND TRIBUNE: NUMMI supplier to cut 321 jobs – by George Avalos // The job losses for Northern California companies that supply the soon-to-close NUMMI auto plant now top 1,400 workers, with East Bay manufacturer Johnson Controls the latest to shed jobs. Livermore-based Johnson Controls Inc. will close its doors this year and eliminate 321 jobs at its production center, according to an official company filing with state and local officials.
http://www.insidebayarea.com/top-stories/ci_14318824

REDEVELOPMENT / INFILL / REVITALIZATION

THE DAILY JOURNAL: Transit village plan worries residents – by Michelle Durand Eastside San Carlos residents, worried a proposed mixed-use transit village around the existing Caltrain station will color their quality of life, turned out before the Planning Commission Monday night to plead that if the plan proceeds it should at least mitigate concerns over views, noise and parking.
http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=124216

THE PRESS ENTERPRISE: Temecula weighs land deals – by Jeff Horseman // Temecula soon may be buying and selling land on the city's western end, including property owned by a developer who wanted to build a Western-style entertainment complex in the late 1990s.
http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_W_slant02.45f2009.html

FRESNO BEE: Housing agency bids for withered downtown building – by Sanford Nax // Fresno Housing Authorities has offered to buy the deteriorating Droge building in downtown Fresno in a deal brokered by city officials. The 1920s-era structure at Van Ness Avenue and Inyo Street is one of the biggest eyesores downtown, an area where Mayor Ashley Swearengin has promised to focus her revitalization efforts.
<http://www.fresnobee.com/local/story/1806205.html>

SALINAS CALIFORNIAN: Salinas City Council, developer square off – by Mike Hornick // The Salinas City Council's decision to terminate its negotiating rights agreement with Salinas Renaissance Partners prompted expressions of support and

protest on behalf of the developer Tuesday, which in turn drew blunt responses from council members.

<http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20100203/NEWS01/2030308/1002/Salinas-City-Council-developer-square-off>

PRESERVATION / CONSERVATION

SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE: State is first in eco-friendly building codes – by Mike Lee // Even as the construction business continues to struggle, San Diego contractor Russ Earnshaw is embracing a landmark set of environmental codes in California that will raise the cost of new buildings, create more government oversight and increase industry competition once green practices become the norm.

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/feb/03/state-is-first-in-eco-friendly-building-codes/>

NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS

ASSOCIATED PRESS: Stocks gain as signs of life in housing // Signs of strength in the housing market pushed the Dow Jones industrial average to its second straight gain of more than 100 points. An increase in the number of people with contracts to buy homes and the first profit at homebuilder D.R. Horton in three years raised hopes that one of the weakest parts of the economy is improving.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-markets3-2010feb03,0,6855900.story>

POPULATION

SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL: Census Bureau relies on locals to promise “it’s safe” – by J.M. Brown // When diners devour a carnitas plate next month at Delicia's, they might wipe their mouths on an urgent public service message. "Did you turn in your questionnaire?" -- written in English and Spanish -- will be stamped along with the U.S. Census 2010 logo on white paper dinner napkins used by the taqueria. The city, which used a \$3,000 grant from the Census Bureau to pay for the napkins, will distribute them to 10 local restaurants in an effort to encourage residents who are immigrants, migrants or homeless to complete the national survey by April 1.

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_14322399

GOVERNMENT SITES:

California Dept. of Finance – Governor’s Budget

http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Historical_Documents.asp

California Dept. of Housing & Community Development - Press Releases

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/>

California Dept. of Housing & Community Development – Housing Policy Development Bibliographies

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/biblio.html>

California Dept. of Housing & Community Development – HCD Web News

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/news/index.html>

California Housing Financing Agency

<http://www.calhfa.ca.gov/>

California Tax Credit Allocation Committee

California Dept. of Housing & Community Development
Housing Policy Development Division (2/3/2010)

<http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/ctcac/>

California Debt Limit Allocation Committee

<http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cdlac/>

HUD Newsroom

<http://www.hud.gov/news/>

Fannie Mae Foundation- KnowledgePlex

<http://www.knowledgeplex.org/>

Federal Register, Today's Table of Contents

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/fr-cont.html

Federal Register, Year 2008 Recent Table of Contents

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/frcont08.html

U.S. Census Bureau

<http://www.census.gov/main/>

California Supreme Court Decisions / California Courts of Appeal Decisions (last 100 days are posted in full text)

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/>

COVERAGE INFORMATION:

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

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 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.

(C) Copyright 2008, California Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Housing Policy Development.

Links to web sites do not constitute an endorsement from The California Department of Housing and Community Development. These links are provided as an information service only. It is the responsibility of the user to evaluate the content and usefulness of information obtained from these sites. HCD does not provide full text articles – user must access expired articles via newspaper archives online or local public library.