

AROUND THE COUNTY



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San Diego City Council Passes Moratorium On Evictions

KPBS – 03/17

The San Diego City Council voted to support a temporary moratorium on evictions for residents and businesses in the city. It also ratified Mayor Kevin Faulconer's state of emergency declaration.

"Work is slowing down and businesses are closing their doors," Faulconer said at a news conference after the council vote. "As jobs disappear, rents do not. This relief is incredibly important."

San Diego Food and Retail Workers Could Face Nation's Highest Rent Burden

Times of San Diego – 03/26

San Diego-area renters who work in food and retail industries could find themselves spending more than 55% of their annual income on housing costs if they are unable to work for two months due to the

COVID-19 pandemic, a Zillow study found Thursday.



Photo by Zoe Meyers / INNEWSOURCE

Inside the County's Rush to Amass Motel Rooms

Voice of San Diego – 04/01

County officials have scrambled in the past month to amass more than 2,000 hotel rooms for potential coronavirus patients and vulnerable homeless San Diegans to try to lessen the burden on local hospitals as the pandemic escalates.

The county considers the rooms throughout the region, most of which now sit empty, a crucial component of the local response to a pandemic – and Gov. Gavin Newsom has praised county leaders for rapidly securing them.



Ontario building 176 units of affordable housing

[Daily Bulletin -03/16](#)

Last month, Ontario cut off applications for its first affordable housing development under a new program after attracting 739 applicants for 75 apartments. That leaves about 10% who are lucky enough to be moving into Emporia Place when the complex is completed in May, a snapshot that tells the story of demand easily outstripping supply. With the expectation of more low-income residents seeking cheap housing, the city is building another affordable housing project, a 101-unit project under construction near Holt Boulevard and Virginia Avenue, off Nocta Street. The project is being built on 4.2 acres for \$36 million. Vista Verde Apartments will open in December. Applications will be accepted starting in August.

Coronavirus Creates Openings for Affordable Housing

[LA Progressive -04/01](#)

No major urban population drop is projected so that the acute jobs/housing imbalance will resume. More families than ever will need affordable homes

But the financing outlook for private development has changed. And this gives cities and affordable housing developers new opportunities that must be seized.

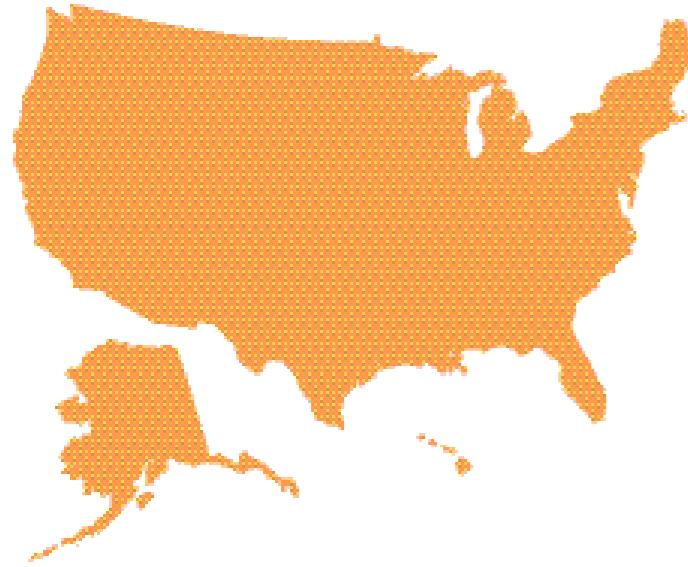


Photo by Mimi Chakarova

SF Department of Public Health curbs construction and prohibits the use of recreation areas

[Mission Local - 03/31](#)

Exceptions are provided for healthcare projects directly related to the pandemic, construction for the homeless, affordable housing construction and mixed-use developments with 10 percent or more of income-restricted units.



America's housing system was radically unprepared for coronavirus

Vox- 03/25

The US had a severe housing affordability crisis long before coronavirus hit. In 2018, close to half of all renters spent more than a third of their income on rent. Home prices are rising faster than wages in roughly 80 percent of American metro regions. Rural America has seen steep increases in housing costs — as well as in the number of households spending at least half of their income on housing. And all this was before we began seeing record numbers of businesses shuttering and workers being laid off in the wake of Covid-19.

Will Affordable Housing Maintain Stability in This Downturn?

Globe St - 03/30

Affordable housing is well known for maintaining stability during an economic recession. Data shows that the asset class has better occupancy and more stable rents during past recessions, making affordable housing a recently popular investment class for investors.



Photo of Iowa Street Senior Housing in North Park, San Diego

The Coronavirus Outbreak Presents Unique Housing Challenges for Seniors

NextCity- 03/31

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown every aspect of society into disarray. But for seniors, who can be particularly vulnerable to the disease, the outbreak presents particularly thorny challenges to staying healthy and well-stocked with supplies while maintaining a sense of community with neighbors and families. In co-housing communities like Village Hearth, community rituals are central, with residents' homes placed closed together and designed around common spaces. Often, co-housing residents come together for meals in a common kitchen. Village Hearth would be the perfect place to ride out the pandemic shutdown, McAulay says.