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WEEKEND EDITION
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Builders Remedy destroys local control

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

16 large-scale projects proposed in Santa Monica will dwarf nearly every other development in the city. These projects violate every zoning code, height restriction, and neighborhood norm. There is no way to stop them. Despite having closed the loophole that allowed these massive developments, the City Council voted on Tuesday to risk reopening it despite staff warnings.

The meteoric development boom bearing down on Santa Monica continues unabated with applications moving forward for 16 large projects that far exceed local building restrictions.

These projects, one exceeding the size, height and scope of the controversial Plaza project (4th, 5th/ Arizona) and the highly contentious Bergamot Village project are now entirely outside local control. However, as plans are being drawn up to construct 4,656 new housing units, the Santa Monica City Council continues to roll the dice with its housing rules. This gamble, revising already approved housing plans, could expose the City to the wrath of state regulators who could give developers carte blanche to build as tall and as wide as they choose.

In recent weeks, the City Council discussed three ideas that could jeopardize local control over development. In two of the three instances, Council voted to ask state regulators if their ideas would in fact void local zoning rules. In the third case, a 4-3 majority voted to downsize potential housing developments on Main Street despite warnings that doing so could put the City in conflict with state required housing rules.



Courtesy photo

HOUSING: The 15 story development planned for 601 Colorado.

THE HOUSING ELEMENT

The entire controversy stems from the city's Housing Element and the requirement for the city to plan for housing growth.

Every eight years, California officials determine how much housing should be built to meet the needs of residents statewide. The total figure is allocated to regions who then assign a number to individual cities. Each city must then adopt policies and procedures that would allow developers to build the assigned total or face penalties.

In the current cycle, Santa Monica was assigned 8,874 new housing units, 69% of which must be at various affordable income levels. The new figures dwarf the previous allocation of 1,674 units. When Santa Monica officials failed to adopt plans that met the state's requirements, they quickly learned the penalties for non-compliance were far more severe then in years past.

In past reporting, SMDP looked at how the failures came to pass.

1. Local decision makers, including the City Council and several Commissioners, were ignorant of the challenge they faced, gravity of the report, and penalties for failure.
2. After nearly a year of discussions, the initial plan was weakened.
3. Staff presented explanations about the process, warnings and potential problems.
4. Those warnings were either misunderstood, poorly communicated or outright ignored.
5. The State of California rejected the city's Housing Element.

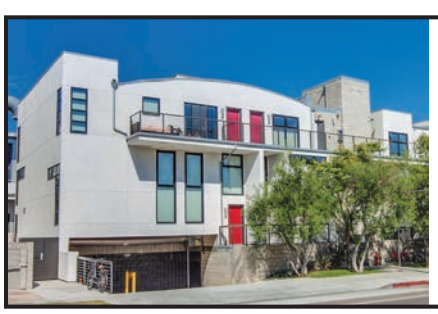
At that point, local developers pounced on what is colloquially known as the Builder's Remedy applying for 16 projects containing 4,562 housing units in buildings up to 18 stories tall.

THE BUILDER'S REMEDY

Housing laws have included the "Builder's Remedy" since 1990. When a project is at least 20 percent affordable to low-income households or 100 percent affordable to moderate-income households, it can bypass city zoning codes and general plans.

The complex nature of the laws and a lack of enforcement mechanisms prevented the

SEE **BUILDERS** PAGE 8



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Another strong storm likely for California next week

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Confidence was growing Friday in the likelihood of another strong storm arriving in soggy, snow-laden California early next week, forecasters said.

The outlook for more winter-like weather increased as the state turned windy and cold, with residual rain and mountain snow showers in the aftermath of the most recent storm. The next one was expected to arrive Monday.

"All the threats we've been mentioning for the March Storms so far will still be in play next week ... downed trees, power outages, flooding, rises in creeks/streams," the San Francisco Bay Area weather office wrote.

California has been battered by storm after storm since late December.

States of emergency have been declared in 43 counties. As of Thursday, more than 700 people were being housed in 16 shelters in eight counties, according to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

On the central coast, Monterey County authorities lifted evacuation orders Thursday for the agricultural community of Pajaro which was flooded by a river levee breach earlier this month. Authorities warned that there was no potable water and the sewer system remained out of service.

Residents found mud, debris and ruined possessions.

"This is not livable," 18-year-old Adrian Perez told the San Francisco Chronicle as he helped his parents clean their apartment.

> "All the threats we've been mentioning for the March Storms so far will still be in play next week ... downed trees, power outages, flooding, rises in creeks/streams
>
> - San Francisco Bay Area weather office



Matthew Hall

STORM: A downed tree in Santa Monica on Friday morning following heavy rain and wind earlier in the week



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Gonzaga beats UCLA 79-76 in Sweet 16 on Strawther's shot

JOHN MARSHALL
Associated Press

Gonzaga and UCLA played one NCAA Tournament game that left the Zags' star player bawling, and another game that stunned the Bruins.

Add another to the list. Maybe the maddest one in March yet.

Julian Strawther hit a 3-pointer with 7.2 seconds left to answer a 3-pointer by UCLA's Amari Bailey, lifting Gonzaga to a wild 79-76 win over UCLA Thursday night in the Sweet 16.

> "Every game, try not to get too high, try not to get too low"
> - Jaime Jaquez

"It's moments like that you can't make up," said Strawther, a Las Vegas native. "Those are literally the moments you dream of. To even make a shot like that in March Madness and just to be back home in Vegas is like the cherry on top."

The Bruins (31-6), the West Region's No. 2 seed, stormed back from an eight-point deficit in the final 1:05 and took a 76-75 lead on Bailey's 3-pointer with 12.2 seconds left.

The Zags (31-5) brought the ball up the floor and Strawther stepped into a 3-pointer after a drop pass from Hunter Sallis, sending Gonzaga fans to their feet.

"As soon as it came off, it looked like it was on line," Strawther said.

The Zags still had to sweat it out.

Gonzaga's Malachi Smith stole the ball from UCLA's Tyger Campbell, but Strawther only hit 1 of 2 free throws at the other end, giving the Bruins a chance.

Campbell's 3-pointer at the buzzer hit the back of the rim, sending the Zags rushing off the bench and into the Elite Eight against UConn on Saturday while leaving the Bruins disappointed again.

"Every game, try not to get too high, try not to get too low," said UCLA's Jaime Jaquez, who had 29 points and 11 rebounds. "He hit a big shot and we lost."

Strawther's shot was reminiscent of the one Villanova's Kris Jenkins made off a drop pass to clinch the 2016 national championship — a shot that came after North Carolina's Marcus Paige hit an off-balance 3-pointer with 4.7 seconds left.

There's a reason it looked familiar.

"That's Jay Wright's play that he used in Villanova-Carolina, the championship," Gonzaga coach Mark Few said. "That's what we call it. He makes it all the time."

It also is the latest chapter in what's become the best West Coast rivalry in college basketball.

UCLA got the better of the teams' first NCAA Tournament go-around, rallying from 17 points down to send the Zags out of the 2006 bracket and star Adam Morrison to the floor crying.

Jalen Suggs crushed the Bruins the last time, hitting a running 3-pointer at the buzzer to send the Zags to the 2021 national championship game.

"I can't even describe what he did. It's crazy," Gonzaga's Drew Timme said of Strawther's game-winner. "It's just like that Jalen shot, man."

Timme had 36 points for his record 10th NCAA Tournament game with 20 points.

The flurry of a finish started off more like a prize fight, each team taking its turn landing blows in a game of wild swings.

UCLA led by 13 at the half, but went on an 11-minute field goal drought as Gonzaga went up by 10 with 2:40 left. The Bruins took their rally turn and retook the lead, but left Gonzaga with too much time on the clock.

"We should have been tighter on Strawther," UCLA coach Mick Cronin said. "We were the whole game. We just weren't on that play. If we were tighter then he couldn't have looped behind."

Timme kept Gonzaga in it during UCLA's torrid first half and Gonzaga's porous first-half defense tightened in the second, giving them a seven-point lead with 53 seconds left.

Jaquez brought the Bruins back in his final college game.

The Pac-12 player of the year scored on a three-point play and a layup to cut it 74-71 with 45 seconds left. Timme then missed two free throws, setting up Bailey's shot.

Thankfully for the Zags, Strawther was on the mark with his long 3-pointer and Campbell was off the mark on his, sending Gonzaga to the Elite Eight for the fifth time under Few.

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WINNER

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City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2739 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA TO CONFIRM THE APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN ZONING AND HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS TO WIRELESS FACILITIES SUBJECT TO SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 9.32

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2739 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2739 (CCS) ("the Ordinance")

The Ordinance is an Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance that confirms the City's intention, in accordance with Federal law, to limit zoning regulation of personal wireless service facilities to the provisions of Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapter 9.32, Personal Wireless Service Facilities, and exempt "over the air reception devices" ("OTARDs") from zoning regulations while expressly requiring compliance with applicable public health and safety regulations.

Ordinance Number 2739 (CCS) was adopted on March 14, 2023, and became effective immediately upon its adoption. The ordinance will expire 60 days from its effective date, unless extended by the City Council in accordance with Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.46.090(C).

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2738 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 9.10.040 ELIMINATING THE PROHIBITION ON FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS IN ESTABLISHMENTS WITH FRONTAGE ON THE THIRD STREET PROMENADE

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2738 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2738 (CCS) ("the Ordinance")

The Ordinance is an Interim Zoning Ordinance that eliminates the provision in Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.10.040 that prohibits fast food restaurants with 1) more than 150 locations nationwide; and 2) characteristics including, but not limited to, orders placed at a walk-up window, counter, or machine; payment prior to food consumption; and food served with disposable, one-time, or limited-use wrapping, containers, or utensils, in establishments with frontage on the Third Street Promenade.

Ordinance Number 2738 (CCS) was adopted on March 14, 2023, and will become effective 30 days after its adoption. The ordinance will expire 60 days from its effective date, unless extended by the City Council in accordance with Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.46.090(C).

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

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California ends some water limits after storms ease drought

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom ended some of the state's water restrictions on Friday because a winter of relentless rain and snow has replenished the state's reservoirs and eased fears of a shortage after three years of severe drought.

He also announced local agencies that supply water to 27 million people and many farmers would get much more from state supplies than originally planned. But Newsom did not declare an end to the drought, warning much of the state is still suffering from its lingering effects.

> Are we out of the drought? Is the drought over in the state of California?
> - Gavin Newsom California Gov.

"Are we out of the drought? Is the drought over in the state of California?" Newsom said. "I want to affirm your instinct that it should be, it feels like it is. It is — and continues to be — complicated. And I know that's disappointing for some because it would be nice to have a governor say the drought is over."

Newsom said he would stop asking people to voluntarily cut their water use by 15%, a request he first made nearly two years ago while standing at the edge of a nearly dry Lopez Lake in the state's Central Coast region — a lake that today is so full from recent storms it is almost spilling over. Californians never met Newsom's call for that level of conservation — as of January the cumulative savings were just 6.2%.

The governor also said he would ease rules requiring local water agencies to impose restrictions on customers. That order will impact people in different ways depending on where they live. For most people, it means they won't be limited to watering their lawns on only certain days of the week or at certain times of the day. Other restrictions remain in place, including a ban on watering decorative grass for businesses.

Newsom could ease restrictions in part because state officials said California's reservoirs are so full they will more than double the amount of drinking water cities will get this year compared to a previous allocation announced last month. Water districts that serve 27 million people will get at least 75% of the water they requested from state supplies. Last year, they only got 5% as California endured three of the driest years ever since modern recordkeeping began in 1896.

"Is the drought over? Are we going back to normal? I would say no," Wade Crowfoot, Newsom's secretary of the California Department of Natural Resources, said Thursday. "It's really adjusting to a new normal, and that is intensifying extremes — what the governor has called 'weather whiplash.'"

Three years of little rain or snow have depleted reservoirs to the point the state couldn't generate electricity from hydroelectric power plants. It dried up wells in rural areas and state officials had to truck in water supplies for some communities. And it reduced the flow of the state's major rivers and streams, killing off endangered species of fish and other species.

But since December, no less than 12 powerful storms have hit California, packing so much rain and snow that meteorologists call them "atmospheric rivers." These storms have flooded homes, closed ski resorts and trapped people in mountain communities for days with no electricity, prompting emergency declarations from President Joe Biden.

Amid all that carnage, water has steadily poured into the state's reservoirs. Of California's 17 major reservoirs, 12 of them are either at or above their historical averages for this time of year.

And more water is coming. Statewide, the amount of snow piled up in the mountains is already 223% above the April 1 average — the date when the snowpack is typically at its peak. Most of that snow will melt in the coming months, flowing into reservoirs and posing more flooding threats downstream.

Newsom did not declare an end to the drought on Friday, even though the U.S. Drought Monitor reported this week that much of the state — including the major population centers along the coast and farmland in the Central Valley — are not in drought.

Water shortage concerns remain for some areas of the state, including a sizeable chunk of Southern California that relies on water from the Colorado River — a basin that remains in drought. In the north part of the state, portions of the Klamath River basin are still listed as in "severe drought."

"We want to avoid this thought that it's a back to normal situation, because again, in a lot of places, it simply isn't," Crowfoot said. "We need to move beyond this idea that we use water in a traditional way, and then when there's a drought we conserve water."

California doesn't have enough room in its reservoirs to store all of the water from these storms. In fact, some reservoirs are having to release water to make room for new storms coming next week and snowmelt in the spring. That's why the Newsom administration has given farmers permission to take water out of the rivers and flood some of their fields, with the water seeping back under ground to refill groundwater basins.

Friday, Newsom made his drought announcement at one of those projects, a farm in the community of Dunnigan, off of Interstate 5 about 37 miles northwest of Sacramento. State officials hope projects like these will replenish some of the groundwater that was pumped out during the drought.

Much of West Coast faces ban to fish salmon amid low stocks

JULIE WATSON AND LISA BAUMANN
Associated Press

As drought dried up rivers that carry California's newly hatched Chinook salmon to the ocean, state officials in recent years resorted to loading up the fish by the millions onto trucks and barges to take them to the Pacific.

The surreal and desperate scramble boosted the survival rate of the hatchery-raised fish, but still it was not enough to reverse the declining stocks in the face of added challenges. River water temperatures rose with warm weather, and a Trump-era rollback of federal protections for waterways allowed more water to be diverted to farms. Climate change, meanwhile, threatens food sources for the young Chinook maturing in the Pacific.

Now, ocean salmon fishing season is set to be prohibited this year off California and much of Oregon for the second time in 15 years after adult fall-run Chinook, often known as king salmon, returned to California's rivers in near record-low numbers in 2022.

"There will be no wild-caught California salmon to eat unless someone has still got some vacuum sealed last year in their freezer," said John McManus of the Golden State Salmon Association.

Experts fear native California salmon, which make up a significant portion of the Pacific Northwest's fishing industry, are in a spiral toward extinction. Much of the salmon caught off Oregon originate in California's Klamath and Sacramento rivers. After hatching in freshwater, they spend three years on average maturing in the Pacific, where many are snagged by commercial fishermen, before migrating back to their spawning grounds, where conditions are more ideal to give birth. After laying eggs, they die.

Already California's spring-run Chinook are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, while winter-run Chinook are endangered along with the Central California Coast coho salmon, which has been off-limits to California commercial fishers since the 1990s.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council, the authority responsible for setting ocean salmon seasons off the Pacific coast, is expected in early April to formally approve its proposed closure of Chinook fishing along the coast from Cape Falcon in northern Oregon to the California-Mexico border.

Recreational fishing is expected to be allowed in Oregon only for coho salmon during the summer and for Chinook after Sept. 1. Salmon season is expected to open as usual north of Cape Falcon, including in the Columbia River and off Washington's coast.

Though the closure will deal a blow to the industry that supports tens of thousands of jobs, few are disputing it.

"We want to make sure they are here for the future," said third-generation fisherman Garin McCarthy, who described catching a Chinook as "magical."

McCarthy, whose entire income last year came from salmon fishing off both California and Oregon, has had to invest thousands of dollars in equipment to fish other species like rockfish, halibut and black cod.

"We're all scrambling to try to make our boats do something different," he said. "We're all salmon trollers. That's what we do. That's what we live for."

Glen Spain, executive director of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, said he believes the ban might need to be in place for two or three years to bring back sustainable stocks after many fish died in 2020, the start of a record-dry period.

The Chinook already faced challenges, with dams blocking their historic retreats to the chilly upper reaches of Northern California's Sacramento River and the Klamath River along the California-Oregon border. Decades of development have disrupted the natural flow of rivers and polluted waters.

In 2020, the Trump administration ended federal protections for millions of waterways, allowing for more water to be pumped out of the Sacramento River Basin for farming despite warnings from biologists that it could harm salmon runs in the future.

Fishers say river water temperatures increased with the diversions for irrigation, killing more eggs and hatchlings and preventing the stocks from bouncing back amid the drought.

"This one ain't on us," said Bob Maharry, 68, a lifelong San Francisco-based fisherman. "This has nothing to do with overfishing. This is poor management of water."

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife said the estimated number of adult fall Chinook expected to return to spawn in the Sacramento River this year is less than 170,000, one of the lowest forecasts since the current assessment method began in 2008. Fewer than 104,000 fall Chinook are likely to return to the Klamath River, the second lowest estimate since 1997.

In 2021, a judge determined the Trump administration improperly limited federal protections and restored them to a narrower 1986 standard. The Biden administration is expected to expand the protections in 2024.

Some are banking on the unusually wet winter to bring relief. Record rain and snowfall since late last year have freed two-thirds of California from drought. But too much water could also flush out eggs and hatchlings.

Businesses tied to salmon want the government to declare the situation a federal disaster so they may receive aid. As the market shrinks, more restaurants turn to farm-raised salmon, while gear suppliers stop stocking the proper equipment to fish Chinook.

"Not everybody is going to make it out of this type of a closure unfortunately," said Andy Giuliano, who owns Fish Emeryville, a bait-and-tackle shop and booking service for 16 charter boats that offer salmon fishing trips to tourists in the San Francisco Bay area. "It's a real stress test on the industry."

Eric Schindler, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's ocean salmon project leader, said he "was not expecting it to be this drastic," assuming the year would bring restrictions but not a full closure for most of Oregon.

Jeff Reeves, who has been salmon fishing from the Coos Bay, Oregon, area since the 1970s and is also a member of the Oregon Salmon Commission, said he plans to fish rockfish, black cod and maybe tuna. Later this year he plans to target coho salmon from Oregon, which is doing well enough to be

SEE **SALMON** PAGE 8

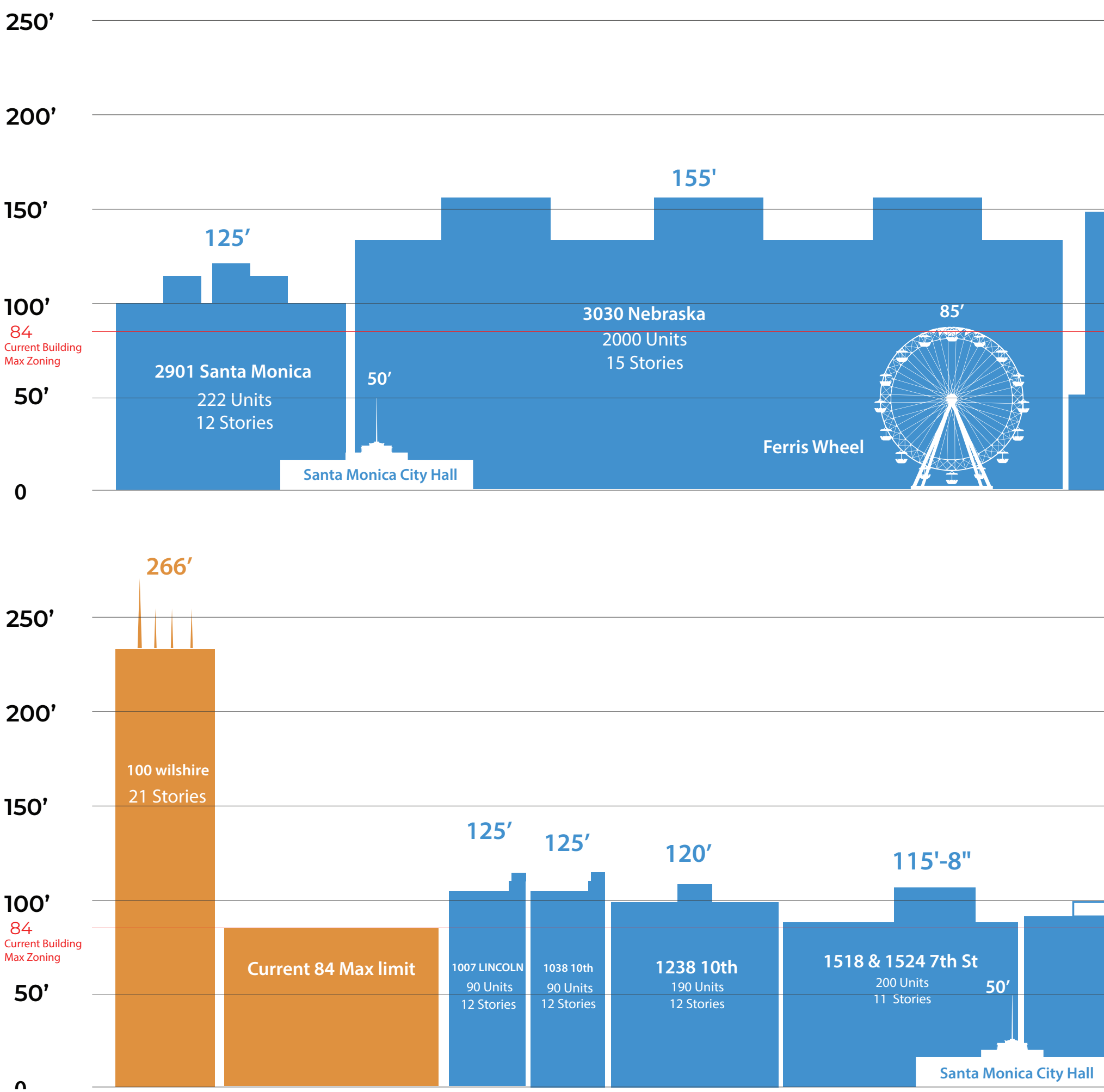
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16 new developments coming t

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to Santa Monica in perspective

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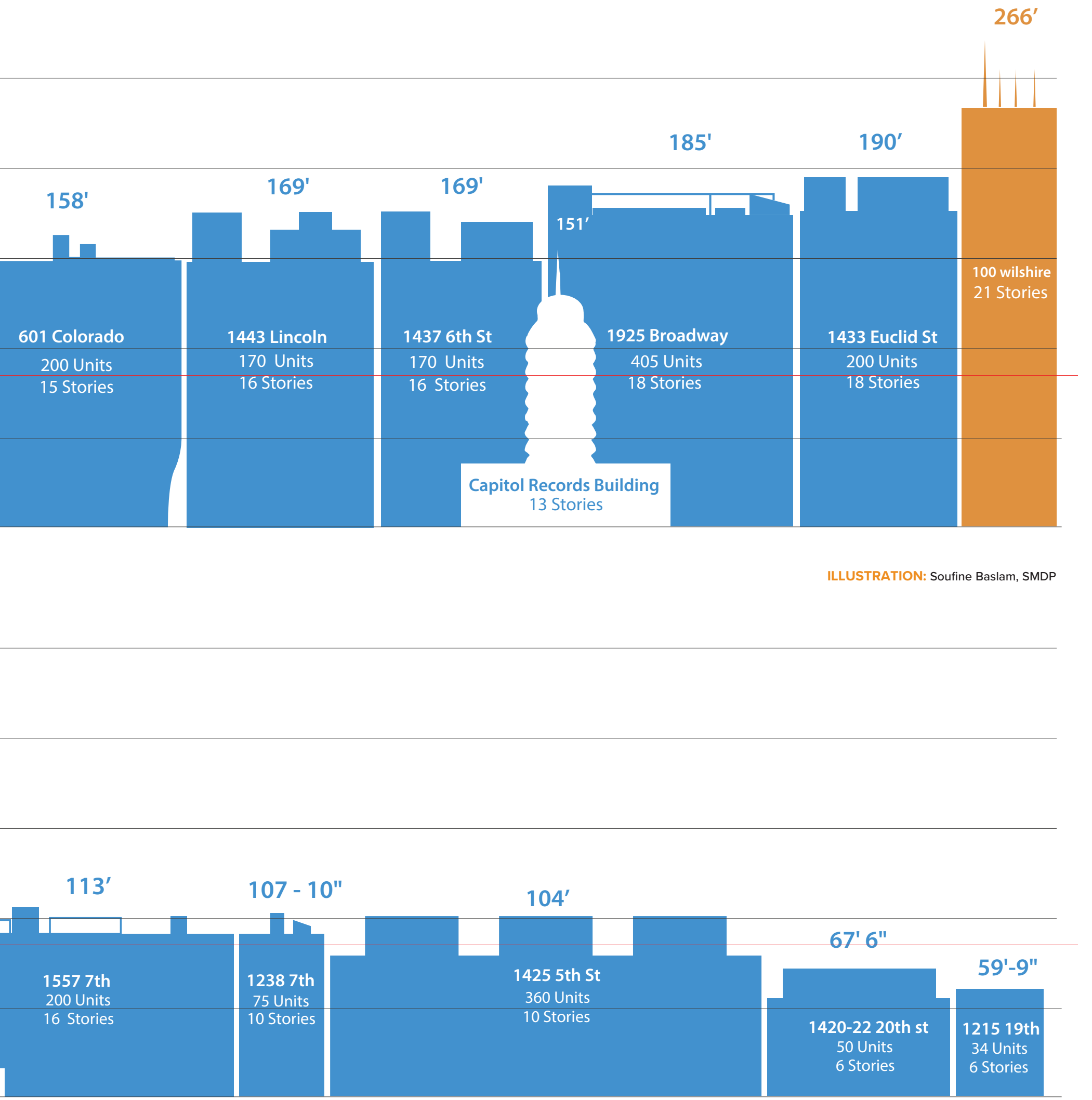


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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm **LOCATION** 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

BUILDERS

FROM PAGE 1

provision from being used for decades.

"Since 1980, California has had an ambitious planning framework on the books to make local governments accommodate their fair share of 'regional housing need' 'for all income levels,'" said an analysis by a group of University of California experts (Christopher S. Elmendorf, Eric Biber, Paavo Monkkonen and Moira O'Neill) in a 2019 analysis of the law. "The framework relied, however, on a rickety and complicated conveyor belt for converting regional housing targets into actual production. Superintending the conveyor belt was an administrative entity, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), whose rules had no legal effect, and whose judgments about the adequacy of a local government's housing plan received virtually no deference from the courts."

Historically, a non-compliant element had little impact on a city. The authors explain that several seemingly modest changes to laws over two years converged and radically strengthened HCD's authority. The authors said the legislature increased HCD's ability to require analysis of potential development sites, assess capacity for housing and honestly evaluate potential constraints. In addition, lawmakers enacted stricter compliance tests and stronger penalties for noncompliance.

"Put these (and a few other) pieces together, and it becomes apparent that administrative interventions that would have been beyond the pale just a few years ago are live options today," the group said.

Fast forward a couple of years and Santa Monica became the testing ground for those now "live options."

THE GAMBLE

City Hall regained control of its zoning rules by adopting a compliant housing element; however, to maintain control, City Hall must adopt the state-approved policy and program changes. Since those discussions began in recent weeks, Council has asked the state to reduce some proposed upzonings of local commercial streets (such as Main and Montana) and to determine whether increasing affordable housing requirements from 15 to 20 percent would satisfy State requirements. Neither action undermined the Housing Element, but a vote at the March 21 Council meeting changed the rules in an unsafe way, according to staff.

Councilman Phil Brock proposed a cap on the amount of square footage that could be combined to create housing projects. His motion, backed by Lana Negrete, Christine Parra and Oscar de la Torre, reduced the maximum from 15,000 square feet to 11,000 square feet on Main Street. Staff said the revision could be enough to trigger a review if state officials consider it a restraint on the already approved Housing Element.

"I do want to firmly say that people came to Santa Monica. Because of the beach, because of the fresh air and because we weren't a city of high rises," said Brock. "We weren't a city that crammed people in."

THE PROJECTS

Whether future residents view 380 one-bedrooms, 20 two-bedrooms, and 5 three-bedroom apartments as "crammed in" will depend on their own opinion, but lack of compliance with state housing regulations has unquestionably resulted in highrise developments.

Developers have six months to file a formal application after securing their place in line with initial paperwork following a city's non-compliance with the Housing Element rules. So far, formal applications have been received for 1215 19th St, 1238 7th St, 1420 20th St, 1433 Euclid St, 1437 6th St, 1443 Lincoln Blvd, 1518-1524 7th St, 1557 7th St, 1925 Broadway and 601 Colorado Ave.

Two of the ten projects with applications are six-stories (the smallest has 34 units), two are 11, one is 12, one is 15, two are 16 and two are 18 (the largest has 405 units). The pending projects are between 10 and 15 stories high. The new apartment buildings that line Lincoln Blvd are 5-6 stories tall.

Despite the City's inability to stop projects, there's no guarantee any of the proposals will succeed given the standard economic constraints related to construction. But developers have almost complete discretion on whether to proceed. A few nearby cities have sued the state, but their legal standing is uncertain, and the State has also sued non-complying cities.

There is no feedback from state officials regarding Santa Monica's recent efforts nor can penalties be predicted if they reject the recent downsizing on Main Street, leaving residents wondering if the gamble will pay off.

editor@smdp.com

SALMON

FROM PAGE 5

fished unlike the coho in California. But it won't make up for the loss of the Chinook, which are bigger, fattier fish that are in higher demand.

"It's devastating," he said. "The Oregon fleet is already on life support," which dropped from a height of about 4,500 boats to about 180 today, he added.

On a stretch of the Klamath River in Northern California, the Yurok tribe has watched for years the decimation of the culturally significant salmon population. Barry McCovey Jr., director of the tribe's fisheries department, said the tribe's Chinook allotment is likely to be very small this year.

Still, he is hopeful the planned removal of four dams on the Klamath River will improve the fish's future.

"It's not a silver bullet, but a big step in right direction," McCovey said. "There's still a lot of battles to fight if we want to have coho and Chinook."



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 25)

Welcome to your year of fans. You'll attract and have fun with people who greatly admire you. You'll be given great leeway to express yourself and you'll be imitated and paid for this too. More highlights: a renovation, a change in your working style and an adventure with four friends. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 29, 4, 48 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a strong temptation to obtain things, most of them unnecessary. Everything you own comes with the responsibility of keeping. Maintenance and storage are a real concern. Pause to consider this before you buy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People ask for your advice but what they really want is your company and your approval. You figure out what they want to do and then advise them to do it. You're exactly the support system they were looking for.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). James Bond wasn't born cool, rather he's a highly trained agent whose mastered strategies for dealing with whatever life throws at him. Think of Bond today as you welcome opportunities to develop coping strategies.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's as easy to be useful as it is to be wasteful. You'll lean into choices that conserve your resources. You'll make sure the action you execute has a reaction that serves your purposes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A responsibility becomes burdensome. You may wonder why you agreed to this, but you don't have to the next time around. For now, you'll keep your word. Later, you'll keep your options open.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'd rather see how things really are. An ugly truth made to look pretty is just disturbing. Better to be upfront than to try and put on a good front. "Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds." — Shakespeare

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Believe in your vision. Don't let your inner critic get in the way. You and your critic are like a long-married couple who has found a way to work together in spite of differences.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't wait until you have the money, just pretend like you already have it. When it comes down to it, your life won't be all that different because of a few thousand dollars. Decide to feel rich and act in kind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be the new person. Introduce yourself. The others probably feel just as awkward as you, or at least remember when they did. Tonight: When you don't get what you want, you get what you need and that's even better.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Something changes for the better. Your optimistic plans come together. You know yourself and what you need to do. You've never been so on track with your mission.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've kept a tight rein on your feelings and now you can afford to let loose. In fact, it's the healthiest move at this point. Relaxation improves perspective. You'll be even funnier than usual tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Keep moving in the direction of your idols. You're becoming increasingly like the ones you so admire. You'll soon achieve a symbol of success beyond what you thought possible and with greatly personal significance.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

A	M	E	N		A	P	T		S	T	O	M	P	S
M	A	Y	O		S	R	O		A	U	R	O	R	A
P	R	E	D	A	T	O	R		D	R	I	V	E	L
				N	O	N	E	T		N	O	I	S	E
W	A	S	I	N		G	R	E	A	T	N	E	S	S
I	P	A	S			S	O	R	T	A				
S	P	R	A	N	G			R	O	B		A	A	H
P	L	A	Y	E	R	S		A	L	L	E	R	G	Y
Y	E	N		W	E	E			L	E	T	R	I	P
				R	E	A	D	D			T	I	L	E
D	I	S	S	E	N	T	E	R		C	E	D	E	D
I	D	T	A	G		S	E	E	K	S				
E	L	I	X	I	R		P	A	N	T	R	I	E	S
G	E	N	O	M	E		E	R	E		A	L	M	A
O	R	K	N	E	Y		N	Y	E		P	L	U	G

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

7	5	3	8	2	1	6	4	9
1	6	2	3	9	4	8	7	5
4	8	9	6	7	5	3	1	2
8	4	1	2	3	9	7	5	6
2	3	5	7	4	6	9	8	1
9	7	6	1	5	8	2	3	4
3	1	7	4	6	2	5	9	8
5	2	8	9	1	7	4	6	3
6	9	4	5	8	3	1	2	7

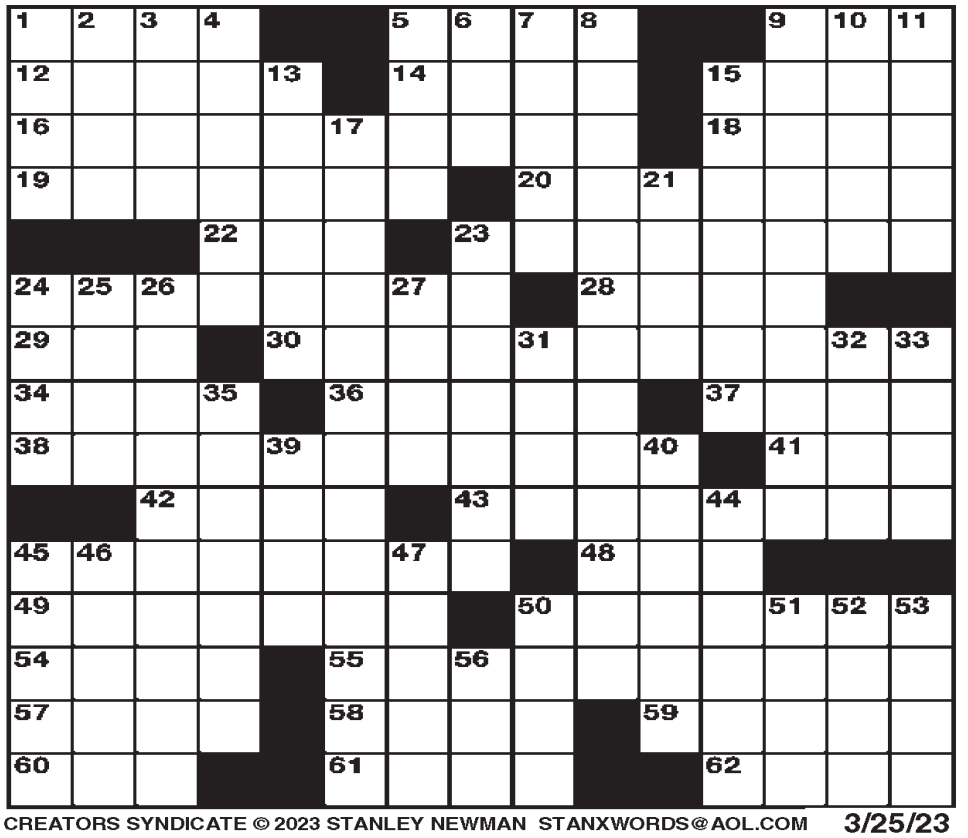
3		1	5	9		8		
	8			7		5		
4						7		
	1				5			
5		4		3		9		6
			4				7	
		8						7
		9		5			1	
		3		1	6	4		2

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Steve Mossberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Dough additive
5 Some playgroup members
9 Entryway adorned with a butterfly
12 Pineapple resembler
14 Word from the Greek for "jewel"
15 Part of many mid-February presents
16 Publishing bottleneck
18 Behaves badly
19 Certain posing pair display
20 Tout's topper
22 Pokémon platform
23 Dander-free pets
24 Sphere with many openings
28 Pastime for Leonardo
29 Therapeutic shampoo ingredient
30 You might have a ball with it
34 Parts of times tables
36 Little bit of science
37 Where much cork comes from
38 Small corner gatherings
41 Maker of the first Korean bicycles (1951)
42 Aurally muffled
43 Person paid to wave
45 Third quarters
48 Broadband standard, for short
49 Refuses to wait for
50 Farmer's Almanac datum
54 Years of study
55 Install
57 Place before the rest
58 Realizes eventually
59 Far from windy
60 Waves that people pay for
61 Where many are spotted on the floor
62 Throws out

DOWN
1 Plotter's preparations
2 Cultural precursor
3 Put down
4 Section of screenrant.com
5 Half of a current commercial coverage duo
6 Follow closely
7 French beef stew
8 Stay out all night
9 Mix often touted as "moist"
10 Cliffside debris
11 Gets set to brood
13 Seminary student's subject
15 "Turn away and slam the door" Oscar song
17 Contemporary office trend
21 Leave on the floor
23 Takes back
24 No great deal
25 Covering for your elbows
26 Multi-milk Mexican dessert
27 Soup or salad
31 *Star Is Born* guy before Bradley
32 Antonym of "contrary"
33 Junior's undertaking
35 Came unnoticed
39 Very tight pair
40 Skipped
44 More than one kind
45 Stuck up
46 One known for his 30 Across
47 What Milne memorably misspelled
50 Disorder
51 Name on apple pie packaging
52 Web seller without a warehouse
53 Casual __
56 CashConnect product

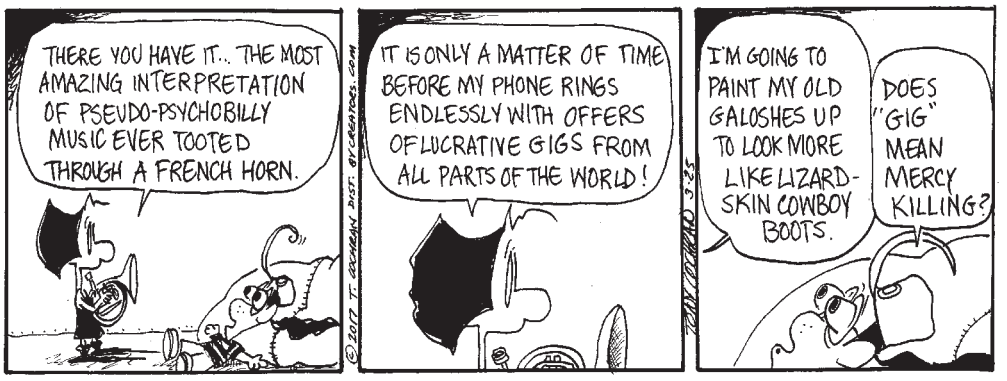


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

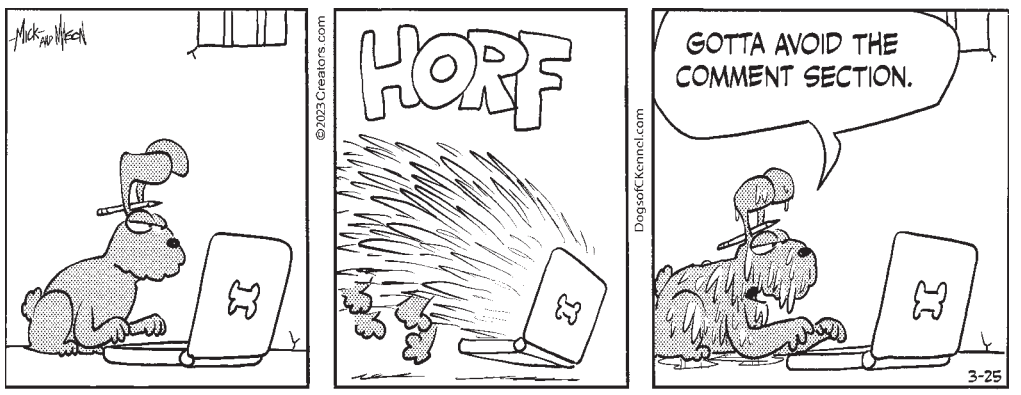
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE MESSES WITH THE FIRE-BREATHING CHIHUAHUA."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 13 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5794

A night at home

T	P	M	U	N	C	H	T	A	E	R	T	L	E	T
S	I	Y	P	C	O	O	L	R	Z	D	N	A	L	A
O	N	M	A	B	M	I	D	L	O	H	O	M	E	R
P	B	M	I	H	A	E	T	N	D	H	S	U	L	I
P	A	U	A	L	T	C	P	I	I	Y	S	S	M	A
O	L	R	A	N	H	Z	C	A	T	A	N	E	A	S
N	L	E	A	D	S	E	E	A	W	E	G	C	E	B
E	A	S	Y	W	I	N	N	E	R	N	P	A	T	P
N	G	T	O	E	L	B	A	T	A	A	R	M	A	O
T	A	R	G	E	T	A	S	H	D	C	T	L	O	P
S	D	R	E	V	E	L	C	E	H	V	C	O	A	C
S	L	O	L	O	G	I	C	T	V	A	H	S	E	O
T	S	U	N	O	B	K	S	K	I	L	L	S	D	R
I	C	N	D	Y	R	O	M	E	M	U	O	D	I	N
K	M	D	R	O	P	D	O	W	N	E	S	S	E	F

Aces	Competition	Home	Munch	Skill
Amuse	Cool	Idea	Odds	Solve
Ante	Deck	Kits	Opponents	Suit
Aria	Dibs	Land	Pawn	Table
Baccarat	Dice	Limit	Pinball	Target
Bass	Doze	Logic	Popcorn	Team
Bonus	Dropdown	Loss	Rest	Treat
Catan	Easy	Luck	Round	Value
Change	Fish	Ludo	Rummy	Winner
Clap	Gain	Maths	Search	Words
Clever	Hold	Memory	Short	Yahtzee

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SATURDAY | MARCH 25

BHAKTI NIGHT WITH GRAMMY AWARD ARTIST MICHAEL GUNGOR

Bhakti Night with Grammy award artist Michael Gungor. 7:30pm-9:00pm. 1235 4th St. Santa Monica, CA

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Local boys soccer team FC England Boys 2008 are fundraising for their sweden tournament in july. Please come support by finding some gems. Bagels & cream cheese along with coffee for sale in the morning then baked goods & lemonade in the afternoon. 7am – 3pm, Seashore Motel 2637 Main Street, Santa Monica.

SUNDAY | MARCH 26

LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA SPRING 2023 CONCERT AT BARNUM HALL

The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra presents the Spring 2023 Concerts, 'To Stir the World', on Sunday, March 26 at 7:30pm at Barnum Hall in Santa Monica and Monday, March 27 at 7:30pm at Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena. The Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Russell Steinberg, will perform Dvorak's Symphony No. 7. The Ruth Borun Concert Orchestra, conducted by Jorge Padron, will perform Saint-Saens' Intro and Royal March of the Lions; Rachmaninoff's Vocalise; Grieg's Holberg Suite; and De Falla's Ritual Fire Dance. www.eventbrite.com/o/los-angeles-youth-orchestra-19228767714

MONDAY | MARCH 27

PARENT & ME UKULELE

The Enrichment Program at Virginia Avenue Park is a component of the Virginia Avenue Park After School program. The Enrichment program is comprised of Artists in Residence who are hired to teach enrichment classes to the youth in our program. These programs are high quality and teach the youth with a hands-on approach. This class is taught by Santa Monica Youth Orchestra (SMYO) and requires registration with SMYO and Virginia Ave. Park. This class is every Monday from 5:30PM-6:30PM Registration in-person only, begins on Monday March 6, 2023. For more information, call our office at (310) 458-8688

TUESDAY | MARCH 28

GUNNAR

Produced by OBrien at the legendary Henson Recording Studios, Best Mistake encompasses a guitar-heavy sound echoing the eclectic mix of influences that form GUNNARs musical DNA (90s alt-rock, mid-aughts garage rock, singer-songwriters and classic country). Already well on his way to rock stardom GUNNAR has amassed 22M global streams of his music to date, 5.7M Youtube plays and 48M TikTok plays with a following of over 250,000 fans on the platform. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, CA https://www.ticketweb.com/event/gunnar-best-mistake-album-the-venice-west-tickets/12936285

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 29

KIDS OCEAN DAY FUNDRAISER

Join us for a beach party fundraiser at the beautiful Annenberg Community Beach House catered by Back on the Beach Cafe. Kids Ocean Day empowers kids to save the Earth by connecting them to the beaches and ocean. Your support provides kids with a hands-on opportunity to make a difference and to fall in love with the beaches and ocean. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Hwy Santa Monica, CA

TUESDAY | MARCH 30

THE OTHER ART FAIR

Presented by Saatchi Art, The Other Art Fair is an art fair unlike any other. Where elitism is the norm, The Other Art Fair dares to deviate by creating a space where art is for everyone. The fair continues its mission to reframe art, and how it is enjoyed; offering a fair that is inclusive, evocative, and inspiring, with a vibrant program of exciting features, guest exhibitions, immersive installations, live poetry readings and DJs.

PIANO DUET CONCERT: 4HANDSLA

11:15am-12:15pm, Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php

FRIDAY | MARCH 31

LOBSTER & TRUFFLE FOR 2

Planning a cozy dinner night in? Pick up an indulgent 5 course lobster and truffle take-home dinner for 2 from Bazille (can also be enjoyed for dine in). Here's what you get: Lobster Bisque or Roma Tomato Basil Lobster Deviled Eggs Little Gem Caesar or Simple Salad Lobster & Truffle Gnocchi or Asparagus Gnocchi Flourless Chocolate Cake Santa Monica Place 395 Santa Monica Pl, Santa Monica, CA

CANDLELIGHT: A TRIBUTE TO LAURYN HILL

6:30 p.m, Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club 1210 4th St Santa Monica, CA tickets available in https://feverup.com/m/119229

SATURDAY | APRIL 1

626 NIGHT MARKET MINI

Mini is back this Spring 2023! We're bringing the epic flavors of our giant flagship food festivals to the Westside: Downtown Santa Monica. Welcoming new and returning food lovers from the Westside to join us. This event series will take place near Third Street Promenade at Lot 27 and will be free-to-attend.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **56.8**

SATURDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Potential for fresh NW swell mix and elevated onshore NW winds.
SUNDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Easing NW swell mix. Northerly wind in the morning, trending to the NW for the afternoon.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a north wind 15 to 20 mph.
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 46. Breezy, with a north wind 15 to 20 mph.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a north wind 10 to 20 mph.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/03/25	Sat	06:50 AM	-0.05	L
2023/03/25	Sat	1:05 PM	3.23	H
2023/03/25	Sat	5:57 PM	1.71	L
2023/03/26	Sun	12:27 AM	5.08	H
2023/03/26	Sun	07:51 AM	0.24	L
2023/03/26	Sun	2:33 PM	2.71	H
2023/03/26	Sun	6:14 PM	2.28	L
2023/03/27	Mon	01:08 AM	4.68	H
2023/03/27	Mon	09:17 AM	0.50	L
2023/03/28	Tue	02:06 AM	4.26	H
2023/03/28	Tue	11:06 AM	0.49	L
2023/03/29	Wed	03:50 AM	4.00	H
2023/03/29	Wed	12:21 PM	0.28	L
2023/03/29	Wed	8:12 PM	3.41	H
2023/03/30	Thu	12:08 AM	2.96	L
2023/03/30	Thu	05:28 AM	4.07	H
2023/03/30	Thu	1:10 PM	0.07	L
2023/03/30	Thu	8:19 PM	3.62	H

DAILY LOTTERY

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/22
27 28 37 50 57
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 112 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/21
1 21 25 27 40
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 302 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 3/22
15 20 27 37 41
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 44 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/23
1 15 16 20 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/23
EVENING: 0 3 4
Draw Date: 3/23
MIDDAY: 0 9 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/23
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:41.53

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