2 **Business taxes**
Going up.

3 **Political fight**
Over housing shortage.

4 **Skating is not a crime**
Despite what you've heard.

8&9 **Housing map**
What's for sale?

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Financial agreement for Santa Monica, Malibu school separation shared with community



Thomas Leffler

SCHOOLS: Santa Monica schools will receive funding from Malibu for many years under newly released terms necessary to split the district into two new organizations.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The future of education in Santa Monica and Malibu is becoming clear, as a years-long process to create two independent school districts finally has fiscal details to share with the respective communities.

Santa Monica schools will receive an annual payment from Malibu that guarantees current funding levels plus an annual growth rate of 4% a year for about the next 18 years.

Details were presented at a special meeting of Malibu City Council on Wednesday, highlighting one of the largest hurdles to the potential split of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) into separate Santa Monica and Malibu Unified districts. The agreement is part of a term sheet adopted by Santa Monica and Malibu parties in November 2022, which also includes pending operational and joint powers agreements.

In the presentation by Malibu school separation finance consulting team consultant Cathy Dominico, the revenue sharing agreement memorializes the allocation of existing and projected SMMUSD revenues between the pending Santa Monica and Malibu educational entities. The agreement's guiding principle is that each of these entities is "allocated a sufficient share of funding to provide similar level of service at each school site as prior to separation."

Malibu Mayor Steve Uhring noted that the agreement has been provided to SMMUSD officials and that the terms "will work for both parties" while still staying true to Malibu's goals of local control of education.

"The program here is to make sure that both parties are able to continue doing the education process that they have to do, and at the same time, give the Malibu school district a chance to get built up so that we can deliver the educational alternatives we want for Malibu children back here in the city," Uhring said.

The revenue sharing is broken down into two components, a "base year calculation" to be determined once in the first year of separation, and an "annual calculation" for each subsequent fiscal year until termination. The annual calculation is used to determine the amount of property taxes to be transferred so that the Santa Monica Unified School District achieves 4% annual growth in total unrestricted revenues, one of the main goals of the Santa Monica side of negotiations.

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 15



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Council approves business tax changes, but stresses importance of assisting small businesses

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

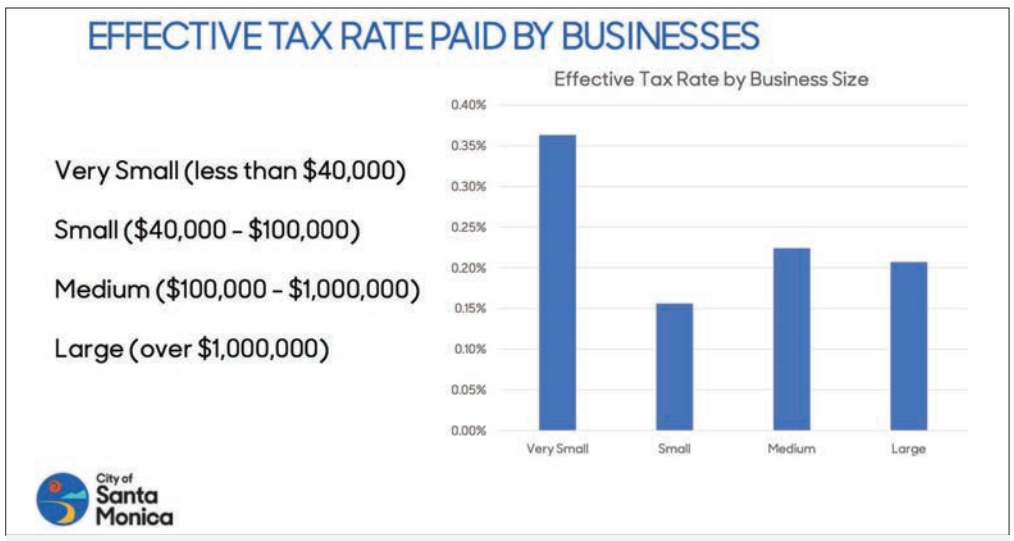
In Tuesday's relatively run-of-the-mill City Council meeting, Councilmembers voted to approve the proposed business license modernization and associated business license tax rate changes.

Stephanie Manglaras, Assistant City Treasurer was joined in chambers by Finance Department Director Oscar Santiago, Haley Favre-Smith, Business License Administrator and Eric Myers, Director of Operations of HdL and Andy Belknap, Managing Director with Baker Tilly.

"The revenue collected from the business license program is integral to the health of the general fund and an important resource to advance the city council's strategic priorities and maintain essential services," said Manglaras.

According to Manglara, the finance department collects business license taxes from approximately 23,000 businesses and 13,000 of those are physically located within the city and the City of Santa Monica adopted its existing business license tax code in 1990, more than 30 years ago.

"As you see ... there has been a substantial shift away from the bricks and mortar businesses from the 1990s ... The pandemic has also had a lasting impact on operations, and how some of our largest taxpayers will operate in the future. Modernizing the tax code will reflect the economic changes that have occurred in the world and will continue to occur," Manglaras said.



Courtesy image

TAX: City Council voted to approve a proposed business license modernization and associate business license tax rate changes at an April 9 meeting.

The changes seem to be met with little resistance from Council and indeed, this same presentation was given to the board of directors at Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. just a week or so ago and following a considerable amount of discussion and further clarification was approved 9-3, with board members Lora Vrastil, Luke Cain and Julia Ladd abstaining.

Vice Mayor Lana Negrete — herself the owner of a small business, which consequently puts her in a position to offer a valuable perspective — raised a very pertinent point, suggesting that perhaps it might be advisable to redefine "small business" and additionally include a new category, "micro business" in order to better differentiate business endeavors at the Small End of the spectrum.

"I know we call mid-size businesses five million and under, but if you're applying for loans, and you're a small business, you know that that's actually a small business and we should maybe use phrases like 'micro businesses' for 100,000 and under because the reality is [you might be] making cookies or bracelets and selling them at the farmers market," Negrete said.

She added that it was important to continue to focus equally on these small-scale businesses and additional clarification of each one's size and composition would certainly help the owners secure bank loans and potential investment.

There was also some inquiry about the "corporate administrative headquarters" classification and how existing incentives to bring employees back to the office after the pandemic might affect this, or even be affected by this. However, the answers provided were almost all theoretical.

"The way that this tax proposal is being structured is really a prioritization around equity and leaning forward into supporting our small, medium-sized businesses," City Manager David White responded, adding, "So whatever direction we get from this meeting, looking to stagger or make adjustments for the corporate headquarters, we'd have to take a step back and see what we could afford in terms of offering those incentives and brakes ... Because as you saw, the forecast is that we could generate two to four million [dollars] in revenue, but there's a lot of movement in those numbers. So we can't guarantee that it's going to generate that much. That's our current forecast of what we think."

Because the auto industry is such a big

SEE **BUSINESS TAX** PAGE 12

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

While California politicians skirmish over housing, the shortage keeps growing

DAN WALTERS

The current session of the California Legislature, like all recent sessions, has featured the state's perpetual conflict over its acute shortage of housing.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and most legislators are striving to eliminate perceived constraints on construction of new housing – particularly laws and zoning policies in cities – while local officials, neighborhood activists and some legislators defend local land use controls.

One skirmish occurred this week in the state Senate's Natural Resources and Water Committee over two bills that would have weakened the state Coastal Commission's authority over housing development along the coast. One measure, Senate Bill 1077, would have removed the commission's power to review "accessory dwelling units" – small cottages built in the backyards of homes. The other, Senate Bill 1092, would have compelled the commission to more quickly process apartment project permits.

Both bills were stripped of their meaningful language and reduced to little more than toothless bromides at the behest of the committee's chairman, state Sen. Dave Min, a Democrat from Irvine.

The bills' author, Sen. Catherine Blakespear, a San Diego Democrat, said, "I am absolutely forced to take these amendments and I am doing it willingly, but I did not want to."

Min, it should be noted, is engaged in a very tight battle for a congressional seat in the uber-affluent 47th Congressional District along the Orange County coast. It includes Huntington Beach, where resistance to new housing, especially low- and moderate-income units, is particularly virulent.

What happened – or more accurately didn't happen – in the Senate committee typifies the Capitol's struggles over housing in recent years. Sometimes pro-housing forces win and sometimes their rivals prevail but regardless of political outcomes, California's housing supply continues to fall short of demand.

The chronic shortage drives up housing costs, which are the major factors in California's having the nation's highest level of poverty, according to Census Bureau calculations that include living costs, and contributes to homelessness.

California's laggard response to housing demand is apparent in a new report by Getac, a Taiwanese technology company whose U.S. offices are, by the sheerest coincidence, located in Irvine, the center of both Min's Senate district and the congressional district he hopes to represent.

By using census data, Getac calculated rates of housing construction for all 50 states between 2010 and 2020 and California was definitely subpar. Overall, the nation increased its housing stock by 5.9% during the decade but California's gain was just 4.7%, from 13.7 million units to 14.3 million.

North Dakota was No. 1 at 16.6% and West Virginia was No. 50, having lost 2.5% of its housing, while California was No. 29. Texas (No. 3) and Florida (No. 9), two states often seen as rivals, far outstripped California with gains of 14.6% and 8.6%, respectively.

In raw numbers, both states surpassed California, with Texas adding 1.5 million new units – more than doubling California's 648,458.

To put it another way, between 2010 and 2020, California's population grew by 6.1% while its housing supply rose by just 4.7%, increasing the already wide gap. Moreover, since 2020 the state has fallen about 50% short of the 180,000 new units the state says are needed each year.

In 2017, while running for governor, Newsom pledged, in a social media post, that if elected "I will lead the effort to develop the 3.5 million new housing units we need by 2025 because our solutions must be as bold as the problem is big."

Newsom may have been much more active than other recent governors on promoting housing construction, but what he and the Legislature have done still has not made a measurable dent in California's housing shortage.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

GET IT DAILY...



Surf report — WATER TEMP: **59.7**

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Models showing potential for another late season coastal low and rise in steep-angled NW swell mix — stay tuned, we'll see how the trend evolves in the next few days. Modest new SSW swell builds in but summer points may have wind issues.

SATURDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

Potential decent pulse of NW swell mix on tap through the day. Stay tuned — will depend on late season coastal low. Modest to locally fun SSW swell picks up a notch further through the day for summer points. Wind looks dicey.

Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. South wind 5 to 15 mph,.
Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of rain after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. Southeast wind around 15 mph.
Saturday: Rain, mainly after 11am. High near 60. Breezy, with a southeast wind 15 to 20 mph.
Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly before 11pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/04/12	Fri	07:07 AM	-0.66	L
2024/04/12	Fri	1:51 PM	3.03	H
2024/04/12	Fri	5:51 PM	2.25	L
2024/04/13	Sat	12:26 AM	5.33	H
2024/04/13	Sat	08:16 AM	-0.28	L
2024/04/13	Sat	3:53 PM	2.87	H
2024/04/13	Sat	6:27 PM	2.73	L
2024/04/14	Sun	01:22 AM	4.78	H
2024/04/14	Sun	09:46 AM	0.00	L
2024/04/15	Mon	02:45 AM	4.29	H
2024/04/15	Mon	11:12 AM	0.06	L
2024/04/15	Mon	7:01 PM	3.47	H
2024/04/15	Mon	11:13 PM	2.98	L
2024/04/16	Tue	04:30 AM	4.08	H
2024/04/16	Tue	12:14 PM	0.04	L
2024/04/16	Tue	7:27 PM	3.75	H
2024/04/17	Wed	12:28 AM	2.50	L
2024/04/17	Wed	05:49 AM	4.12	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: 4/10
6 7 12 24 36
Power#: 15
Jackpot: 46 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/9
34 43 51 52 69
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 120 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 4/10
4 16 20 30 33
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 26 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/10
5 7 18 22 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/10
EVENING: 5 5 8
Draw Date: 4/10
MIDDAY: 9 1 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/10
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:48.67

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Santa Monica Daily Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Skaters are presumed guilty every street session in California. How rebellion changed the sport

JOSÉ VADI

One afternoon, after watching Kareem Campbell's part in the World Industries skate video "Trilogy" for the third consecutive time, my mom laughed after his slow-motion nollie hardflip over a picnic table.

"I like that line," she said. "It's clever."

It took me a moment to realize she was referring to the rap delivered by Nasir Jones, aka Nas, when he says, "I'd open every cell in Attica / send 'em to Africa." Painting his vision of what a world would look like if Nas were in control, Campbell's part in "Trilogy" enabled my parents to see the socially conscious dimension of hip-hop and how it related to the Last Poets albums they started playing when I turned 10 years old, warning of the conditions of Black America's streets.

Part of the reason my parents placed needle to record was the Southern California in which I was raised, a decade that started with the Los Angeles riots, transitioned into the yearslong O.J. Simpson trials, and continued with the punitive three-strikes policy signed by California Gov. Pete Wilson. Wilson also backed the infamous Proposition 187, which attempted to create a state-administered citizenship system that denied immigrants basic social services, stripping them of health care and access to education, faced public outcry and was ultimately deemed unconstitutional.

As predominantly Black and brown skaters pushed street skateboarding forward at San Francisco's Justin Herman Plaza and the schoolyards of Los Angeles, they were progressing the form under a heightened state of police brutality and incarceration of Black and brown men throughout California. Tales of certain crews skating Lockwood Elementary describe the skaters getting the pass from local gangs affiliated with Fabian Alomar's family, but what of the state-sponsored violence of 1990s Los Angeles?

The decade closed with the infamous Rampart scandal within the Los Angeles Police Department, exposing the violent, corrupt anti-gang task force Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums, or CRASH, that patrolled Rampart Village and neighboring areas. CRASH framed civilians and gang members alike in gang-related killings, its members committing perjury to double down on their false charges. The scandal resulted in over 100 civil cases filed against the LAPD and over $125 million in punitive damages.

In 2018, the Los Angeles Times broke an investigation about gangs permeating units of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, including a unit with white supremacist ties in Compton, a predominantly and historically Black neighborhood. These units, like CRASH, also have their own identifying tattoos. In 2021, a Loyola Marymount University study "identified 18 such groups that have existed over the last five decades."

In May 2023, the county inspector general ordered 35 sheriff's deputies to report for a physical examination to see if any had gang-affiliated tattoos. Instead of complying, the officers sued through their union representatives just days after the order.

The extent of the CRASH scandal is immeasurable two decades later, but what is known is that many of CRASH's harmful acts were done in greater Silver Lake, Echo Park and East Hollywood – the areas of Los Angeles that Kareem Campbell and the World and Girl Skateboard crews helped put on the map for skateboarders through their video parts. By the time "Trilogy" was released, incarceration rates were increasing in Black communities, not only for three-strikes-related charges but for predominantly nonviolent crimes and drug offenses – despite the concurrent rise of violent crimes within white populations during the same 10-year period from 1985 to 1995, according to a U.S. Department of Justice bulletin.

As such, Campbell and company created and documented some of the most amazing street skateboarding in the culture's history during the most punitive era against Black citizens in Los Angeles by the city's police forces. Campbell's teammate Shiloh Greathouse, who grew up in the neighborhoods near Lockwood Elementary, filmed his "Trilogy" part fresh off a 16-month prison bid. His last trick, a backside noseblunt slide across the entire top of a picnic table, was from his first skate session after release. Greathouse filmed and completed his part over the next six months while living in a halfway house.

As Nas says at the top of his raps soundtracking Campbell's USC line, "Imagine smoking weed in the streets without cops harassin' / Imagine going to court with no trial." The bars begin with a dream and end with a nightmare portrait of our courts; my folks feared that this new fad, this skateboard thing, would lead me into the streets, toward those forces neither they nor I could control despite the new compass I directed beneath my feet.

My parents knew the stats and the streets, having grown up in Mexico by way of La Puente and in Santurce, Puerto Rico, by way of East Harlem – two hoods on either side of the states – knowing the supposed threat first impressions kids like me can make on law enforcement. This led to a mix of model-minority expectations and sheer overly hammered common sense, so they ensured that I knew, even before skateboarding, that my privileges were different. With skateboarding, the bleached hair, massive pants and beyond-PG graphics were antithetical to their goal of keeping me away from trouble. In their eyes, presenting myself a skateboarder was a visual rebellion and a double-down call for police harassment. Voluntarily wearing a shirt that said American zero was a privilege I'd never have, despite being born in the states.



Photo by Mark J. Terrill, AP Photo

SKATE: Jereme Schadler, 20, jumps over benches with his skateboard, at the graffiti pit" in Venice on Oct. 1, 1997.

They were warning me about how I was entering the world in general, let alone as a skateboarder: that what I see as innocent, playful fun is, for others, a reason to control the outcome of my life.

Consider pioneering street skater Natas Kaupas wearing a Public Enemy shirt while inventing street skateboarding. He inspired many white skaters to be down with hip-hop, to recognize the irony of a skateboarder being labeled a public enemy, to explicitly back Chuck D's burgeoning brainchild and to implicitly say that Black lives matter. It's not a sponsor's shirt or a graffiti-scrawled statement of their own witty design. It's an alignment with an image and a culture "outside" of skateboarding through the act of skateboarding. The photos, taken by Tod Swank and J. Grant Brittain for Kaupas' 1989 Transworld pro spotlight, created the historical documentation and the impact by which we measure the trick. And when it hits magazine pages it shows that not only is Kaupas ripping and innovating across LA's westside schoolyards, but he's also doing so while listening to some of the most bombastic, fist-in-your-face music ever heard.

The specter of illegitimate incarceration and the carceral middlemen between freedom and jail lurk at every session. When a brown kid starts skateboarding in any era, they are entering a policed world that presumes their guilt, accelerated now by the four wheels propelling them, sometimes illegally, down city streets, schoolyards, back alleys. We enter society always as the Other and dismantle the systemic racism behind the idea of a skateboarder with every push, every pair of Dickies against dark skin above white wheels and neon wood, every pack of

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 12

Californians get hacked all the time. The state's top cybersecurity job is vacant

KHARI JOHNSON

You might think the home of Silicon Valley would rush to hire a cybersecurity chief, but you'd be wrong: California has left its top cybersecurity post vacant for nearly two years.

A spokesperson said there is no current timeline for Gov. Gavin Newsom to appoint anyone for the position, commander for the Cybersecurity Integration Center.

> Either they're going through a painstaking process to pick the right person or it slipped through the cracks and there's no way to know which of the two it is
>
> - Dan Schnur

"We are a target," as a tech industry leader, the most populous state in the country, one of the busiest ports in the world, and the fifth largest economy in the world, said former cybersecurity integration center commander Jonathan Nunez in a video posted to YouTube two years ago. He took the helm in June 2020 and was the last commander appointed by Newsom, leaving the position in June 2022.

State officials say the vacancy hasn't hampered the state's ability to respond to threats, but experts outside the state government are concerned that an acting commander is spread thin.

The commander job entails assisting law enforcement agencies with criminal investigations and safeguarding California's economy and critical infrastructure. Other job duties include maintaining a security operation center that disseminates actionable information to all state entities, forming public and private partnerships, and developing state cybersecurity strategy. The commander is paid a salary of up to $187,000 a year.

The challenge of a position like cybersecurity commander is it's not a matter of public or media interest until something goes wrong, said Dan Schnur, a former spokesperson for Gov. Pete Wilson who now teaches political communication at the University of Southern California and University of California, Berkeley. There's no set timeline for appointments and depends almost entirely upon the urgency to fill the job and quality of applicants, but in his experience, taking more than a year to appoint is an unusually long amount of time.

"Either they're going through a painstaking process to pick the right person or it slipped through the cracks and there's no way to know which of the two it is," he said. "Unless you find a unicorn who's willing to forego that kind of financial compensation in exchange for public service, you're already starting out with a compromise."

There have been four full-time commanders prior to the current acting commander.

Keith Tresh was appointed by former Gov. Jerry Brown and acted as commander from 2016 to 2018. He is now chief information security officer at consultancy firm AMEG. Mario Garcia served as acting commander from 2018 to 2020 and now works as state coordinator for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Jonathan Nunez was appointed by Gov. Newsom in 2020 and now works as an analyst at consultancy firm Gartner. David Lane served as acting commander for an unspecified period of time in 2022. Deputy Director of homeland security Tom Osbone is also the acting commander.

Tresh previously served as chief information security officer for the states of California and Idaho and was the first Cybersecurity Integration Center commander. He said he jumped at the opportunity because the job acts as a second set of eyes for public institutions like city and county governments, not just the state of California.

"We helped school districts and regional transit authorities when they had breaches," he said. "That's why I think it's absolutely a perfect position to continue on."

Cyber attacks on public institutions like local governments, hospitals, and school districts are on the rise. Hospitals and health care providers are still recovering from a ransomware attack that affected payment processing for Change Healthcare, which processes roughly half of all health care claims and payments nationwide.

The Cybersecurity Integration Center receives reports when a school district, state agency, or private company experiences a data breach. The center also receives threat reports from federal agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Department of Homeland Security.

Former Gov. Jerry Brown created the cybersecurity agency in 2015 to operate within the governor's Office of Emergency Services. It works with the Department of Technology to investigate and report incidents and helps restore operations after an attack. Director Liana Bailey-Crimmins told CalMatters in an interview in February that her agency works closely with the office of emergency services to address the needs of the state as they fill key positions so they never miss a step.

A spokesperson for the governor's Office of Emergency Services said Osborne is serving as acting commander while the governor carries out a nationwide search for a qualified candidate.

Over the course of the past month CalMatters repeatedly asked details about data breach reports and compliance with additional duties assigned to the commander and cybersecurity integration center by a five-year cybersecurity plan approved in 2021 but received no comment.

The last time the state compiled a report detailing the kinds of data breaches, number of records compromised, and number of Californians affected in cyber attacks was back in 2016, before the cybersecurity integration center existed.

CalMatters reached out to the office of Attorney General Rob Bonta for the latest data breach report. The attorney general's office referred CalMatters to the cybersecurity center, which did not share new information but said it would post new data publicly later "this spring."

After audits found that state agencies were woefully unprepared for cyber attacks, California Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, a Democrat from Thousand Oaks, coauthored a 2018 law that made the Cybersecurity Integration Center a permanent state agency and required development of a state cybersecurity strategy. Irwin, who is also chairperson of the Assembly cybersecurity committee, told CalMatters in a statement that finding a new commander has not been easy.

"The state has struggled to recruit and retain cybersecurity specialists, just as many businesses have, with their skill set in high-demand," she said.

COMPETITION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR

Former state cybersecurity employees told CalMatters they think it's difficult for the cybersecurity center to keep commanders because the pay is less than for similar jobs in the private sector. State employees may treat an acting commander — who will be in the job temporarily — differently than a commander appointed by Newsom.

A former cybersecurity center employee who spoke to CalMatters on background for fear of professional reprisals said the biggest issue with the position is lack of real authority; the commander has limited capacity to act and hold people accountable.

Public agencies, especially in California, are major targets for cybercriminals seeking confidential information or just want to cause panic, said Steven Ward, a cybersecurity fellow at center-right think tank R Street Institute and former digital forensics examiner for law enforcement agencies in Sacramento.

Ward said the vacancy is reflective of a number of trends: First, the cybersecurity threat landscape moves quickly, and public agencies move slowly. Second, it mirrors a larger cybersecurity workforce shortage. California has the second-highest in the U.S., according to a 2022 report by the nonprofit International Information System Security Certification Consortium.

Third, public agencies can't compete with pay and benefits offered by private companies. Another 2022 study found that the private sector pays 14% more than government agencies. The pay gap creates a situation in which entry-level employees are responsible for guarding highly sensitive systems. It's hard to say what the consequences of the vacancy are, but since the center develops the state cybersecurity strategy and is a hub for sharing attack threat information and how to patch vulnerabilities, Ward said he's worried that the acting director might be spread too thin.

"It definitely needs to be filled," he said. "It's important that this type of work continues without interruptions."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

Human Services Commission:
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2026.
Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident.

Applications are due by noon, Tuesday, May 21, 2024.
Appointments to be made by City Council, Tuesday, May 28, 2024

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter. In addition, this position will be required to complete two hours of Ethics Training (AB1234) biennially, as well as attend other city sponsored trainings deemed necessary by the city.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CIRCULATE PETITION

Notice is hereby given by the person whose name appears hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the City of Santa Monica for the purpose of amending section 6.96.010 et seq. to Article 6, Chapter 6.96 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code, to amend the municipal code to repeal the City's real estate transfer tax for multifamily housing in order to spur the creation of housing within the City.

A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

California, the region and the City of Santa Monica are all facing a housing and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The State mandated that Santa Monica plan for and accommodate almost 9,000 new housing units over the course of the next 5 years. The City has taken several steps, including the adoption of the 2021-2029 Housing Element and implementation of a comprehensive rezoning program to spur the production specifically of "multi-family" housing developments (i.e., projects with two or more units) to meet this critical need. Failure to meet State housing requirements could result in serious penalties for Santa Monica including a loss of local zoning control.

In 2022 Santa Monica voters adopted Measure GS which dramatically increased the transfer tax on the sale of all properties worth $8 million or more to fund programs and services including affordable housing and homelessness. Although well intentioned, and according to the campaign, focused on single-family "mansions," Measure GS effectively taxed the production of new multi-family housing units, gravely threatening the financial feasibility of critically needed new housing options in Santa Monica. This large new tax undercuts the City's housing and planning efforts by stymieing the actual construction of these projects.

The Measure GS tax increase also threatens the affordability of the current housing stock in Santa Monica. The cost to rent in Santa Monica is artificially increased by the taxes levied against its housing stock, negatively impacting the 33,000 renter households that make up 70% of all households in our city.

Measure GS needs to be reformed to adhere closer to its original purpose. Repealing the portion of the tax applicable to multi-family housing will ensure that the cost to rent in Santa Monica is not unfairly increased and new housing options are constructed and made available for Santa Monicans. Otherwise, our children and future generations will be unable to live and afford housing in Santa Monica.

With this small but important revision, Measure GS's increased transfer tax and revenue stream will remain intact for single family "mansions," in addition to commercial and industrial properties of all types. But given our dire housing and affordability crisis – now is NOT the time to threaten the affordability of housing in our city or discourage the creation of multi-unit housing projects. This tax on this specific type of housing is too risky and too dangerous given our current and future dire need.

Vote YES on this Measure to relieve multi-family developments from a stifling tax and to further strengthen Santa Monica's commitment to solving the housing and affordability crisis for our children and future generations of Santa Monicans.

_____/s/_____ 3-28-24_____

Pamela O'Connor
906 9th St., #2
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Date

BALLOT TITLE AND SUMMARY PREPARED BY THE CITY ATTORNEY

AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO AMEND SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 6.96 TO PARTIALLY EXEMPT MULTIFAMILY DEVELOPMENTS FROM PART OF THE THIRD TIER TRANSFER TAX

This measure would amend Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapter 6.96 to partially exempt multifamily development transfers from part of the Third Tier transfer tax imposed by Measure GS (2022). The amendment would take effect January 1, 2025, and would not refund any portion of the Third Tier tax paid by a taxpayer prior to that date.

Prior to the adoption of Measure GS in November 2022, the City had two real estate transfer tax rates. The First Tier Tax Rate ($3.00 per $1,000 of value transferred) applies to transfers under $5,000,000. The Second Tier Tax Rate ($6.00 per $1,000 of value transferred) applies to transfers of $5,000,000 or more. Measure GS added a Third Tier Tax Rate ($56.00 per $1,000 of value transferred) for transfers of $8,000,000 or more to fund programs and services to provide, among other things, emergency or ongoing income assistance, improve affordable housing, support homelessness prevention, and improve local schools.

This measure would allow qualifying multifamily development transfers to exempt $53.00 per $1,000 out of the Third Tier Tax Rate of $56.00 per $1,000 of value transferred. A "multifamily development transfer" is defined as a transfer of property developed with either (1) a residential use consisting of two or more residential uses excluding accessory dwelling units as defined in Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.52.020.0095; or (2) a mixed-use development consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least two-thirds of the square footage designated for residential use. Commercial properties and single family homes worth $8,000,000 or more will still be subject to the Third Tier Tax Rate unless another exemption applies.

Under the proposed measure, prior to completing a multifamily development transfer, a taxpayer may request a certification from the Director of Finance that the contemplated transfer is a multifamily development transfer that is subject to the partial exemption. If the pre-transfer certification is obtained, the taxpayer shall not be required to pay the City- imposed portion of the Third Tier Tax ($53.00 per $1,000 of transferred value) on a qualifying multifamily development transfer. Alternatively, a taxpayer that has completed a multifamily development transfer may apply to the Director of Finance for a refund of the City-imposed portion of the Third Tier Tax paid on the qualifying multifamily development transfer within 120 days of the transfer.

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions – Election By Acclamation

KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ. CCAL

Hello Kelly, I came across an article in which you answered a question about election by acclamation. There is a lot of information on the internet about acclamation, but one item does not seem to be answered. Perhaps you can assist. Once a board determines/votes to elect candidates by acclamation at an open board meeting, when do the candidates assume their new role? Immediately? At the Annual Meeting (as if voting had occurred)? Thank you for your time and for any reply. J.P. (manager), Lodi

DEAR J.P.:

The statute providing for election by acclamation is Civil Code Section 5103. However, the statute does not expressly answer your question. Subpart (e) of the statute says that, if all the other requirements are met, the HOA board can vote to "consider the qualified candidates elected." Corporations Code Section 7220(b) says that directors hold office "until the expiration of the term for which elected and until a successor has been elected and qualified." If we take that statute at face value, it means that the new directors who are elected by acclamation would take office at the expiration of the terms of the outgoing directors. Normally, the term expires at the annual meeting election, so then the new directors would begin their service as of the date on which the election would have been held.

Because Civil Code 5103 has some very specific prerequisites before acclamation becomes available, and because the timing of the required notices is important, it may be advisable to update election rules to include the acclamation requirements and develop an annual election timeline so that the board and management are prepared – under the acclamation procedures as stated in Section 5103, the board must start setting its schedule for election-related events about 7 months ahead of the anticipated election date.

The option of declaring candidates elected by acclamation is great, but it's important that HOAs follow the prescribed requirements so that it is available without a procedural challenge.

Best Regards, Kelly

Dear Mr. Richardson: Our board has decided to utilize the new laws on election by acclamation this year without amending our election rules. This year 3 of the 5 members have their terms expire. What happens if there are fewer than 3 candidates for the positions? Without amending the rules, this is an area of uncertainty. Sincerely, W.B., Escondido

DEAR W.B.:

I agree with you that amending election rules would help avoid uncertainty and also help preserve the availability of acclamation as an option.

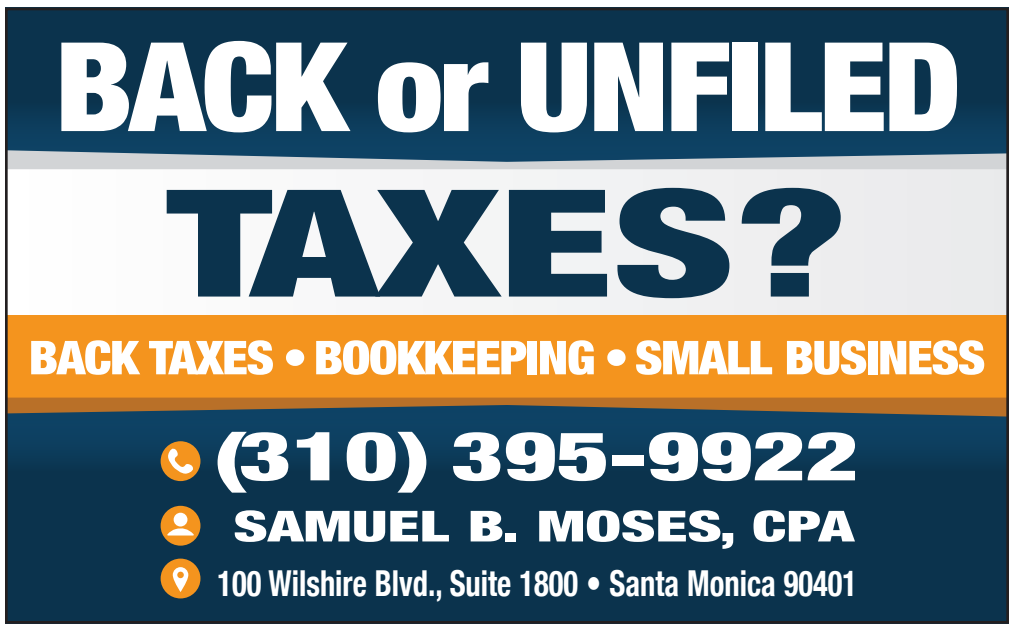
If the HOA complied with Civil Code Section 5103, and there are less candidates than open seats, there seem to be two options for dealing with the shortfall. Corporations Code Section 7220(b) says that directors serve until they resign or their term expires and a successor has been elected. In the situation where only 2 of the 3 open seats were filled, the outgoing board could vote as to which seat was not replaced, allowing one director to continue serving after their expired term (until the next election). If none of the directors wished to continue serving, then the board could regard the seat as vacant, and the new board would in an open meeting vote to appoint an eligible member to take the open seat.

Thanks for your question, Kelly

Kelly G. Richardson CCAL is a Fellow of the College of Community Association Lawyers and Partner of Richardson Ober LLP, a California law firm known for community association advice. Send column questions to Kelly@roattorneys.com. Past columns at www.HOAHomefront.com. All rights reserved®.







Westside AROUN

Malibu

Paci
Palisa

PACIFIC PALISADES

$2,500,000

1022 Tellem Dr,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

3 BR 2 BA, 1,881 Sq Ft

Listed by Dan Urbach, DRE #01147391, Compass
Listed by Stephanie Vitacco, DRE #00985615, Equity Union
Bought with Todd Bachenheimer, DRE #02079525, Compass

PACIFIC PALISADES

$2,495,000

864 Bienveneda Ave,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

5 BR 6.5 BA 6,987 Sq Ft

Listed by Laura Brau, DRE #01931500
Compass

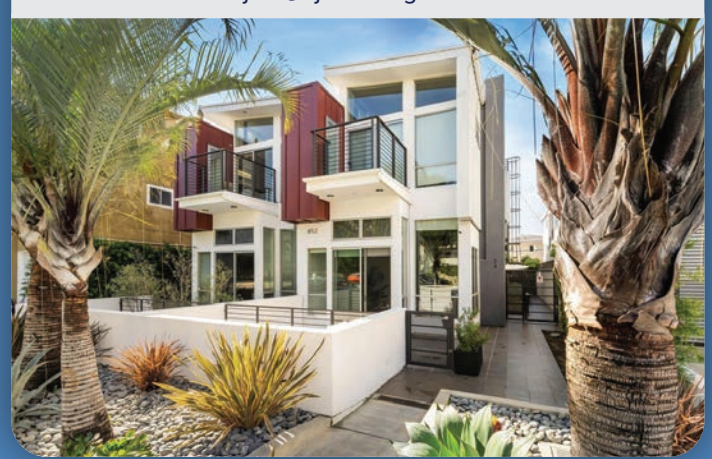
SANTA MONICA

$2,595,000

852 10th St #4,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

43BR 4 BA, 2,634 Sq Ft

Listed by Bjorn Farrugia, DRE #01864250 &
Listed by Alphonso Lascano, DRE #01723550
Carolwood Estates
bjorn@bjornfarrugia.com



SANTA MONICA

$2,595,000

535 Ocean Ave Unit 9C,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

2 BR 2 BA, 1,585 Sq Ft

Listed by Shelli Broder, DRE #01132623
Listed by Andrea Cope, DRE #01346181
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Prop.

VENICE

$2,500,000

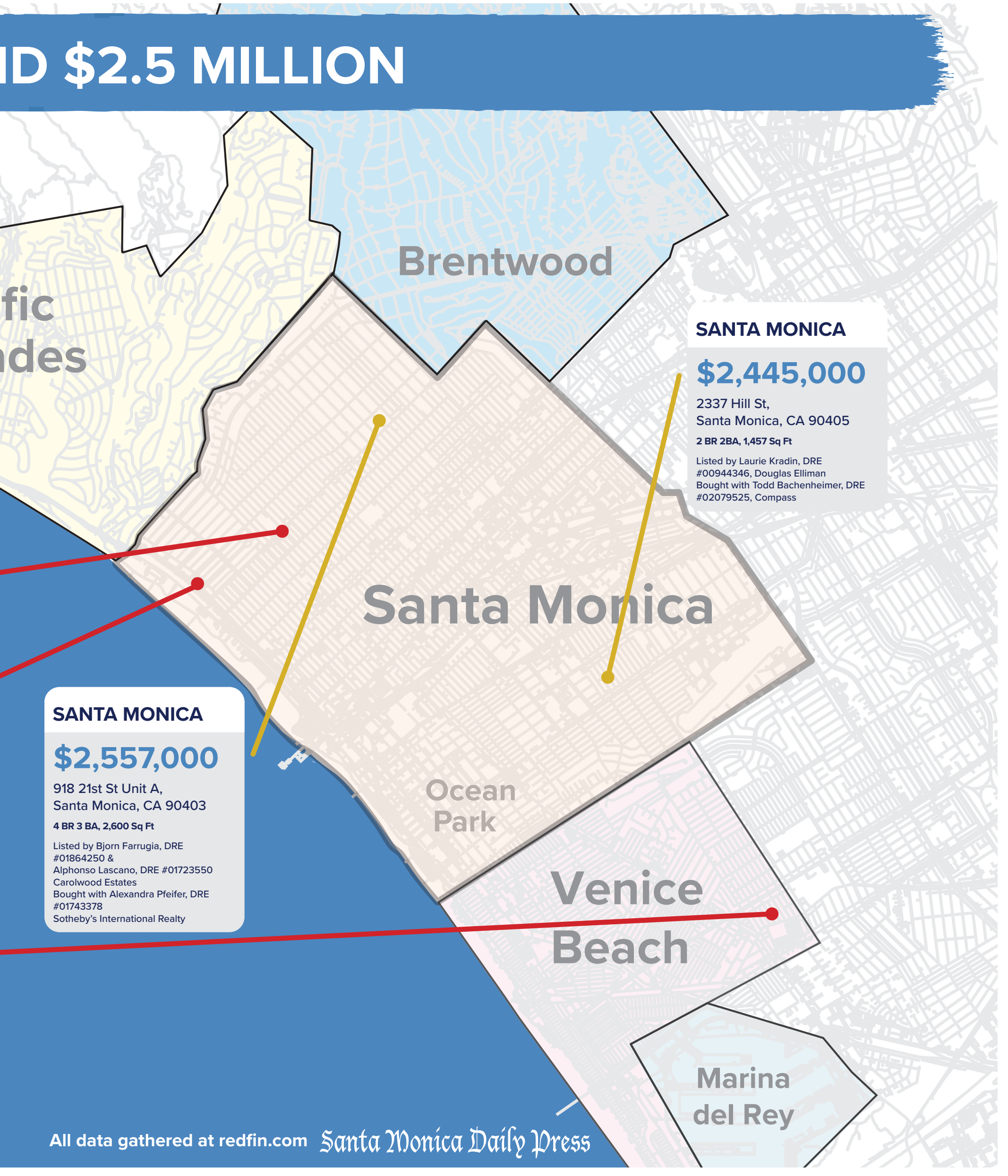
2221 Walgrove Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90066

5 BR 4.5 BA, 3,860 Sq Ft

Listed by Laurie Woolner, DRE #01421544
Campbell Wellman Properties

● SOLD ● FOR SALE

ND $2.5 MILLION



SANTA MONICA

$2,445,000

2337 Hill St,
Santa Monica, CA 90405

2 BR 2BA, 1,457 Sq Ft

Listed by Laurie Kradin, DRE #00944346, Douglas Elliman
Bought with Todd Bachenheimer, DRE #02079525, Compass

SANTA MONICA

$2,557,000

918 21st St Unit A,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

4 BR 3 BA, 2,600 Sq Ft

Listed by Bjorn Farrugia, DRE #01864250 &
Alphonso Lascano, DRE #01723550
Carolwood Estates
Bought with Alexandra Pfeifer, DRE #01743378
Sotheby's International Realty

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press

California lawmakers vote to reduce deficit by $17 billion, but harder choices lie ahead

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California lawmakers don't know for sure how big their budget deficit is, but on Thursday they decided it's big enough to go ahead and reduce spending by about $17 billion.

The vote represents a preemptive strike from Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is trying to get ahead of a stubborn shortfall that has been increasing every month and will likely extend into next year and beyond — when the second-term governor could be eyeing a campaign for the White House.

In his first term in office, Newsom enjoyed a series of historic surpluses and oversaw a vast expansion of government services. But that growth ended last year, when the state had a shortfall of nearly $32 billion.

Things got worse in January when Newsom announced another deficit of $38 billion. The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office said the shortfall was actually $58 billion because they said Newsom should have included some reductions in public education spending. Then in February the LAO updated its deficit estimate to $73 billion after state revenues continued to come in below projections.

Since then, Newsom and his Democratic allies in the state Legislature have been doing everything they can to make that

> "We're trying to make thoughtful choices here"
> - Jesse Gabriel, a Democrat and chair of the Assembly Budget Committee

deficit smaller. Last month, they raised a tax on the companies that manage the state's Medicaid program to bring in an extra $1.5 billion.

There were no headline-grabbing cuts in the reductions lawmakers approved on Thursday. Despite California's recent budget woes, the Democrats in charge have refused to raise income taxes or impose steep cuts to the most expensive programs, including health care and public education.

Instead, most of the savings comes from either cancelling or delaying spending that was approved in previous years but hasn't yet been spent. It also relies on a number of accounting tricks to make the shortfall appear smaller, including shifting paychecks for state workers by one day from June 30 to July 1 so the state can count $1.6 billion in salaries for the next fiscal year.

By doing this, Democrats are betting California's budget problems are only temporary. The state is known for wild swings in revenue, especially given its overreliance on wealthy taxpayers who make most of their money from the stock market.

"We're trying to make thoughtful choices here," said Jesse Gabriel, a Democrat and chair of the Assembly Budget Committee. "At the same time, from my perspective one of the worst outcomes here would be to make a cut to a critical program that serves our most vulnerable folks and to later realize that you didn't need to make that cut."

Republicans have long complained about Democrats' approach to the budget deficits, arguing lawmakers should make structural changes to the state's spending to better align with the reality of the state's revenues. On Thursday, Republican Assemblymember Vince Fong declared it "only pushes this crisis into the future."

Still, Democrats have been saying for months they will likely be forced to make "tough decisions" on the budget later this year. The LAO has projected a deficit of $30

> "We're not going to solve this problem anymore by just stopping one-time spending"
> - Cottie Petrie-Norris, Democratic Assemblymember

billion next year, which would be the third consecutive year of a multibillion-dollar shortfall.

"We're not going to solve this problem anymore by just stopping one-time spending," Democratic Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris said.

CEPS
Community for Excellent Public Schools

ARE YOU RUNNING
FOR A SEAT ON THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL THIS FALL?

Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) will be interviewing Council candidates in late April as part of our endorsement process for the **November election.**

If you are interested in seeking our endorsement, please send an email to **info@cepssm.org.**

About CEPS: We are a coalition of parents, community members, education activists, alumni, teachers, and current and former elected city officials committed to the preservation and betterment of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

We believe robust, reliable funding for public schools leads to high quality education that benefits our whole community.

We advocate for excellent public education in Santa Monica and Malibu from early childhood through community college. CEPS efforts generate $38 million dollars per year supporting lower class sizes, facilities, music programs, and more. **That's over $3,500 additional dollars per student, per year!**

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook: @cepssm

You can support our efforts here:

cepssm.org

Ad paid for by Community for Excellent Public Schools FPPC #1243108. Not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate



FRIDAY | APRIL 12

MOVIE FRIDAYS ON THE PROMENADE
The second Friday of the month through June, Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. will be showing free outdoor movies on the 1200 Block of Third Street Promenade, between Arizona and Wilshire. This month's movie is "High School Musical." Movie begins at 7:30 p.m. No advance registration required, all ages welcome. Picnicking allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Dogs welcome. Tall chairs not allowed, feel free to bring low chairs and pillows/blankets.

SATURDAY | APRIL 13

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK/PICO BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
The family market in the heart of the Pico neighborhood's Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave., runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Widely considered to be among the best markets on the west coast, featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. For more information, call 310-458-8688.

USED OIL RECYCLING EVENT
Join the City of Santa Monica's Oil Recycling and Filter Exchange event from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at O'Reilly Auto Parts, 2018 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica residents may bring their used oil and oil filter and exchange it for a new filter for free. Exclusions apply. Used oil filters are hazardous waste that cannot be thrown into the trash. Both the oil and steel are valuable nonrenewable resources that can be recycled. For more visit santamonica.gov.

EARTH DAY OF SERVICE
Celebrate 30 years of sustainability in Santa Monica with the Day of Service in honor of Earth Month at the Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main St., starting at 9 a.m. Spend time with the California Climate Action Corps Fellows putting in sweat equity at the city's oldest community garden. This unique habitat in the heart of Main Street is a great place to spend a morning. At 10 a.m. there will be a brief seed starting demonstration. Tools, gloves and water will be provided. Please wear closed-toed shoes. Hat and sunscreen recommended. To register, visit: https://portal.caclimateactioncorps.org/opportunities/bRthAAVcAw?%24.

PROM DRESS & SUIT GIVEAWAY
Join Guidance To The Future's annual Prom Dress & Suit giveaway from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. It's your chance to choose from a dazzling array of dresses, suits, shoes, accessories and more. Guest speakers, music, photography and refreshments will be available throughout the day. Free complimentary services from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. include basic alterations, notarization, make-up demo, barber and hairstylists.

FINANCIAL FREEDOM FAIR
Advance your personal financial journey with workshops (in English and Spanish) on credit, budgeting and the CalKIDS savings program, plus free tax services for state and federal filing (by appointment) and free credit report retrieval and analysis by financial coaches provided by Haven Neighborhood Services. Lunch is provided. Runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., Annex & Virginia Avenue Park Campus.

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING CLASSES
Love At First Sit, a pet care and dog behavior and training company in Santa Monica, hosts Community Dog Training Classes Saturdays at 12 p.m. at Virginia Ave Park in Santa Monica. Class fee is $5, then pay what you can after that. Class proceeds are donated to various charities for people and animals, animal shelters, and animal rescues. Class topics explore basic obedience, manners, enrichment and more.

WESTSIDE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Santa Monica Youth Orchestra invites the Santa Monica community to an evening of orchestral music by The Westside Chamber Orchestra, a local, professional ensemble led by conductor Brian Stone. Works by Stoelzel, Chavez/Buxtehude, Respighi and Webern/Bach. Featuring trumpet soloist David Pittel. Starts at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 958 Lincoln Blvd. Daily Press readers can get free tickets with promo code SMDP at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-westside-chamber-orchestra-bach-buxtehude-stoelzel-tickets-700513413477.

SUNDAY | APRIL 14

FAMILIES WELCOME WITH MIRY'S LIST
Families Welcome brings together our local communities around the important and joyful message that LA and the Annenberg Community Beach House is a place for everyone. In community with resettling Angelenos and the Miry's List team, we offer a multi-sensory experience for learning about welcoming newcomers, with a connective thread that everybody knows what it feels like to be new somewhere, and we have a beautiful opportunity to jump in, be curious, and connect as friends. Together, we will find a place for everyone. Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Hwy 2 - 5 p.m.

SUZY WILLIAMS - VENICE BEATS
This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd. 7 p.m.

LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA SPRING 2024 CONCERT (BARNUM HALL)
The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra presents the first of our Spring 2024 Concerts titled "A Pastoral Celebration" on Sunday, April 14 at 7:30pm at Barnum Hall in Santa Monica. The Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Russell Steinberg, will perform Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 in F Major (The "Pastoral" Symphony)and the World Premiere of Russell Steinberg's Cirrus Nimbus . The Ruth Borun Concert Orchestra, conducted by Jorge Padrón, will perform the First and Fourth Movements of Haydn's London Symphony (No. 104), Bartok's Pieces for Children, and Brahm's Hungarian Dance No. 2.
Barnum Hall, 600 Olympic Boulevard, $30, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/los-angeles-youth-orchestra-spring-2024-concert-barnum-hall-tickets-835156996057

MONDAY | APRIL 15

SANTA MONICA ARTS COMMISSION
Santa Monica Arts Commission meetings generally start at 6:30pm, preceded by the monthly Public Art Committee meeting at 5:30pm. Fire Station 1, Community Room - 1337 7th St

VIRGINIA AVE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
The Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board (VAPAB) serves as an advisory body to the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Director of Housing and Human Services Department. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 7 p.m.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
The Commission on Sustainability, Environmental Justice and the Environment shall act in an advisory capacity on sustainability, environmental programs and policy issues. The Commission closely monitors the Santa Monica's Sustainable City Plan and advises the Council on plan implementation. The Commission on Sustainability, Environment Justice, and the environment is an expert panel made up of seven (7) members selected by the City Council with 4 year terms. Commissioners must have significant expertise in one or more areas of environmental policy and must reside or work in Santa Monica. Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
Join a community-led online discussion of a wide range of books, chosen by the members. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. 7 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Architectural Review Board
The Architectural Review Board established in 1974, acts "to preserve existing areas of natural beauty, cultural importance and assure that buildings, structures, signs or other developments are in good taste, good design, harmonious with surrounding developments, and in general contribute to the preservation of Santa Monica's reputation as a place of beauty, spaciousness and quality." Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY | APRIL 16

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM
Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

SPECIAL NONFICTION BOOK CLUB: 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF READING LOLITA IN TEHRAN
In honor of the 20th anniversary of Azar Nafisi's landmark literary memoir, Reading Lolita in Tehran, our April meeting of the Nonfiction Book Club will have a special talk led by Frieda Afary, a member of PEN America's World Literature Speaker's Bureau to discuss the book in its historical and cultural context, and its continuing relevance today. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. 1 p.m. Donald Bruce Kaufman - Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard

MYSTERIOUS BOOK CLUB
Join us for the next meeting of the Mysterious Book Club a group of readers who love mystery and suspense. We are reading The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocum. We welcome new members. Come even if you haven't read the book. You can meet everyone and you'll know the title for next month.
"Ray has a gift and a dream—he's determined to become a world-class professional violinist, and nothing will stand in his way. When he discovers that his beat-up, family fiddle is actually a priceless Stradivarius, all his dreams suddenly seem within reach, and together, Ray and his violin take the world by storm. But on the eve of the renowned and cutthroat Tchaikovsky Competition—the Olympics of classical music—the violin is stolen, a ransom note for five million dollars left in its place." 1:30 p.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades

PLASTIC POLLUTION ADVOCACY TRAINING (VIRTUAL)
Join Heal the Bay's FREE virtual advocacy training to combat plastic pollution in our communities. Learn the power of grassroots activism and how to lead impactful campaigns targeting local and state plastic reduction efforts at our VIRTUAL training.
Master the tools to make a difference:
Understand key plastic pollution policies.
Craft persuasive messages for decision-makers.
Make impactful calls to representatives.
Submit compelling written comments on legislation.
6-7 p.m.
https://healthebay.org/event/plastic-pollution-advocacy-training-virtual/

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

BIPOC kids bombing the streets from spot to spot. Skateboarding is rebellion incarnate, but mobbing spots with a pack of kids that look like you feels closer to the physical reclamation of so-called public space. The excitement and terror fueling this feeling is akin to wearing two Public Enemy shirts, twice the targets on our backs, without the benefit of being a Kaupas in the eyes of the police.

I felt the specter of police violence constantly. When kicking us out of spots, cops would separate me from my white friends, asking them how they knew me, if we were from the same town and school.

I think of all this in the wake of a recent email from my mom, checking in and slightly reminiscing about my days growing up skating in the street in front of our house, how I'd yell for her to witness my next handful of attempts, trying to land a new flip trick.

Then she delivered an unprompted and belated cautionary tale.

"You have no idea how much I worried about you while you were out skating," she wrote. "But I kept telling myself that I needed to give you the space to make your own mistakes and that whatever we had taught you would somehow surface and allow you to survive."

When my sister moved to college at Berkeley, I visited her by myself when I was 13. She kept me on a safe but loose leash, allowing me to explore Telegraph Avenue. Incense smoke tickled my nostrils for the first time as I started at tables upon tables stacked with the most progressive bumper stickers I'd ever seen. I skated around and found 510 Skateboarding, the now long-standing Bay Area skate shop, at its small original location right on Dwight and Telegraph. Toward the back of the store was a living room situation with a TV and a bunch of skate videos, a couch, some chairs. Taped to the top of the TV was a cardboard sign that read 'thirty-minute lurk limit,' specifying the time patrons were allowed to lurk at the store and watch skate videos for free before being asked to keep it pushing.

I thought it was so cool there was even a space for locals to watch videos, time limit and all: a theater space within a shop space, all centered around skateboarding and the community it fosters. I forcefully created this theater in my parents' living room as a kid with every VHS I shoved into the VCR, but imagine the walls that could be broken with small amenities like this in every skate shop, the new worlds to be found by kids and parents alike. I remember as a kid staring at that cardboard sign and wishing a space like this would have no lurk limit, no time ceiling for the power of shared experience that skate videos can conjure.

But at the very least, it was an invitation to a safe, shared space for skaters.

It reminds me of those spaces highlighted in Kareem Campbell's "Trilogy" part. In a brief interlude sketch, Campbell writes to teammate, skater Shiloh Greathouse, in prison. Campbell's desk is covered with malt liquor, cigarettes, joints and cash. He signs off his letter – "But yo, you gotta break out and I gotta break out. World for Life. Kareem"– before Lauryn Hill sings the opening melody to "If I Ruled the World (Imagine That)" and Campbell finishes the second half of his part.

Through skate videos and the boundaries they break through self-representation, Campbell was right: you gotta break out and I gotta break out from the invisible biases to the literal abusive behavior, those forces threatening to imprison our tricks, stories, letters from ever being received.

José Vadi is the author of "Inter State: Essays From California" and "Chipped." His work has appeared in the Paris Review, The Atlantic, PBS NewsHour, the San Francisco Chronicle, Free Skate Magazine, Alta Journal and the Yale Review. "No Lurk Limit" was excerpted from "Chipped: Writing from a Skateboarder's Len" by José Vadi. Copyright © 2024. Available April 16 from Soft Skull Press. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

City of Santa Monica

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED 2024-25 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN ALLOCATING FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) & HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP ACT PROGRAM (HOME) FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides annual CDBG and HOME entitlement funds to the City of Santa Monica. As a recipient of these federal funds, HUD requires the City to develop a five-year Consolidated Plan along with Annual Action Plans for housing and community development which identify high priority needs and the associated goals, strategies, and resources anticipated over a five-year period.

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Proposed 2024-25 Annual Action Plan, which identifies the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of CDBG and HOME funds to address the high-priority needs specified in the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan.

The Proposed 2024-25 Annual Action Plan is now available to the public for a 30-day review period beginning March 22, 2024. Both the Proposed 2024-25 Annual Action Plan and the HUD-approved 2020-24 Consolidated Plan can be viewed at www.santamonica.gov/community-development-block-grant-and-home-investment-partnership-programs .

Hard copies are available upon request through the Housing and Human Services Department by telephone at (310) 458-8701 or by email at humanservices@santamonica.gov. Written comments may be submitted by April 22, 2024 to humanservices@santamonica.gov or by mail to: Housing and Human Services Department, 1685 Main Street, MS22, Santa Monica, CA 90401. All comments received will be incorporated into the final draft of the 2024-25 Annual Action Plan, currently due to HUD by May 15, 2024. The City Council is scheduled to consider approval of the proposed plan on April 23, 2024.

ESPAÑOL Esto es un aviso público para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en el repaso del Plan Preliminar de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2024-25. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

New Book By Santa Monica Writer Named Among Finalists For Prestigious Award

Longtime Santa Monica resident Amnon Kabatchnik, drama professor, historian, director, and award-winning writer, has been named among finalists for the Foreword Indies Book of the Year Award for his latest work, "Horror on the Stage." An outstanding new volume in Kabatchnik's critically acclaimed reference series, Horror on the Stage (McFarland & Company) is now available wherever books are sold in trade paper (ISBN: 978-1476675558, $75.00), and eBook ($33.99) editions.

The book has been shortlisted for the 2023 Foreword Indies Book of the Year Award in the Performing Arts and Music category. An annual awards program that highlights the best of the best in independent publishing, the Foreword Indies Book of the Year Awards is sponsored by Foreword Reviews, a platform dedicated to discovering, highlighting, and reviewing books from university and independent presses. This year's competition garnered nearly 2,500 entries. Winners will be announced in June 2024.

It highlights the most terrifying moments in theater history. A comprehensive and meticulously researched volume, "Horror on the Stage" examines a broad cross-section of works.

The work relates the history and behind-the-scenes tales of more than 500 stage productions about monsters, hauntings and horrors both historical and imagined. Resplendent with fascinating historical detail, photographs, existing production details, synopses, and critical and scholarly evaluations, "Horror on the Stage" is the definitive guide to monsters, murders and terrifying moments in theater.

Amnon Kabatchnik, now retired, was a professor of theater at SUNY Binghamton, Stanford University, Ohio State University, Florida State University, and Elmira College. Born in Tel Aviv, Israel, Amnon Kabatchnik received his BS degree in theatre and journalism from Boston University where he graduated summa cum laude and won the Rodgers & Hammerstein Award. Kabatchnik also holds an MFA degree in directing from the Yale School of Drama He directed numerous dramas, comedies, thrillers, and musicals in New York and across the United States. He is the author of Sherlock Holmes on the Stage as well as the seven-volume series Blood on the Stage. Visit Amnon Kabatchnik online at: www.amnonkabatchnik.com

McFarland & Company (www.mcfarlandbooks.com) is a leading independent publisher of academic and general-interest nonfiction books, perhaps best known for the serious treatment of popular culture. Founded in 1979 and headquartered in North Carolina, McFarland boasts a catalog of over 7500 unique titles.

SUBMITTED BY MARYGLENN M. WARNOCK

Citywide

Rent CPI Remains Elevated Despite Dip in New Lease Prices

Inflation, while down from its peak, continues to surpass the Federal Reserve's long-term target, with housing costs playing a significant role. The rent component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), constituting one-third of the overall index, remains high, contrasting with a slight dip in rent prices for new leases, as reported by the Apartment List Research Team.

According to recent data for February, the rent component of CPI shows a year-over-year growth rate of 5.8 percent, indicating a gradual cooldown from its peak of 8.8 percent last year. However, rent CPI remains elevated compared to the Apartment List rent index, which indicates a slight decrease in rent prices for new leases year-over-year.

The disparity between the two indices arises from their distinct methodologies. While the Apartment List rent index focuses on composition-controlled price changes for new leases, the CPI tracks rent changes across all households. This discrepancy suggests that changes in market-rate asking rents take time to impact the entire rental market.

The Apartment List rent index serves as a leading indicator for the rent component of CPI, with its peak year-over-year growth rate occurring 16 months before the peak in rent CPI. This lagging relationship underscores the gradual descent expected in rent CPI.

Housing costs, particularly the shelter component of CPI, which comprises one-third of the overall index, continue to elevate overall inflation. Despite fluctuations in other components like food and energy prices, the shelter component has been running substantially hotter than topline CPI since late 2022.

As discussions on the economy revolve around when the Fed will begin lowering interest rates to combat inflation, the gradual easing of upward pressure from the shelter component is anticipated. While the exact timing of this cooldown is uncertain, the consistent deceleration in the year-over-year growth rate of shelter CPI indicates a potential drop below 3.5 percent by the end of 2024.

Although the Fed targets an overall inflation rate of 2 percent, the shelter component does not necessarily need to align with this target immediately. The Fed acknowledges the relationship between new-lease rents and full-market rents, actively monitoring the cooldown reflected in real-time private market indicators like the Apartment List rent index. Therefore, the deceleration of housing inflation is factored into the Fed's forecast, suggesting that shelter inflation alone should not impede the Fed's decision to lower rates.

SUBMITTED BY APARTMENT LIST

BUSINESS TAX

FROM PAGE 2

generator of income in the City of Santa Monica, Councilmember Oscar de la Torre asked about the history of that particular cap.

Manglara explained that she had pulled all the records that she could find from the 80s and found that the cap started at about $2,500. It was increased in 1983 and again in 1990 and there was discussion to remove it. But the same conversation occurred and the cap went from $5,000 to $20,000 in 1990 and then it scaled up in 1992 to $25,000 where it has remained.

A motion was eventually made by Councilmember Caroline Torosis, "With the proposed changes related to the phased-in approach, any additional incentives — if possible — and clarification on definitions of small businesses, while maintaining the very equitable approach that you have all taken, which we appreciate, prepare a draft measure for modernization to be placed on the November 2024 ballot."

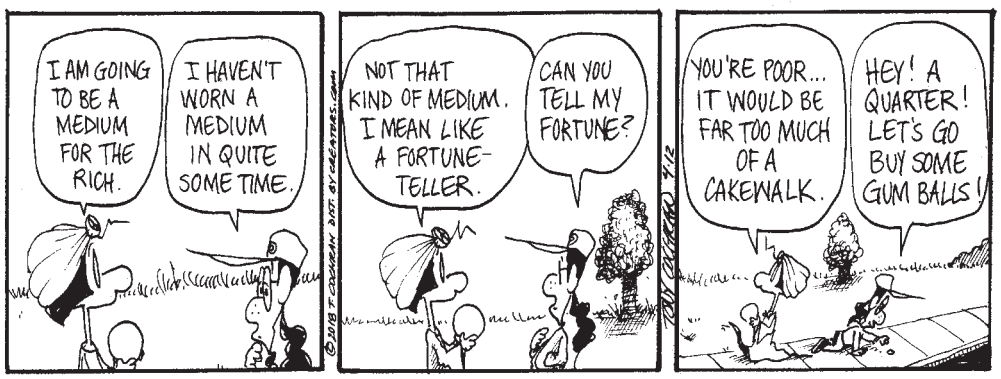
The motion was seconded by Negrete and passed unanimously 7-0.

---

scott.snowden@smdp.com

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



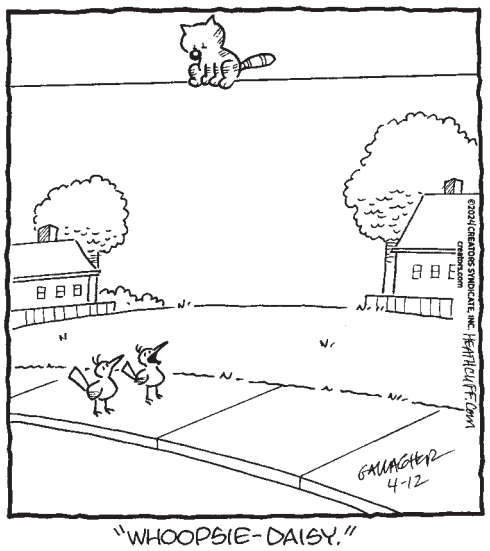
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

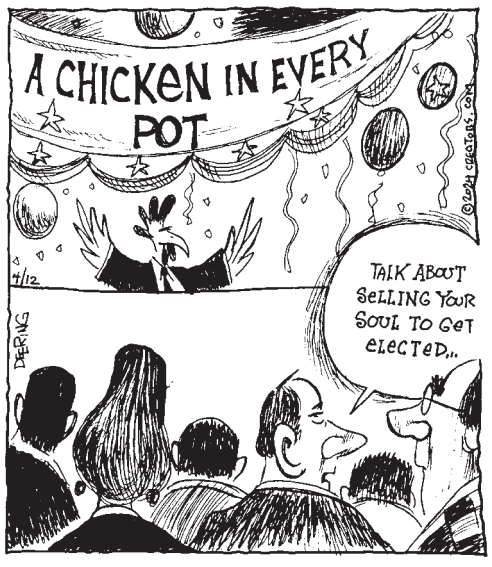
By PETER GALLAGHER



"WHOOPSIE-DAISY."

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 29 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6178

Great ocean views

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

Active	Inns	Skipton
Adventure	Koroit	Southern Ocean
Avalon Airport	Lismore	Timboon
Cliffs	Loch Ard Gorge	Torquay
Cobden	Lorne	Tranquil
Colac	Marengo	Twelve Apostles
Derrinallum	Motels	Walks
Foodie	Noorat	Waves
Forrest	Rugged	Windy
Golf	Simpson	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 12)

You'll find the lucrative side of your talents. You'll leave holes in your schedule for your creativity to pool inside, then make things worthy of celebration. Those celebrations will lead to more findings, creations and celebrations. More highlights: You advance your work through fearless authenticity. You'll experience a love that blossoms in unexpected ways. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 15, 20, 1, 18 and 42.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even in your most work-a-day mode you still feel astonishment at life's essentials, like breath, warmth and the privilege of another trip around the sun. You'll celebrate the mere sense of being in the flow of life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). For optimum processing speed, your brain requires rest, play and exercise among other things. Sometimes you keep sharp by letting yourself be the opposite. Diffused, random, relaxed silliness can be restorative.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's said that lessons get repeated until they are learned. But no one can learn everything, nor should you try. If you can go a different way and avoid the issue altogether, do it. If that lesson is important, it will pop up again.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Self-compassion improves interpersonal dynamics because it's easier to have compassion for others when your soul and psyche experience the peace of self-acceptance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Today your luck will run on momentum. It will be carried on the breeze of your movement. It will dance with you when you pivot, keep pace with you when you run, loft you when you leap.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You never know who's falling in love with your smile. Being unaware of the effect you have on others only makes your magnet stronger. All your attention goes into getting to know people better and there's none left for self-doubt.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Charles R. Swindoll said, "Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it." Though it should be noted he was neither mathematician nor neurologist. "What happens" affects the plot to widely varying degrees.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll sort out your mind. The best way is to record all your thoughts: the good, the bad, the ridiculous and logical alike. Look at them in the light of tomorrow and then distill into a few sentences of clarity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The project that's worthy of you will sharpen your mind. You will execute each step with purpose. You'll study the larger context and you'll get feedback. Careful thought leads to stellar results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your connection to others dials you into deeper parts of yourself. You'll add to your social network, either by finding people who belong in it or honing your rules and standards on interactions with people who don't.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Spin your thinking to your own benefit. When you focus on what you have in the spirit of love, celebration and enjoyment, you are rich. When you give a holistic look at what you lack, you are free. Every gift comes with responsibility.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). For you, it's easy to find beauty because you go by what you like. You can't use the same method for truth. Truth doesn't require you to like it, it remains the same regardless of public opinion. Today you'll seek and know it.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

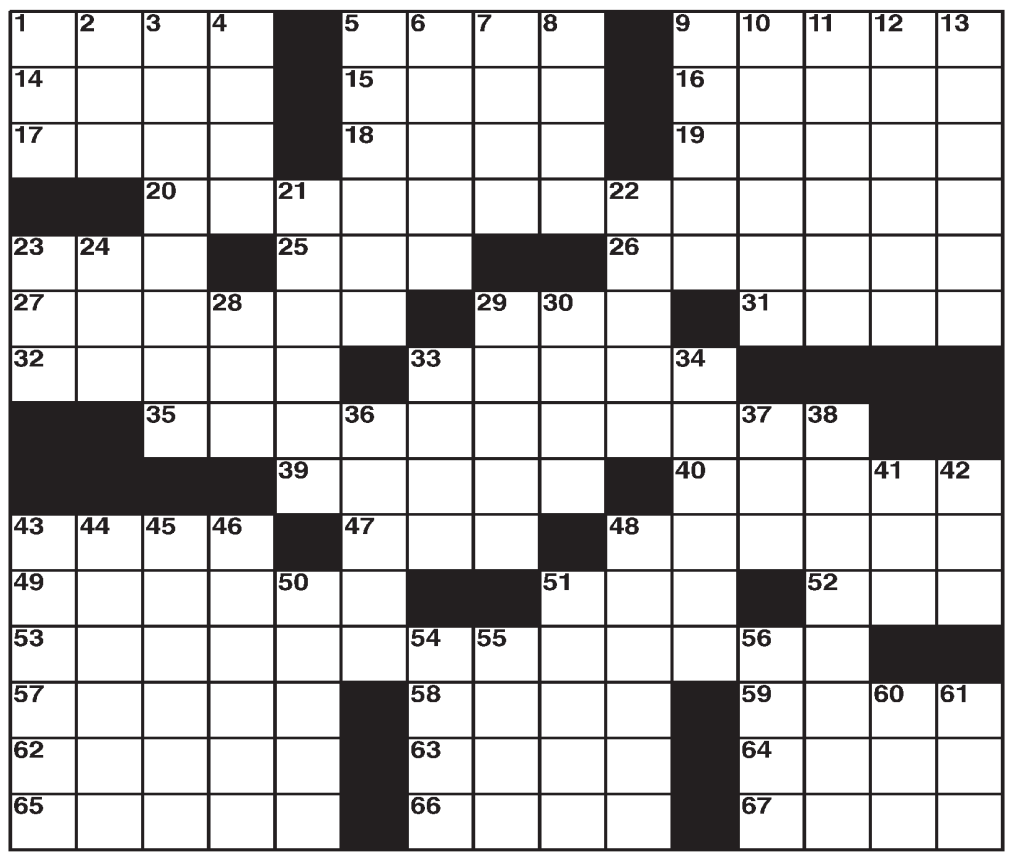
PHONE IT IN by Prasanna Keshava
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Sketches, for short
5 *Wild Horse Mesa* (1928) cover name
9 Types of tests
14 Small town, for short
15 Descriptor for DFW or JFK
16 Valuable violin
17 Cool it
18 Tuscan tourist center
19 Talk trash to
20 Columnist's gig
23 X resembler
25 Common hedge fund hire
26 Ear piece
27 Bring or take
29 DFW or JFK
31 Latin 101 word
32 Preceder of well or case
33 "I'm leavin'!"
35 Kellogg's catchphrase
39 Name related to Ilie
40 Battle of Hastings weapon
43 Taiwanese tea
47 Large ceramic planter
48 More than imprecise
49 Knowing what's what
51 End up wrong
52 Word in eight Commandments
53 Feathery nonfliers
57 Ohno with eight Winter Olympic medals
58 Custodian's collection
59 Chaucer-era "ancient"
62 Fancy spreads
63 Ecstatic
64 Crayola's Laser Lemon, e.g.
65 Scrape off
66 "Lively" group
67 Cellphone theme of the puzzle

DOWN

1 Word on some chip bags
2 Marker
3 Unlike anything earlier
4 POTUS address
5 Zooms past
6 Novelist Shreve
7 Black box analyzer
8 Nonflier on Saturdays
9 Coal carrier
10 Einstein, from 1933
11 They're not long shots
12 Makes up for
13 "Attached" antonym
21 Come to light
22 Conversation ender
23 Some ER orders
24 Smokin'
28 Go (for)
29 Hunk
30 Certain course corrections
33 Time of *jour*
34 Burning brightly
36 Sit on it
37 Light-hearted
38 Kicking, say
41 Possible 25-Across ambition
42 Paperless banking acronym
43 Clumsy oaf
44 Equatable
45 South American capital
46 Hidden agendas
48 Pulls (from)
50 Brief concession
51 Two-continent country
54 Podded plant
55 Apprehension
56 Pittance metaphor
60 Track tenaciously
61 What you can't major in at MIT



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04/12/24

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

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

To determine the base year calculation, the formula first identifies the amount of revenue per pupil of SMMUSD, adjusting for the additional cost to serve Malibu students. Then, the adjusted per pupil funding amount is multiplied by the number of students enrolled in just Santa Monica schools, creating a base year "funding target."

In a sample calculation an adjusted per pupil revenue of $18,131 was multiplied by 8,019 enrolled in Santa Monica campuses, creating a base year funding target of $145,397,289. The numbers were purely samples because the base year calculations will be based on the fiscal year prior to separation.

This funding target number is compared to the unrestricted general fund revenues of a Santa Monica Unified, and if the revenues are less than the funding target, Malibu would make up the difference through a base year property tax transfer amount. In the example calculation, the Santa Monica Unified unrestricted general fund revenues of $128,928,378 is $16,468,911 under the funding target, meaning that number would be the base year amount transferred by Malibu.

Subsequent fiscal year revenue sharing starts with the Santa Monica Unified funding target being escalated by 4% each year. The inflated Santa Monica funding target, similar to the base year calculation, would be subtracted by Santa Monica's unrestricted revenues, and whatever shortfall there is in the difference between revenues and funding target would be made up by a transfer of Malibu property taxes. If Santa Monica revenue growth results in funding levels which exceed the funding target, Malibu will not be required to provide a transfer for that year.

> This is a contractual way to (ensure) that it gets divided fairly to set up Malibu at least no less unfairly than it currently is going forward, with opportunity for it to become more and more fair to Malibu to the point, eventually, where there's a complete separation
>
> - Bruce Silverstein, Malibu City Councilmember

Dominico made clear that the 4% increase in the Santa Monica funding target "is not an increase (of) 4% on (Malibu's) payment" and that the escalation is "based on the target revenues" of Santa Monica Unified. She added that the 4% number was based on negotiations, stating that in negotiations "there's pain on both sides."

"I think we would have rather had a lower number," Dominico said. "But as we're going through and trying to get concessions on one side to provide protections to Malibu to make sure that this revenue sharing is affordable … one of the things we did have to agree to was that 4% growth rate, it is based on (SMMUSD's) historical growth rate … they felt like in order for them to say to their community that they would not be harmed due to the separation, that's the level of funding they would need to achieve."

Malibu City Councilmember Bruce Silverstein admitted that "all things being equal" Malibu "wouldn't be giving" up concessions to the Santa Monica side, but the city had to follow the negotiation process.

"This is a contractual way to (ensure) that it gets divided fairly to set up Malibu at least no less unfairly than it currently is going forward, with opportunity for it to become more and more fair to Malibu to the point, eventually, where there's a complete separation," Silverstein said. "Would we like more? Absolutely. Would they want more? Absolutely. They don't even want to separate. So this was the cost to being able to do it … if we (didn't) get the same education, I wouldn't be supporting this … but it's the same. It's the same dollars, the same education, and it's an opportunity for a better education incrementally."

The annual revenue sharing would continue until an agreement termination, which could be triggered in several ways. First, an early termination would occur if there is no Malibu property tax transfer for three consecutive years. If that does not occur, the next chance for termination would be in the 2041-42 fiscal year if there is no property tax transfer at that time. That 2041-42 year is the beginning of the end regardless, as if Malibu's transfer is greater than zero, but less than $5 million in 2041-42, Malibu payments are tapered off through termination in the 2046-47 fiscal year. If in 2041-42 the transfer amount is greater than $5 million, payments will taper off until termination in 2051-52.

Language in the agreement has protections for both the Malibu and Santa Monica sides of the equation, including considerations of adjustment to the formula or payment amount from the Malibu side if the transfers result in "undue fiscal pressure" on Malibu Unified. For Santa Monica, the agreement guarantees the unrestricted general fund revenue annual growth of 4%, with the property tax transfer payments to be paid in alignment with normal county property tax distributions each year, in order to assist with cash flow.

The City of Malibu initially identified school district separation as a priority in 2015, with the city formally submitting a petition two years later to the Los Angeles County Office of Education Committee on School District Organization. The petition approval process is currently on hold pending negotiations regarding the term sheet, with the subsequent operational agreement called "in process" and a joint powers agreement still to be agreed upon.

Next up is another Malibu workshop on the separation topic to be held on April 20, followed by similar meetings to be held in Santa Monica. Once sufficient public input is received on the agreement it will formally come back to Malibu City Council and the SMMUSD Board of Education for ratification.

thomas@smdp.com

Eric Uller sexually abused hundreds of children over almost 30 years while masquerading as a police officer at Santa Monica PAL.





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