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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Court tears down housing law that densified single family neighborhoods

A controversial housing law that would have densified single-family, residential neighborhoods has been ruled unconstitutional and unenforceable for some cities including Santa Monica.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

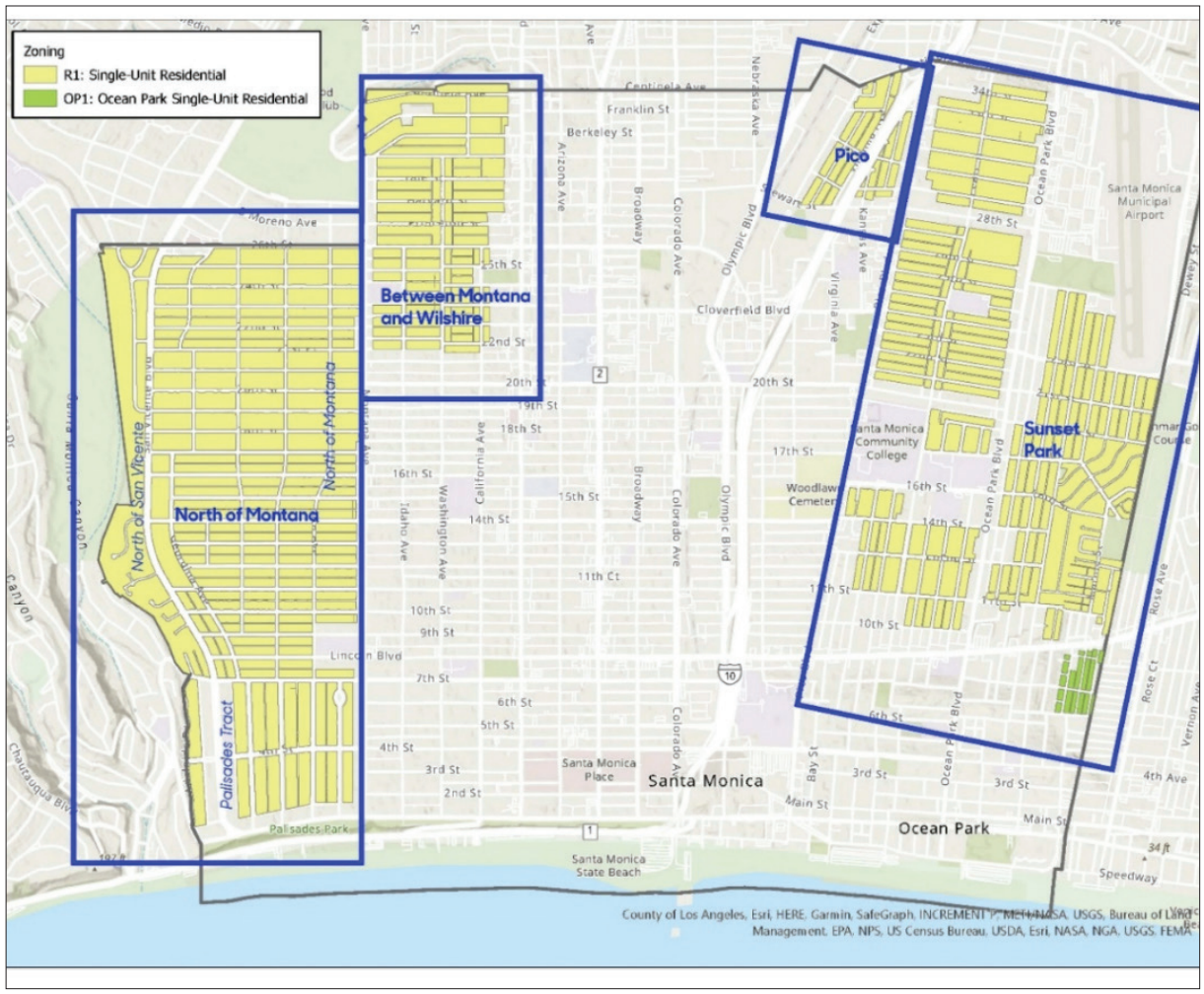
SB 9, or the California Housing Opportunity and More Efficiency (HOME) Act, mandated cities permit an additional residential unit on parcels zoned for single-dwelling units. It allowed for a total of two residential units in such zones, excluding accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Enacted in September 2021, the law took effect statewide on January 1, 2022. Locally, SB9 applied solely to properties in the R1 (Single-Unit Residential) and OP1 (Ocean Park Single-Unit Residential) Zones. Certain exemptions prevented displacement of current residents, including properties within hazard zones, historic districts, containing price-controlled units, subject to recent Ellis Act removal, or necessitating the removal of over 25% of existing structure walls.

The law was implemented across every municipality in the state but California has two kinds of city. A charter city, like Santa Monica, derives its authority from a city charter, not the general law. Doing so provides it with additional responsibilities and rights, including a clause that requires state laws to pass a four-point test when they are accused of overriding local control.

Opponents of SB 9 said the law violated the rights of charter cities by failing to show it addressed a statewide cause and that it interfered with local rights more than was necessary. The courts agreed this week.

The lawsuit's proponents defined the applicable statewide concern as ensuring affordable housing. While the California Attorney General's office said the statewide concern which SB 9 addressed was the shortage of housing as a whole in California, the court said the specific language in the law did not support that statement saying the law's intent to promote affordable housing was unambiguous.

SEE **SB9** PAGE 15



Courtesy photo

MAP: SB 9 has been ruled unconstitutional but the housing rule applied to specific neighborhoods in Santa Monica, mostly clustered on the edges of town.


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Wayfinding signs begin tentative rollout with 'test' kiosk placement Downtown



Matthew Hall

SIGNS: A bus station at southeast corner of Wilshire Blvd. and 4th St. is under construction where the first wayfinding kiosk is scheduled to be installed.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The first official on-street placement of the long-awaited digital Wayfinder Kiosk program will take place next week, according to the City of Santa Monica several months after a fully functioning prototype was made available for local residents to inspect, examine and evaluate last June.

Officially known as the Digital Wayfinding and Out-of-Home Advertising Kiosk Program, the initiative was first introduced in early 2020, but the proposal was shelved until November 2022, when Council selected a company to install and maintain the network of kiosks. A company called BIG Outdoor beat the competition and was awarded the franchise in December 2022. However, one of the companies spurned by the selection process, IKE Smart City, threatened legal action, accusing BIG of exaggerating their qualifications and copying other company's intellectual property as it related to the kiosks.

However, in a warm and fluffy ending to this epic tale, both IKE and Big settled their differences in February 2023 and announced a partnership to meet the terms of the contract that would roll out "up to 50 kiosks" and potentially raise in the region of $5 million per year for the city.

"The city of Santa Monica and BIG Outdoor have made significant progress on the digital wayfinding kiosk project. Construction to install the first kiosk will begin tomorrow April 22 and we expect that kiosk, located at the southeast corner of Wilshire Blvd and 4th Street to go live by the end of the week," a City spokesperson told the Daily Press this week, adding a day or so later that, "there was an unforeseen issue with construction and we're looking at next week for the test install."

However, a visit to that particular corner of the Wilshire and 4th Street intersection does show early indications of breaking ground.

Last year, the Daily Press jumped at the opportunity to play with this gigantic, new gadget and before long concern was expressed as to how well this monolith-sized message board would stand up to the

SEE **KIOSK** PAGE 12

After eviction, perilous housing journey comes to close for senior citizen



Photo by Thomas Leffler

HOUSING: Santa Monica resident Scott Brutzman has finally found a new home at Christian Towers.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

One local senior citizen who likened his fight for housing to a "death sentence" has been given a reprieve in his situation, finding at least a small bit of comfort in his new abode.

This week, Santa Monica resident Scott Brutzman was able to move into a one-bedroom apartment at the Christian Towers senior living facility at 1233 6th St., something he says "beats living on the curb" after he was left homeless from the fallout of a January eviction hearing.

"(It's been a) slow process, (but it's a) nice clean apartment, it's small, but I can live in a small apartment as long as I have a bathroom and my bedroom," Brutzman said.

In a ruling in the Santa Monica Courthouse by Judge Lawrence Cho, plaintiff OPB Buildings was awarded possession of Brutzman's suite at 3301 Ocean Park Boulevard. The case over the commercial property was initially filed on September 26, 2023, with legal counsel representing OPB Buildings arguing that a 30-day notice to quit at the commercial property was all the property owner needed to provide as a commercial operator.

Brutzman initially agreed to a month-to-month lease in his unit to run his insurance business, but after the business withered partially due to his health condition, he remained at the property to use as a living space.

After remaining at the property as long as he could before being evicted, Brutzman was stuck in a perilous situation, being without housing while fighting his consistent health challenges. He previously faced two bouts with cancer (prostate and Leukemia), and is dealing with the contraction of Graft vs Host Disease (GvHD) as a result of bone marrow donations needed to suppress his last bout with cancer. The condition ravaged Brutzman's body, leaving him with significantly reduced vision and severely compromised mobility.

With a myriad of issues, Brutzman felt hopeless after being taken out of a place he had some small form of comfort in.

"This didn't develop overnight, (this)

SEE **BRUTZMAN** PAGE 12



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **58.6**

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

Modest blend of NW swell mix and SSW swell on tap across the region. Should be enough to get the small wave gear going on the early tide push. Early AM wind looking light before a very breezy afternoon looks likely (WNW wind 10-20kts+)

SATURDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

Uptick in NW swell mix for AM as a little more new SW/SSW swell shows. Likely on the peaky side and the wind outlook is improving but still dicey as another late season storm is expected to pass by the region. Stay tuned.

Weather

Friday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 67.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north 5 to 10 mph after midnight.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 67. North wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southwest in the morning.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/04/26	Fri	05:45 AM	-0.45	L
2024/04/26	Fri	12:10 PM	3.09	H
2024/04/26	Fri	4:23 PM	2.08	L
2024/04/26	Fri	10:52 PM	5.47	H
2024/04/27	Sat	06:32 AM	-0.37	L
2024/04/27	Sat	1:15 PM	2.83	H
2024/04/27	Sat	4:43 PM	2.36	L
2024/04/27	Sat	11:29 PM	5.31	H
2024/04/28	Sun	07:29 AM	-0.23	L
2024/04/28	Sun	2:53 PM	2.71	H
2024/04/28	Sun	5:02 PM	2.63	L
2024/04/29	Mon	12:16 AM	5.06	H
2024/04/29	Mon	08:39 AM	-0.12	L
2024/04/30	Tue	01:24 AM	4.75	H
2024/04/30	Tue	09:58 AM	-0.13	L
2024/04/30	Tue	5:57 PM	3.25	H
2024/04/30	Tue	8:38 PM	3.12	L
2024/05/01	Wed	02:59 AM	4.49	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: 4/24
2 20 22 26 47
Power#: 21
Jackpot: 149 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/23
11 17 33 39 43
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 228 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 4/24
13 14 27 38 45
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 30 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/24
4 6 8 16 23

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/24
EVENING: 8 6 2
Draw Date: 4/24
MIDDAY: 7 2 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/24
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:40.97

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Symposium breaks down new tenant protections, 'misunderstandings' of unhoused struggle

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The latest in housing rights for all of Santa Monica's residents was on the mind of locals on Wednesday, as a group of citizens expanded their knowledge on the city's fair housing laws at a symposium hosted at the Santa Monica Main Library.

The symposium covered a wide range of topics, starting with new tenant protections which went into effect in March. Created by Ordinance No. 2776, the city's Housing Anti-Discrimination Code was amended to prohibit discrimination on the basis of a tenant's housing status, becoming the first jurisdiction in the state of California to include "housing status" as a protected class. The "housing status" protection means that a landlord cannot discriminate against a tenant who may be experiencing homelessness, living in transitional or temporary housing, or lacking a residential rental housing history.

Santa Monica's recently-passed law is even broader in scope than the District of Columbia's, which became the nation's first jurisdiction to enact housing status protections in 2022. Compared to the Santa Monica law, the D.C. law prohibits discrimination against an individual only based on "homeless status," with the Santa Monica law expanding to include transitional housing, temporary housing and the lack of a rental history.

This advancement adds on to the city's robust housing anti-discrimination ordinance, which also covers source of income (SOI) discrimination. Deputy City Attorney in the city's Public Rights Division, Jonathan Erwin-Frank, walked the audience through SOI discrimination, which also includes prohibiting discrimination against those using the Section 8 voucher program.

On May 12, 2015, Santa Monica City Council unanimously passed an ordinance prohibiting landlords from rejecting an application for tenancy solely based the source of a tenant's income, which covers all forms of income (including non-employment sources of income like disability benefits, veterans benefits and child support), as well as all forms of rental assistance in both governmental and non-governmental programs.

Frank expanded on the discussion by touching on the California Fair Employment & Housing Act, and the definition of source of income discrimination being expanded within that law. Covered by the expanded definition is a prohibition of discrimination against any applicant because the applicant is using a federal, state or local housing subsidy to assist paying with rent, including Section 8 vouchers and security deposit assistance programs.

Another speaker at the symposium was Rene Buchanan, a former unhoused person who used a Section 8 voucher to find an apartment two decades ago. Buchanan, a former member of the Santa Monica Housing Commission, said that housing status and income source discrimination are "the two most common affordable fair housing barriers," lauding the city's approach on the subjects.

She told the audience that those using vouchers "don't have to settle" and should work on finding a place that meets their needs, as well as reminding attendees what unhoused people struggle with every day.

"Even the most unpleasant living situations become familiar after a while, familiarity then begets settling, settling begets resignation, and resignation kills dreams, leaving us to believe that we deserve no better than living out of the trash bag," Buchanan said. "But we do deserve better, we deserve the same opportunities that everyone who decides to live in Santa Monica has, we deserve a chance to benefit from all that one of California's most forward-thinking cities has to offer. We in turn strengthen the fabric of our city … this is why affordable housing availability is so important."

Availability of affordable housing remains a true crisis in Santa Monica and the Los Angeles area, as Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) Senior Attorney Shayla Myers said it was "more accurate" to talk about the homelessness crisis as "an affordable housing crisis." Myers, who represents LAFLA's Unhoused Persons Justice Project, came to the symposium to break down the "myths and misunderstandings" about the unhoused, including "the big lie" of "shelter resistance," or that unhoused persons are in that situation "because they want to be."

"I think (we) accept that when people are unhoused on the streets, they are there because they want to be, because it's much easier to blame a person who was unhoused than to actually address the structural inequalities that have led us there in the first place," Myers said. "It's much easier to say that a person who is unsheltered on the streets wants to be there than it is to say that we need to make huge structural changes that would be necessary to address our affordable housing crisis."

Myers broke down other easily-repeatable phrases, such as that unhoused typically face substance abuse or mental illness crises, saying that cities with higher rates of substance abuse don't face the same rate of homelessness as Los Angeles because they have enough affordable housing. She also went into detail about the journey the unhoused take to find a home when their day-to-day goal is "simply to remain alive."

"When we don't put ourselves in the shoes of someone who was unhoused, then we forget all of the practical things that we rely on day to day that make it possible for us to survive," Myers said. "We forget that unhoused don't have those things available to them."

thomas@smdp.com







Thomas Leffler

SYMPOSIUM: Various speakers took to the podium at the Santa Monica Main Library to discuss fair housing topics like housing status and source of income anti-discrimination laws.

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USC cancels graduation ceremony and dozens are arrested on other campuses as anti-war protests grow

STEVE LEBLANC AND NICK PERRY
Associated Press

The University of Southern California canceled its main graduation ceremony Thursday and dozens of students were arrested on other campuses as protests against the Israel-Hamas war continued to spread.

College officials across the U.S. are worried the ongoing protests could disrupt their plans for commencement ceremonies next month. Some universities called in police to break up the demonstrations, resulting in ugly scuffles and arrests, while others appeared content to wait out student protests as the final days of the semester ticked down.

Other approaches taken by schools included rewriting their rules to ban encampments and moving final exams to new locations.

USC announced the cancellation of the May 10 ceremony a day after more than 90 protesters were arrested on campus. The university said it will still host dozens of commencement events, including all the traditional individual school commencement ceremonies, during which students cross a stage and receive their diplomas.

Tensions were already high after the university canceled a planned commencement speech by the school's pro-Palestinian valedictorian, citing safety concerns.

"We understand that this is disappointing; however, we are adding many new activities and celebrations to make this commencement academically meaningful, memorable, and uniquely USC," the university said in a statement Thursday. Those include gatherings, the releasing of doves and performances by the marching band.

The Los Angeles Police Department said 93 people were arrested Wednesday night during a campus protest for allegedly trespassing. One person was arrested on allegations of assault with a deadly weapon.

Protests also spread to nearby UCLA with some local leaders denouncing what they described as antisemitic overtones.

"I strongly support the constitutional rights of all students to exercise free speech, to peacefully assemble, and to protest. I've spent my career as a civil rights leader exercising those rights myself and fighting for their protection. I will continue to fight for their protection as an elected official, no matter how strongly I may disagree with the protected speech," said Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Hollywood).

"Today's protest at UCLA included hateful antisemitic threats, calls for the violent destruction of the State of Israel, and statements praising the leadership of Hamas — a terrorist organization responsible for the deaths of thousands of Israelis and Palestinians alike. I am appalled and disgusted by antisemitic and xenophobic chants, protestors telling Jews to go back to Europe, and the glorification of Hamas's October 7 attack against Jews, Arabs, and Americans in Israel."

He said no group should have to endure hate on campus and that there was no place for vile hate in Los Angeles.

"I stand firmly with Jewish students and their peers who had to endure these hateful actions during Passover - and for months now on campuses across the country."

At Emerson College in Boston, 108 people were arrested overnight at an alleyway encampment. And new encampments and protests continued to pop up at campuses across the country.

> I strongly support the constitutional rights of all students to exercise free speech, to peacefully assemble, and to protest. I've spent my career as a civil rights leader exercising those rights myself and fighting for their protection. I will continue to fight for their protection as an elected official, no matter how strongly I may disagree with the protected speech
>
> - Rick Chavez Zbur, Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair

Students protesting the war are demanding schools cut financial ties to Israel and divest from companies enabling the conflict. Some Jewish students say the protests have veered into antisemitism and made them afraid to set foot on campus.

At Emerson, video shows police first warning students in the alleyway to leave. Students link arms to resist officers, who move forcefully through the crowd and throw some protesters to the ground.

"As the night progressed, it got tenser and tenser. There were just more cops on all sides. It felt like we were being slowly pushed in and crushed," said Ocean Muir, a sophomore.

"For me, the scariest moment was holding these umbrellas out in case we were tear-gassed, and hearing them come, and hearing their boots on the ground, just pounding into the ground louder than we could chant, and not being able to see a single person," she said.

Muir said police lifted her by her arms and legs and carried her away. Along with other students, Muir was charged Thursday with trespassing and disorderly conduct.

Emerson College leaders had earlier warned students that the alley has a public right-of-way and city authorities had threatened to take action if the protesters didn't leave. Emerson canceled classes Thursday, and Boston police said four officers suffered injuries that were not life-threatening during the confrontation.

The University of Texas at Austin campus was much calmer Thursday after 57 people were jailed and charged with criminal trespass a day earlier. University officials pulled back barricades and allowed demonstrators onto the main square beneath the school's iconic clock tower.

The gathering of students and some faculty was protesting both the war and Wednesday's arrests, when state troopers in riot gear and on horseback bulldozed into protesters, forcing hundreds of students off the school's main lawn.

At Emory University in Atlanta, local and state police swept in to dismantle a camp, although the university said the protesters weren't students but rather outside activists. Some officers carried semiautomatic weapons, and video shows officers using a stun gun on one protester who they had pinned to the ground.

Protesters at Emory chanted slogans supporting Palestinians and opposing a public safety training center being built in Atlanta. The two movements are closely entwined in Atlanta, where there has been years of "Stop Cop City" activism that has included attacks on property.

Jail records showed 22 people arrested by Emory police were charged with disorderly conduct.

But many colleges, including Harvard University, were choosing not to take immediate action against protesters who had set up tents, even though they were openly defying campus rules. And some colleges were making new rules, like Northwestern University, which hastily changed its student code of conduct Thursday morning to bar tents on its suburban Chicago campus.

George Washington University said it would move its law school finals from a building next to the protest encampment to a new location, because of the noise.

The current wave of protests was inspired by events at Columbia University in New York, where police cleared an encampment and arrested more than 100 people last week, only for students to defiantly put up tents again, in an area where many are set to graduate in front of families in a few weeks. Columbia has said it plans to continue negotiations with protesters through early Friday.

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said the ability to embrace student voices and different perspectives was a hallmark of the nation's growth but warned authorities wouldn't tolerate hate, discrimination or threats of violence.

"We continue to follow reports about protests — including very alarming reports of antisemitism — on and around college campuses across the country," he said in a statement.

Since the Israel-Hamas war began, the U.S. Education Department has launched civil rights investigations into dozens of universities and schools in response to complaints of antisemitism or Islamophobia. Among those under investigation are many colleges facing protests, including Harvard and Columbia.

Perry reported from Meredith, New Hampshire. Contributing to this report were Associated Press journalists in various locations including Stefanie Dazio, Kathy McCormack, Jim Vertuno, Acacia Coronado, Sudhin Thanawala, Jeff Amy, Mike Stewart, Collin Binkley and Sophia Tareen.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD and DISABILITIES COMMISSION

VACANCIES

Housing Authority Board:
Two seats available for a term ending on June 30, 2026.
Applicants must be Santa Monica residents and Housing Choice Voucher participants with a voucher issued by the Santa Monica Housing Authority program. One applicant must be formerly unhoused.

Disabilities Commission:
Two seats available for a term ending June 30, 2025 and one for a term ending June 30, 2026.
Applicants must be Santa Monica residents. Two must self-identify as a person with a disability

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Applications are due by noon, Tuesday, June 4th.
Appointments to be made by City Council, Tuesday, June 11th.

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.

Recyclo-Pedic knowledge: Samohi & SMC grad helps Santa Monica College reduce waste

Kenny Derieg literally makes his living dumpster diving. As Santa Monica College's recycling program specialist, he's paid to keep his hand in the trash and his eye on everything students throw away.

"I consider myself the traffic control for all campus waste," he explains.

Day by day, dumpster by dumpster, Derieg and his two student workers, Enrique Zanotta and Dylan Burger, scout the campus on the lookout for eco-fails and missed opportunities.

They methodically log what and how much gets pitched. "We go around with a paper and clipboard, and we're taking notes on how often this bin or that bin is filling up. Every bin is numbered," he says.

Periodically he and his students perform "trash audits," emptying selected bins onto a tarp and sifting through the noisome contents for signs of "contamination." A greasy pizza box befouling a blue recycling bin. A water bottle carelessly mixed with grass clippings. A banana peel mistakenly bound for the landfill.

Derieg's main focus is capturing organic waste—everything from wilted lettuce to clamshell paper boxes. It's his job to make sure SMC stays in compliance with SB 1383, which requires the collection of organic waste around campus.

"We're currently averaging about 300 pounds a week," he notes.

According to Derieg's supervisor, sustainability director Ferris Kawar, SMC was one of the first community colleges to hire a full-time recycling specialist—almost 20 years ago now.

"The position was important then and has only become more critical," Kawar says, as environmentalists came to understand the disastrous consequences of putting organic waste in landfills. Left unattended, green waste turns into methane, a heat-trapping gas 80 times worse for the climate than carbon.

"We were ahead of the curve," Kawar adds, reflecting on SMC's early embrace of sustainability work.

When Derieg started this job last year, it felt like a homecoming. "It's nice to be back on my old stomping grounds," says the 33-year-old alum.

He prides himself on being "a hyperlocal native." Born and raised in Santa Monica, he graduated from Samohi and studied two years at SMC before transferring to UCLA, where he earned dual bachelor's degrees in sociology and urban planning. He went on to earn a master's in urban sustainability from Antioch University, focusing on food systems.

Before joining SMC's staff, Derieg was an environmental educator with TreePeople, giving "Trash Talks" to teenagers and jumpstarting school-based recycling programs across greater Los Angeles.

Passion for the environment runs in Derieg's family. His father spent 40 years working for the City of Santa Monica, starting as a street sweeper. His mom was a parking enforcement officer: they met working the same route. "She would write the tickets for the cars parked in his way," he says, with a grin.

In a twist of fate, the "hyperlocal" recycling specialist left Santa Monica four years ago to embark on an experiment in sustainable living with his wife, Brittany, and their two cats. When their jobs went remote in 2020, they grabbed an opportunity to become "land stewards" of an undeveloped 20-acre lot in Temecula.





Courtesy photos

SMC: Kenny Derieg and his students work to promote sustainability at Santa Monica College.

"We were pretty much living off the grid," Derieg says. No electricity. No sewage. The only infrastructure was a water hook-up. They built a tiny home on a trailer running entirely on solar power. In their spare time, they planted 150 fruit trees and established a productive orchard. In 2022, they returned to the grid, settling in quasi-rustic Rancho Palos Verdes.

Derieg's day starts early. To beat traffic, he arrives on campus at 7 am via e-bike. Then, he and his team head for SMC's on-campus food pantry Bodega, scooping up unwanted produce. They stop by the glass-blowing studio to collect broken glass shards. Certain departments generate lots of batteries and shredded paper, so they touch base daily.

With organic waste, everything stays on campus. Once a week, Derieg and his helpers crank up an industrial-strength grinder that crushes food into pulp. They mix in a slurry of mulch, horse manure and hay donated by Ocean View Community Garden. This surprisingly un-smelly slop goes into SMC's Vermitech machine—home to some 500,000 red wiggler worms—where it's transformed into gardener's gold.

"The worms have magical microbes in their intestines," Derieg says. "Whatever they're digesting and evacuating, the plants just love. It's the ultimate fertilizer." The process generates about 100 pounds of worm castings every other month. Part goes back to Ocean View in a barter arrangement. The rest is applied to SMC's Organic Learning Garden and campus landscaping.

Derieg's time is also spent educating others and advocating for waste management across SMC.

Earth Month is an especially busy time, as the focus of campus life turns in Derieg's direction. But he's never too busy to share his passion for sustainable solutions.

FOUR TIPS FOR EARTH WEEK

How to minimize food waste (courtesy of Kenny Derieg):

- Try thinking of everything you throw away not as trash but as a resource that can be re-utilized, recycled, and kept in the loop of our economy. Then dispose of it appropriately.
- Instead of throwing away food that's getting a bit old, consider freezing it, drying it in a dehydrator, or preserving it as jam. If you hate leftovers, consider sharing them with friends who are less finicky. Composting should be the last option. Always avoid food waste.
- If you're throwing food scraps in the trash, understand that it's very bad for the environment. A head of wilted lettuce takes years to break down properly in the landfill, and it releases harmful methane into the atmosphere. By putting that lettuce in a green bin, you help create a closed-loop system where we grow food, eat food, compost food and re-apply that compost back onto the land.
- Everybody is now legally required to have green bins, but some haven't complied. If you don't have access to a green bin, put pressure on your landlord, your employer, your city or your waste hauler to provide one.

ARTICLE COURTESY OF THE SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions – Officers- Who Does What?

Kelly: I am a sitting board member for our HOA and we are coming up next week with our annual board election and a possible change of president (which is badly needed). As of right now, we have only 3 board members present out of 5 due to one moving away and another just resigned.

Our sitting president acts like a dictator who demeans and speaks down at others, even other board members like myself. She also seems tied very closely with the property manager and the board secretary.

We have a chance at three new board members who could replace either the president or the secretary position. I am concerned that myself and the three other new candidates are unfamiliar with the specific duties of the president, vice president and the treasurer. Can you help us understand those specific duties? M.J., Garden Grove.

Dear M.J.:

Most HOA bylaws have sections describing board officer duties. Unfortunately, the language is often boilerplate and not helpful.

Corporations Code Section 312 provides little guidance – it just requires a corporation to have a chairperson or president, a secretary, and a chief financial officer. The statute states that the duties of officers are as stated in the bylaws or may be determined by the board.

Presidents often misunderstand that their role in a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation is very different from for-profit corporations. HOA presidents normally have very little power because the decision-maker is not the president, but is the board. The president has one vote, the same as every other director. However, if one does not understand the different type of presidency that comes in the HOA, that president could think they are in charge and become somewhat of a dictator – if the board allows them to do so. Boards should be careful to remind their presidents that they chair the meetings and are usually the HOA's spokesperson and point of liaison with management – but they are NOT the "boss." Presidents exceeding their authority can find themselves with a disgruntled or discouraged board – or a vote to change officers.

The vice-president normally mainly chairs board or member meetings if the president is absent.

The treasurer is typically charged with monitoring the HOA's finances. Normally the treasurer has the assistance of a professional management firm, accountant, and/or bookkeeper to keep the HOA's books, but the treasurer should be conversant with the HOA's finances.

The secretary is often responsible for keeping meeting minutes, but if the HOA is professionally managed, minutes are often prepared by management. The secretary, like the vice-president, often has little responsibility. However, with professional management, the officer's primary duty is that of a director- to vote on board decisions.

Board officers normally serve at the pleasure of the board, which can change officers at any time. To change officer positions, the topic should be on the posted open meeting agenda. Some HOAs take the incorrect position that filling or changing officer positions is a "personnel" matter and can be conducted in closed executive session – but "personnel" in the context of Civil Code Section 4935 contemplates persons paid by the HOA as employees – not volunteers.

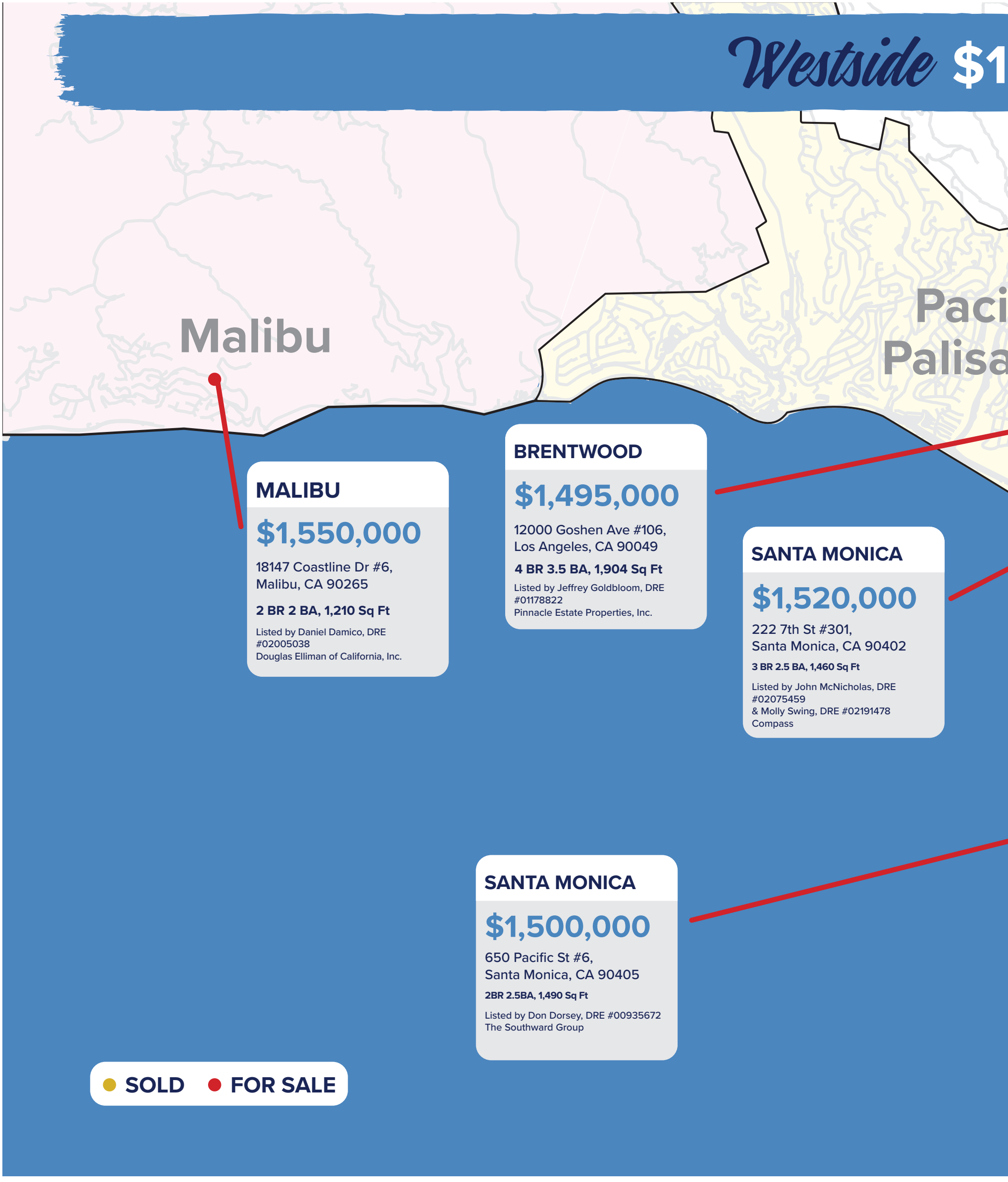
If the bylaws are vague regarding officer duties, consider board action to clarify officer roles. Lastly, to HOA presidents- please be a leader, not a boss.

Best regards, 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®.







MALIBU

$1,550,000

18147 Coastline Dr #6,
Malibu, CA 90265

2 BR 2 BA, 1,210 Sq Ft

Listed by Daniel Damico, DRE #02005038
Douglas Elliman of California, Inc.

BRENTWOOD

$1,495,000

12000 Goshen Ave #106,
Los Angeles, CA 90049

4 BR 3.5 BA, 1,904 Sq Ft

Listed by Jeffrey Goldbloom, DRE #01178822
Pinnacle Estate Properties, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$1,520,000

222 7th St #301,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

3 BR 2.5 BA, 1,460 Sq Ft

Listed by John McNicholas, DRE #02075459
& Molly Swing, DRE #02191478
Compass

SANTA MONICA

$1,500,000

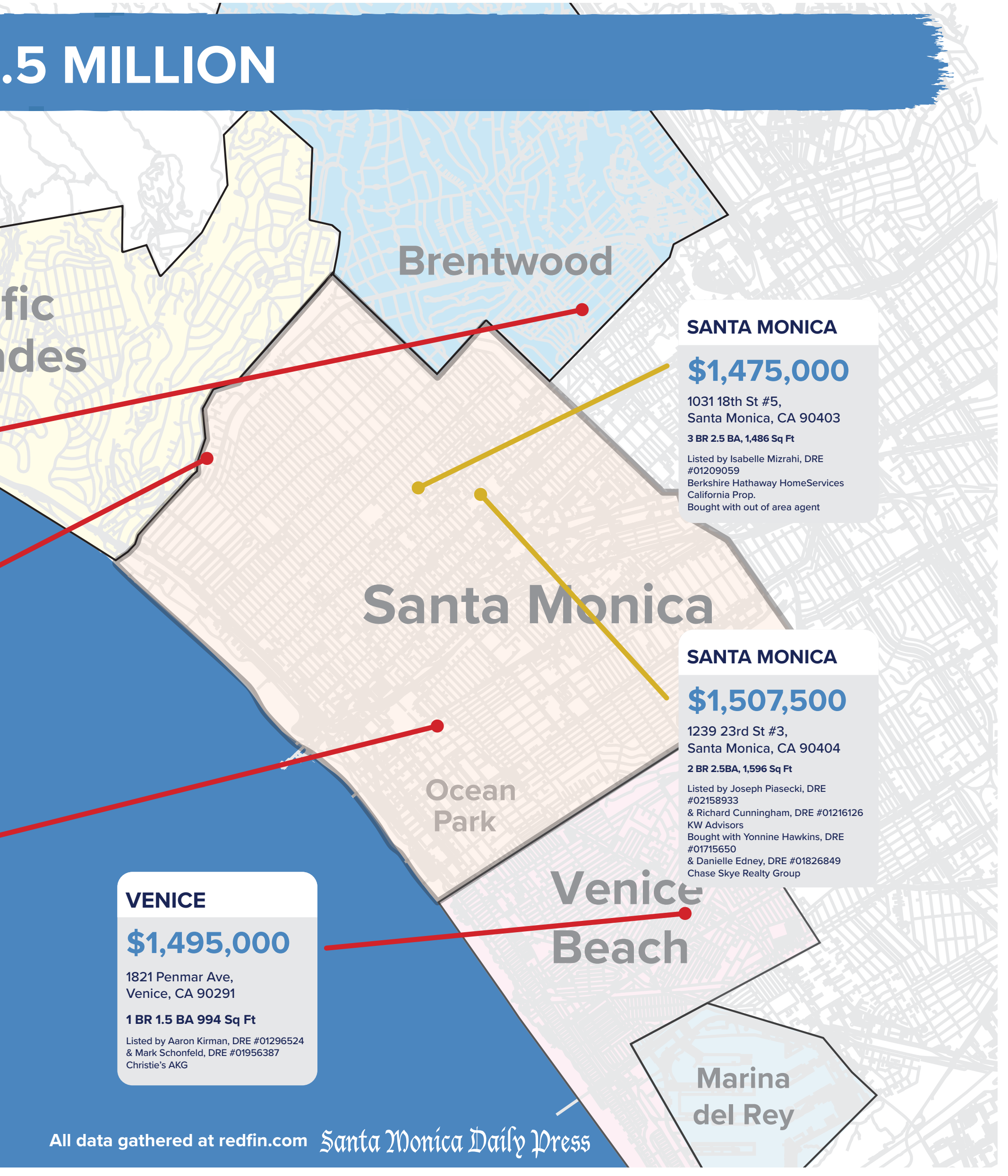
650 Pacific St #6,
Santa Monica, CA 90405

2BR 2.5BA, 1,490 Sq Ft

Listed by Don Dorsey, DRE #00935672
The Southward Group

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.5 MILLION



SANTA MONICA

$1,475,000

1031 18th St #5,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

3 BR 2.5 BA, 1,486 Sq Ft

Listed by Isabelle Mizrahi, DRE #01209059
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Prop.
Bought with out of area agent

SANTA MONICA

$1,507,500

1239 23rd St #3,
Santa Monica, CA 90404

2 BR 2.5BA, 1,596 Sq Ft

Listed by Joseph Piasecki, DRE #02158933
& Richard Cunningham, DRE #01216126
KW Advisors
Bought with Yonnine Hawkins, DRE #01715650
& Danielle Edney, DRE #01826849
Chase Skye Realty Group

VENICE

$1,495,000

1821 Penmar Ave,
Venice, CA 90291

1 BR 1.5 BA 994 Sq Ft

Listed by Aaron Kirman, DRE #01296524
& Mark Schonfeld, DRE #01956387
Christie's AKG

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press



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Shari Davis on being the
2024 Connections for Children
Iao Katagiri Community Impact Award recpient.
It is well deserved.
Your loving family, Noah, Hilary, Eve,
Michael and Tioga

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacramento

California Housing Security Act Advances Out of Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee

Joint Authors Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Hollywood) and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-La Palma) have announced that the California Housing Security Act, sponsored by the City of Santa Monica and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, has advanced out of the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee. AB 2498 will increase housing security by providing housing subsidies to low-income former foster youth, older adults, veterans, adults with disabilities, people experiencing unemployment or homelessness, and recently incarcerated individuals, without regard to an individual's immigration status.

"One of the most cost-effective and compassionate ways of reducing the number of Californians expe-riencing homelessness is to empower people to stay in their homes," said Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur. "AB 2498 would create a statewide housing subsidy program to allow some of our most vulnerable people to remain housed while experiencing challenging and often life-altering circumstances. I want to thank Assemblymember Quirk-Silva for her leadership in prioritizing homelessness prevention and for her commitment to addressing the housing and homelessness crisis with real solutions."

One of the highest recommendations in the California Master Plan for Aging 2023-2024 Initiatives, based on research done by the Business, Consumer Services & Housing Agency, is to "explore emerging local government models to inform consideration of Rental Subsidy Programs for older adults and people with disabilities." This bill fulfills this recommendation while expanding its parameters to include other vulnerable populations.

"AB 2498 is a testament to our values as a society that believes in caring for our neighbors, lifting up the marginalized, and ensuring that every Californian has a place to call home," said Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva. "By providing crucial housing subsidies to those on the brink of losing access to a stable living situation, we can give individuals the chance to maintain their homes and their dignity. I would like to thank Assemblymember Zbur for his tireless work to craft a bill that not only addresses immediate needs but also lays the groundwork for long-term housing security."

The California Housing Security Act now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, where it will be heard in the coming weeks.

SUBMITTED BY VIENNA MONTAGUE

Downtown

Art/Punk Guitar Icon Joe Baiza to Play Soundwaves Concert Series

Guitarist Joe Baiza brings his new quartet to the Santa Monica Public Library's Soundwaves concert series on Saturday, May 4, for a special performance at 3:30PM in the Main Library's Multipurpose Room at 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

In 1981 Baiza's first group, Saccharine Trust, was the third band on SST Records, after Black Flag and the Minutemen. Like them, Saccharine Trust was based in the independent spirit of punk but defied the limits of that genre, incorporating poetry, blues, jazz, noise, and other elements. Kurt Cobain listed their debut EP as one of his 50 favorite records. Baiza's next band, Universal Congress Of, was largely instrumental and included songs by free jazz artists including Ornette Coleman and Henry Threadgill in its sets. Over the last four decades he has continued working at the intersections of post-punk and free jazz with players from both scenes

For his Soundwaves show Baiza's quartet will include drummer Brian Christopherson, from the last lineup of Saccharine Trust, vocalist Jessika Kenney, who has worked with Alvin Lucier, Sunn 0))), and Eyvind Kang, and bass guitarist David O. Jones, a member of Carnage Asada and the Alice Bag Band.

Soundwaves was created by librarian/musician Jeff Schwartz and composer Daniel Rothman in 2016 to present cutting-edge music at the Santa Monica Public Library. It has received grants from the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library and the Amphion Foundation. Programs have included collaborations with the Angel City Jazz Festival, Piano Spheres, Jacaranda Music, Microfest, Cold Blue Music, and the Dog Star Orchestra. A complete list of shows, with many videos, is at soundwavesnewmusic.com.

All Library programs are free and open to the public. Parking is available underneath the Main Library, several bus lines and the Metro E line stop nearby, and there are bike racks. The Multipurpose Room is wheelchair accessible. Please call (310) 458-8600 to request additional accommodations.

SUBMITTED BY JEFF SCHWARTZ



Courtesy photo

CONCERT: Joe Baiza is coming to the Soundwaves series in May.



FRIDAY | APRIL 26

MAKE YOUR OWN TIE DYE SHIRT
Calling all kids! Design your own tie dye shirt to take home and wear with pride. This program is presented with Jason, our library volunteer. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

CYBERNAUTS: LAPL E-MEDIA RESOURCES
Limited capacity. Sign up at the Library Reference Desk or by emailing jake.folsom@lapl.org. For a complete list of classes and services, visit lapl.org/cybernauts. Workshops will be conducted in person. Join the Cybernaut to learn all the ways you can gain free access to digital books, music, movies, courses and more through the library's e-media resources! Bring with you the devices you will use to read, listen to or view resources, if you can.
Topics covered include:
E-books and audiobooks
Music and podcasts
Movies, tv, and video
Online Learning
Language Learning
Newspapers and magazines
Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 4 p.m.

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW
The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. Free, online.
https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/4dbcb55f-a8fa-4311-8c27-bca3a5b6208a

THE IRL SHOW
The Crow at Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave., hosts a pro-level stand-up comedy show for middle school and high school tweens and teens 10 and up. Catch comics from Comedy Central, HBO and late night TV doing their best PG material. Talk to the comics after the show to meet and learn from the best. The Crow orders pizza for everyone and hosts a free teen open mic at 7 p.m., the hour before the show. Come by to try it out and get some feedback from a pro comic, or hang out and watch and support the mic. Show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets $20, teens with student ID $10. To purchase, visit: https://jetbook.co/e/irlkyrn.

SATURDAY | APRIL 27

RUMMAGE SALE
Get ready for a shopping spree like no other! Join Santa Monica Elks Lodge at their spectacular garage sale where hidden gems and incredible bargains await you at every turn. This event promises a treasure trove of finds, spanning clothing, household items, electronics, entertainment, and a delightful array of miscellaneous treasures. This is an indoor event with plenty of free parking in the lot. Santa Monica Elks lodge, 1040 Pico Blvd. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

DEA DRUG TAKE BACK
Did you know that approximately 60,000 emergency department visits annually result from children under 6 finding and ingesting medication? Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. National Take-Back Day is a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is Saturday, April 24, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Santa Monica Police Department. Location: Santa Monica Public Safety Facility, 333 Olympic Drive.

ARTS & LITERACY FESTIVAL 2024
The robots are here! Celebrate reading with a robot-themed day of live performances and family-friendly activities hosted by community organizations, including the library. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

LA MADE PRESENTS: CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY WITH EMMY LAM
Space is limited. Please email palsds@lapl.org or visit the reference desk to reserve a spot. Chinese calligraphy has been a traditional art of Chinese writing for more than 5000 years. It is especially significant and important during numerous Chinese festivals and celebrations. This workshop is a superb opportunity for everyone to learn how to write a different language and to learn about Chinese culture in a fun and creative way through Chinese calligraphy. Students will learn to write 24 Chinese characters, and they will bring home their prized work. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades, 11 a.m.

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.

CHUBBIES SPLASHDOWN
Chubbies is taking over the Santa Monica Pier to bring the first annual Chubbies Splashdown. Running from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., the party includes a giant inflatable water slide, and those brave enough to slide down it will receive a free pair of Chubbies swim trunks will supplies last. Also includes a live DJ, free food and drinks and a 360 Photo Booth. All ages are welcome.
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.

SHOTGUN HOUSE TOUR
Join the Santa Monica Preservation Resource Center from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. for a free tour of the last intact shotgun house in Santa Monica which now serves as the Resource Center for the community at 2520 2nd St. Discover the journey of the house which was saved from demolition and moved - on wheels - three times before becoming a model for adaptive reuse. Tours available on a walk-up basis. For more information, contact 310-496-3146.

INTERNATIONAL POETRY FILM FESTIVAL
The third annual International Poetry Film Festival, Los Angeles, takes place from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice. Featuring screenings of nearly 40 poetry-based films from around the world, including selections from France, India, Belgium, Ireland and the United States. Selected by festival director Lynn Holley and Beyond Baroque. Food and drinks will be available on-site. Tickets $30, $15 for Beyond Baroque members. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit poetryfilmfestival.org.

AQUARIUM COMEDY CLUB
Join Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk, for an intimate comedy event with major headliners from Netflix and Comedy Central. Hosted by Sean Leary of "Laughs on Fox" and "America's Got Talent." Starts at 8 p.m. with an hour of Tidepool Touch Tanks and Sharks & Rays Touch Tank exhibits beforehand. There will be a small beer bar. Donations accepted. Feel free to bring food and snacks. Tickets $28-$32. For more, visit: https://healthebay.org/event/aquarium-comedy-club-april/.

ALEICHEM SHOLOM
Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., hosts "Aleichem Sholom!: The Wit and Wisdom of Sholom Aleichem," a musical starring Chris DeCarlo and Evelyn Rudie. Part of the Jewish Heritage Series, this joyous and poignant musical follows the life of the beloved Yiddish story-teller as he spins tales of his loves and losses, his fame and failures, his travels, travails and the tremendous optimism that kept him going against all odds. Starts at 7 p.m. Tickets $35. Discounts for students, teachers, seniors and military. For tickets, visit: https://www.showclix.com/event/aleichem-sholom-01.

SUNDAY | APRIL 28

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ANTIQUE MARKET
Noted as one of the top 10 "flea markets" in America, visit the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market, a fun outdoor (and dog-friendly) market full of many great dealers with furniture, antiques, collectibles, art, vintage clothes, jewelry, rugs and much more. A destination for decorators, designers, boutique owners, families with their friendly dogs and collectors of all ages. Located at 2800-3200 Airport Ave., next to the Museum of Flying. Runs from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NEXTGEN CLIMATE SUMMIT
New Roads School, 3131 Olympic Blvd., hosts the NextGen Climate Summit from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Take action and make a difference. Create your climate change vision and develop a roadmap to achieve it. Together let's amplify the voices of the next generation of climate leaders in the civic process and help guide city decision-making for a sustainable and resilient future for all. Enjoy refreshments, activities, networking and resources. The event is open to Santa Monica high school and college students and is free of charge. Registration required, to register visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nextgen-climate-summit-tickets-868773122797.

CHESS SUNDAYS
Chess players of all ages and levels are invited for weekly casual play on the 1200 block of the Third Street Promenade from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Some chess sets (including a few giant ones) will be provided, but you're welcome to bring your own. Chess Sundays are free and open to all, no sign-ups or advance resignation required. This event is a partnership between the Santa Monica Chess Club and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.

Submit your events online. Visit smdp.com/events to add your event to the calendar

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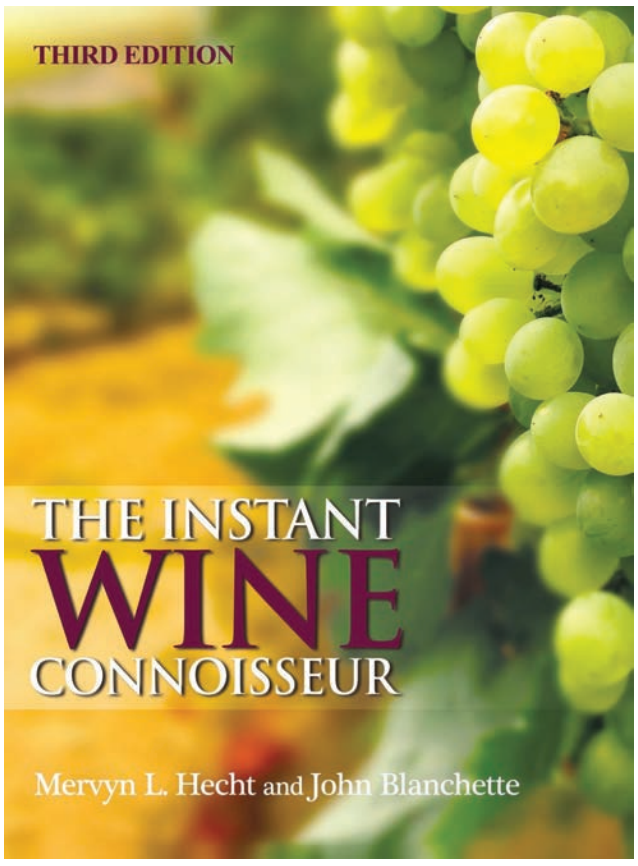
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★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

available at amazon

KIOSK

FROM PAGE 2

inevitable vandalism that any nice, shiny new toy placed on the streets of Santa Monica will be vulnerable to.

"First and foremost was making sure we had protocols in place if something does happen," Bill Tagliaferri, President of BIG Outdoor, said in June 2023. "We're hiring full time maintenance workers and their job is solely to check these kiosks and clean them. And this is in tandem with the city's maintenance program. So they're going to be in charge of fixing whatever issues that are sorted within 48 hours," Tagliaferri said.

In response to multiple requests to the City to confirm if this was still the case and to inquire how the user interface had been fine-tuned following the results of last year's extensive open testing, a City spokesperson said, "This first kiosk is considered the 'test' kiosk and will be used to perfect lighting levels, refine software and content, troubleshoot any connectivity issues and introduce the community to the kiosks' presence in our commercial districts."

The June 2023 prototype stood in a Kubrick-esque manner at approximately 8ft tall, with a 55-inch display. Despite the exterior casing not being exactly like the proposed final design — that first round of testing was more about the user interface than anything else — an emergency panic button had been incorporated as the plan was to include something similar on the mass production model.

That button sat about 3ft up on one edge in an attempt to make it easily accessible to someone in a wheelchair for example and to be ADA compliant. However, the prototype also had no safeguards in place to prevent abuse of the system.

No information is currently available regarding if, or how, this potential problem has been addressed.

The original proposal for the kiosk design also incorporates its own Wi-Fi hotspot, with a range of about 30ft or so, plus a built-in camera that enables you to take selfies. Those two features raised questions 10 months ago, the first being whether or not a free Wi-Fi network will simply result in "camps" of people huddled around the kiosks using the internet all day and the second was about the issue of privacy if cameras are incorporated.

Again, no details on whether these features are still being incorporated has been released. However, fragments of information are available on the City's website (santamonica.gov/programs/digital-kiosks), including under Community Benefits, the sentence "Public Safety: Kiosks include emergency blue phones, emergency alerts, and optional surveillance during emergency situations" together with "Public Wi-Fi: It is estimated that 80% of international tourists travel without an international data plan."

However, the website does illustrate the five-stage rollout plan and shows the location of each of the 29 proposed sites. Initial estimates said the signs would be installed by late 2023 or early 2024 but no information is provide to indicate when the full slate of machines will come online.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

BRUTZMAN

FROM PAGE 3

developed over 14 years of being sick, (but) I adapted and my environment adapted to suit me, now they (stripped) that all away from me, I got to start all over," he added.

After leaving the Ocean Park neighborhood, weeks of Brutzman's time was spent either on the curb with his belongings, or living in the truck of his caregiver. Spending his days simply attempting to survive in unfamiliar environments further hampered his ability to receive treatments to his legs and other appointments.

"Health is good when you're able to get consistency in your treatments, and mine got interrupted, tragically," Brutzman said.

During this time on the streets, the Santa Monica Housing Authority continued to work to achieve housing for Brutzman. The organization had previously set up a meeting between Brutzman and Christian Towers, but the housing was declined due to a smaller studio apartment space not meeting health concerns.

"They were concerned (that) they couldn't find me a place ... (but they said) let's see if we can find a place for you here," he added, with the Housing Authority helping to set up the one-bedroom space alongside The People Concern, which posted a security deposit for Brutzman that he did not have which "paved the way" for his new home.



Thomas Leffler

HOME: Brutzman and his dog have a place to live after being evicted.

While not a perfect setup for what he desires, Brutzman has been accommodated by Christian Towers by allowing him to bring in a separate refrigerator in order to properly store his eye-related medication. Now equipped with a space, he will be able to get back on a regular treatment schedule.

"Physically, I'm okay," he said. "I'm not getting any worse."

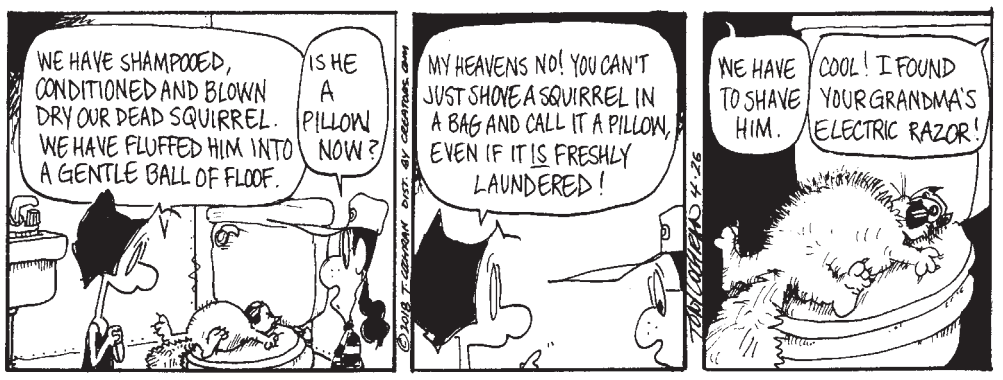
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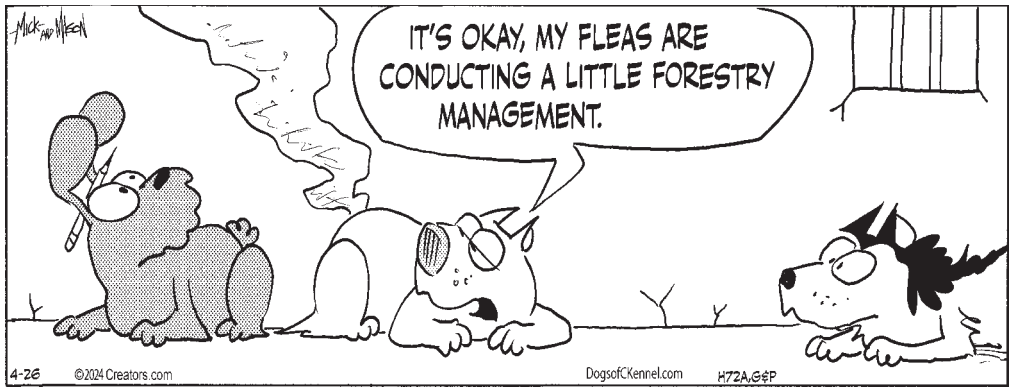
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



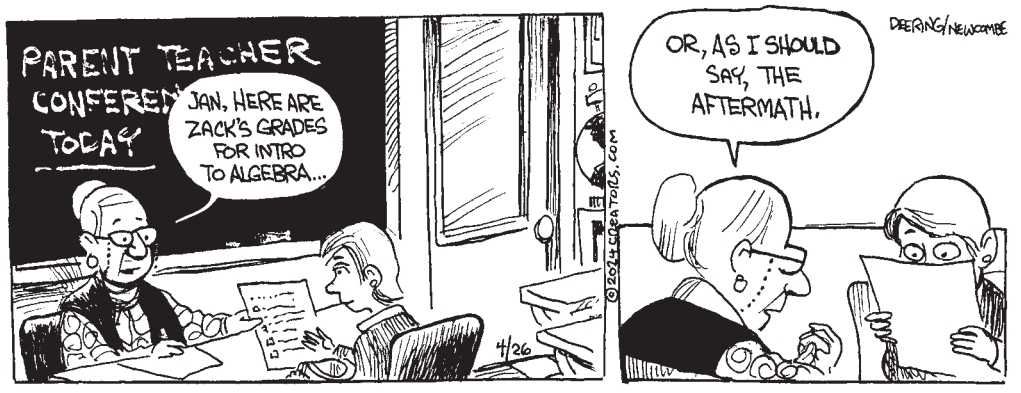
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"GRANDPA IS GOING TO SHAVE."

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 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6192

Life saving work

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

Apprehension	Error	Mend	Sick
Arms	Fatality	Need	Spleen
Arteries	Femur	Nerve	Sprain
Attach	Form	Nurse	Staff
Back	Hand	Outpatient	Stroke
Beds	Head	Oxygen	Toes
Bite	Idle	Pale	Tube
Blood	Infected	Pans	Ulna
Buzzer	Intravenous	Plan	Ward
Coma	Iron	Rest	Well
Drip	Isolate	Revive	X-ray
Drug	Legs	Ribs	
Duty	Lungs	Scar	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 26)

The year plays with your expectations, delighting you with every twist. A move to improve your environment will have far-reaching positive effects on your daily flow and relationships. More highlights: a coronation of sorts as you're crowned in success, serendipity follows every flutter of your creativity, and three important reunions bring joy and restoration. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 21, 4, 46 and 13.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Back in the days of the saber-tooth tiger, keen ears meant the difference between being alive or being lunch. And though today's good listening isn't a survival issue, what you catch will sure make your life a lot easier in the future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You needed something and you found a way to make it happen. Your own need was evidence of the demand, and you'll get more evidence from others. When charity is called for, you'll give. When professionalism is called for, charge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The challenges you've overcome are not top of mind because the responsibilities of the day take precedence. But it will be helpful to remind yourself of what you've handled and what you're capable of. The confidence will ease your way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). While there may be more than one reality, you seem to be in this one where the thought exercise of "woulda, coulda, shoulda" is not as helpful as practical action. Clean, clear, manage, leverage and love what is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Much that attracts your attention is unworthy of it, and yet there's something there or you wouldn't have looked. Knowing what that "something" is will give you power and insight today. To fascinate, we must understand the nature of fascination itself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You might feel like your actions are all over the place, but there's a coherence; this is all driven by you. Embrace the experimental phase you're in. Take your time. Your vision is coming together.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). In the wise words of Tom Waits, remember, "The large print giveth, the small print taketh away." Take your time with the written word, especially instructions and contracts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What is truly yours already feels like it's yours to the extent that when you get it, it will seem like the most natural fit. But most things exist better without the state of ownership. Enjoy the many ways in which you are unencumbered.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your dedication is commendable, and you are moving in the right direction. Maintaining momentum does get tricky, but if you can prioritize these goals for three days in a row, you'll see even greater progress in the near future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You extend your hand in empathy, yet, the heart of another remains a vast expanse beyond your grasp and comprehension. Maybe that's what makes the reach such a meaningful gesture; any connection, however incomplete, is worth it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The farmers make hay while the sun shines, and you do your own version of it, perhaps by making sure you get out in it to catch whatever sense of brightness and aliveness comes with seeing humanity together and outside under the same sky.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's no virtue in keeping worries bottled up inside. Sharing your burdens not only gets some of the load off your shoulders, it gives others a chance to lend a hand and show you some love — good for both of you.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

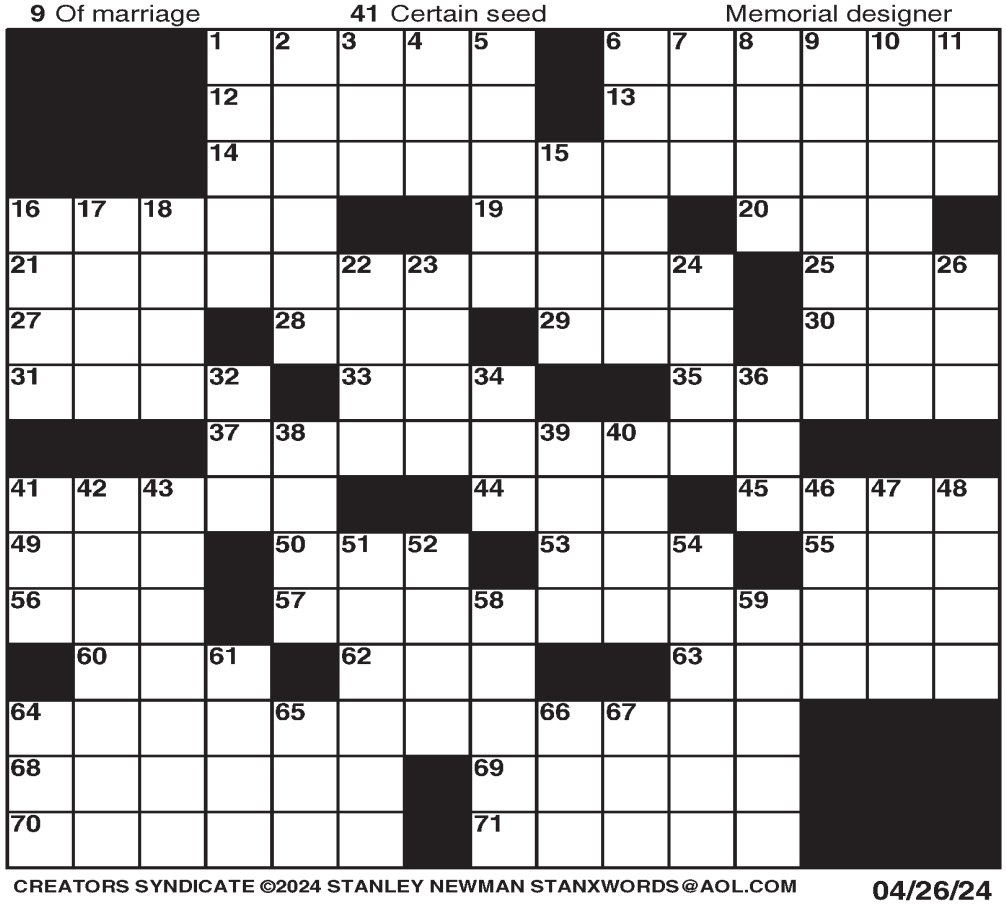
MARK MY WORDS by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Quick excursion
6 Big name in small planes
12 Rapidly
13 Farm equipment
14 Error of epic proportions
16 Enthuse excessively
19 Relative of 33-Across
20 Daily riser
21 Serving calamity
25 Weaken
27 Paid promotions
28 Diet or date preceder
29 "Don't __ stranger"
30 Downed
31 Legendary mountain man
33 Letterhead abbr.
35 Meet entrant
37 Letter-in-common theme of the puzzle
41 Pipage product misspelling
44 Screening agcy.
45 Scamperers of song
49 Alley ender
50 __ later date
53 Quizzical
55 Regatta leader
56 Platform promoting org.
57 FDIC concern
60 Paint product misspelling
62 Suffix meaning "similar"
63 Still life items
64 Big Apple theater turkey
68 Chagall's birthplace
69 Text changes
70 Pretty weighty
71 *Chorégraphe* creation

DOWN

1 Genesis VIP
2 Olympian twin
3 It has an LAX hub
4 Base supervisor
5 Edison rival
6 Hold protectively
7 Sushi staple
8 Loses tautness
9 Of marriage
10 Nursery newcomer
11 Boxer's comment
15 Incomplete Wikipedia article
16 Decisive deadline
17 Heckled
18 Drive away
22 It's west of Tulsa
23 Sharp canine
24 Hardly thrill-filled
26 As told by
32 DJIA tech firm
34 What an early PC needed
36 School of thought
38 Many a Tunisian
39 Since
40 Infant utterance
41 Certain seed protector
42 Extended period
43 Very near
46 Post-op settings
47 Innermost
48 Two-line crosses
51 South China Sea nation
52 Tolstoy title character
54 Clods of sod
58 Focused (on)
59 Go unrenewed
61 Brewer's device
64 Sidekick
65 Italian Almighty
66 Cosmetics regulator
67 Vietnam Veterans Memorial designer



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SB9

FROM PAGE 1

"The Legislature plainly declared that the statewide concern addressed by SB 9 is 'ensuring access to affordable housing.' The Court presumes that the Legislature meant to address affordable housing because that is what the Legislature said, not some other statewide concern," said the ruling.

The two sides also disagreed over the definition of "affordable."

According to petitioners, "affordable" referred to below market-rate housing. According to respondents, it can refer to the promotion of housing affordability at all income levels in the short term and subsequent promotion of affordability at lower income levels by increasing overall housing availability. In again siding with the petitioners, the court said a common acceptance of the term meant below market housing.

With the terms defined, the Court then said there's no evidence to support the assertion that the upzoning permitted by SB 9 would have any impact on below-market rate housing.

"With respect to the declared statewide concern of ensuring access to affordable housing, the broad requirement of ministerial approval of duplexes and urban lot splits does not contain any connection to affordable housing," said the ruling. "Under SB 9, charter cities would be required to approve additional housing development in single-family zoned land, but any additional housing resulting therefrom would not necessarily be below market rate or accessible to people with lower financial means, especially in economically prosperous cities."

The Court said that in failing to meet two of the four required tests, the law should be thrown out.

"Accordingly, the Court finds that SB 9 is neither reasonably related to ensuring access to affordable housing nor narrowly tailored to avoid unnecessary interference in local governance. SB 9 is therefore unconstitutional as violative of the 'home rule' doctrine," said the ruling.

SB 9 author Senator Toni G. Atkins was critical of the ruling.

"The superior court's decision on SB 9 is very disappointing and sadly misguided considering the vast inequalities between California communities created by decades of inequitable housing and land-use policy," she said in a statement. "The assertion by NIMBY city governments that SB 9 is only about subsidized housing is a stretch at best. The goal of SB 9 has always been to increase equity and accessibility in our neighborhoods while growing our housing supply and production across the state. In the last several years, the Legislature has taken a multi-faceted approach in tackling the housing crisis at every affordability level. I remain committed to addressing the housing shortage and finding solutions to remedy any loopholes biased city governments might utilize to block options for Californians."

Redondo Beach, Carson, Torrance, Whittier and Del Mar brought the lawsuit but others had voiced support. While Santa Monica was not a party to the case, the council did formally oppose SB 9.

In February 2021, City Council voted 5-1 to send a letter to Senator Atkins, formally opposing the bill. Councilmembers were split in their reasons for criticizing the bill with some saying they supported densification but were opposed to the lack of a requirement to construct affordable housing. Others opposed the actual densification, regardless of cost, saying it would destroy residential neighborhoods.

Councilmember Gleam Davis was the sole proponent of the bill and believed that given the severity of the state's housing crisis it would be a helpful tool to build more units.

Overall use of the law was low across the state with several studies concluding only a couple of hundred units were built under SB 9. According to the City of Santa Monica, only two applications were filed locally.

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[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
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