

San Diego Newsline

Downtown San Diego news — the budget, public safety, business, and the civic life of America's Finest City

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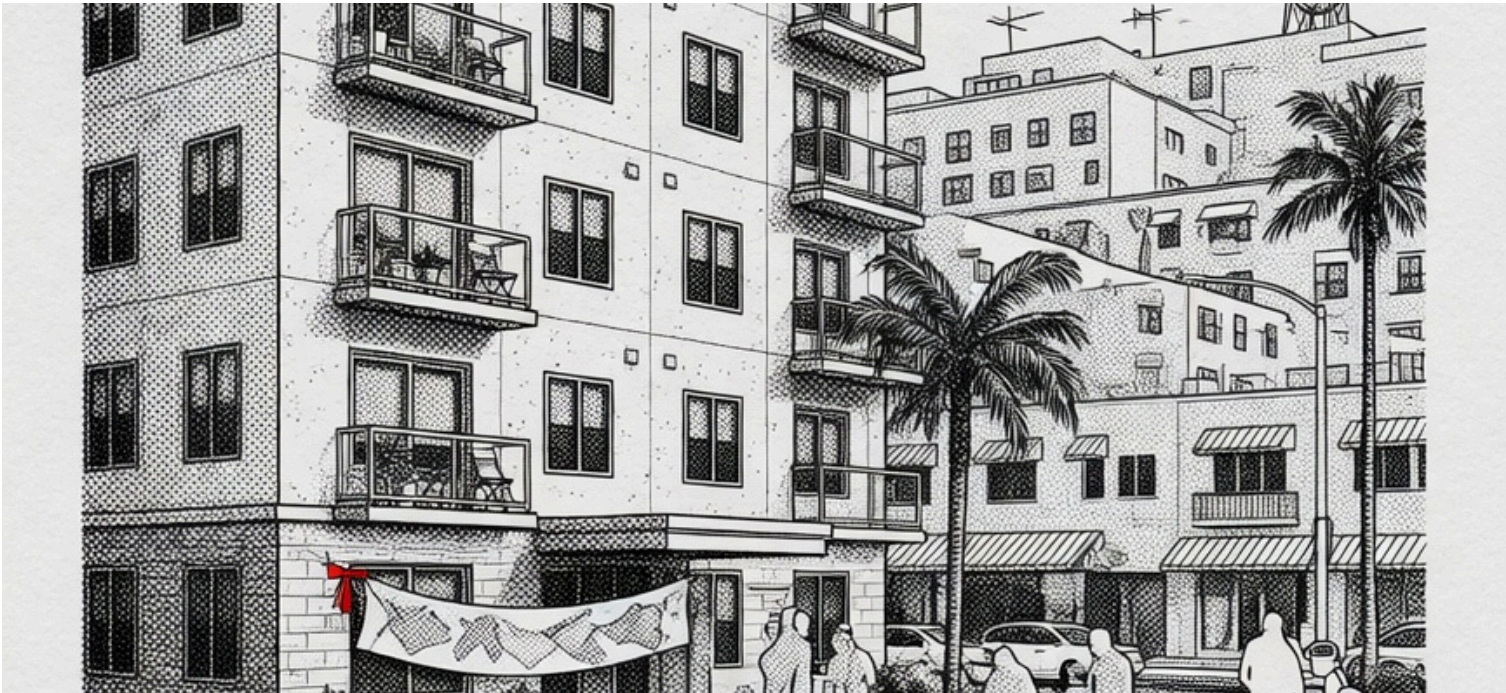
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DOWNTOWN

New Affordable Housing has Local Seniors Home for the Holidays



Illustration

Years of planning and overcoming challenges paid off beautifully today at the grand opening celebration of Kettner Crossing, a 64-unit a senior affordable housing development in Little Italy.

The eight-story building at 1590 Kettner Blvd. was constructed on a surplus County property.

The new low-income homes include six studios, three two-bedrooms and 55 one-bedrooms units. The apartments are for seniors 62 years and older earning 30 percent to 50 percent Area Median Income (AMI).

Along with the property, the County invested \$8 million in Innovative Housing Trust Fund and General-Purpose Revenue toward Kettner Crossing. The land is valued at \$7 million, making for a total County investment of \$15 million.

Developed by BRIDGE Housing Corporation and Holland Partners, Kettner Crossing was constructed in a tight zero lot line with an adjacent parking structure only 20 inches away.

The housing complex maximizes the space, offering residents an eighth-floor deck and community room with stunning views of the North San Diego Bay. Other amenities include a BBQ area, onsite laundry, resident services office, bicycle storage and a subterranean basement for parking.

Kettner Crossing is pedestrian friendly and transit oriented. It is just steps away from the San Diego Trolley line, two blocks from a

Coaster station and a short walk to the Waterfront Park, County Administration Center, retail, dining and a weekly farmers market.

Visit the Bridge Housing webpage to learn about housing opportunities.

Since 2017, the County has invested more than \$334 million into affordable housing, using excess land, its Innovative Housing Trust Fund alongside other state, federal, and local funding sources administered by the County. Those funds have helped open doors to over 3,100 homes with 2,800 more on the way.

County of San Diego news release · Nov 12, 2025



Illustration from a photo by Edward O'Connor (hober) · Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 2.0

COUNTY

Rain Is on the Way, Time for Sandbags

Editor's note: The Spring Valley Library has been added to the County list of where people in unincorporated areas can get free sand and bags.

A change in weather is forecasted to bring rains, potentially heavy at times, Thursday night and Friday to San Diego County — meaning it could be a good time to pick up some free sandbags.

As they have in the past, the County and CAL FIRE are providing free bags and/or sand at numerous fire stations for people who live in the

unincorporated areas.

Rain can cause flooding and erosion, particularly in areas that are not covered by plants, landscaping, grass and trees. Rain runoff can sweep topsoil, mud, plant material and debris off land and downstream where it can damage homes, clog culverts and storm drains, and flood and damage roadways. Properly placed sandbags can help protect your home from flooding and destructive runoff.

Sand and bags, or bags alone, will be available for unincorporated residents at the fire stations located below.

People should call ahead to double-check availability and remember to bring a shovel to fill the bags. Some stations may have a limited supply.

Bonita: Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station #38: 4900 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902, P: 619-479-2346

De Luz: De Luz Fire Station #16: 39431 De Luz Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028 P: 760-728-2422

Dulzura: Dulzura Fire Station #30: 17304 Highway 94, Dulzura, CA 91917, P: 619-468-3391

Fallbrook: Pala Mesa Fire Station #4, 4375 Pala Mesa Drive, Fallbrook, CA 92028, P: 760-723-2005

Julian: Julian-Cuyamaca: Fire Station #56, 3407 Hwy 79, Julian, CA 92036, P: 760-765-2885

Palomar Mountain: Palomar Mountain Fire Station #79, 21610 Crestline Road, Palomar Mtn., CA 92060, P: 760-742-3701

Potrero: Potrero Fire Station #31 25130 Highway 94, Potrero, CA 91963 P: 619-478-5544

Ramona: Ramona Fire Station #81, 24462 San Vicente Road, Ramona, CA 92065 P: 760-789-9465

Ramona: Ramona Fire Station #82, 3410 Dye Road, Ramona, CA 92065, P: 760-789-0107

Rincon: Rincon Fire Station #70:

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DOWNTOWN, CITY & COUNTY

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Rain Is on the Way, Time for Sandbags

16971 Highway 76, Pauma Valley, CA 92061, P: 760-742-3243

Spring Valley: Spring Valley County Library Branch: 836 Kempton Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977 (Note: the library station will not be staffed)

Valley Center: Valley Center Fire Station #2, 28205 N. Lake Wohlford Road, Valley Center, CA 92082, P: 760-751-7605

Warner Springs: Sunshine Summit Fire Station #59, 35227 Highway 79, Warner Springs, CA 92086, P: 760-782-9113

Alpine: Alpine Fire Station #17 1364 Tavern Road Alpine, CA 91901 P: 619-445-2635

Borrego Springs: Ocotillo Wells Fire Station #61 5841 Highway 78, Borrego Springs, CA 92004 P: 760-767-7430

Borrego Springs: Borrego Springs Station #60, 2324 Stirrup Road, Borrego Springs, CA 92004, P: 760-767-5436

Boulevard: Boulevard Fire Station #47: 40080 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard, CA 91905, P: 619-390-2020

Campo: Campo Fire Station #40 31577 Highway 94, Campo, CA 91906 P: 619-478-5516

Campo: Lake Morena Fire Station #42 29690 Oak Drive, Campo, CA 91906 P: 619-478-5960

Descanso: Descanso Fire Station #45 24592 Viejas Grade Road, Descanso, CA 91916 P: 619-445-7508

El Cajon: Harbison Canyon Fire Station #24 551 Harbison Canyon Road, El Cajon, CA 92019 P: 619-445-5001

Escondido: Deer Springs Fire Station #11 8709 Circle R Drive, Escondido, CA 92026 P: 760-749-8001

Escondido: Miller Fire Station #15 9127 W. Lilac Road, Escondido, CA 92025 P: 760-728-8532

Flinn Springs: Flinn

Springs Fire Station#21 9711 Flynn Springs Road, El Cajon, CA 92021 P: 619-443-7121

Jacumba: Jacumba Fire Station #43 1255 Jacumba St., Jacumba, CA 91934 P: 619-766-4535

Jamul: Jamul Fire Station #36 14024 Peaceful Valley Ranch, Jamul, CA 91935 P: 619-669-6580

Jamul: Deerhorn Fire Station #37 2383 Honeysprings Road, Jamul, CA 91935 P: 619-468-3030

Julian: Shelter Valley Fire Station #62, 7260 Great Southern Overland, Julian, CA 92036 P: 760-765-0155

Laguna: Mt. Laguna Fire Station #49 33947 Mt. Laguna Drive, Mt Laguna, CA 91948 P: 619-473-8281

Pine Valley: Pine Valley Fire Station #44 28850 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, CA 91962 P: 619-578-6621

Ranchita: Ranchita Fire Station #58 37370 Montezuma Valley Road, Ranchita, CA 92066 P: 760-782-3467

Ramona: Intermountain Fire Station #85, 25858 Highway 78, Ramona, CA 92065 P: 760-789-3710

San Pasqual: San Pasqual Fire Station #84 17701 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido, CA 92025 P: 760-480-9924

Warner Springs: Warner Springs Fire Station #52 31049 Highway 79, Warner Springs, CA 92086 P: 760-782-3560

Residents are encouraged to visit AlertSanDiego.org for information on what to do during an emergency.

You may also want to check out this how-to video, “You’ve Got Your Sandbags, Now What?” that explains how to properly fill and use sandbags to protect your property.

County of San Diego news release · Nov 10, 2025

COUNTY County Crews Are Ready for Storm, County Offers Tips to Stay Safe

With the County’s first winter storm predicted to stretch

through the weekend and into early next week, County of San Diego road crews are ready to respond if needed and the County is offering tips to help people stay safe.

The County and CAL FIRE pushed out lists earlier this week of where people in the unincorporated areas can get free sand bags to protect their properties.

County road crews are ready to respond with heavy equipment, asphalt pile for potholes and fiber rolls to prevent erosion that can disrupt roads.

Those County crews actually work all year around to inspect and clear culverts and inlets that deflect water from roads, trim trees and sweep roads. With the expected rains, they are also prepared to respond to the weather, including providing 24-hour coverage as needed through the days and nights. They also have snowplows ready to deploy at the County’s higher elevations, even though current weather forecasts do not expect temperatures to drop to snow-inducing levels.

In areas that often see flooding during rain, people should prepare their areas with sandbags to protect against flooding or to prevent soil erosion.

Areas that have been scarred by fires can suffer additional damage by soil erosion. Sandbags can be placed to divert or redirect water, mud and debris away from your property.

People in the County’s unincorporated areas can report concerns by using the County’s Tell Us Now app, using the County’s online service request form , or by calling the service request hotline toll free at (877) 684-8000, or at (858) 694-3850 during normal business hours.

The County’s Office of Emergency Services also has useful information about storm preparation on its website. And County Public Works has information about known low-water crossings on its Flood Control webcam

page .

The County also encourages the public to download the County’s Alert San Diego app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store to have a personal disaster plan and go-kit.

County emergency services and public works road crews say people should stay alert and take precautions and drive carefully on the roads and offered the following tips. Avoid driving in heavy rain conditions. If the trip is necessary:

Slow down to avoid getting into an accident. It takes longer to stop when roads are wet. Allow yourself at least an extra 15 minutes or so to arrive at your destination to adjust for slower traffic.

Turn on your headlights to see better and make it easier for other drivers to see you. It’s the law.

Try to drive toward the middle lanes as water tends to gather in outside lanes.

Defog your windows for better visibility. Rain can cause windows to fog up. Along the same lines, check your windshield wipers preferably before it rains again and replace them as needed.

Avoid driving through deep water because it can affect your brakes. If you cannot avoid it, test your brakes afterward to make sure they’ve dried out and are working properly.

Turn around, don’t drown. In heavy rain, never drive through a flooded roadway if you cannot see the pavement. Even a few inches of water running at the right velocity can sweep a car, and even a truck, and its occupants off the roadway and downstream. You should not walk or swim across a flooded roadway either.

Give the cars in front of you extra distance . The spray from their vehicles — particularly from larger trucks and buses — can hamper your vision. And giving extra space to the guy in front of you also

Courts · Transit · Public safety

gives you more time to brake or adjust if you need to do so.

Keep calm, don’t oversteer or stomp on the brakes if you start to hydroplane or skid when your tires lose traction with the wet road. The Department of Motor Vehicles says keep the steering wheel straight and take your foot off the accelerator so your vehicle can slow down slowly.

Stay focused . Remember, it’s illegal, and dangerous, to try to text or use a hand-held cell phone when you’re driving.

Slow down for the cone zone if you see highway or road workers ahead or to your side. Watch out for public works crews and equipment.

County of San Diego news release · Nov 12, 2025

COUNTY Rent to Military this Veteran’s Day

The County is encouraging landlords to rent to veterans holding a Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher . Hundreds of Veterans have vouchers in hand and need a place to stay.

Larry Neher’s father and his wife’s father served in the Navy and when a veteran applied to rent his Lemon Grove duplex, he was more than happy to support a fellow brother in arms. “It’s a great benefit. It’s helping out veterans, like we all want to try to do and thank them for their service,” he said.

Neher said payments are convenient, on time and there is nothing to worry about. He is one of over 375 landlords that currently partner with the County Housing Authority to provide a home to over 850 VASH Veterans. Landlords interested in giving back to those who have served and help them move forward are encouraged to submit an interest form .

County of San Diego news release · Nov 10, 2025

BUSINESS

San Diego commerce & the regional economy



Illustration

BUSINESS Member Spotlight – IKEA San Diego

Transform Your Workplace with IKEA San Diego and the IKEA Business Network

At IKEA San Diego, we believe that a better everyday

life starts not just at home—but at work too. That’s why we’re proud to offer the IKEA Business Network, a free loyalty program designed specifically for businesses of all sizes. Whether you’re furnishing a startup office, upgrading a retail space, or designing a cozy café, our program helps you create inspiring, functional environments that support productivity and well-being.

As a member of the IKEA Business Network, you’ll

enjoy a wide range of exclusive benefits tailored to meet your professional needs:

Interior design services to help you bring your vision to life

Planning and consultation support from our expert co-workers

Flexible delivery options to suit your schedule

Online training resources to empower your team

Access to your purchase history for easy reordering

and budgeting

And yes—a free hot drink every time you visit our store!

Plus, members receive special discounts on select IKEA products, making it easier to furnish your

workspace with stylish, sustainable solutions—without breaking the budget.

Joining is simple and free. Visit IKEA San Diego or sign up online to start enjoying the perks of the IKEA Business Network today. Let

us help you build a better life at work—one space at a time.

San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce news release · Nov 12, 2025

BUSINESS Member Spotlight: Creative Stories Media

Creative Stories Media is a full-service marketing agency located in Southern California. Founded by Rachel Bollin, CSM offers a wide range of marketing solutions. From social media

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BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

San Diego commerce & the regional economy

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Member Spotlight: Creative Stories Media

management, website development, branding, photography, and videography. The team at CSM are all master level creatives who have worked on a multitude of projects both as a team and

during their own career journeys.

Rachel Bollin became a marketing expert when she created a line of organic laundry products back in 2013. She took the brand from concept to big box retailers and even national television, in just 5 years. In 2024, she

launched Creative Stories Media to help small and medium sized companies with their marketing needs. Rachel hand picked a team of creatives who are known for their knowledge and passion in the industry. The team helps Southern California professionals with their

product and personal branding and has been successful in increasing ROI for every company they work with. Through content creation, branding, and web design the CSM team has been an integral part of the success of many local businesses and we look forward to helping

future clients in the San Diego area.

CSM website is creativestoriesmedia.com and they can be reached at info@creativestoriesmedia or by calling 720-892-5925.

San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce news release · Oct 28, 2025

AROUND CALIFORNIA

Statewide news

CALIFORNIA

DOJ to Investigate UC Berkeley TPUSA Event Disrupted by Antifa and Far-Left Activists

Protesters threw tear gas, fireworks and glass bottles at attendees of the final stop on TPUSA’s “American Comeback” tour, with one conservative bloodied in an altercation that led to four arrests.

A Turning Point USA event at the University of California, Berkeley, was disrupted Monday night by Antifa and far-left activists.

The assault occurred during the final stop of TPUSA’s “American Comeback” tour. Attendees reported that protesters threw tear gas, fireworks and glass bottles at students and supporters inside the venue, according to TPUSA spokesman Andrew

Kolvet.

Four people were arrested, including a bloodied conservative attendee wearing a TPUSA “Freedom” t-shirt and the man who allegedly attacked him. Video from the scene showed protesters chanting “f-ck your dead homie,” a reference to the September assassination of TPUSA founder Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley College.

UC Berkeley Assistant Vice Chancellor Dan Mogulof told Fox News Digital the university had been aware of the planned protest. “The protest in question is being organized by a group that has no affiliation with the university,” Mogulof said.

Mogulof added that the demonstration appeared to be organized by Students Organizing for Liberation, which is not a registered

student organization. He said the university supports the right of student groups to invite any speaker “regardless of their beliefs or perspectives” and works with police to ensure safety.

The event was organized in part by the group By Any Means Necessary, which has been involved in previous Antifa actions on campus and in the city, according to independent journalist Andy Ngo. Fliers announcing the protest had been distributed across campus beforehand, prompting increased security measures.

U.S. Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon announced that the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice will investigate the incident. “We saw all of this at Berkeley back in 2017. @UCBerkeley was sued, and settled the case,” Dhillon

posted on X. “The @CivilRights will investigate what happened here, and I see several issues of serious concern regarding campus and local security and Antifa’s ability to operate with impunity in CA.”

Dhillon, who successfully litigated a similar 2017 case against UC Berkeley on behalf of conservative speakers, added: “In America, we do not allow citizens to be attacked by violent thugs and shrug and turn our backs. Been there, done that, not on our watch.”

A TPUSA chapter member at Berkeley named Layla told Kolvet that glass bottles were thrown at her. “It’s not safe anymore to walk around Berkeley as a conservative, it’s a very dangerous place. Antifa is prevelant. It’s a domestic terror group that needs to be handled,” she

said.

Update information released after the event identified the man accused of beating and bloodying a TPUSA attendee as Jihad Dphrepaulezz, a 25-year-old who works for the state of California at CAPublicHealth. He is also known as a rapper called “A.R. The Believer.”

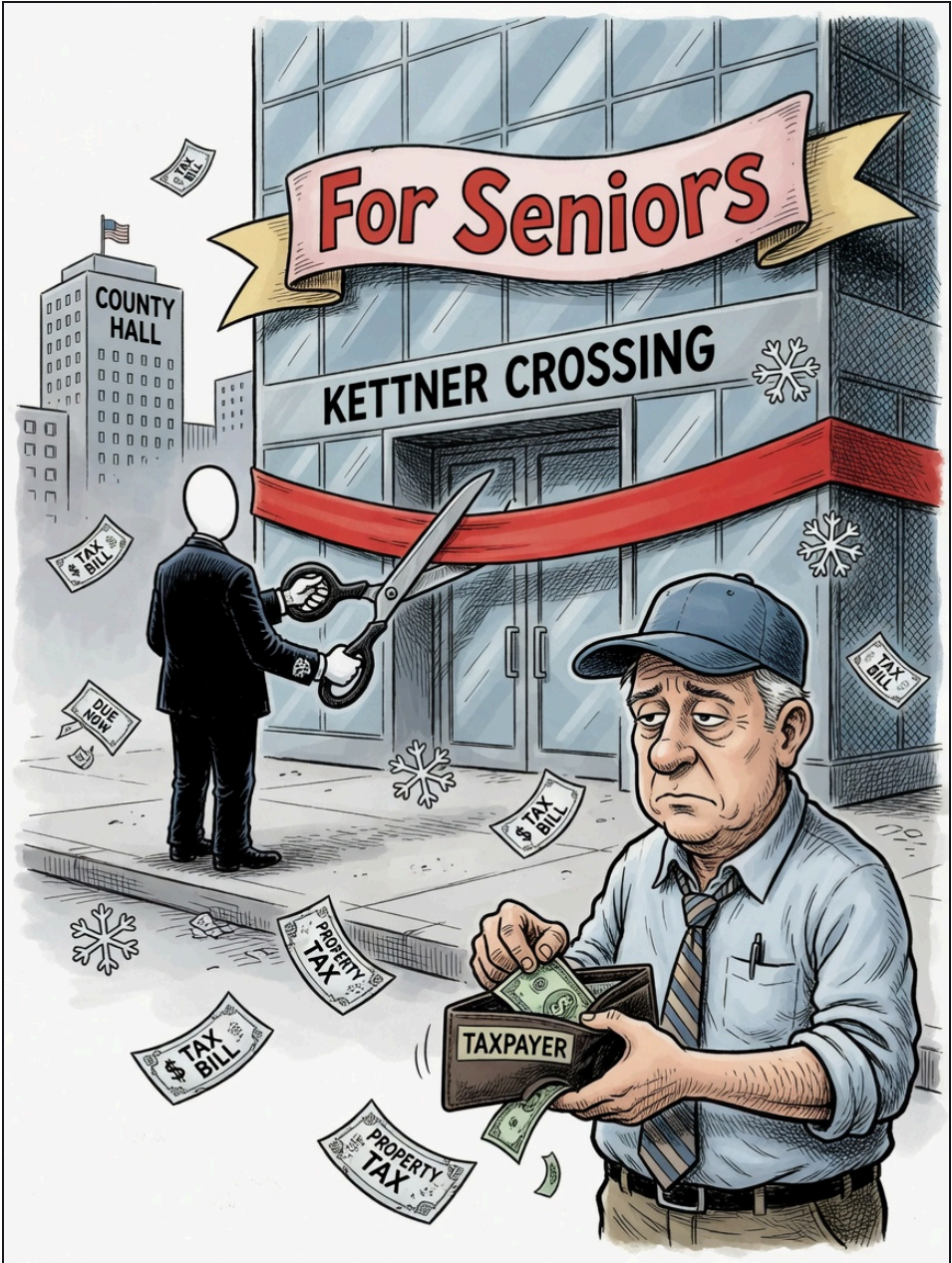
Some media outlets, including Politico, described the protest as “largely peaceful” even as attendees reported being targeted with projectiles.

The incident adds to a history of violence at the public university that has faced repeated legal consequences for similar protests against conservative speakers.

San Diego Newsline · Based on reporting by California Globe · Nov 11, 2025

THE NEWSLINE CARTOON

Opinion



Home for the holidays — at what cost?

THE NEWSLINE CARTOON

COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

You Don’t Make Housing More Affordable by Making It More Expensive

Excessive regulations and fees are driving up home construction costs and worsening the housing crisis, according to an opinion piece by Dagny.

If policymakers truly want to make housing more affordable, they should not begin by making it more expensive to build.

Nationally, about 5 percent of the cost of building a new home comes from regulatory burdens. In the author's region, however, that figure reaches 20 percent — one-fifth of the total price — going not toward materials, labor or land but to government-imposed costs such as permits, zoning compliance, environmental reviews, fees and bureaucratic delays.

This same region was

recently ranked the least affordable housing market in the United States, a situation created "one regulation, one fee, one subcommittee review, one bureaucratic delay at a time."

The current system talks about affordability while regulating housing out of existence. While officials ask developers to build homes people can afford, the expensive and time-consuming approval process makes only luxury housing financially viable.

Permitting timelines can stretch beyond a decade, filled with appeals, redesigns and repeated public input that forces downscaling. This does not even account for the added costs of delay or the risk premium when projects risk being derailed after significant investment.

Numerous development impact fees — including traffic mitigation, water and sewer capacity, wildlife

corridor, fire protection, public art, school district, stormwater, parks, open space and tree replacement fees — stack up. Individually each may seem reasonable, but together they can add six figures to the cost of a modest home before construction even begins.

Developers must also cover ongoing expenses during the approval process: land mortgages, idle workers, rising material costs, and payments to consultants, attorneys, engineers, environmental teams, outreach specialists and public relations firms.

The result is predictable: "You can’t require 10 layers of approvals and still act surprised that nothing gets built. You can’t mandate affordability while adding fees that increase the base price of every unit. You can’t say yes to housing and no to every individual project."

Local planning processes often require multiple rounds

of review by design committees, planning commissions and city councils to address concerns like neighborhood character, density, parking, height, shade, traffic, noise or views. Public hearings frequently begin with calls for affordability and equity but end with objections to the very projects that could provide it.

This approach has led to the disappearance of "missing middle" housing. The current approach is "performative policy-making" that looks good on paper but produces outcomes where working families, adult children, teachers, nurses, first responders and farmworkers are priced out of the communities they serve.

Adding more requirements, conditions and bureaucratic hoops is not the solution. Instead, an honest examination of what is driving up construction costs is needed — primarily the regulatory

system itself rather than just "greedy developers or market forces."

Policymakers must shift from ideals-based policies to those focused on measurable outcomes, because the current system is producing failure for those who can least afford it. "In housing, as in business, delay is cost."

The commentary was written by Dagny, author of The Dagny Chronicles on Substack.

San Diego Newsline · Based on commentary published by the California Policy Center · Nov 11, 2025

ABOUT THIS PAPER

San Diego Newsline covers downtown San Diego first — City Hall, the Gaslamp Quarter, East Village, Little Italy, Barrio Logan and the waterfront — and the county around it. Every item names its source; read the originals and our standards at sandiegonewsline.com.

MORE NEWS

Downtown, City & County

COUNTY

County Urges Parents and Stores to Throw Away Formula Linked to a National Infant Botulism Outbreak

San Diego County is urging residents and retailers to throw out ByHeart Whole Nutrition Infant Formula. This includes all lots, can sizes and single-serve “anywhere” sticks.

As of November 10, the formula is linked to 15 nationwide cases of infant botulism. While California has had two cases none have been reported in San Diego County.

ByHeart, the maker of the formula, issued a voluntary product recall on Nov. 8 on certain lots but expanded the recall to all ByHeart formula on Nov. 11.

The formula under recall is typically sold online and at major retailers. The County Department of Environmental Health and Quality has been working this week with local retailers to ensure the product is no longer on the shelves.

If you have any unopened ByHeart formula at home, please discard it and do not use it.

If your infant has already taken some of this formula

and you still have the open container, the FDA recommends to photograph or record the information on the package including brand and lot number, seal it, label it “do not use” and store for 30 days in case there is a need for health officials to test the formula.

Parents or caregivers with an infant experiencing symptoms after being fed ByHeart formula, should seek medical attention immediately.

Infant botulism is a rare but serious illness that is a medical emergency. It primarily affects babies younger than six months and is caused by a toxin that attacks the body’s nerves and causes difficulty breathing, muscle paralysis and even death.

Signs and symptoms can show up as early as three days after exposure but usually take 10 to 30 days. They include constipation and neurologic symptoms such as poor feeding, weak crying, loss of head control and difficulty swallowing.

To more fully alert the local medical community, County Public Health officials today issued a California Health Alert Network for San Diego County . Along with publishing the alert, public health officials are working with

healthcare providers regionally to be on alert for clinical signs of infant botulism and report any suspected cases to the California Department of Public Health and the County’s epidemiology unit.

The nationwide infant botulism outbreak is known to have sickened 15 infants in 12 states between Aug. 9 and Nov. 10, 2025. All 15 infants were hospitalized, with no deaths reported.

People with any health concerns connected to this health alert should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

County of San Diego news release · Nov 12, 2025

COUNTY

Turning Experiences Into a Resume Builder

A free North County “Peer Support in Action Educational Summit and Resource Fair” highlighted various opportunities for justice-involved men and women to find support to pursue higher education at San Diego colleges.

The County’s Public Safety Office, as a part of the Alternatives to Incarceration initiative, invited people within the justice system to the Oct. 28 summit at the North Inland Live Well Center

in Escondido.

“We know there is a shortage of peers working in the behavioral health system and this event highlighted the opportunity for these folks to turn their lived experience into a meaningful career path through training and educational pathways,” said one of the organizers, Marissa Rivera, Public Safety Executive Office.

The summit featured presentations from San Diego Workforce Partnership on peer support job opportunities in the San Diego market and panel discussions with peers who have transformed their lived experience into a career working in healthcare, treatment programs, and reentry services.

College representatives from Palomar College , Cal State San Marcos, MiraCosta College and Miramar College also gave presentations about how they support justice-involved students through a variety of educational pathways and programs.

The Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement provided attendees information on the hiring process and their rights under California’s Fair Chance Act.

An Oceanside small

grassroots organization, Lived Experiences, provided the keynote speech and a lowrider bike that was given away in an opportunity drawing.

As part of the event’s resource fair, attendees had the opportunity to network and connect with community resource organizations.

All those who attended received transit passes, a catered lunch, pastries baked by the San Diego County Sheriff’s Office Fresh Start Bakery Program, and Feeding San Diego provided 125 grocery bags filled with 16 pounds of food for each participant to take home.

The County’s Department of Child Support Services, Emergency Medical Services, San Diego County Library, Probation Department, Human Resources, the Office of Equity and Racial Justice, and Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Services, Self Sufficiency Services and Health Services participated with resource tables.

County of San Diego news release · Nov 6, 2025

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