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Assemblywoman Toni Atkins (D-San Diego)

Gov. Brown Vetoes Toni Atkins' Housing Bill

SACRAMENTO — Saying it will not work, Gov. Jerry Brown has vetoed legislation that sought to clarify state law so that cities and counties could require developers to offer affordable housing units as a condition of their building permit, the U-T San Diego reports. The veto drew a sharp rebuke from Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, D-San Diego, who carried the bill.

"The governor has made it clear that working to ensure that low- and moderate-income Californians have access to affordable places to live in some of our state's most expensive housing markets is not one of his priorities," she said.

In his veto message of Assembly Bill 1229, Brown suggested that demanding what's called "inclusionary housing" would make it even harder to provide more affordable housing. That was a point made by builders, who said they would just have to increase prices on other units to comply.

"Requiring developers to include below market units in their projects can exacerbate these challenges even while not meaningfully increasing the amount of affordable housing in a given community," said Brown.

San Diego County Apartment Association Executive Director Alan Pentico called the legislation a form of rent control.

Read more... (http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2013/oct/14/brown-vetoes-atkins-housing-bill-signs-crime)

San Diego-Based Quidel Corp. to Unveil New

Ohio Technology Center in Athens, Ohio

The former Diagnostic Hybrids Inc. facility in Athens, Ohio will be designated by San Diego-based Quidel Corp. as its Ohio Technology Center, home to all Quidel molecular manufacturing operations. Quidel has invested more than \$8 million in the facility since acquiring DHI in 2010 for \$130 million in cash, adding 22,000 square feet in new space to the facility, moving manufacturing from Boston and Santa Clara, Calif., to Athens, and introducing cutting-edge equipment that makes the facility one of the most advanced centers in the nation for molecular diagnostics manufacturing.

An unveiling ceremony of the new Quidel sign was scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, followed by a tour of the facility's \$3.5 million molecular diagnostics suite.

Crucial Barrio Logan Vote Scheduled for Today

The San Diego City Council is scheduled to take the final action today on the Barrio Logan Community Plan update — a move, which approved, would trigger a referendum by the maritime industry. The plan was narrowly approved by the council on a 5-4 vote on Sept. 17, which set the stage for today's second reading. The maritime industry is opposing the plan, claiming it will not protect the port and the jobs it creates. The Environmental Health Coalition is urging the council to "stay strong" in its approval of the plan, saying the state recently ranked Barrio Logan in the top five percent of community's statewide for pollution vulnerability.

Lawsuit Against Convention Center Expansion Expected Soon

Although the San Diego Convention Center expansion cleared its final regulatory hurdle last week, the project will not be breaking ground for at least two years. That's because lawsuits are holding up construction, KPBS reports. Attorney Corey Briggs, the most vocal opponent of the expansion, has already filed one lawsuit against the expansion financing plan. It challenges a hotel room tax increase that would pay for the expansion because the tax was not approved by a public vote. The lawsuit is currently waiting for an appeals court hearing that could go all the way to the California Supreme Court.

Briggs represents the Navy Broadway Complex Coalition, a group concerned about development on San Diego's bayfront. He says he'll file another lawsuit on their behalf in 30 to 60 days challenging the approval of the convention center expansion. "It's about the law," he said. "They broke the law, they have to live with the consequences." Steven Johnson, a spokesman for the San Diego Convention Center Corp., said he's confident the appeals court will support the financing plan.

Santee Council Approves Annexation of Castlerock Development