

REALTOR®

Your local association news source



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KEY BILLING NOTICE

Key bills are being sent out at the end of March with a due date of April 30.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ARE YOU ALL IN ON RAF?

One of my three points of focus this year is contribution. One of our most potent opportunities for contribution is the REALTOR[®] Action Fund or RAF.

If you are not familiar with RAF, I will take this opportunity to share some of the reasons contributing to the REALTOR[®] Action Fund is important and how we all benefit from all the work our local, state and national associations do on our behalf.

As REALTORS[®] we benefit from the tools and resources provided by our local Santa Cruz County Association of REALTORS[®], C.A.R. and NAR. Last year these benefits included dealing with the fallout from



Pete Cullen
2021 SCCAR President
Bailey Properties

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Your REALTOR® Action Fund Dollars at Work!

SCCAR, through government affairs staff and committed REALTOR® members, has well-connected, politically astute individuals working hard to ensure that issues affecting our industry are addressed in a manner that will benefit our community. Much of the work we do involves building and maintaining strong relationships with public-sector officials so the flow of information between us and them is constant, comprehensive and trusted. Below is some of the work your RAF funds allowed us to make happen this year.

Public Policy

We constantly monitor policy issues throughout our various jurisdictions to educate ourselves, our members and local public officials about the impact policy decisions have on the real estate industry. Here is an abridged list of topics addressed during 2020:

- General Plan Update (Scotts Valley)
- Housing Element Compliance
- Residential Entitlements Advocacy
- Modifications to Help REALTORS
- City of Santa Cruz Rental Registry Opposition
- County and Watsonville Sewer Lateral Ordinance Updates
- COVID-19 Shelter in Place
- Eviction Moratorium Opposition Advocacy
- Loosening ADU Restrictions

Government Relations

Over the past year, we have met face-to-face with the following (partial list) to communicate REALTOR® views with both our state and local representatives:

Mayor Rebecca Garcia, Watsonville
Councilmember Derek Timm, Scotts Valley
Carlos Landaverry, Watsonville Housing Dept.
Guy Preston, SCCRTC
Mayor Justin Cummings, City of Santa Cruz
Mayor Kristen Petersen, Capitola
Supervisor Ryan Coonerty
Supervisor John Leopold
Assemblymember Robert Rivas
Assemblymember Mark Stone
Senator Bill Monning
Councilmember Donna Meyers, City of Santa Cruz
Lee Butler, City of Santa Cruz Planning/Building
Mayor Randy Johnson, Scotts Valley

Member Engagement/Education

An extremely important component of our work is how it is communicated back to you. We constantly strive to keep all information up-to-date under the "Advocacy" section of our website. Additionally, we send out government affairs-related articles through our weekly Local Government Watch, SCCAR newsletter and weekly eScoop. Lastly, each year we host our "Mayors' Breakfast" which serves as a key opportunity for members to engage with local government leadership.

Help protect your livelihood by contributing to the REALTOR® Action Fund https://www.car.org/advocacy/PACSnRAF/raf



President's Message Cont'd

the pandemic by ensuring that we were classified as an essential business and helping us navigate a rapidly changing and uncertain business environment so that we could continue to serve our clients effectively.

RAF gives our local, state and national associations the resources they need to advocate for us as REALTORS[®] and to promote and support private property rights. One recent example of this advocacy was ensuring that we did not loose our independent contractor status and be classified as employees. Another example of these resources being put to good use is the recent passage of Prop 19 which has the potential for freeing up housing inventory and helping give homeowners more choices when it comes to selling their homes and relocating to other areas of the state.

I suggest one question which I believes merits your serious consideration, how have you benefited from being a REALTOR[®] and being part of this remarkable professional community?

My encouragement to all our membership is to contribute to the REALTOR[®] Action Fund at the full \$148 "True Cost of Doing Business" level or more and help your local, state and national associations help you and your business thrive! Added bonus, contributing at this level gains you entry into our Centennial Club!.

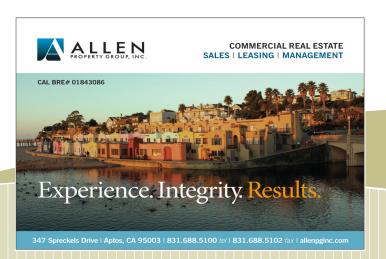
For more information on RAF and how to contribute, please follow this link https://www.car.org/advocacy/PACSnRAF/raf

Help for First Time Homebuyers

Thank you to everyone who helped us raise \$35,000 for our 2020 Grant Fundraising Campaign. We want to remind you about the programs that those generous donations help fund. SCCARHF currently offers our Closing Cost Assistance Grant program which offers \$2,500 toward closing costs for qualified households. Additionally, we offer a program specific to our local hero's our Community Heroes Grant offering \$2,500 towards closing cost expenses. Your donations help make these programs possible, and help those in need in our community. To learn more please visit www.sccarhf.org or contact us at info@mysccar.org







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2021 CENTENNIAL CLUB MEMBERS

Thank you to our Centennial Club members whose generous support helps us protect private property rights and your ability to do business.

Fred Antaki, Main Street REALTORS Joseph Bailey, Bailey Properties, Inc. Lisa Bailey, Bailey Properties, Inc. Nick Bailey, Bailey Properties, Inc. Paul Bailey, Bailey Properties, Inc. Robert Bailey, Bailey Properties, Inc. Candace Bradfield, Bradfield & Assoc. **William Brooks, Brooks Properties Judy Brose, Century 21 MM Gina Carling, David Lyng Real Estate** Frank Claiborne, Century 21 MM **Peter Cook, Lighthouse Realty** Pete Cullen, Bailey Properties, Inc. Pamela Easton, Century 21 MM John Flaniken, Trade-In Real Estate **Sebastian Frey, Compass** Lisa Gerety, Bailey Properties, Inc. Russell Gross, Gross Real Estate **Kathy Hartman, SCCAR John Hickey, Monterey Bay Properties** Danielle Huff, Bailey Properties, Inc. Sandy Kaplan, Santa Cruz Properties **Stephen Karon, Karon Properties** Connie Landes, Anderson Christie, Inc **Neal Langholz, Indigo Properties Genie Lawless, David Lyng Real Estate Greg Lukina, David Lyng Real Estate** Morgan Lukina, David Lyng Real Estate David Lyng, David Lyng Real Estate Megan Lyng, David Lyng Real Estate Sally Lyng, David Lyng Real Estate

Linda Lynn, Century 21 Sandcastle Realty **Rose Marie McNair, McNair Real Properties** Renee Mello, Keller Williams Realty -SC Tony Melo, Aldina Real Estate Teresa Mendoza, Sereno Group **Candie Noel, Bailey Properties, Inc. Kathy Oliver, Oliver Property Mgmt** Barbara Palmer, Bailey Properties, Inc. **Prescott Pavlina, Room Real Estate Stephen Pearson, Pearson Properties** Dianne Pereira, Bailey Properties, Inc. Stephen Pereira, Bailey Properties, Inc. **Honora Robertson, Robertson Real Estate** Dana Sales, Century 21 MM Carole Schwarzbach, Schwarzbach & Assoc. Rachel Shaffer, Bailey Properties, Inc. **Lauren Spencer, Coldwell Banker Realty Jan Taylor, Century 21 Sandcastle Realty** Suzanne Teixeira, Bailey Properties, Inc. William Thayer, Bailey Properties, Inc. Jordan Thorpe, Keller Williams Realty -SC **Ronnie Trubek, Century 21 Showcase REALTORS Louis Tuosto, Soquel Financial Services** Randy Turnquist, Century 21 MM Jo Ann Vear, Vear Properties Margie Vickner, David Lyng Real Estate Marcus Vidrine, David Lyng Real Estate Karen Wade, Bailey Properties, Inc. Carolyn Wade, David Lyng Real Estate Jennifer Watson, Sereno Group Jeff Wickum, eXp Realty of California



SHIFTS IN THE REAL ESTATE LANDSCAPE



Remote work, office space, retail—it all impacts the residential real estate industry.

By Steve Murray, REAL Trends senior advisor

The pandemic brought about change at lightning speed. I rounded up just a few of the studies that show some of the more significant changes that will impact real estate:

- Remote Work. A survey of more than 300 national employers by advisory firm Willis Towers Watson said that 30% of their employees will be working from home full-time in three years—up from 5% three years ago. A New York University study of 3.4 million workers found that at-home workers reported working an average of 26 extra hours a month. Global Workplace Analytics, in a survey of 1,388 people working from home, found that 80% said they would like to work from home three days a week or more, up from 27% before the pandemic.
- Accelerated Digitization. Peter Grant of The Wall Street Journal commented, "As retailers learn to operate without stores, business travelers without airplanes and workers without offices, much of what started out as a temporary expedient is likely to become permanent. In many ways, digitization is simply the next chapter of a process under way for a century: The dematerialization of the economy. As agriculture gave way to manufacturing and then services, the share of economic value derived from tangible material and muscle shrunk while the share derived from information and brains grew. Solar and wind power require no pipelines or tankers. Carvana has established that people will buy cars virtually."
- Virtual Relationships. Joel Mokyr, an economic historian at Northwestern University said, "One of the most important and least appreciated roles is the great fake. It enables increasingly lifelike representations of some kind of reality through analog or digital mimicry, referred to as virtualization. One example is that the use of tools like Zoom seeks to recreate in virtual form the physical relations between bosses, employees and customers. However, Mokyr adds that "diminishing returns work here as well. We can mimic reality, but we are not digital creatures ourselves, and our evolutionary background will continue to demand physical experiences."

Interestingly, many consumer brand companies also think some permanent changes have occurred and are betting on significant shifts in consumer purchases. Conagra Brands and Kraft Heinz, for example, are buying and upgrading equipment to make more at-home meals. Kimberly Clark is converting a plant from making tissue products from office use to home use lines. Proctor and Gamble is doing the same.

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Outgoing President Recognition

2020 President, Morgan Lukina



Distinguished Leadership Award 2019 President, Seb Frey





2020 President's Award Winner 2021 President, Pete Culllen





Affiliate of the Year AwardJim Black

REALTOR® of the Year AwardJohn Flaniken



Community Service AwardDee Dee Vargas



It was a true honor and very humbling to receive the Distinguished Leadership Award from SCCAR! Serving as the 2019 President was the peak experience of my career to date, and I'm very grateful I had the opportunity to lead our wonderful Association. Thank you!!

Distinguished Leadership: Seb Frey, Compass



My involvement with the Association in 2020 as a Board Member and Chair of Local Govt Relations has been rewarding. In March 2020 nothing seemed more important that making sure Members could continue serving their clients... and our industry be deemed essential. Over the years SCCAR has been an important community for me, giving me purpose beyond the day to day rigors of real estate. I wouldn't have the time or energy to contribute without the help of my longtime assistant Alyssa Nelson. Thank You for this Award.

REALTOR of the Year: John Flaniken, Trade-In Real Estate



I'm honored by this recognition and I appreciate everyone who makes SCCAR an amazing place to inspire, connect and learn from others in our community. Thank you to all of those who give to this organization and I am grateful for the support I have received. I look forward to a great 2021 with all of you.

Affiliate of the Year: Jim Black, All Cal Financial

Education & Event Highlights

Find a complete line up of classes on our website at mysccar.org

March 10: Local Planners Panel

Find out what's coming up throughout our County from a panel of local Planning Department experts. Presenters will speak about building, development, long range planning and special projects happening in their cities.

March 10: California Residential Purchase Agreement (RPA) - LearnMyWay Stay up-to-date with the most widely used and trusted purchase agreement in California. This course will cover the entire California Residential Purchase Agreement (RPA) in detail step-by-step and the special situations during the real estate transaction. Get detailed instructions on how to properly complete and use the RPA form in all your transactions.

April 7: Meet the Chief...and the Marshal! Meet those that serve and protect and hear the latest on Coronavirus, Fire Prevention, Homeless Issues, Crime Statistics and Public Safety!



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Meet those that serve and protect and hear the latest on Coronavirus, Fire Prevention, Homeless Issues, Crime Statistics and Public Safety!

Wed., April 7, 2021 9:30 - 11 AM via **Z**oom











Chief of Police Santa Cruz, Andy Mills Chief of Police Scotts Valley, Steve Walpole Sheriff's Department, Chief Chris Clark Fire Marshall Aptos/LaSelva, Mike Demars

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ON YOUR ONLINE REAL ESTATE COURSES

PROMO CODE MARCH30

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY?

You've heard all of this before, but it bears repeating. The move to expanded remote working is permanent for a significant share of the office-based workforce. This will cause a shift in where people can live regardless of where they work. This shift will cause more activity for housing sales in suburban, ex-urban and rural markets and potentially less activity in urban core areas.

A SHIFT AWAY FROM AN OFFICE-BASED CULTURE

For brokerage firms, it should mean a shift away from office-based cultures to more digitally interactive relationships. Most brokerage firms, Realtor® associations, coaches, and educators have learned that they can reach far more real estate professionals, far more frequently, and with rich content with a mixture of online interaction and in-person events.

The big challenge is how brokerage leaders can maintain, build or rebuild their cultures—moving from an office-based culture to a remote-based culture. Brokerage firms that built their businesses on in-person interactions and relationships will need to adapt to a new environment.



TECHNOLOGY VITAL TO BROKERAGE FUNCTIONS

This is a no-brainer and was happening even before the pandemic. Technology will become vital to the functions of a brokerage firm. How agents interact with their customers, from CRM and virtual tours to online transaction processing, will all have to be enhanced for a brokerage to stay competitive and relevant. It also means using technology and information to recruit and develop agents and staff more effectively.

As Mokyr said, we are physical creatures, not digital, and in-person interaction will remain an integral part of how a business works. In residential brokerage, this will continue to be true more than in other fields.

Don't kid yourself into thinking that it will go back to the way it was 10 to 20 years ago. Most agents and teams abandoned offices years ago when they found they could remotely work from their homes or the local coffee shop. While most home buyers won't purchase without physically being in the homes they may want to buy, the numbers who will purchase remotely is going to grow to an unprecedented level. The pandemic accelerated changes that were already happening in the real estate industry. The idea of buying a home seen only through a virtual tour, while not mainstream, was accepted by many out-of-state or global homebuyers.

For brokers, flexibility and innovation with an eye on connective technologies and a healthy mix of in-person interaction should set you up for success in the coming year.

Steve Murray is a partner in REAL Trends Consulting, a brokerage consulting, M&A and valuation service. He is also a senior adviser for HWMedia, the owner of REAL Trends content, rankings and more.

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NEW REALTORS®

Fantasia Bailey, Powerwest Properties Savannah Banke, Keller Williams Realty -SC Kevin Bell. Strock Real Estate Lourdes Espinola, Century 21 MM Jo Ann Hill, David Lyng Real Estate Ryan Hinn, Sherman & Boone Anthony Jacobo, Room Real Estate Tara Kleinhesselink, David Lyng Real Estate Myrtha Moll, Myrtha Moll Broker Stacy Murphy, California Dreaming R.E. Chenoa Nielsen, Allen Property Group Yahaira Olmno-Claudio, The Turtlestone Group Joseph Robles, eXp Realty of CA Alyssa Rogers, Coldwell Banker Realty Nadine Roos, eXp Realty of CA Dennis Scott, Keller Williams Realty - SC Julian Sekon, eXp Realty of CA Sarah Shirley, eXp Realty of CA

Ann Smeltzer, David Lyng Real Estate
Stefanus Strydom, Anderson Christie
Clifford Suzuki, The Turtlestone Group
Nicole Tonti, Strock Real Estate
Ruben Vazquez Andrade, Coldwell Banker Realty
Ryan Velasco, Kelly Davis Prop Group
Melissa A Webber, Massey Advantage
Daniette West, Sereno Group

TRANSFERS

Lauren Antonino, eXp Realty of CA
Linda Bailey, eXp Realty of CA
Kevin Bell, eXp Realty of CA
Karen Beeson, Evolve Bank
Christopher Charman, eXp Realty of CA
Linda Charman, eXp Realty of CA
Christine Cumming, eXp Realty of CA
Charmaine Bueno Devivo, Bailey Properties, Inc.
Louise Dickenson, eXp Realty of CA
Cynthia Ellis, eXp Realty of CA
Raeid Farhat, RF Real Estate
Debbie Foster, Anderson Christie, Inc
Shemeika Fox, eXp Realty of CA

James Furlong, eXp Realty of CA Lauren Gagnier, eXp Realty of CA Jenifer Gibson, Room Real Estate Loren Goodman, eXp Realty of CA David Guzman, Sol Property Advisors Christy Hadland, eXp Realty of CA Maureen Kendall, David Lyng Real Estate Marshall Keneipp, eXp Realty of CA Angie LaMar, Pacific Oak Real Estate Svcs Jose Marquez, RF Real Estate Frank Maynard, Berkshire Hathaway Home Svcs. Marlissa McGranahan, Bailey Properties, Inc. Karen Miller, eXp Realty of CA Anne Murphy, eXp Realty of CA Emily Myall, Bailey Properties, Inc. David Pera, Keller Williams Realty - SC Caitlin Phillips, eXp Realty of CA Margaret Price, Keller Williams Realty - SC Amanda Rugani, Keller Williams Realty – SC Jose Salas, Jr., Keller Williams Realty - SC Barbara Samson, eXp Realty of CA Barbara Schatan, eXp Realty of CA Marcus Smolanovich, eXp Realty of CA Sarah Spires, Keller Williams Realty - SC Adele Tuiolosega, eXp Realty of CA Lila Veik, eXp Realty of CA Matthew Walthard, Keller Williams Realty - SC Scott Webber, Keller Williams Realty - SC Chelsea Wiget , eXp Realty of CA Lauren Wills, eXp Realty of CA

NEW AFFILIATE

Laruen Foos, State Farm Insurance

LIFRO

Elaine Aldrich, Keller Williams Realty - SC Mark L. Amott, Aldina Real Estae, Inc. Ryan Beach, Richard Beach Broker Jerrod Coddington, David Lyng Real Estate Deborah Childers, Bailey Properties, Inc. Therese Cliff, California Dreaming Michael Cremonini, Vista Properties Nicole Dagan, California Dreaming R.E. Janine DeRosa, Berkshire Hathaway Tom Dore, Bailey Properties, Inc. William Emmert, David Lyng Real Estate Matthew Gibson, Century 21 Sandcastle Realty Jo Ann Hill, David Lyng Real Estate Diane S Holtze, Vista Properties Margaret Knapp, Monterey Bay Realty Jami Kumar, Vista Properties Leopoldo Lopez, Aldina Real Estate, Inc. Melissa Mirabello, David Lyng Real Estate Loren Morse, Anderson Christie Inc Jean Marie Ragus, David Lyng Real Estate Francisco Renteria, Aldina Real Estate, Inc. Audrey Tennant, David Lyng Real Estate Cheri Trebbien, David Lyng & Associates Carrey Ward, John Fuchs Properties



Learn about REALTOR
Benefits® Program Partners

Santa Cruz County Housing Statistics

January 2021: Santa Cruz County - Single Family Residential												
City	New	Inventory	Sold	Avg. DOM	Avg. Sale Price	Median Sale Price	Median \$/Sqft	% LP Rec'd	Sale Volume	Avg. Home Sq. Ft.	Avg. Lot Sq. Ft.	Months of Inventory
Aptos	12	20	16	55	\$1,538,886	\$1,387,500	\$764	101%	\$24,622,188	2,043	45,248	1
Ben Lomond	4	7	2	64	\$688,000	\$688,000	\$559	98%	\$1,376,000	1,262	26,202	1.5
Boulder Creek	13	16	17	52	\$768,369	\$739,500	\$478	97%	\$13,062,277	1,716	115,316	1
Brookdale	0	1	0									
Capitola	6	10	2	19	\$1,375,000	\$1,375,000	\$880	104%	\$2,750,000	1,626	4,857	1.8
Corralitos	0	3	1	6	\$779,382	\$779,382	\$592	94%	\$779,382	1,316	21,301	3
Felton	7	18	7	23	\$756,285	\$840,000	\$704	106%	\$5,294,000	1,036	11,363	1.7
Freedom	2	2	1	0	\$665,000	\$665,000	\$388	100%	\$665,000	1,713	6,011	3
La Selva Beach	3	5	4	145	\$1,239,750	\$1,304,500	\$706	96%	\$4,959,000	1,744	5,151	1.5
Los Gatos	7	15	11	48	\$1,573,909	\$1,500,000	\$606	102%	\$17,313,000	2,651	473,719	1.7
Mount Hermon	2	2	0									
Santa Cruz	46	66	35	24	\$1,456,006	\$1,275,000	\$678	105%	\$50,960,240	1,900	38,694	1.5
Scotts Valley	14	23	6	29	\$1,268,333	\$1,140,000	\$599	101%	\$7,610,000	2,115	55,118	1.8
Soquel	8	14	5	50	\$1,603,600	\$1,400,000	\$567	104%	\$8,018,000	2,647	205,602	2.6
Watsonville	12	23	17	24	\$958,281	\$710,000	\$504	102%	\$16,290,777	1,609	26,733	1.3
Summary	136	225	124	41	\$ 1,128,523	\$1,140,000	\$599	101%	\$153,699,864	1,798	79,640	1.8

January 2021: Santa Cruz County - Common Interest Development												
City	New	Inventory	Sold	Avg. DOM	Avg. Sale Price	Median Sale Price	Median \$/Sqft	% LP Rec'd	Sale Volume	Avg. Home Sq. Ft.	Avg. Lot Sq. Ft.	Months of Inventory
Aptos	6	16	6	19	\$641,443	\$579,000	\$613	99%	\$3,848,659	1,179	1,072	1.7
Boulder Creek	2	1	2	14	\$354,500	\$354,500	\$580	101%	\$709,000	614	697	0.5
Capitola	5	7	2	11	\$1,025,000	\$1,025,000	\$697	109%	\$2,050,000	1,468	1,786	1.9
Freedom	1	1	0									
La Selva Beach	0	0	1	7	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$590	96%	\$1,100,000	1,864		0
Santa Cruz	10	25	7	42	\$671,957	\$725,000	\$513	101%	\$4,703,700	1,292	1,068	1.7
Scotts Valley	6	9	6	61	\$735,798	\$743,750	\$454	101%	\$4,414,790	1,679	1,078	1.6
Soquel	2	3	0									
Watsonville	8	11	6	53	\$608,333	\$640,000	\$499	100%	\$3,650,000	1,093	1,220	1.7
Summary	40	73	30	30	\$733,862	\$725,000	\$580	101%	\$ 20,476,149	1,313	1,154	1.3

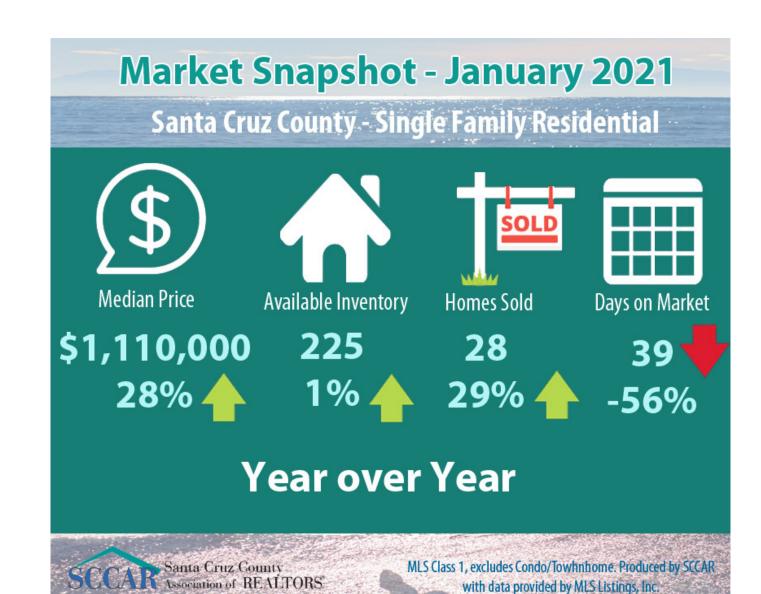
Data provided by MLS Listings, Inc. and compiled by the Santa Cruz County Association of REALTORS®

California housing market momentum continues into new year, C.A.R. reports

- Existing, single-family home sales totaled 484,730 in January on a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, down 4.9 percent from December and up 22.5 percent from January 2020.
- January's statewide median home price was \$699,890, down 2.5 percent from December and up 21.7 percent from January 2020.
- The statewide Unsold Inventory Index was 1.5 months in January, up from 1.3 months in December but down from 3.4 months in January 2020. Read full article >

2021 Market Outlook

View the 3/2/21 recording featuring NAR's Chief Economist on our Members Only page at www.mysccar.org







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