



Government Affairs Action for the week of May 10, 2020

by David Stark, Public Affairs Director, Bay East Association of REALTORS®

DRE Cancels Real Estate License Testing Through May

On Thursday, May 14, the California Department of Real Estate (DRE) announced it is cancelling real estate salesperson and broker license exams in all exam centers through May 31, 2020.

According to the DRE, they are taking this step to comply with state and local shelter in place requirements related to the COVID-19 crisis.

The DRE also announced that real estate licensees scheduled to take DRE exams during this period can reschedule using the eLicensing system and exam rescheduling fees will be waived for canceled exams.

More information is available by calling 877.373.4542 or via [email](#).

East Bay Cities Launch Rental Assistance Programs

This week, the cities of Emeryville, Hayward and Oakland launched rental assistance programs for tenants impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Income-eligible renters may apply for a one-time grant that is paid directly to their property manager or rental property owner. The grant amount varies depending on where the applicant lives, their household income and the size of their rental unit.

The programs are administered by Bay Area Community Services. More information and an online application system is [here](#).

County Supervisors Back off on New Eviction Moratorium

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors backed off on adopting a new eviction moratorium ordinance.

The Ordinance would replace the current emergency eviction moratorium with even stricter rules that would extend well beyond the eventual end of the COVID-19 state of emergency and apply to all cities in Alameda County.

The County Supervisors were scheduled to take action on the new ordinance during their May 12 meeting. The reconsidered after receiving hundreds of emails from REALTORS® and rental property owners and managers asking the Board to hold off on the ordinance until they heard from rental property owners and managers.

On May 15, representatives from Bay East, Bridge REALTORS® and rental housing associations, met virtually with County officials to address concerns about the legality and unintended consequences of the proposed ordinance. The group offered alternatives to protect tenants while also allowing housing providers to continue providing affordable and safe shelter during and after the COVID-19 crisis.

The Supervisors are now scheduled to take action on a revised ordinance during their June 2 meeting. County staff promised a preliminary draft will be available for review during the week of May 17.

Bay East thanks everyone who responded to the Call for Action (CFA) regarding this issue. Another CFA may be launched prior to the June 2 Board of Supervisors meeting.

If you have any questions or any government-related real estate issues you want Bay East to research, please contact Bay East [staff](#).

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