

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.



Furman Center Housing and Land Use News Digest

August 2, 2012

NEWS

[Mortgage rates reverse streak of record lows](#)

HousingWire, 8/2/12

"Recent announcements of additional debt relief for the eurozone and mixed domestic economic indicators caused mortgage rates to break their streak of record-breaking lows. The Freddie Mac survey showed the 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage averaged 3.55% for the week ending Thursday, up from last week's record low of 3.49%. Last year at this time, the 30-year FRM averaged 4.39%."

[New York's Mayor Bloomberg defends under-fire city Housing Authority Chairman John Rhea as new report blasts the agency](#)

The New York Daily News, 8/2/12

"A scathing report obtained by the *Daily News* slams the city Housing Authority for sky-high salaries, undisclosed perks and unchecked expenses - but Mayor Bloomberg is defending his handpicked chairman as 'smart and innovative.' In fact, the mayor is blaming budget cuts for the New York City Housing Authority's woes, even as NYCHA Chairman John Rhea is on the hot seat for hoarding federal funds meant for desperately needed repairs and security."

[Richard Florida Warns of Super-Tall Towers -- So Should We Be Scared of the Midtown East Rezoning?](#)

The New York Observer, 8/1/12

"In its final grand zoning gesture, the Bloomberg administration is racing to rezone Midtown East, paving the way for what could be a wave of huge, skyline defining towers. But in an essay in this weekend's *Wall Street Journal*, Richard Florida seems to warn that could be the wrong approach for New York, as it has been the case in other hyper-dense cities."

[Bike Lanes Pushed for 5th and 6th Avenues](#)

DNA Info, 8/1/12

"Could protected bike lanes be headed to Fifth and Sixth avenues in Manhattan? They will be, if Transportation Alternatives gets its way. The organization, which promotes, walking, biking and public transit, is hosting a meeting next week to kick off a campaign dedicated to bringing bike lanes to these centrally located and highly trafficked roadways."

[Grand jury: NYC property-tax system needs changes](#)

Crain's New York Business, 8/1/12

"New York City's property-tax system needs to be changed to prevent false document filings, a state grand jury found. The grand jury's report, announced Wednesday by Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance,

Access New York City neighborhood data and subsidized housing information with our [Data Search Tool](#).



In This Issue

[NEWS](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[JOB OPENINGS](#)

EVENTS

8/4

[Modern Architecture in the West Village and New Buildings along the High Line](#)

When: Sat., August 4, 2012, 10 AM - 1 PM

Where: Tour will meet at 536 LaGuardia Place, NYC, 10 AM

Save the Date: 9/13 - 9/14

[After the Crisis: Housing Policy and Finance in the U.S. and U.K., The New School Housing Conference](#)

When: Thurs. & Fri., Sept. 13-14, 2012

Where: Theresa Land Community and Student Center, Arnhold Hall, 55 W. 13th St., 2nd Fl., NYC

Save the Date: 9/20 - 9/21

examined the filing of false documents and information about properties including rentals, condominiums, cooperatives, hotels and parking garages. Authorities don't have enough power to deter false filings and face a high cost to investigate them, the grand jury said."

[Why New York-area housing prices have been slower to recover](#)

The Real Deal, 8/1/12

"Optimism for the recovery of the U.S. housing market has run high lately, but there is less to rejoice about in the working-class communities of New York and New Jersey. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the housing recovery is uneven in urban areas, with luxury housing going strong, while lower- and middle-end housing flounders."

[Woodside leaders, pols propose cheaper BID option for small businesses](#)

The New York Daily News, 7/31/12

"Woodside leaders want to give business owners a taste of BID-lite. The community board and pols in Woodside recently proposed a cheaper model for a business improvement district that they hope will speed the BID's instatement. However, detractors said the plan will drag businesses into unneeded expenses."

[Regulator Rebuffs Obama on Plan to Ease Housing Debt](#)

The New York Times, 7/31/12

"The independent federal agency that administers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac said on Tuesday that it would not let the mortgage companies offer debt forgiveness to borrowers, again rejecting the entreaties of the Obama administration. The Federal Housing Finance Agency said it had concluded after months of study that up to half a million homeowners could benefit from such a program, and that taxpayers might save \$1 billion because aid recipients would be more likely to continue making mortgage payments."

[Housing Notches Gains](#)

The Wall Street Journal, 7/31/12

"Home prices rose for the fourth consecutive month across the nation, providing more evidence that the housing market is recovering. Prices rose a seasonally adjusted average of 0.9% between April and May in the 20 largest metropolitan areas, according to the latest S&P/Case-Shiller home-price index, which measures single-family home prices."

[Legal Questions Emerge About Citi Field Mall](#)

City Limits, 7/30/12

"For more than half a century New York City politicians have tried to redevelop Willets Point, the stretch of auto repair shops, factories, warehouses and scrap metal yards off the Flushing River in northern Queens. In the latest bid to revive his own plan for the area, Mayor Michael Bloomberg has unveiled a new project that would include a shopping mall on the Citi Field parking lot."

[How Forgiveness Fits in Housing-Fix Toolkit](#)

The Wall Street Journal, 7/29/12

"Policy makers are wrestling with a dilemma about the overhang of mortgage debt from the housing bust: to forgive or not to forgive? With prices down by one-third from their 2006 peak, more than 11 million homeowners are underwater, or owe more than their homes are worth. That is about 24% of all homeowners with a mortgage, according to data firm CoreLogic."

[19th Annual Affordable Housing Conference, Novogradac & Co. LLP](#)

When: Thurs. & Fri., Sept. 20-21, 2012; Discount registration rate available until Aug. 27, 2012

Where: The Westin St. Francis, San Francisco, CA

JOB OPENINGS

[Economic Development Officer, Special Projects, City of New Haven](#)

Posted 8/1/2012

[Community Liaison, Community Board 1, Manhattan](#)

Posted 7/31/2012

[Payments Policy Officer, Credit and Payments Risk, Federal Reserve Bank of New York](#)

Posted 7/26/2012

[Data Associate, The Reinvestment Fund, Philadelphia, PA](#)

Posted 7/25/2012

[District Manager \(Field\), Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, CA](#)

Posted 7/25/2012

[Tax-Credit Property Manager, Non-Profit Community Preservation, Housing Division, Institute of Real Estate Management \(IREM\)](#)

Posted 7/25/2012

[Client Advocate, Eviction Prevention Unit, CAMBA](#)

Posted 7/24/2012

[Director, Statewide Housing Choice Voucher Program, NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation, Albany, NY](#)

Posted 7/22/2012

[Senior Transportation Planner, URS](#)

Posted 7/22/2012

[Assistant Director, Resident Business Development, NYC Housing Authority](#)

Posted 7/19/2012

[Senior Mortgage Loan Underwriter, City National Bank](#)

Posted 7/18/2012

[Vice President of Research, Opportunity Finance Network,](#)

CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS: PUBLIC

ACCESS DESIGN

[Philadelphia, PA](#)

Posted 7/17/2012

The **Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP)** is looking for advocacy partners for Public Access Design, their new series of multimedia organizing tools. CUP is looking for NYC-based community organizations and advocacy groups who are working on a social justice issue that would benefit from a visual explanation, and who are interested in working collaboratively to produce a visual tool. Strong applicants will have firsthand knowledge of the project topic, access to and a relationship with the constituency affected by that topic, and the capacity to participate in regular meetings and provide feedback throughout the process. Applications are due **August 6, 2012 at 8 pm**. A jury will meet in August to select the first two projects in the series. Find out more and apply online [here](#).

The Furman Center often receives notices regarding positions in the housing and land use fields. If you would like us to include a job opening at your organization, please send an email with the name of the organization, position title, location, and a link to the job description to: fcommunications@nyu.edu.

The Housing and Land Use Digest is distributed by the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy every Monday and Thursday. If you would like to be added or removed from our mailing list, please send an email with this request to: fcommunications@nyu.edu. For more information about the Furman Center, visit www.furmancenter.org.

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on 

[Forward email](#)

 SafeUnsubscribe™

 Trusted Email from
Constant Contact
Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to fcommunications@nyu.edu by fcommunications@nyu.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Furman Center | 139 MacDougal Street, 2nd Floor | New York | NY | 10012