Housing Innovations in California: Translating Policy into Programs Following Historic Legislation

California has led the country in advancing a historic suite of housing-related bills and propositions. In the fall of 2017 Governor Brown signed into legislation a broad suite of housing-related bills, and in the fall of 2018 voters approved two bonds to fund housing and homeless programs. Taken collectively, the magnitude of this suite of policy and funding legislation has the potential to significantly change the landscape for housing in California. However, the work of addressing what some call the housing catastrophe is far from over, and housing advocates and policy-makers are only gaining momentum. State and local officials are working to translate these new policies into programs. The implications and unintended consequences of such sweeping legislation will become apparent as implementation continues to unfold. Meanwhile, legislators continue to advance more housing-related bills aimed at addressing other aspects of the housing crisis, and many provide different solutions to similar challenges. This panel seeks to reflect on how far we have come, identify new bills and programs in the housing field, and suggest opportunities to advance comprehensive and effective housing policies for the coming legislative year.

Wednesday
May 1st

12:00—1:00pm

UC Center
Sacramento
1130 K Street
Room LL 22
Sac, CA 95814

Register by:
April 24th at:
uccs.ucdavis.edu

Lunch will be served

Bernadette Austin is associate director of the Center for Regional Change, Bernadette brings extensive experience in community development praxis and public-private partnerships. Prior to founding a consulting firm specializing in community development, she worked for a private affordable housing developer, local redevelopment agency, community development financial institution, and nonprofit community health organizations. Her projects include Sacramento’s first true transit-oriented development, West Sacramento’s first urban farm stand, and the first project in the country to implement a federal program combining housing vouchers and health services for disabled adults. Bernadette has served on the West Sacramento Planning Commission, West Sacramento Parks and Community Services Commission, and the Policy and Planning Committee of the Urban Land Institute. She holds a Master of Science in community development from UC Davis and a Bachelor of Science in community health from St. Mary’s College of California.

Zack Olmstead was appointed Deputy Director of Housing Policy Development at the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on September 1, 2017, where he served as Assistant Deputy Director of Homeless and Housing Policy since 2016. Prior to joining HCD, Olmstead was the lead advisor on housing, homelessness, and land use policy to Speaker Emeritus of the California State Assembly Toni G. Atkins, also fulfilling that role during her tenure as Speaker of the Assembly from May 2014 through March 2016. He was the director for homeless policy at Housing California from 2006 to 2013. Olmstead completed his undergraduate studies at the University of San Diego and holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento.

David Garcia is the Policy Director for the Terner Center. He leads the center’s engagement in local, state and federal housing policy and supports the generation of research-driven policy ideas, proposals, and papers. Prior to joining the Terner Center, David worked as the Chief Operating Officer for Ten Space, a real estate development company in Stockton, California focused exclusively on infill projects in the downtown neighborhood. As COO, David managed various aspects of the development process, including development agreements, environmental review, and project design. During his tenure, Ten Space won several awards for their projects, including the American Planning Association’s Award of Excellence in Urban Design for their California chapter. David has also worked as an advocate in the Central Valley, serving on numerous boards and commissions related to a wide array of planning issues such as increasing cycling infrastructure, implementing smart growth policies, and developing incentives for infill growth. Prior to his work with Ten Space, David was a Research Analyst at the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, DC. David holds a Bachelor’s of Arts from the University of California, Los Angeles as well as a Master’s in Public Policy from the Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies in Baltimore, Maryland.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UCCS.