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Sustainability Engineering Group

September 2017

LEEDing and Developing Smart Projects

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Give us a call and discover why we have a reputation for quality, innovation, building excellence and customer satisfaction.

Sincerely, Dr. Ali Fakih Sustainability Engineering Group ali@azseg.com





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'Here for the eviction': More renters forced from homes as affordable-housing crisis deepens

Rent prices have spiked. Cheap housing has been demolished. The national rental vacancy rate is at its lowest point in three decades. And Americans are being evicted in near-record numbers.

As the country fell into and climbed out of the Great Recession, eviction rates continued to rise, growing into the steady rhythm of American poverty. In 1996, Maricopa County's Justice Courts ordered 5,542 evictions. Those same courts processed 22,231 evictions in 2016, pulling people from their homes and plunging them into a rental market with few options.

More than one-third of American rental households spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing, a mark widely considered the standard for affordability. A national shortfall of 7.4 million affordable rental units has forced the country's lowest-income renters to live month to month, always one medical problem or layoff away from losing another home. Life becomes a string of low-budget apartments, and at the end of that string often stands Sumner.

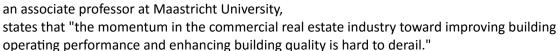
AZ Central

2017'S TOP 30 MARKETS FOR GREEN BUILDING

The 2017 report found that 38% of all office space in the nation's largest markets were LEED and/or ENERGY STAR certified as of 2016. This marks a slight increase from 37% in 2015, but a dramatic increase from 2005, when less than 5% of office spaces were green certified. The study excludes buildings and square footage of any office that failed to renew certifications after five years.

The breakdown of certifications in all 30 cities by share of square footage and share of total buildings shows that the market is more of a laggard on LEED certifications-which place emphasis on sustainable building methods and materials-than ENERGY STAR certifications-which focus primarily on energy efficiency.

Despite the current administration's policy priorities which have shifted focus away from sustainability and energy efficiency, Dr. Nils Kok, an associate professor at Maastricht University.



Builder Online



ASU, McCain team up to transform riverbed

A new effort to transform the entire Salt River bottom through metro Phoenix into an urban and environmental amenity, a project organizers hope would engage the creativity of the university...

ASU Now



Younger tenants driving up demand

Demand for rental apartment housing is on the rise in the East Valley and the rest of the metro region, buoyed by an increased desire for high-end apartments and need for moreaffordable options...

East Valley Tribune



A sustainable society for our betterment

Buildings have a huge responsibility for providing a sustainable future through adoption of better lighting solutions, efficient appliances and advanced heating and cooling technologies.

New Indian Express



AZ doesn't have enough workers

Construction workers in AZ should ask for a raise... Phoenix doesn't have enough carpenters, electricians, framers, painters and plumbers, according to a new study from AGC of America.

AZ Central



Technologies' shaping smart movement

The Smart Cities movement is the wave of innovation already starting to transform urban areas across the globe - and in the process is creating new challenges and opportunities for commercial real estate.

AZ Big Media



Local Businesses Will Build Home in 7 Days

Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod's next Blitz Build brings together home building professionals... Through donated materials and labor, a brand new home is built from the ground up in just 5 days.

Cape Cod

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