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Newsletter Number 11

## SILOED POLICY

It all connects  
to housing

Now we connect to make a difference

For Affordability, Safety, and Local Accountability [wakeca.org](http://wakeca.org)

### CREATING AN ALLIANCE

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## WAKE UP Is Different From Other Organizations

**We don't just represent a single grievance.**

WAKE UP identifies the breadth of housing policy impacts and unites groups, electeds, and fragmented communities with **one common cause.**

**We're pro-rational planning — and we defy the NIMBY label used to shut us down.**

The intersection between housing policy and our concerns includes:

|               |                   |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| fire          | evacuation        | insurance         |
| water supply  | sea-level rise    | environment       |
| agriculture   | historic places   | local business    |
| affordability | gentrification    | parking           |
| watershed     | demolition waste  | infrastructure    |
| heat islands  | the electric grid | unfunded mandates |
| jobs          | transit           | local democracy   |

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FROM LAST MONDAY

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## A United Front

Last Monday our focus was the united front we've assembled to fight one-size-fits-all housing policy — the growing alliance of organizations, community leaders, and advocates working toward affordability, safety, and local accountability.

The presentation is now available:

[VIEW THE PRESENTATION →](#)

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IN THE LEGISLATURE

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## A Hectic Stretch

It's been a busy stretch — WAKE UP has written three opposition letters this session and signed onto a Planning and Conservation League (PCL) opposition letter for AB 2676. We just received confirmation that AB 2676 — which would have barred citizen initiatives and referendums around land use — is, thankfully, officially dead.

More info on current legislation, letter deadlines, and templates is on our [LEGISLATION](#) page.

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**STREAMLINING ALONE WON'T GET HOUSING BUILT**

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**Approved, and still a vacant lot —  
among many**

## San Jose housing tower remains unbuilt, instead becomes blighted site

Tower was proposed as a 100% affordable apartment complex



(George Avalos/Bay Area News Group)

An empty lot at 605 South Second Street in downtown San Jose, seen on June 22, 2026. A portion of the fence has fallen, visible on the right side of the image.

“San Jose talks a lot about revitalizing downtown, but investors pay attention to what the city tolerates, not what it says,” said Bob Staedler, principal executive with Silicon Valley Synergy, a land-use consultancy.

[READ THE COVERAGE →](#)

**It all connects to housing. Now we connect to make a difference.**

## MOMENTUM!

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WAKE UP CALIFORNIA is volunteer-run — but as we grow, so do our expenses. Your support helps keep quality work going. Please consider a donation:

DONATE →

**WAKE UP IS ON BREAK**  
**JUNE 29 · JULY 6**  
**ZOOMS RESUME JULY 13**

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— *Amy Kalish, President and founder*

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*Affordability, Safety, and Local Accountability*

WAKE UP CALIFORNIA — Mill Valley, CA

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