

February 2018

# News Brief

## Residential

### Housing's State of Union: Pressing Issues Ahead

The housing market outlook is looking bright on several fronts: strong buyer demand, particularly among first-timers, and a growing U.S. economy urging more consumers to buy.

By: Daily Real Estate News, January 26, 2018

**Read more:** [www.realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2018/01/26/housing-s-state-union-pressing-issues-ahead](http://www.realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2018/01/26/housing-s-state-union-pressing-issues-ahead)

### You Can Buy Houses With Bitcoin Now — Here's How Much it Would Take

Despite warnings of a bubble and massively fluctuating values, bitcoin continues to fascinate investors and new industries.

By: Chris Morris, Fortune, January 15, 2018

**Read more:** [www.fortune.com/2018/01/15/bitcoin-home-buying-real-estate-prices](http://www.fortune.com/2018/01/15/bitcoin-home-buying-real-estate-prices)

### AI May Be a New Weapon Against Spear Phishing Attacks

Cybercriminals are infamous for launching persuasive attack, targeting a maximum number of people, victimizing anybody that takes the bait.

By: Asaf Cidon, contributor, Security Info Watch, January 22, 2018

**Read more:** [www.securityinfowatch.com/article/12392006](http://www.securityinfowatch.com/article/12392006)

### The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act - What it Means for Homeowners and Real Estate Professionals

Analysis and examples of how major provisions will affect real estate professionals, commercial real estate, and current and prospective homeowners.

By: National Association of REALTORS®

**Read more:** [www.nar.realtor/tax-reform/the-tax-cuts-and-jobs-act-what-it-means-for-homeowners-and-real-estate-professionals](http://www.nar.realtor/tax-reform/the-tax-cuts-and-jobs-act-what-it-means-for-homeowners-and-real-estate-professionals)

### 10 Technologies That Will Change Real Estate In 2018

Technological developments in recent years have changed nearly every industry, and real estate is no exception.

By: Forbes Real Estate Council, Forbes, January 22, 2018

**Read more:** [www.forbes.com/sites/forbesrealestategouncil/2018/01/22/10-technologies-that-will-change-real-estate-in-2018](http://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesrealestategouncil/2018/01/22/10-technologies-that-will-change-real-estate-in-2018)

## Commercial

### U.S. Regulators Ready to Ease Check on Property Values

U.S. bank regulators plan to relax commercial real estate lending rules by allowing more deals to go ahead without an independent appraisal of the property's value, according to several sources familiar with the discussions.

By: Patrick Rucker, Reuters, January 26, 2018

**Read more:** [www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-banks-appraisal/u-s-regulators-ready-to-ease-check-on-property-values-sources-idUSKBN1FF24R](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-banks-appraisal/u-s-regulators-ready-to-ease-check-on-property-values-sources-idUSKBN1FF24R)

### Commercial Lease Gets & Gotchas Founders Should Know About: Part 1

Commercial office space is one of the top three expenditures for business owners, and one that should only be entered into with professional help.

By: Moira Vetter, contributor, Forbes, January 29, 2018

**Read more:** [www.forbes.com/sites/moiravetter/2018/01/29/part-1-commercial-lease-gets-gotchas-founders-should-know-about](http://www.forbes.com/sites/moiravetter/2018/01/29/part-1-commercial-lease-gets-gotchas-founders-should-know-about)

### How City Characteristics Influence Real Estate Investment

Even in today's ever globalizing world, no two cities are the same. Find out more about the peer groups of today's top cities and what it means for their commercial real estate markets.

By: Rhian Nicholson, Real Views, January 29, 2018

**Read more:** [www.jllrealviews.com/economy/investment/city-characteristics-influence-real-estate-investment](http://www.jllrealviews.com/economy/investment/city-characteristics-influence-real-estate-investment)

### New Tax Laws Likely to Increase

#### High-Net-Worth (HNW) Investment in Real Estate

Legal and tax experts say the law bestows several benefits that make it more appealing to HNW investors to buy properties.

By: John Egan, National Real Estate Investor, January 29, 2018

**Read more:** [www.nreonline.com/finance-investment/new-tax-laws-likely-increase-hnw-investment-real-estate](http://www.nreonline.com/finance-investment/new-tax-laws-likely-increase-hnw-investment-real-estate)

### Real Estate Futurist Envisions 24-Hour Office Buildings

While office interiors might be abuzz with workers and self-driving vehicles could be ubiquitous on our highways, commercial property rooftops could soon be the most desired space for another mode of transport.

By: Phil Hall, Westfair Communications, January 22, 2018

**Read more:** [www.westfaironline.com/98120/real-estate-futurist-envisions-24-hour-office-buildings](http://www.westfaironline.com/98120/real-estate-futurist-envisions-24-hour-office-buildings)

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