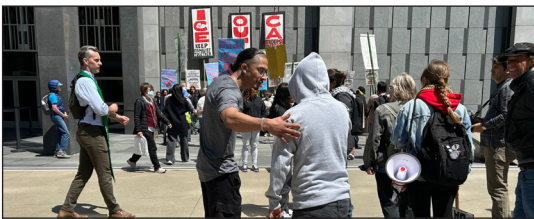


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‘COULDN’T BE MORE WELCOME’

Overall Bay Area inflation beats national numbers

WHAT WENT UP AND WHAT WENT DOWN?

A sampling of changes in price of consumer goods and services from this June compared to June 2024.



Meats, poultry, fish and eggs **+6.4%**



Alcoholic beverages **+3.9%**



Fruits and vegetables **+3.6%**



Rent (primary residence) **+2.9%**



Dairy products **+1.4%**



New and used vehicles **+10%**



Cereals and bakery products **+1.0%**



Gasoline (all types) **-3.7%**



Apparel **-14.5%**

Photo credits (clockwise): Justin Sullivan/Getty Images, Shae Hammond/Bay Area News Group, Godofredo A. Vásquez/AP, Randy Vazquez/ Bay Area News Group, Justin Sullivan/Getty Images, Shae Hammond/Bay Area News Group, Scott Olson/Getty Images, Ray Chavez/Bay Area News Group and Dai Sugano/Bay Area News Group
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Statistics show that prices in June — bolstered by lower costs for apparel and gas — rise at half the pace of the rest of the country

By George Avalos

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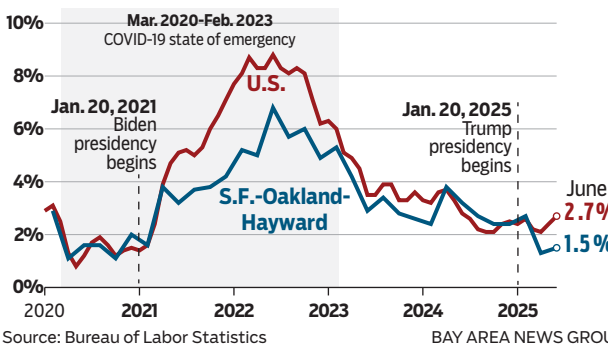
From June 2024 to June of this year, inflation in the Bay Area rose just 1.5% while nationwide that jump nearly doubled, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

“It all comes down to weaker and more price-sensitive demand here in the Bay Area,” said Scott Anderson, chief economist with BMO Capital Markets. “Businesses in the Bay Area are likely more reluctant than other parts of the country to pass along their higher tariff costs for fear of driving away new and existing customers.”

Consumer prices rose nationally at 2.7% in June, the federal agency reported.

BAY AREA PRICES NUDDGE A TAD HIGHER

Consumer prices rose 1.5% in June compared to June 2024 for the Bay Area — rising slightly since April, which had a +1.3% change. The Bay Area fared better than the rest of the country, which saw a 2.7% rise.



“The lower inflation rate in the Bay Area is due to the decline in gas prices,” said Michael Bernick, an employment attorney with law firm Duane Morris and a former director of the state Employ-

ment Development Department. “The other inflation rates of goods in the Bay Area were in line with the national numbers.”

The uneven Bay Area job market could be helping

to keep prices down in the region, said Russell Hancock, president of San Jose-based think tank Joint Venture Silicon Valley.

“The recent layoffs have kept wage growth in check,” Hancock said, referring to tech industry job cuts. “That, in turn, has moderated consumer demand.”

Here is how consumer prices changed for some key components of the overall inflation index in the Bay Area, according to the new report. The numbers reflect annual changes in prices:

- Food, up 2.8%.
- Food consumed at home, up 3.5%.
- Food away from home, up 2.2%.

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TAX CUTS / TARIFFS / DEREGULATION

Trump forcefully takes reins on economy

Future of financial state of the U.S. tied to volatile agenda

By Tony Romm and Colby Smith

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — His expensive tax cuts have been signed into law. His steep global tariffs are taking clearer shape. And his twin campaigns to deregulate government and deport immigrants are well underway.

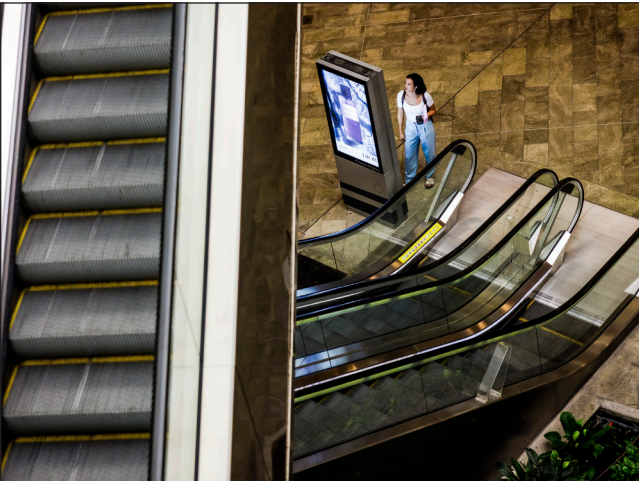
With the major components of his agenda now coming into focus, President Donald Trump has already

left an indelible mark on the U.S. economy. The triumphs and turbulence that may soon arise will squarely belong to him.

Not even six months into his second term, Trump has forged ahead with the grand and potentially disruptive economic experiment that he first previewed during the 2024 campaign. His actions in recent weeks have staked the future of the nation's finances — and its centuries-old trading relationships — on a belief that many economists' most dire warnings are wrong.

Last month, the president

See **ECONOMY** on Page A5



A visitor looks at a store directory at the Brickell City Centre in Miami on June 26. Consumer spending — the primary driver of U.S. economic growth — has started to sputter, economic experts say. **SCOTT MCINTYRE — THE NEW YORK TIMES**

BAY AREA PART OF FIGHT

Alliance fighting for HHS funding

Bloc asks judge to stop Trump from adding conditions on federal HUD and DOT grants

By Grace Hase

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As the Trump administration continues its attempts to impose conditions on federal grants, a coalition of 60 local governments — including the counties of Santa Clara, Alameda and San Mateo — is asking a federal judge to block the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from adding stipulations to grants that could put hundreds of millions of dollars at risk in the region.

Since taking office earlier this year, President Donald Trump has issued a slew of executive orders that require grant recipients to comply with his agenda, such as prohibiting programs that support abortion, gender ideology and diversity, equity and inclusion, and ensuring compliance with federal immigration enforcement.

An amended complaint filed on July 10 builds on an initial lawsuit from May that opposed conditions being placed on grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation. The lawsuit, led by King County, Washington, was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

On June 3, U.S. District Court Judge Barbara J. Rothstein granted a preliminary injunction in the initial case, preventing the Trump administration from imposing conditions on federal grants from HUD and the DOT.

Now, the coalition is looking to protect funding from HHS, which is the largest grant-making agency

See **HHS** on Page A5

OAKLAND

City halts \$8.3M land deal for new recycling facility

Decision comes shortly after feds indicted executives tied to project

By Jakob Rodgers

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OAKLAND — The \$8.3 million land deal for Oakland's embattled recycling contractor to build a recycling plant on the former Oakland Army Base is dead, months after two executives were indicted on federal charges partially tied to the project.

California Waste Solutions' bid to relocate the company's West Oakland plants onto 12 acres of the ex-Army base's North Gateway parcel was axed earlier this year by Oakland City Administrator Justin D. Johnson, a city spokesperson recently confirmed.

The decision ends a long-delayed project that was thrust back into the public spotlight over the past year, when federal investigators claimed the land served as one part of an alleged bribery scheme between former Mayor Sheng Thao and the CWS' father-and-son executive team of David and Andy Duong. In January,

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