



CHINESE PRESIDENT Xi Jinping and President Trump met privately at the White House on Thursday.

XI URGES ‘HUMAN CONTROL’ OF AI AT SUMMIT

Chinese leader calls for caution amid concern, but Trump has balked at limits.

By MICHAEL WILNER AND ANA CEBALLOS

WASHINGTON — China’s president issued a call from the White House on Thursday for artificial intelligence to remain “under human control” as the world’s two superpowers race for technological supremacy.

Xi Jinping’s remarks reflect growing concern within China over whether governments in Washington or Beijing will be able to contain a technology with potentially transformative capabilities, according to a U.S. official.

Lawmakers and AI industry leaders urged President Trump to use his summit with Xi this week to pursue a safety framework for AI, which researchers warn could soon surpass human understanding.

But Trump preempted the meeting with a post on social media stating he had no intention of negotiating limits on AI development.

“A big day with President Xi of China,” Trump wrote. “Super Intelligence (SI) will be a big topic of discussion, but I want to leave it exactly where it is. That is China’s position also. Our guardrail is the DOJ!”

After offering Xi a lavish welcome on the White House grounds, Trump made a passing reference to AI. “The decisions we make in [See Summit, A6]

Housing price anxiety reaches Inland Empire

By Jack Flemming

For generations, the Inland Empire was considered one of Southern California’s best real estate deals.

As development slowed in coastal regions, Riverside and San Bernardino counties continued to see booming new housing tracts that cost significantly less than coastal communities — as long as you could handle longer commute times and higher temperatures. But now, housing anxiety is gripping the region.

A new report from the Public Policy Institute of California found that affordability is becoming a bigger problem across the Inland Empire.

The think tank studies California’s political geography every few years, gauging which issues residents care about the most. In its 2020 report, coastal communities such as L.A. and the Bay Area were the most concerned with housing affordability. But now, San Bernardino, Riverside and Kern counties — once considered bastions of affordability — are all right there with them.

In all three counties, more than 60% of people called housing affordability a big problem. East San Bernardino County saw a 17% jump compared with the 2020 survey. West Riverside County saw a 12% jump. Kern County saw a 22% jump.

Eric McGhee, the researcher who authored the report, said migration patterns account for growing stress in the Inland Empire. During the pandemic, tens of thousands of people left L.A., Orange and San Diego County for San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

“People who can’t afford to live in the Bay Area or L.A. can move somewhere else, like the Inland Empire, where housing is generally cheaper,” McGhee said. “But that leads to people with higher incomes moving [See Housing, A12]

Bass urges far more LAPD crisis intervention training

Mayor orders outside review to boost effort, calls current system ‘woefully inadequate.’

By LIBOR JANY

Mayor Karen Bass called the training that LAPD officers receive for handling mental health calls “woefully inadequate” and ordered an outside review of the department’s policies Thursday, saying recent shootings highlight continued shortcomings in how police deal with people in crisis.

Bass is particularly concerned by the relative lack of specialized intervention training for patrol officers who respond to the vast ma-

ajority of service calls. While the SWAT team and other units receive such training, it is not standard across the Los Angeles Police Department.

“After the academy, they have spot training that is essentially videos that are played at roll calls,” Bass said in an interview week with The Times.

The mayor’s directive comes as she’s locked in a reelection fight with progressive challenger Nithya Raman, who, like Bass, has criticized the LAPD over shootings of mentally ill people.

“The ability of the city to respond to someone’s pleas for help is incredibly important in ensuring that we maintain the trust of the public,” Raman recently told

The Times. “And right now, there is no alternative system besides LAPD to respond to many of the calls that are coming into 911 besides, of course, Fire Department calls.”

Polling by the UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies, co-sponsored by The Times, shows Raman is favored by 39% of likely L.A. voters, compared with 28% support for Bass — with 33% still undecided.

LAPD officers have fired their weapons at people 16 times this year — down from 34 shootings in 2025, but recent incidents have highlighted how officers continue to turn to their guns when confronting individuals with mental illnesses.

In years past, depart- [See LAPD, A7]

Chinook salmon really feeling the heat

Chinook salmon have been laying eggs in gravelly nests in the Sacramento River for millennia. But California’s biggest river is now so warm that biologists expect a significant number of the eggs won’t hatch.

Environmental advocates blame the Trump administration. They say the federal government took too much water out of Shasta Lake for farms in the Central Valley, leaving the reservoir too warm for many salmon eggs to survive in a vital spawning area downstream from Shasta Dam.

“The fish are not being protected,” said Jon Rosenfield, science director of the nonprofit group San Francisco Baykeeper. “We know that those eggs are getting cooked.”

It’s happened in previous years. Chinook salmon need cold water for their eggs to

Sacramento River has gotten too warm for endangered species’ eggs

By Ian James



A BIOLOGIST walks near a Chinook salmon carcass on the banks of the Sacramento River in Redding.

survive. When it gets warmer than 53.5 degrees, it becomes lethal.

State biologists who monitor salmon nests in the Sacramento River estimated on Sept. 4 that about 20% of the eggs may not survive. The river has gotten warmer since then.

Rosenfield said the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation took excessive water this spring and summer despite warnings.

The federal dam agency defended its work.

“The Bureau of Reclamation is managing Shasta operations under a temperature management plan developed in coordination with state and federal fishery agencies,” Reclamation spokesperson Peter Soeth said in an email.

It is complying with the Endangered Species Act, he [See Salmon, A8]

Tax the wealthy? State’s voters are divided, poll says

Fewer than half back a billionaire levy. Another revenue measure fares better.

By SEEMA MEHTA

The slate of statewide measures on the Nov. 3 ballot provides voters two opportunities to tax the rich, which in past years has proved tantalizing to California’s left-leaning electorate.

Only one of those measures has strong voter support, however, and it’s not the proposition that’s attracted nationwide attention, ignited a nearly quarter-billion-dollar slugfest and created a rift among top leaders in the Democratic Party.

Likely voters expressed middling support for Proposition 40, a one-time 5% tax on billionaires’ assets intended to compensate for an impending \$100 billion in federal healthcare funding cuts. They were far more likely to back Proposition 3, a ballot measure that would make permanent a tax increase on the wealthy that funds schools and healthcare, according to a poll released

Friday by UC Berkeley’s Institute of Governmental Studies that is co-sponsored by The Times.

Proposition 3 appears to be a much less controversial endeavor, which may explain why it has more voter support. The ballot measure would extend a tax enacted in 2012 on individuals who earn at least \$360,000 a year that is set to expire in 2031. Proposition 40 proposes a brand-new tax on billionaires and is opposed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, who fears that it could hurt the state’s finances in the long run.

“When you’re going about taxing the billionaires’ assets, I mean that’s something kind of new and different, and it’s risky, and the governor’s against it, and you know a lot of people are expressing caution about it,” said Mark DiCamillo, director of the poll.

Voters are deeply concerned about income disparity but also skeptical about the unusual approach of the billionaire tax.

Proposition 40 has drawn the greatest attention and campaign spending of the 14 ballot measures voters will decide Nov. 3.

In the poll, 45% of likely voters support the proposal. [See Propositions, A8]

Californians split on wealth tax ...

Prop. 40: One-time tax on billionaires

Yes	Undecided	No
45%	13%	42%

... but leaning against voter ID bill

Prop. 39: Show government-issued ID to cast ballots at polls

Yes	Undecided	No
39%	9%	52%

Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies surveyed 6,989 registered voters, of whom a weighted subset of 4,512 were considered likely to vote in the state’s November election. The survey was conducted online Sept. 15-20. Responses have a sampling error of about +/- 2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

LORENA IÑIGUEZ ELEBEE Los Angeles Times

Judge lifts Trump’s latest ban on press

Exclusion is said likely to be unconstitutional. Three outlets regain White House access.

By STEPHEN BATTAGLIO

A federal judge issued a temporary restraining order Thursday that removes President Trump’s ban on three news outlets from White House grounds, a rebuke of the administration’s most severe attack yet on the Washington press corps.

Journalists from CNN, MS NOW and Politico were still denied access to the White House early Thursday, as the restraining order was handed down overnight. After the news outlets filed a request with the court for an immediate hearing asking the White House to address the nonresponse to the judge’s order, their access was restored.

The news organizations were bracing for another legal showdown, but the White House indicated there was no plan to defy the court order. According to a sworn deposition from the director of White House Press Operations, the badges for the barred journalists were reactivated shortly after 9 a.m. Eastern and that previously confiscated badges were available for pickup at the press entry gate less than an hour later.

The press ban is the latest saga in Trump’s long-running battle with media outlets whose coverage makes him unhappy. He has used Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr to intimidate the broadcast networks with threats to pull their TV station licenses. Trump has sued ABC and CBS over their coverage and extracted multimillion-dollar settlements from each and tried to [See Ban, A12]

LAX people mover delayed again

Contractors are now aiming for the train to begin shuttling passengers in January. CALIFORNIA, B1

Federal film tax credit proposal

Bipartisan legislation aims to help bring production work back to the U.S. BUSINESS, A10

Weather
Partly sunny.
L.A. Basin: 86/67. B6

Markets A12
Opinion Voices A13

Classical critic’s grand finale

Mark Swed retires with one last major musical suggestion for the city. ENTERTAINMENT, E1

For the latest news, go to **latimes.com**.



7 85944 00200 5