

Section 1: 10-K (10-K)

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Transition Period from _____ to _____.

Commission file number 001-36041

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

Two Liberty Place, 50 S. 16th Street, Suite 3575,
Philadelphia, PA
(Address of principal executive offices)

26-4567130
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

19102
(Zip Code)

(267) 270-4800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	NYSE

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If an emerging growth company, indicate by checkmark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

The aggregate market value of the shares of common stock of the registrant held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based upon the closing price of such shares on June 29, 2018 of \$10.31, was approximately \$901,228,223.11.

As of February 20, 2019 there were 89,253,537 outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock issued and outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the proxy statement for registrant's 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Forward Looking Statements</u>	1
PART I	
Item 1. <u>Business</u>	2
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	7
Item 1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	30
Item 2. <u>Properties</u>	31
Item 3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	31
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	31
PART II	
Item 5. <u>Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	32
Item 6. <u>Selected Financial Data</u>	35
Item 7. <u>Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	35
Item 7A. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	47
Item 8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	49
Item 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	80
Item 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	80
Item 9B. <u>Other Information</u>	80
PART III	
Item 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	80
Item 11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>	80
Item 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	81
Item 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	81
Item 14. <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	81
PART IV	
Item 15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	81
Item 16. <u>Form 10-K Summary</u>	84

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As used herein, the terms “we,” “our” “us” and “IRT” refer to Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and, as required by context, Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, which we refer to as IROP, and their subsidiaries. Our multifamily apartment communities are referred to as “communities,” “properties,” “apartment properties,” and “multifamily properties.”

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), encourages companies to disclose forward-looking information so that investors can better understand a company’s future prospects and make informed investment decisions. This annual report on Form 10-K contains or incorporates by reference such “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Words such as “anticipates,” “estimates,” “expects,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes” and words and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance identify forward-looking statements.

We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be made directly in this annual report on Form 10-K and they may also be incorporated by reference in this annual report on Form 10-K to other documents filed with the SEC, and include, without limitation, statements about future financial and operating results and performance, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to future operations, products and services, and other statements that are not historical facts. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed and identified in Item 1A of this annual report on Form 10-K and in other of our public filings with the SEC could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this annual report on Form 10-K. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this filing or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

PART I

ITEM 1. *Business*

Our Company

We are a self-administered and self-managed Maryland real estate investment trust (“REIT”), that acquires, owns, operates, improves and manages multifamily apartment communities across non-gateway U.S. markets. As of December 31, 2018, we owned and operated 58 multifamily apartment properties that contain 15,880 units. Our properties are located in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Oklahoma, Indiana, Texas, Florida, South Carolina, Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Louisiana, and Alabama. We do not have any foreign operations and our business is not seasonal. Our executive offices are located at Two Liberty Place, 50 S. 16th Street, Suite 3575, Philadelphia, PA 19102 and our telephone number is (267) 270-4800. We have offices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Chicago, Illinois.

Our Business Objective and Investment Strategies

Our primary business objective is to maximize stockholder value through diligent portfolio management, strong operational performance, and a consistent return of capital through distributions and capital appreciation. Our investment strategy is focused on the following:

- gaining scale within key amenity rich submarkets of non-gateway cities that offer good school districts, high-quality retail and major employment centers and are unlikely to experience substantial new apartment construction in the foreseeable future;
- increasing cash flows at our existing apartment properties through prudent property management and strategic renovation projects; and
- acquiring additional properties that have strong and stable occupancies and support a rise in rental rates or that have the potential for repositioning through capital expenditures or tailored management strategies.

We seek to achieve these objectives by executing the following strategies:

- **Focus on properties in markets that have strong apartment demand, reduced competition from national apartment buyers and no substantial new apartment construction.** In evaluating potential acquisitions, we analyze apartment occupancy and trends in rental rates, employment and new construction, among many other factors, and seek to identify properties located primarily in non-gateway markets where there is strong demand for apartment units, less apartment development relative to demand, stable resident bases and occupancy rates, positive net migration trends and strong employment drivers. We generally seek to avoid markets where we believe potential yields have decreased as a result of the acquisition and development efforts of large institutional buyers.
- **Acquire properties that have operating upside through targeted management strategies.** We have expertise in acquiring and managing properties to maximize the net operating income (the “NOI”) of such properties through effective marketing and leasing, disciplined management of rental rates and efficient expense management. We seek to acquire properties that we believe possess significant prospects for increased occupancy and rental revenue growth. Our target profile for acquisitions currently is midrise/garden-style apartments containing 150-500 units with high quality amenities that we can acquire at less than replacement cost in the \$15 million to \$50 million price range with a five to fifteen-year operating track record. We do not intend to limit ourselves to properties in this target profile, however, and may make acquisitions outside of this profile or change our target profile whenever market conditions warrant.
- **Selectively use our capital to improve apartment properties where we believe the return on our investment will be accretive to stockholders.** We have significant experience allocating capital to value-added improvements of apartment properties to produce better occupancy and rental rates. We will selectively deploy our capital into revenue-enhancing capital projects that we believe will improve the physical plant or market positioning of particular apartment properties and generate increased income over time.
- **Selectively dispose of properties that no longer meet our long-term strategy or when market conditions are favorable.** Dispositions also allow us to realize a portion of the value created through our investments and provide

additional liquidity. In evaluating potential dispositions, we evaluate the opportunity to redeploy sales proceeds to fund acquisitions and developments and reduce our leverage in lieu of raising additional capital.

2018 Developments

Value Add Initiative

During 2018, we made strides in the roll out of our value add initiative, a core component of our growth strategy, which is comprised of renovations and upgrades at selected communities to drive increased rental rates. We have identified 4,314 units across 14 properties for renovations and upgrades as part of this initiative, and estimate the total investment to complete these renovations and upgrades will aggregate approximately \$50.0 million. As of December 31, 2018, we had completed renovations and upgrades at 1,232 of the 4,314 units. We expect to complete the remaining value add projects at the selected communities during 2019 and through the first half of 2020.

2018 Property Acquisitions

During 2018, we acquired eight communities, totaling 2,379 units, for a gross purchase price of \$272.9 million. The acquisitions expand our reach in existing markets, including Columbus, OH, Tampa, FL, Atlanta, GA, and Indianapolis, IN. The communities were built or renovated between 1986 and 2013. The acquired units had occupancy of 95.7% and had an average effective monthly rent per occupied unit of \$991 at the time of acquisition.

2018 Property Dispositions

During 2018, we disposed of two communities, totaling 516 units, for a gross sale price of \$77.3 million. The dispositions represent our exit from Greenville, SC and Jackson, MS, smaller markets where we lack scale and/or markets where we believe that growth is slowing.

2018 At-the-Market Offering

During 2018, we issued 2,196,164 shares of common stock under our at-the-market offering program at an average price per share of \$10.32, generating proceeds to us (net of approximately \$0.5 million in commissions) of approximately \$22.2 million. We used these proceeds to fund value add initiatives during 2018 and to reduce borrowings on our unsecured credit facility. As of December 31, 2018, approximately \$115.2 million remained available for share issuances under our at-the-market program.

New Term Loan Agreement

On October 30, 2018, we entered into a five-year, \$200.0 million unsecured term loan agreement with KeyBank National Association (“KeyBank”). The loan matures in January 2024 and bears interest at a spread over LIBOR, based on our overall leverage. At closing, the spread to LIBOR was 145 basis points. At closing, we drew \$150.0 million under the loan. We drew the remaining \$50.0 million in February 2019. We applied proceeds of both draws to reduce outstanding borrowings under our unsecured credit facility. In connection with our new term loan, we purchased an interest rate collar with an initial notional value of \$100.0 million, increasing to \$150.0 million, a 2.5%, cap a 2.25% floor, and a maturity date of January 17, 2024.

Financing Strategy

We use a combination of debt and equity sources to fund our business objectives. We seek to maintain a capital structure that provides us with the flexibility to manage our business and pursue our growth strategies, while allowing us to service our debt requirements and generate appropriate risk-adjusted returns for our stockholders. We believe these objectives are best achieved by a capital structure that consists of common equity and prudent amounts of debt financing. However, we may raise capital in any form and under terms that we deem acceptable and in our best interests. Our longer-term goal is to reduce our leverage ratio by growing the net operating income at our communities through rental increases, including those driven by value add initiatives, and prudent expense management. If our Board of Directors changes our policies regarding our use of leverage, we expect that it will consider many factors, including, our long-term strategic plan, the leverage ratios of publicly traded REITs with similar investment strategies, the cost of leverage as compared to expected operating net revenues and general market conditions. For further description of our indebtedness at December 31, 2018, see “Part II-Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data-Note 5: Indebtedness” below, or the financial statement indebtedness note. See also “Part I-Item 1A. Risk Factors – Risks Associated with Debt Financing” below for more information about the risks related to operating on a leveraged basis.

Development and Structure of Our Company; Segment

We were formed as a Maryland corporation on March 26, 2009. At such time, we were externally managed by our advisor, a subsidiary of RAIT Financial Trust (“RAIT”), a publicly traded Maryland REIT whose common shares trade over-the-counter on the OTCQB under the symbol “RASF”. We became internally managed as of December 20, 2016 when we acquired our advisor from RAIT and terminated the associated advisory agreement. Upon internalization, we became responsible for managing our day-to-day business operations and our own portfolio of assets.

In connection with the management internalization, we acquired the multifamily property management business of RAIT on December 20, 2016 and we hired substantially all of the related employees. We now operate that business in our wholly owned subsidiary, IRT Management, LLC (“IRT Management”), which was formed on October 26, 2016. IRT Management is a full-service apartment property management company that, as of December 31, 2018, employed 451 staff and professionals and managed 15,880 apartment units, all of which are owned by us. IRT Management provides services to us in connection with the rental, leasing, operation and management of our properties.

We conduct our business through a traditional umbrella partnership REIT (“UPREIT”), structure in which all of our assets are held by, and substantially all of our operations are conducted through, our operating partnership, Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, which we refer to as IROP, and subsidiaries of IROP. IROP was formed as a Delaware limited partnership on March 27, 2009. We are the sole general partner of IROP and manage and control its business. As of December 31, 2018, we owned a 99.0% interest in IROP. The remaining 1.0% consists of common units of limited partnership interest issued to third parties in exchange for contributions of properties to IROP. We refer to these transactions as UPREIT transactions. Limited partners have certain limited approval and voting rights and their common units are exchangeable, in defined circumstances, for the equivalent number of shares of common stock or, at our option, the equivalent value in cash.

Substantially all of our assets are comprised of multifamily real estate assets generally leased to tenants on a one-year basis. Therefore, we aggregate our real estate assets for reporting purposes and operate in one reportable segment, see “Part II-Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data-Note 12: Segment Reporting” below.

Competition

In attracting and retaining residents to occupy our properties, we compete with numerous other housing alternatives. Our properties compete directly with other rental apartments as well as condominiums and single-family homes that are available for rent or purchase in the sub-markets in which our properties are located. Principal factors of competition include rent or price charged, attractiveness of the location and property, and quality and breadth of services and amenities. If our competitors offer leases at rental rates below current market rates, or below the rental rates we currently charge our tenants, we may lose potential tenants.

The number of competitive properties relative to demand in a particular area has a material effect on our ability to lease apartment units at our properties and on the rents we charge. In certain sub-markets there exists an oversupply of single family homes and condominiums and a reduction of households, both of which affect the pricing and occupancy of our rental apartments. Additionally, we compete with other real estate investors, including other apartment REITs, pension and investment funds, partnerships and investment companies in acquiring, redeveloping and managing apartment properties. This competition affects our ability to acquire properties and the price that we pay for such acquisitions.

Employees

As of February 13, 2019, we had 455 employees and believe our relationships with our employees to be good. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

Regulation

Our investments are subject to various federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations, including, among other things, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, zoning regulations, land use controls, environmental controls relating to air and water quality, noise pollution, and indirect environmental impacts such as increased motor vehicle activity, and fair housing laws. We believe that we have all permits and approvals necessary under current law to operate our investments.

Environmental Matters

As a part of our standard due diligence process for acquisitions, we generally obtain environmental studies of the sites from outside environmental engineering firms. The purpose of these studies is to identify potential sources of contamination at the site and to assess the status of environmental regulatory compliance. These studies generally include historical reviews of the site, reviews of certain public records, preliminary investigations of the site and surrounding properties, inspection for the presence of asbestos, poly-chlorinated biphenyls (“PCBs”), and underground storage tanks and the preparation and issuance of written reports. Depending on the results of these studies, more invasive procedures, such as soil sampling or ground water analysis, may be performed to investigate potential sources of contamination. The environmental studies we received on properties that we have acquired have not revealed any material environmental liabilities. Should any potential environmental risks or conditions be discovered during our due diligence

process, the potential costs of remediation will be assessed carefully and factored into the cost of acquisition, assuming the identified risks and factors are deemed to be manageable and within reason. We are not aware of any existing conditions that we believe would be considered a material environmental liability. Nevertheless, it is possible that the studies do not reveal all environmental risks or that there are material environmental liabilities of which we are not aware. Moreover, no assurance can be given concerning future laws, ordinances or regulations, or the potential introduction of hazardous or toxic substances by neighboring properties or residents.

Trade Street Residential Merger

On September 17, 2015, we acquired Trade Street Residential, Inc (“TSRE”), through a merger transaction. Through this transaction we added 19 properties to our then existing portfolio. The consolidated net assets and results of operations of TSRE have been included in our consolidated financial statements from and after the closing date of the transaction. As of January 1, 2017, the operating results of the TSRE assets were included in our same store operating results.

Qualification as a Real Estate Investment Trust

We elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the “Code”), commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011. We recorded no income tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016.

To continue to qualify as a REIT, we must continue to meet certain tests which, among other things, generally require that our assets consist primarily of real estate assets, our income be derived primarily from real estate assets, and that we distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (other than our net capital gains) to our stockholders annually. If we maintain our qualification as a REIT, we generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxes at the corporate level on our net income to the extent we distribute such net income to our stockholders annually. Even if we continue to qualify as a REIT, we will continue to be subject to certain federal, state and local taxes on our income and our property. Our 2018 distributions to our stockholders exceeded our REIT taxable income. We believe that we are organized and operate in such a manner as to continue to qualify and maintain treatment as a REIT and we intend to operate in such a manner so that we will remain qualified as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. For a discussion of the tax implications of our REIT status to us and our stockholders, see “Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” contained in Exhibit 99.1 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The table below reconciles the differences between reported net income (loss), total taxable income and estimated REIT taxable income for the three years ended December 31, 2018 (dollars in thousands):

	For the Years Ended December 31		
	2018	2017	2016
Net Income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 31,441	\$ (9,555)
Add (deduct):			
Depreciation and amortization differences	(8,007)	(8,646)	(3,063)
Gain/loss differences	8,984	2,816	4,680
Gain recognized on TSRE Merger	-	-	(621)
IRT Internalization Expense	-	-	44,976
Other book to tax differences:			
Capitalized acquisition costs	-	4,966	-
Share-based compensation expense	984	647	1,001
Other	2,070	476	(1,382)
Total taxable income (loss)	\$ 30,641	\$ 31,700	\$ 36,036
Deductible capital gain distribution	(20,545)	(25,904)	(34,783)
Taxable (income)/loss allocable to noncontrolling interest	(163)	(889)	(1,253)
Estimated REIT taxable income (loss) before dividends paid deduction	<u>\$ 9,933</u>	<u>\$ 4,907</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

For the year ended December 31, 2018, the tax classification of our dividends on common shares was as follows:

Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Paid	Ordinary Income	Qualified Dividend	Total Capital Gain Distribution	Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain	Return of Capital	Section 199A
12/29/2017	1/15/2018	\$ 0.0600	\$ 0.0232	\$ -	\$ 0.0224	\$ 0.0081	\$ 0.0144	\$ 0.0232
4/4/2018	4/20/2018	0.1800	0.0696	-	0.0672	0.0242	0.0432	0.0696
7/6/2018	7/20/2018	0.1800	0.0696	-	0.0672	0.0242	0.0432	0.0696
10/5/2018	10/19/2018	0.1800	0.0696	-	0.0672	0.0242	0.0432	0.0696
		<u>\$ 0.6000</u>	<u>\$ 0.2320</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 0.2240</u>	<u>\$ 0.0807</u>	<u>\$ 0.1440</u>	<u>\$ 0.2320</u>

The dividend that we paid on January 24, 2019 to holders of record on December 27, 2018 will be treated as a 2019 distribution for tax purposes.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, the tax classification of our dividends on common shares was as follows:

Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Paid	Ordinary Income	Qualified Dividend	Total Capital Gain Distribution	Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain	Return of Capital
1/31/2017	2/15/2017	\$ 0.0600	\$ 0.0284	\$ -	\$ 0.0316	\$ 0.0104	\$ -
2/28/2017	3/15/2017	0.0600	0.0284	-	0.0316	0.0104	-
3/31/2017	4/17/2017	0.0600	0.0284	-	0.0316	0.0104	-
4/28/2017	5/15/2017	0.0600	0.0284	-	0.0316	0.0104	-
5/31/2017	6/15/2017	0.0600	0.0240	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0044
6/30/2017	7/17/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
7/31/2017	8/15/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
8/31/2017	9/15/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
9/29/2017	10/13/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
10/31/2017	11/15/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
11/30/2017	12/15/2017	0.0600	0.0172	-	0.0316	0.0104	0.0112
		<u>\$ 0.6600</u>	<u>\$ 0.2408</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 0.3476</u>	<u>\$ 0.1144</u>	<u>\$ 0.0716</u>

The dividend that we paid on January 15, 2018 to holders of record on December 29, 2017 was treated as a 2018 distribution for tax purposes.

Available Information

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. The SEC maintains an internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. The internet address of the SEC site is <http://www.sec.gov>. Our internet address is <http://www.irtliving.com>. We make our SEC filings available free of charge on or through our internet website as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. In addition, the charters of our Board's Compensation Committee, Audit Committee, and Nominating and Governance Committee, as well as our Corporate Governance Guidelines, Insider Trading Policy, Whistle Blower Policy, Code of Ethics, Stock Ownership Guidelines, and Section 16 Reporting Compliance Procedures, are available on our website free of charge. We are not incorporating by reference into this report any material from our website. The reference to our website is an inactive textual reference to the uniform resource locator (URL) and is for your reference only.

Code of Ethics

We maintain a Code of Ethics applicable to our Board of Directors and all of our officers and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller and persons performing similar functions. A copy of our Code of Ethics is available on our website, www.irtliving.com. In addition to being accessible through our website, copies of our Code of Ethics can be obtained, free of charge, upon written request to Investor Relations, Two Liberty Place, 50 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Any amendments to or waivers of our Code of Ethics that apply to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller and persons performing similar functions and that relate to any matter enumerated in Item 406(b) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC will be disclosed on our website.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, before you decide whether to make an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially and adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition, cash flows, liquidity, funds from operations, results of operations, stock price, ability to service our indebtedness, and/or ability to make cash distributions to our security holders (including those necessary to maintain our REIT qualification). In such case, the value of our common stock and the trading price of our securities could decline, and you may lose all or a significant part of your investment. Some statements in the following risk factors constitute forward looking statements. Please refer to the explanation of the qualifications and limitations on forward-looking statements under “Forward-Looking Statements” of this Form 10-K.

Risks Related to Our Business and Operations

We are dependent on a concentration of our investments in a single asset class, making our results of operations more vulnerable to a downturn in the sector.

As of December 31, 2018, substantially all of our investments are concentrated in the multifamily apartment sector. As a result, we are subject to risks inherent in investments in a single type of property. A downturn or slowdown in the demand for multifamily housing may have more pronounced effects on our results of operations or on the value of our assets than if we had diversified our investments into more than one asset class.

Our operations are concentrated in the Southeast region of the United States; we are subject to general economic conditions in the regions in which we operate.

Our portfolio of properties consists primarily of apartment communities geographically concentrated in the Southeastern United States, including Louisville, Kentucky, Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, Atlanta, Georgia, Memphis, Tennessee, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Dallas, Texas, Columbus, Ohio, and Tampa, Florida. Our performance could be adversely affected by economic conditions in, and other factors relating to, these geographic areas, including supply and demand for apartments in these areas, zoning and other regulatory conditions and competition from other communities and alternative forms of housing. In particular our performance is disproportionately influenced by job growth and unemployment. To the extent the economic conditions, job growth and unemployment in any of these markets deteriorate or any of these areas experiences natural disasters, the value of our portfolio, our results of operations and our ability to make payments on our debt and to make distributions could be adversely affected.

Adverse economic conditions may reduce or eliminate our returns and profitability and, as a result, our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

Our operating results may be materially and adversely affected by market and economic challenges, which may reduce or eliminate our returns and profitability and, as a result, our ability to make distributions to our stockholders. These market and economic challenges include, principally, the following:

- adverse conditions in the real estate industry could harm our business and financial condition by reducing the value of our existing assets, limiting our access to debt and equity capital and otherwise negatively impacting our operations;
- any future downturn in the U.S. economy and the related reduction in spending, reduced home prices and high unemployment may result in tenant defaults under leases, vacancies at our apartment communities and concessions or reduced rental rates under new leases due to reduced demand;
- the rate of household formation or population growth in our markets or a continued or exacerbated economic slow-down experienced by the local economies where our properties are located or by the real estate industry generally may result in changes in supply of, or demand for, apartment units in our markets; and
- the failure of the real estate market to attract the same level of capital investment in the future that it attracts at the time of our purchases, or a reduction in the number of companies seeking to acquire properties, may result in the value of our investments not appreciating or decreasing significantly below the amount we pay for these investments.

The length and severity of any economic slow-down or downturn cannot be predicted. Our results of operations financial condition and ability to make distributions to our stockholders could be negatively affected to the extent that an economic slow-down or downturn is prolonged or severe.

We depend on residents for revenue, and vacancies, resident defaults or lease terminations may cause a material decline in our operating results.

The success of our investments depends upon the occupancy levels, rental revenue and operating expenses of our apartment communities. Our revenues may be adversely affected by the general or local economic climate, local real estate considerations (such as oversupply of or reduced demand for apartment units), the perception by prospective residents of the safety, convenience and attractiveness of the areas in which our apartment communities are located (including the quality of local schools and other amenities) and increased operating costs (including real estate taxes and utilities).

Occupancy rates and rents at a community, including apartment communities that are newly constructed or renovated and in the lease-up phase, may fail to meet our original expectations for a number of reasons, including changes in market and economic conditions beyond our control and the development by competitors of competing communities, and we may be unable to complete lease-up of a community on schedule, resulting in increased construction and financing costs and a decrease or delay in expected rental revenues.

Vacancy rates may increase in the future and we may be unable to lease vacant units or renew expiring leases on attractive terms, or at all, and we may be required to offer reduced rental rates or other concessions to residents. Our revenues may be lower as a result of lower occupancy rates, increased turnover, reduced rental rates, increased economic concessions and potential increases in uncollectible rent. In addition, we will continue to incur expenses, including maintenance costs, insurance costs and property taxes, even though a property maintains a high vacancy rate, and our financial performance will suffer if our revenues decrease or our costs increase.

The underlying value of our properties and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders will depend upon our ability to lease our available apartment units and the ability of our residents to generate enough income to pay their rents in a timely manner. Our residents' inability to pay rents may be impacted by employment and other constraints on their personal finances, including debts, purchases and other factors. Upon a resident default, we will attempt to remove the resident from the premises and re-lease the unit as promptly as possible. Our ability and the time required to evict a resident, however, will depend on applicable law. Substantially all of the leases for our properties are short-term leases (generally, one year or less in duration). As a result, our rental income and our cash flow are impacted by declines in market conditions more quickly than if our leases were for longer terms.

Our investment strategy may limit an increase in the diversification of our investments.

Our ability to diversify our portfolio may be limited both as to the number of investments owned and the geographic regions in which our investments are located. While we will seek to diversify our portfolio by geographic location, we expect to continue to focus on markets with high potential for attractive returns located in the United States and, accordingly, our actual investments may continue to result in concentrations in a limited number of geographic regions. As a result, there is an increased likelihood that the performance of any single property, or the economic performance of a particular region in which our properties are located, could materially affect our operating results.

We may fail to consummate one or more property acquisitions or dispositions that we anticipate, whether as part of our capital recycling strategy or otherwise, and this failure could have a material adverse impact on our financial results.

We may disclose anticipated property acquisitions or dispositions, including prior to our entry into a letter of intent or definitive agreement for such acquisition or disposition and prior to our completion of due diligence or satisfaction of closing conditions. Acquisitions and dispositions are inherently subject to a number of factors and conditions, some of which are outside of our control, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to consummate acquisitions or dispositions that we anticipate. If we fail to consummate a disposition that we anticipated, we will not have the use of the proceeds from the disposition and may not be able to carry out our intended plans for use of such proceeds and may be required to obtain alternative sources of funds on less favorable terms. If we fail to consummate a targeted acquisition and have issued additional securities to fund such acquisition, then we will have issued securities without realizing a corresponding increase in earnings and cash flow from the targeted acquisition. In addition, we may have broad authority to use the net proceeds of an offering of securities for other purposes, including the repayment of indebtedness, the acquisition of other properties or for other investments, which may not be initially accretive to our results of

operations. As a result, failure to consummate one or more anticipated acquisitions or dispositions could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and the market price of our common stock.

We may suffer from delays in locating suitable investments or, because of our public company status, may be unable to acquire otherwise suitable investments, which could adversely affect our growth prospects and results of operations.

Our ability to achieve our investment objectives and to make distributions to our stockholders depends upon our ability to locate, obtain financing for and consummate the acquisition of apartment properties that meet our investment criteria. The current market for apartment properties that meet our investment criteria is highly competitive. We cannot be sure that we will be successful in obtaining suitable investments on financially attractive terms or at all.

Additionally, as a public company, we are subject to the ongoing reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the “Exchange Act”). Pursuant to the Exchange Act, we may be required to file with the SEC financial statements for the properties we acquire. To the extent any required financial statements are not available or cannot be obtained, we may not be able to acquire the property. As a result, we may be unable to acquire certain properties that otherwise would be suitable investments.

If we are unable to invest the proceeds of any offering of our securities in real properties in a timely manner, we may invest the proceeds in short-term, investment-grade investments which typically will yield significantly less than what we expect our investments will yield. As a result, delays we encounter in identifying and consummating potential acquisitions may adversely affect our growth prospects, results of operations and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

If we are unable to retain or obtain key personnel, our ability to implement our investment strategies could be hindered, which could reduce our ability to make distributions and adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

Our success depends to a significant degree upon the contributions of certain of our officers and other key personnel. If any of our key personnel were to terminate their employment with us, our operating results could suffer. Further, we do not have and do not intend to maintain key person life insurance that would provide us with proceeds in the event of death or disability of any of our key personnel. We believe our future success depends upon our ability to hire and retain highly skilled managerial, operational and marketing personnel. Competition for such personnel is intense, and we cannot assure you that we will be successful in attracting and retaining such skilled personnel. If we lose or are unable to obtain the services of key personnel, our ability to implement our investment strategies could be delayed or hindered, and the trading price of our common stock may be adversely affected.

If we fail to maintain an effective system of integrated internal controls, we may not be able to accurately report our financial results and may be required to incur additional costs and divert management resources.

We depend on our ability to produce accurate and timely financial statements in order to run our business. If we fail to do so, our business could be negatively affected and our independent registered public accounting firm may be unable to attest to the accuracy of our financial statements. A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is defined as a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those responsible for oversight of a registrant’s financial reporting. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected, on a timely basis by the company’s internal controls.

Although we continuously monitor the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures, there can be no assurance that significant deficiencies or material weaknesses will not occur in the future. If we fail to maintain effective internal controls and disclosure controls in the future, it could result in a material misstatement of our financial statements that may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis, which could cause investors, analysts and others to lose confidence in our reported financial information. Our inability to remedy any additional deficiencies or material weaknesses that may be identified in the future could, among other things, cause us to fail to file timely our periodic reports with the SEC (which may have a material adverse effect on our ability to access the capital markets); prevent us from providing reliable and accurate financial information and forecasts or from avoiding or detecting fraud; or require us to incur additional costs or divert management resources to achieve compliance.

We may be adversely affected by changes in state and local tax laws and may become subject to tax audits from time to time.

Because we are organized and qualified as a REIT, we are generally not subject to federal income taxes, but we are subject to certain state and local taxes. From time to time, changes in state and local tax laws or regulations are enacted, which may result in an increase in our tax liability. A shortfall in tax revenues for states and local jurisdictions in which we own apartment communities may lead to an increase in the frequency and size of such changes. If such changes occur, we may be required to pay additional state and local taxes. These increased tax costs could adversely affect our financial condition and the amount of cash available for distribution to our stockholders. In the normal course of business, we or our affiliates (including entities through which we own real estate) may also become subject to federal, state or local tax audits. If we (or such entities) become subject to federal, state or local tax audits, the ultimate result of such audits could have an adverse effect on our financial condition.

If we are not able to cost-effectively maximize the life of our properties, we may incur greater than anticipated capital expenditure costs, which may adversely affect our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

As of December 31, 2018, the average age of our apartment communities was approximately 18 years, after adjusting for significant renovations. While the majority of our properties are newly-constructed or have undergone substantial renovations since they were constructed, older properties may carry certain risks including unanticipated repair costs, increased maintenance costs as older properties continue to age, and cost overruns due to the need for special materials and/or fixtures specific to older properties. Although we take a proactive approach to property preservation, utilizing a preventative maintenance plan, and selective improvements that mitigate the cost impact of maintaining exterior building features and aging building components, if we are not able to cost-effectively maximize the life of our properties, we may incur greater than anticipated capital expenditure costs which may adversely affect our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

Our growth will depend upon future acquisitions of multifamily apartment communities, and we may be unable to complete acquisitions on advantageous terms or acquisitions may not perform as we expect.

Our growth will depend upon future acquisitions of multifamily apartment communities, which entails various risks, including risks that our investments may not perform as we expect. Further, we will face competition for attractive investment opportunities from other real estate investors, including local real estate investors and developers, as well as other multifamily REITs, income-oriented non-traded REITs, and private real estate fund managers, and these competitors may have greater financial resources than us and a greater ability to borrow funds to acquire properties. This competition may increase as investments in real estate become increasingly attractive relative to other forms of investment. As a result of competition, we may be unable to acquire additional properties as we desire or the purchase price may be significantly elevated. In addition, our acquisition activities pose the following risks to our ongoing operations:

- we may not achieve the increased occupancy, cost savings and operational efficiencies projected at the time of acquiring a property;
- management may incur significant costs and expend significant resources evaluating and negotiating potential acquisitions, including those that we subsequently are unable to complete;
- we may acquire properties that are not initially accretive to our results upon acquisition, and we may not successfully manage and operate those properties to meet our expectations;
- we may acquire properties outside of our existing markets where we are less familiar with local economic and market conditions;
- some properties may be worth less or may generate less revenue than, or simply not perform as well as, we believed at the time of the acquisition;
- we may be unable to assume mortgage indebtedness with respect to properties we seek to acquire or obtain financing for acquisitions on favorable terms or at all;
- we may forfeit earnest money deposits with respect to acquisitions we are unable to complete due to lack of financing, failure to satisfy closing conditions or certain other reasons;
- we may spend more than budgeted to make necessary improvements or renovations to acquired properties; and
- we may acquire properties without any recourse, or with only limited recourse, for liabilities, whether known or unknown, such as clean-up of environmental contamination, claims by tenants, vendors or other persons against the former owners of the properties, and claims for indemnification by general partners, trustees, officers, and others indemnified by the former owners of the properties.

Our growth depends on securing external sources of capital that are outside of our control, which may affect our ability to take advantage of strategic opportunities, satisfy debt obligations and make distributions to our stockholders.

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we are generally required under the Code to distribute annually at least 90% of our REIT taxable income, determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction and excluding any net capital gain. In addition, we will be subject to income tax at regular corporate rates to the extent that we distribute less than 100% of our net taxable income, including any net capital gains. Because of these distribution requirements, we may not be able to fund future capital needs, including any necessary acquisition financing, from operating cash flow. Consequently, we may rely on third-party sources to fund our capital needs. We may not be able to obtain financing on favorable terms or at all. Any additional debt we incur may increase our leverage or impose additional and more stringent restrictions on our operations than we currently have. If we issue additional equity securities to finance developments and acquisitions instead of incurring debt, the interests of our existing stockholders could be diluted. Our access to third-party sources of capital depends, in part, on:

- general market conditions;
- the market's perception of our growth potential;
- our current debt levels;
- our current and expected future earnings;
- our cash flow and cash distributions; and
- the market price per share of our common stock

If we cannot obtain capital from third-party sources, we may not be able to acquire properties when strategic opportunities exist, meet the capital and operating needs of our existing properties or satisfy our debt service obligations. Further, in order to meet the REIT distribution requirements and maintain our REIT status and to avoid the payment of income and excise taxes, we may need to borrow funds on a short-term basis even if the then-prevailing market conditions are not favorable for these borrowings. These short-term borrowing needs could result from differences in timing between the actual receipt of cash and inclusion of income for U.S. federal income tax purposes or the effect of non-deductible capital expenditures, the creation of reserves, certain restrictions on distributions under loan documents or required debt or amortization payments.

To the extent that capital is not available to acquire properties, profits may not be realized or their realization may be delayed, which could result in an earnings stream that is less predictable than some of our competitors and result in us not meeting our projected earnings and distributable cash flow levels in a particular reporting period. Failure to meet our projected earnings and distributable cash flow levels in a particular reporting period could have an adverse effect on our financial condition and on the market price of our common stock.

We may be subject to contingent or unknown liabilities related to properties or business that we have acquired or may acquire for which we may have limited or no recourse against the sellers.

The properties or businesses that we have acquired or may acquire may be subject to unknown or contingent liabilities for which we have limited or no recourse against the sellers. Unknown liabilities might include liabilities for, among other things, cleanup or remediation of undisclosed environmental conditions, liabilities under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, ("ERISA"), claims of residents, vendors or other persons dealing with the entities prior to the acquisition of such property, tax liabilities, and accrued but unpaid liabilities whether incurred in the ordinary course of business or otherwise. Because many liabilities, including tax liabilities, may not be identified within the applicable contractual indemnification period, we may have no recourse against any of the owners from whom we acquired such properties for these liabilities. The existence of such liabilities could significantly adversely affect the value of the property subject to such liability. As a result, if a liability was asserted against us based on ownership of any of such properties, then we might have to pay substantial sums to settle it, which could adversely affect our cash flows.

We may experience a decline in the fair value of our assets and be forced to recognize impairment charges, which could materially and adversely impact our financial condition, liquidity and results of operations and the market price of our common stock.

A decline in the fair value of our assets may require us to recognize an impairment against such assets under generally accepted accounting principles as in effect in the United States ("GAAP"), if we were to determine that, with respect to any assets in unrealized loss positions, we do not have the ability and intent to hold such assets to maturity or for a period of time sufficient to allow for recovery to the amortized cost of such assets. If such a determination were to be made, we would recognize unrealized losses through earnings and write down the amortized cost of such assets to a new cost basis, based on the fair value of such assets on the date they are considered to be impaired. Such impairment charges reflect non-cash losses at the time of recognition; subsequent disposition or sale of such assets could further affect our future losses or gains, as they are based on the difference between the sale price received and adjusted amortized cost of such assets at the time of sale. If we are required to recognize asset impairment charges

in the future, these charges could materially and adversely affect our financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and the per share trading price of our common stock.

Representations and warranties made by us in connection with sales of our properties may subject us to liability that could result in losses and could harm our operating results and, therefore distributions we make to our stockholders.

When we sell a property, we may be required to make representations and warranties regarding the property and other customary items. In the event of a breach of such representations or warranties, the purchaser of the property may have claims for damages against us, rights to indemnification from us or otherwise have remedies against us. In any such case, we may incur liabilities that could result in losses and could harm our operating results and, therefore distributions we make to our stockholders.

We rely on information technology systems in our operations, and any breach or security failure of those systems could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and reputation.

Our information technology networks and related systems are essential to our ability to conduct our day to day operations. As a result, we face risks associated with security breaches, whether through cyber attacks or cyber intrusions over the internet, malware, computer viruses, attachments to emails, persons who access our systems from inside or outside our organization and other significant disruptions of our information technology networks and related systems. A security breach or other significant disruption involving our information technology networks and related systems or those of our vendors could: disrupt our operations; result in the unauthorized access to, and the destruction, loss, theft, misappropriation or release of, proprietary, personally identifiable, confidential, sensitive or otherwise valuable information including tenant information and lease data, which others could use to compete against us or which could expose us to damage claims by third parties for disruptive, destructive or otherwise harmful outcomes; require significant management attention and resources to remedy any damages that result; subject us to claims for breach of contract, damages, credits, penalties or termination of leases or other agreements; or damage our business relationships or reputation generally. Any or all of the foregoing could materially and adversely affect our business and the value of our stock.

Our third-party service providers are primarily responsible for the security of their own information technology environments and in certain instances, we rely significantly on third-party service providers to supply and store our sensitive data in a secure manner. All of these third parties face risks relating to cybersecurity similar to ours which could disrupt their businesses and therefore adversely impact us. While we provide guidance and specific requirements in some cases, we do not directly control any of such parties' information technology security operations, or the amount of investment they place in guarding against cybersecurity threats. Accordingly, we are subject to any flaws in or breaches to their information technology systems or those which they operate for us, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

Although no material incidents have occurred to date and we have taken various actions to maintain the security and integrity of our information technology networks and related systems and have implemented various measures to manage the risk of a security breach or disruption, we cannot be sure that our security efforts and measures will be effective or that our financial results will not be negatively impacted by such an incident.

Changes in U.S. accounting standards may materially and adversely affect our reported results of operations.

Accounting for public companies in the United States is in accordance with GAAP, which is established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB"), an independent body whose standards are recognized by the SEC as authoritative for publicly held companies. Uncertainties posed by various initiatives of accounting standard-setting by the FASB and the SEC, which create and interpret applicable accounting standards for U.S. companies, may change the financial accounting and reporting standards or their interpretation and application of these standards that govern the preparation of our financial statements. These changes could have a material impact on our reported financial condition and results of operations. In some cases, we could be required to apply a new or revised standard retroactively, resulting in potentially material restatements of prior period financial statements.

Bankruptcy or defaults of our counterparties could adversely affect our performance.

We have relationships with and, from time to time, we execute transactions with or receive services from many counterparties, such as general contractors engaged in connection with our redevelopment activities. As a result, bankruptcies or defaults by these counterparties could result in services not being provided, projects not being completed on time, or on budget, or at all, or volatility in the financial markets and economic weakness could affect the counterparties' ability to complete transactions with us as intended, both of which could result in disruptions to our operations that may materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Our use of social media presents risks.

The use of social media could cause us to suffer brand damage or unintended information disclosure. Negative posts or communications about us on a social networking website could damage our reputation. Further, employees or others may disclose non-public information regarding us or our business or otherwise make negative comments regarding us on social networking or other websites, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations. As social media evolves we will be presented with new risks and challenges.

Damage from catastrophic weather and other natural events and climate change could result in losses and could harm our operating results.

To the extent that significant changes in the climate occur in areas where our properties are located, we may experience extreme weather and changes in precipitation and temperature, all of which may result in physical damage to or a decrease in demand for properties located in these areas or affected by these conditions. Should the impact of climate change be material in nature, including destruction of our properties, or occur for lengthy periods of time, our financial condition or results of operations may be adversely affected.

General Risks Related to Investments in Real Estate

We face numerous risks associated with the real estate industry that could adversely affect our results of operations through decreased revenues or increased costs.

As a real estate company, we are subject to various changes in real estate conditions and any negative trends in such real estate conditions may adversely affect our results of operations through decreased revenues or increased costs. These conditions include:

- changes in national, regional and local economic conditions, which may be negatively impacted by concerns about inflation, deflation, government deficits, high unemployment rates, decreased consumer confidence and liquidity concerns, particularly in markets in which we have a high concentration of properties;
- fluctuations in interest rates, which could adversely affect our ability to obtain financing on favorable terms or at all, or could reduce our ability to deploy capital in investments that are accretive to our stockholders;
- the inability of our residents to pay rent timely, or at all;
- the existence and quality of the competition, such as the attractiveness of our properties as compared to our competitors' properties based on considerations such as convenience of location, rental rates, amenities and safety record;
- increased operating costs, including increased real property taxes, maintenance, insurance and utilities costs;
- weather conditions that may increase or decrease energy costs and other weather-related expenses;
- civil unrest, acts of God, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters, which may result in uninsured losses, and acts of war or terrorism;
- oversupply of multifamily housing or a reduction in demand for real estate in the markets in which our properties are located;
- a favorable interest rate environment that may result in a significant number of potential residents of our multifamily apartment communities deciding to purchase homes instead of renting;
- changes in, or increased costs of compliance with, laws and/or governmental regulations, including those governing usage, zoning, the environment and taxes; and
- rent control or stabilization laws, or other laws regulating rental housing, which could prevent us from raising rents to offset increases in operating costs.

Economic conditions may adversely affect the residential real estate market and our income.

A residential property's income and value may be adversely affected by international, national and regional economic conditions. During the past five years, the U.S. and international markets have experienced increased levels of volatility due to a combination of many factors, including decreased values of homes and commercial real estate, limited access to credit markets, increased energy costs, increased unemployment rates, and a national and global recession. Although recently some economic conditions appear to have improved, if such improvement does not continue or if new economic or capital markets problems arise, the value of our portfolio may decline significantly. A deterioration in economic conditions may also have an adverse effect on our operations if they result in our tenants or prospective tenants being unable to afford the rents we need to charge to be profitable.

In addition, local real estate conditions such as an oversupply of properties or a reduction in demand for properties, availability of “for sale” properties and competition from other similar properties, our ability to provide adequate maintenance, insurance and management services, increased operating costs (including real estate taxes), the attractiveness and location of the property and changes in market rental rates, may adversely affect a property’s income and value. A rise in energy costs could result in higher operating costs, which may affect our results from operations. In addition, local conditions in the markets in which we own or intend to own properties may significantly affect occupancy or rental rates at such properties. Layoffs, plant closings, relocations of significant local employers and other events reducing local employment rates and the local economy; an oversupply of, or a lack of demand for, apartments; a decline in household formation; the inability or unwillingness of residents to pay rent increases; and rent control, rent stabilization and other housing laws, all could prevent us from raising or maintaining rents, and could cause us to reduce rents.

We will face competition from third parties, including other apartment properties, which may limit our profitability and the return on any investment in our securities.

The apartment industry is highly competitive. This competition may limit our ability to increase revenue and could reduce occupancy levels and revenues at our apartment properties. We compete with many other entities engaged in real estate investment activities, including individuals, corporations, bank and insurance company investment accounts, other REITs, real estate limited partnerships, and other entities engaged in real estate investment activities. Many of these entities have significant financial and other resources, including operating experience, allowing them to compete effectively with us. Competitors with substantially greater financial resources than us may be able to accept more risk than we can effectively manage. In addition, those competitors that are not REITs may be at an advantage to the extent they can use working capital to finance projects, while we (and our competitors that are REITs) will be required by the annual distribution provisions under the Code to distribute significant amounts of cash from operations to our stockholders. Competition may also result in overbuilding of apartment properties, causing an increase in the number of apartment units available which could potentially decrease our occupancy and apartment rental rates. We may also be required to expend substantial sums to attract new residents. The resale value of the property could be diminished because the market value of a particular property will depend principally upon the net revenues generated by the property. In addition, increases in operating costs due to inflation may not be offset by increased apartment rental rates. Further, costs associated with real estate investment, such as real estate taxes and maintenance costs, generally are not reduced when circumstances cause a reduction in income from the investment. These events would cause a significant decrease in revenues and the trading price of our common stock, and could cause us to reduce the amount of distributions to our stockholders.

The illiquidity of real estate investments could make it difficult for us to respond to changing economic, financial, and investment conditions or changes in the operating performance of our properties, which could reduce our cash flows and adversely affect results of operations.

Real estate investments are relatively illiquid and may become even more illiquid during periods of economic downturn. As a result, we will have a limited ability to vary our portfolio in response to changes in economic, financial and investment conditions or changes in the operating performance of our properties. We may not be able to sell a property or properties quickly or on favorable terms in response to changes in the economy or other conditions when it otherwise may be prudent to do so. This inability to respond quickly to changes in the performance of our properties as a result of an economic or market downturn could adversely affect our results of operations if we cannot sell an unprofitable property.

We will also have a limited ability to sell assets in order to fund working capital, repay debt and similar capital needs. Our financial condition could be adversely affected if we were, for example, unable to sell one or more of our properties in order to meet our debt obligations upon maturity. We cannot predict whether we will be able to sell any property for the price or on the terms set by us, or whether any price or other terms offered by a prospective purchaser would be acceptable to us. We also cannot predict the length of time needed to find a willing purchaser and to close the sale of a property. We also may be required to expend funds to correct defects or to make improvements before a property can be sold, and we cannot assure you that we will have funds available to correct those defects or to make those improvements. Our inability to dispose of assets at opportune times or on favorable terms could adversely affect our cash flows and results of operations.

Moreover, the Code imposes restrictions on a REIT’s ability to dispose of properties that are not applicable to other types of real estate companies. In particular, the tax laws applicable to REITs require that we hold our properties for investment, rather than primarily for sale in the ordinary course of business, which may cause us to forego or defer sales of properties that otherwise would be in our best interests.

Therefore, we may not be able to vary our portfolio promptly in response to economic or other conditions or on favorable terms, which may adversely affect our cash flows, our ability to make distributions to our stockholders and the market price of our common stock.

Properties we purchase may not appreciate or may decrease in value.

The residential real estate market may experience substantial influxes of capital from investors. A substantial flow of capital, combined with significant competition for real estate, may result in inflated purchase prices for such assets. To the extent we purchase real estate in such an environment, we are subject to the risk that, if the real estate market subsequently ceases to attract the same level of capital investment, or if the number of investors seeking to acquire such assets decreases, our returns will be lower and the value of our assets may not appreciate or may decrease significantly below the amount we paid for such assets. In addition, if interest rates applicable to financing apartment properties rise, that may negatively affect the values of our properties in any period when capitalization rates for our properties, an important valuation metric, do not make corresponding adjustments.

We may incur liabilities in connection with properties we acquire.

We may acquire properties that are subject to liabilities or that have problems relating to environmental condition, state of title, physical condition or compliance with zoning laws, building codes, or other legal requirements, many of which may not be known to us at the time of acquisition. In each case, our acquisition may be without any, or with only limited, recourse with respect to unknown liabilities or conditions. If any liability were asserted against us relating to those properties or entities, or if any adverse condition existed with respect to the properties or entities, we might have to pay substantial sums to settle or cure it, which could adversely affect our cash flow and operating results. While we will attempt to obtain appropriate representations and undertakings from the sellers of the properties or entities we acquire, the sellers may not have the resources to satisfy their indemnification obligations if a liability arises.

Increasing real estate taxes, utilities and insurance costs may negatively impact operating results.

Our properties may be subject to increases in tax rates, utility costs, operating expenses, insurance costs, repairs and maintenance, administrative and other expenses. Real estate taxes, utilities costs and insurance premiums, in particular, are subject to significant increases and fluctuations, which can be widely outside of our control. A number of our markets had tax reassessments in 2018 and we expect this to continue in future years. If our costs continue to rise, without being offset by a corresponding increase in rental rates, our results of operations could be negatively impacted, and our ability to pay our dividends and distributions and senior debt could be affected.

We may suffer losses that are not covered by insurance.

If we suffer losses that are not covered by insurance or that are in excess of our insurance coverage, we could lose invested capital and anticipated profits. We maintain comprehensive insurance for our properties, including casualty, liability, fire, extended coverage, terrorism, earthquakes, hurricanes and rental loss customarily obtained for similar properties in amounts which our advisor determines are sufficient to cover reasonably foreseeable losses, and with policy specifications and insured limits that we believe are adequate and appropriate under the circumstances. Material losses may occur in excess of insurance proceeds with respect to any property, and there are types of losses, generally of a catastrophic nature, such as losses due to wars, pollution, environmental matters (such as snow or ice storms, windstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, flooding or other severe weather) and mold, which are either uninsurable or not economically insurable, or may be insured subject to limitations, such as large deductibles or co-payments. Moreover, we cannot predict whether all of the coverage that we currently maintain will be available to us in the future, or what the future costs or limitations on any coverage that is available to us will be. We rely on third party insurance providers for our property, general liability and worker's compensation insurance. While there has yet to be any non-performance by these major insurance providers, should any of them experience liquidity issues or other financial distress, it could negatively impact us. In addition, we annually assess our insurance needs based on the cost of coverage and other factors. We may choose to self-insure a greater portion of this risks in the future or may choose to have higher deductibles or lesser policy terms.

Lawsuits or other legal proceedings could result in substantial costs.

We are subject to various lawsuits and other legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of our business operations. The defense or settlement of any lawsuit or claim may adversely affect our business, financial condition, or results of operations or result in increased insurance premiums.

We may be unable to secure funds for property improvements, which could reduce cash distributions to our stockholders.

When tenants do not renew their leases or otherwise vacate, we may be required to expend funds for capital improvements to the vacated apartment units in order to attract replacement tenants. In addition, we may require substantial funds to renovate an apartment property in order to sell, upgrade or reposition it in the market. If our reserves are insufficient to fund these improvements, we may have to obtain financing. We cannot assure you that sufficient financing will be available or, if available, will be available on

economically feasible terms or on terms acceptable to us. Moreover, some reserves required by lenders may be designated for specific uses and may not be available for capital improvements to other properties. Additional borrowing will increase our interest expense, and could result in decreased net revenues and a decreased ability to make cash distributions to our stockholders.

Short-term tenant leases expose us to the effects of declining market rent, which could adversely impact our ability to make cash distributions to our stockholders.

We expect that most of our tenant leases will be for a term of one year or less. Because these leases generally permit the tenants to leave at the end of the lease term without any penalty, our rental revenues may be impacted by declines in market rents more quickly than if our leases were for longer terms.

The profitability of our acquisitions is uncertain.

We intend to acquire properties selectively. Acquisition of properties entails risks that investments will fail to perform in accordance with expectations. In undertaking acquisitions, we will incur certain risks, including the expenditure of funds on, and the devotion of management's time to, transactions that may not come to fruition. Additional risks inherent in acquisitions include risks that the properties will not achieve anticipated occupancy levels and that estimates of the costs of improvements to bring an acquired property up to standards established for the market position intended for that property may prove inaccurate.

Acquiring or attempting to acquire multiple properties in a single transaction may adversely affect our operations.

We have and may in the future acquire multiple properties in a single transaction. Such portfolio acquisitions are more complex and expensive than single-property acquisitions, and the risk that a multiple-property acquisition does not close may be greater than in a single-property acquisition. Portfolio acquisitions may also result in us owning investments in geographically dispersed markets, placing additional demands on our ability to manage the properties in the portfolio. In addition, a seller may require that a group of properties be purchased as a package even though we may not want to purchase one or more properties in the portfolio. In these situations, if we are unable to identify another person or entity to acquire the unwanted properties, we may be required to operate, or attempt to dispose of, these properties. To acquire multiple properties in a single transaction, we may be required to accumulate a large amount of cash. We expect the returns that we can earn on such cash to be less than the ultimate returns on real property, and therefore, accumulating such cash could reduce the funds available for distributions. Any of the foregoing events may have an adverse effect on our operations.

If we sell properties by providing financing to purchasers, we will bear the risk of default by the purchaser.

If we decide to sell any of our properties, we intend to use commercially reasonable efforts to sell them for cash. However, in some instances, we may sell our properties by providing financing to purchasers. If we provide financing to purchasers, we will bear the risk of default by the purchaser which would reduce the value of our assets, impair our ability to make distributions to our stockholders and reduce the price of our common stock.

Our revenue and net income may vary significantly from one period to another due to investments in value-add properties and portfolio acquisitions, which could increase the variability of our cash distributions.

We may make investments in properties that have existing cash flow which are in various phases of development, redevelopment or repositioning and where we believe that, through capital expenditures, we can achieve enhanced returns (which we refer to as value-add properties), which may cause our revenues and net income to fluctuate significantly from one period to another. Projects do not produce revenue while in development or redevelopment. We have identified a number of properties in our portfolio as value-add properties and intend to make capital expenditures on such properties. During any period when the number of our projects in development or redevelopment or those with significant capital requirements increases without a corresponding increase in stable revenue-producing properties, our revenues and net income will likely decrease, and we could have losses.

Moreover, value-add properties subject us to the risks of higher than expected construction costs, failure to complete projects on a timely basis, failure of the properties to perform at expected levels upon completion of development or redevelopment, and increased borrowings necessary to fund higher than expected construction or other costs related to the project. There can be no assurance that our value-add properties will be developed or repositioned in accordance with the anticipated timing or at the anticipated cost, or that we will achieve the results we expect from these value-add properties. Failure to achieve anticipated results could materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and ability to make distributions to stockholders.

We may acquire properties through joint ventures, which could subject us to liabilities in excess of those contemplated or prevent us from taking actions which are in the best interests of our stockholders, which could adversely affect our trading price.

We may enter into joint ventures with affiliates and/or other third parties to acquire or improve properties. We may also purchase properties in partnerships, co-tenancies or other co-ownership arrangements. Such investments may involve risks not otherwise present when acquiring real estate directly, including the following:

- a co-venturer, co-owner or partner may have certain approval rights over major decisions, which may prevent us from taking actions that are in the best interest of our stockholders but opposed by our partners or co-venturers;
- a co-venturer, co-owner or partner may at any time have economic or business interests or goals which are or become inconsistent with our business interests or goals, including inconsistent goals relating to the sale of properties held in the joint venture or the timing of termination or liquidation of the joint venture;
- a co-venturer, co-owner or partner in an investment might become insolvent or bankrupt (in which event we and any other remaining partners or members would generally remain liable for the liabilities of the partnership or joint venture);
- we may incur liabilities as a result of an action taken by our co-venturer, co-owner or partner;
- a co-venturer, co-owner or partner may be in a position to take actions contrary to our instructions, requests, objectives or policies, including our policy with respect to qualifying and maintaining our qualification as a REIT;
- agreements governing joint ventures, limited liability companies and partnerships often contain restrictions on the transfer of a member's or partner's interest or "buy-sell" or other provisions that may result in a purchase or sale of the interest at a disadvantageous time or on disadvantageous terms;
- disputes between us and our joint venturers may result in litigation or arbitration that would increase our expenses and prevent our officers and directors from focusing their time and effort on our business and result in subjecting the properties owned by the applicable joint venture to additional risk; and
- under certain joint venture arrangements, neither venture partner may have the power to control the venture, and an impasse could be reached which might have a negative influence on the joint venture.

If any of the foregoing were to occur we may be subject to liabilities in excess of those contemplated, which could adversely affect our trading price.

Risks Associated with Debt Financing

We plan to incur mortgage indebtedness and other borrowings and are not limited in the amount or percentage of indebtedness that we may incur, which may increase our business risks.

We intend to acquire properties subject to existing financing or by borrowing new funds. In addition, we intend to incur additional mortgage debt by obtaining loans secured by some, or all, of our real properties to obtain funds to acquire additional real properties and/or make capital improvements to properties. We may also borrow funds, if necessary, to satisfy the requirement that we generally distribute to stockholders as dividends at least 90% of our annual REIT taxable income (computed without regard to dividends paid and excluding net capital gain), or otherwise as is necessary or advisable to assure that we maintain our qualification as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Our charter and bylaws do not limit the amount or percentage of indebtedness that we may incur. We are subject to risks normally associated with debt financing, including the risk that our cash flows will be insufficient to meet required payments of principal and interest. There can be no assurance that we will be able to refinance any maturing indebtedness, that such refinancing would be on terms as favorable as the terms of the maturing indebtedness or that we will be able to otherwise obtain funds by selling assets or raising equity to make required payments on maturing indebtedness.

In particular, loans obtained to fund property acquisitions will generally be secured by mortgages or deeds in trust on such properties. If we are unable to make our debt service payments as required, a lender could foreclose on the property or properties securing its debt.

In addition, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a foreclosure of any of our properties would be treated as a sale of the property for a purchase price equal to the outstanding balance of the debt secured by the mortgage. If the outstanding balance of the debt secured by the mortgage exceeds our tax basis in the property, we would recognize taxable income on foreclosure, but would not receive any cash proceeds. We may, in some circumstances, give a guaranty on behalf of an entity that owns one or more of our properties. In these cases, we will be responsible to the lender for satisfaction of the debt if it is not paid by such entity. If any mortgages contain cross-collateralization or cross-default provisions, there is a risk that we could lose part or all of our investment in

multiple properties. Each of these events could in turn cause the value of our common stock and distributions payable to stockholders to be reduced.

Any mortgage debt which we place on properties may prohibit prepayment and/or impose a prepayment penalty upon the sale of a mortgaged property. If a lender invokes these prohibitions or penalties upon the sale of a property or prepayment of a mortgage on a property, the cost to us to sell the property could increase substantially. This could decrease the proceeds from a sale or refinancing or make the sale or refinancing impractical, which may lead to a reduction in our income, reduce our cash flows and adversely impact our ability to make distributions to stockholders.

We may also finance our property acquisitions using interest-only mortgage indebtedness. During the interest-only period, the amount of each scheduled payment will be less than that of a traditional amortizing mortgage loan. The principal balance of the mortgage loan will not be reduced (except in the case of prepayments) because there are no scheduled monthly payments of principal during this period. After the interest-only period, we will be required either to make scheduled payments of amortized principal and interest or to make a lump-sum or “balloon” payment at maturity. These required principal or balloon payments will increase the amount of our scheduled payments and may increase our risk of default under the related mortgage loan. If the mortgage loan has an adjustable interest rate, the amount of our scheduled payments also may increase at a time of rising interest rates. Increased payments and substantial principal or balloon maturity payments will reduce the funds available for distribution to our stockholders because cash otherwise available for distribution will be required to pay principal and interest associated with these mortgage loans.

Lenders may require us to enter into restrictive covenants relating to our operations, which could limit our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

In providing financing to us, a lender may impose restrictions on us that would affect our ability to incur additional debt, make certain investments, reduce liquidity below certain levels, make distributions to our stockholders and otherwise affect our distribution and operating policies. Our KeyBank credit facility and term loans include restrictions and requirements relating to the incurrence of debt, permitted investments, maximum level of distributions, maintenance of insurance, mergers and sales of assets and transactions with affiliates. We expect that any other loan agreements we enter into will contain similar covenants and may also impose other restrictions and limitations. Any such covenants, restrictions or limitations may limit our ability to make distributions to you and could make it difficult for us to satisfy the requirements necessary to maintain our qualification as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Lenders may be able to recover against our other properties under our mortgage loans.

In financing our property acquisitions, we may seek to obtain secured nonrecourse loans. However, only recourse financing may be available, in which event, in addition to the property securing the loan, the lender would have the ability to look to our other assets for satisfaction of the debt if the proceeds from the sale or other disposition of the property securing the loan are insufficient to fully repay it. Also, in order to facilitate the sale of a property, we may allow the buyer to purchase the property subject to an existing loan whereby we remain responsible for certain liabilities associated with the debt.

If we are required to make payments under any “bad boy” carve-out guaranties that we may provide in connection with certain mortgages and related loans, our business and financial results could be materially adversely affected.

In obtaining certain nonrecourse loans, we may provide standard carve-out guaranties. These guaranties are only applicable if and when the borrower directly, or indirectly through agreement with an affiliate, joint venture partner or other third party, voluntarily files a bankruptcy or similar liquidation or reorganization action or takes other actions that are fraudulent or improper (commonly referred to as “bad boy” guaranties). Although we believe that “bad boy” carve-out guaranties are not guaranties of payment in the event of foreclosure or other actions of the foreclosing lender that are beyond the borrower’s control, some lenders in the real estate industry have recently sought to make claims for payment under such guaranties. In the event such a claim were made against us under a “bad boy” carve-out guaranty following foreclosure on mortgages or related loan, and such claim were successful, our business and financial results could be materially adversely affected.

Our variable rate indebtedness subjects us to interest rate risk, and interest rate hedges that we may obtain may be costly and ineffective.

As of December 31, 2018, \$405.7 million of our \$991.4 million of total outstanding indebtedness bore interest at variable rates. If interest rates were to increase, our debt service obligations on the variable rate indebtedness would increase even though the amount borrowed would remain the same, and our net income and cash flows would correspondingly decrease. In order to partially mitigate our exposure to increases in interest rates, we have entered into interest rate swaps and collars on \$400.0 million of our variable rate debt, which involve the exchange of variable for fixed rate interest payments. Taking into account our current interest

rate swap and collar agreements, a 100 basis point increase in interest rates would result in a \$0.1 million increase in annual interest expense. See Item 7., “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Interest Rate Risk and Sensitivity.” To the extent that we use derivative financial instruments to hedge our exposure to variable rate indebtedness, we may be exposed to credit, basis and legal enforceability risks. Derivative financial instruments may include interest rate swap contracts, interest rate cap or floor contracts, futures or forward contracts, options or repurchase agreements. In this context, credit risk is the failure of the counterparty to perform under the terms of the derivative contract. If the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, the counterparty owes us, which creates credit risk for us. Basis risk occurs when the index upon which the contract is based is more or less variable than the index upon which the hedged asset or liability is based, thereby making the hedge less effective. Finally, legal enforceability risks encompass general contractual risks, including the risk that the counterparty will breach the terms of, or fail to perform its obligations under, the derivative contract. Moreover, hedging strategies involve transaction and other costs. If we are unable to manage these risks and costs effectively, our results of operations, financial condition and ability to make distributions may be adversely affected.

Some of our outstanding mortgage indebtedness contains, and we may in the future acquire or finance properties with, lock-out provisions, which may prohibit us from selling a property, or may require us to maintain specified debt levels for a period of years on some properties.

A lock-out provision is a provision that prohibits the prepayment of a loan during a specified period of time. Lock-out provisions may include terms that provide strong financial disincentives for borrowers to prepay their outstanding loan balance and exist in order to protect the yield expectations of lenders. Some of our outstanding mortgage indebtedness is, and we expect that many of our properties will be, subject to lock-out provisions. Lock-out provisions could materially restrict us from selling or otherwise disposing of or refinancing properties when we may desire to do so. Lock-out provisions may prohibit us from reducing the outstanding indebtedness with respect to any properties, refinancing such indebtedness on a non-recourse basis at maturity, or increasing the amount of indebtedness with respect to such properties. Lock-out provisions could impair our ability to take other actions during the lock-out period that could be in the best interests of our stockholders and, therefore, may have an adverse impact on the value of our shares relative to the value that would result if the lock-out provisions did not exist. In particular, lock-out provisions could preclude us from participating in major transactions that could result in a disposition of our assets or a change in control even though that disposition or change in control might be in the best interests of our stockholders.

Complying with REIT requirements may limit our ability to hedge risk effectively.

The REIT provisions of the Code may limit our ability to hedge the risks inherent to our operations. Any income or gain derived by us from transactions that hedge certain risks, such as the risk of changes in interest rates, will not be treated as gross income for purposes of either the 75% or the 95% Gross Income Test, as defined in Exhibit 99.1 “Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” of this report, provided specific requirements are met. Such requirements include that the hedging transaction be properly identified within prescribed time periods and that the transaction either (i) hedges risks associated with indebtedness issued by us that is incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets or (ii) manages the risks of currency fluctuations with respect to income or gain that qualifies under the 75% or 95% Gross Income Test (or assets that generate such income). To the extent that we do not properly identify such transactions as hedges, hedge with other types of financial instruments, or hedge other types of indebtedness, the income from those transactions will not be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the 75% and 95% Gross Income Tests. As a result of these rules, we may have to limit the use of hedging techniques that might otherwise be advantageous, which could result in greater risks associated with interest rate or other changes than we would otherwise incur.

There is refinancing risk associated with our debt.

We expect that we will incur additional indebtedness in the future. Certain of our outstanding debt contains, and we may in the future acquire or finance properties with debt containing, limited or no principal amortization, which would require that the principal be repaid at the maturity of the loan in a so-called “balloon payment.” As of December 31, 2018, the financing arrangements of our outstanding indebtedness could require us to make lump-sum or “balloon” payments of approximately \$800.6 million at maturity dates that range from 2021 to 2026. At the maturity of these loans, assuming we do not have sufficient funds to repay the debt, we will need to refinance the debt. If the credit environment is constrained at the time of our debt maturities, we would have a very difficult time refinancing debt. In addition, for certain loans, we locked in our fixed-rate debt at a point in time when we were able to obtain favorable interest rate, principal payments and other terms. When we refinance our debt, prevailing interest rates and other factors may result in us paying a greater amount of debt service, which will adversely affect our cash flow and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders. If we are unable to refinance our debt on acceptable terms, we may be forced to choose from a number of unfavorable options, including agreeing to otherwise unfavorable financing terms on one or more of our unencumbered assets, selling one or more properties at disadvantageous terms, including unattractive prices, or defaulting on the mortgage and permitting the lender to foreclose. Any one of these options could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

High mortgage rates and/or unavailability of mortgage debt may make it difficult for us to finance or refinance properties, which could reduce the number of properties we can acquire, our net income and the amount of cash distributions we can make.

If mortgage debt is unavailable at reasonable rates, we may not be able to finance the purchase of properties. If we place mortgage debt on properties, we may be unable to refinance the properties when the loans become due, or to refinance on favorable terms. If interest rates are higher when we refinance our properties, our income could be reduced. If any of these events occur, our cash flow could be reduced. This, in turn, could reduce cash available for distribution to our securityholders and may hinder our ability to raise more capital by issuing more stock or by borrowing more money.

Some of our mortgage loans may have “due on sale” provisions, which may impact the manner in which we acquire, sell and/or finance our properties.

In purchasing properties subject to financing, we may obtain financing with “due-on-sale” and/or “due-on-encumbrance” clauses. Due-on-sale clauses in mortgages allow a mortgage lender to demand full repayment of the mortgage loan if the borrower sells the mortgaged property. Similarly, due-on-encumbrance clauses allow a mortgage lender to demand full repayment if the borrower uses the real estate securing the mortgage loan as security for another loan. In such event, we may be required to sell our properties on an all-cash basis, to acquire new financing in connection with the sale, or to provide seller financing which may make it more difficult to sell the property or reduce the selling price.

A change in the United States government policy with regard to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could impact our financial condition.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are a major source of financing for the multifamily residential real estate sector. Many multifamily companies depend heavily on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to finance growth by purchasing or guarantying apartment loans and to refinance outstanding indebtedness as it matures.

If new U.S. government regulations (i) heighten Fannie Mae’s and Freddie Mac’s underwriting standards, (ii) adversely affect interest rates and (iii) continue to reduce the amount of capital they can make available to the multifamily sector, it could reduce or remove entirely a vital resource for multifamily financing. Any potential reduction in loans, guarantees and credit-enhancement arrangements from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could jeopardize the effectiveness of the multifamily sector’s available financing and decrease the amount of available liquidity and credit that could be used to acquire and diversify our portfolio of multifamily assets, as well as dispose of our multifamily assets upon our liquidation, and our ability to refinance our existing mortgage obligations as they come due and obtain additional long-term financing for the acquisition of additional multifamily apartment communities on favorable terms or at all. In addition, the members of the current presidential administration have announced that restructuring and privatizing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac is a priority of the current administration, and there is uncertainty regarding the impact of this action on us and buyers of our properties.

Changes in the method pursuant to which the LIBOR rates are determined and potential phasing out of LIBOR after 2021 may affect our financial results.

The chief executive of the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”), which regulates LIBOR, has recently announced that the FCA intends to stop compelling banks to submit rates for the calculation of LIBOR after 2021. It is not possible to predict the effect of these changes, other reforms or the establishment of alternative reference rates in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. Furthermore, in the United States, efforts to identify a set of alternative U.S. dollar reference interest rates include proposals by the Alternative Reference Rates Committee of the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. On August 24, 2017, the Federal Reserve Board requested public comment on a proposal by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, in cooperation with the Office of Financial Research, to produce three new reference rates intended to serve as alternatives to LIBOR. These alternative rates are based on overnight repurchase agreement transactions secured by U.S. Treasury Securities and the Federal Reserve Bank began publishing these alternative rates in 2018.

Any changes announced by the FCA, other regulators or any other successor governance or oversight body, or future changes adopted by such body, in the method pursuant to which the LIBOR rates are determined may result in a sudden or prolonged increase or decrease in the reported LIBOR rates. If that were to occur, the level of interest payments we incur may change. In addition, although certain of our LIBOR based obligations provide for alternative methods of calculating the interest rate payable on certain of our obligations if LIBOR is not reported, which include requesting certain rates from major reference banks in London or New York, or alternatively using LIBOR for the immediately preceding interest period or using the initial interest rate, as applicable, uncertainty as to the extent and manner of future changes may result in interest rates and/or payments that are higher than, lower than or that do not otherwise correlate over time with the interest rates and/or payments that would have been made on our obligations if LIBOR rate was available in its current form.

Compliance with Laws

We are subject to significant regulations, which could adversely affect our results of operations through increased costs and/or an inability to pursue business opportunities.

Local zoning and use laws, environmental statutes and other governmental requirements may restrict or increase the costs of our development, expansion, renovation and reconstruction activities and thus may prevent or delay us from taking advantage of business opportunities. Failure to comply with these requirements could result in the imposition of fines, awards to private litigants of damages against us, substantial litigation costs and substantial costs of remediation or compliance. In addition, we cannot predict what requirements may be enacted in the future or that such requirements will not increase our costs of regulatory compliance or prohibit us from pursuing business opportunities that could be profitable to us, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

The costs of compliance with environmental laws and regulations may adversely affect our net income and the cash available for any distributions.

All real property and the operations conducted on real property are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to environmental protection and human health and safety. Examples of federal laws include: the National Environmental Policy Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Federal Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act and the Hazard Communication Act. These laws and regulations generally govern wastewater discharges, air emissions, the operation and removal of underground and aboveground storage tanks, the use, storage, treatment, transportation and disposal of solid and hazardous materials, and the remediation of contamination associated with disposals. Some of these laws and regulations may impose joint and several liability on tenants, owners or operators for the costs of investigation or remediation of contaminated properties, regardless of fault or the legality of the original disposal.

Under various federal, state and local environmental laws, ordinances and regulations, a current or previous owner or operator of real property may be liable for the cost of removal or remediation of hazardous or toxic substances on, under or in such property. The costs of removal or remediation could be substantial. These laws often impose liability whether or not the owner or operator knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of the hazardous or toxic substances. In addition, the presence of these substances, or the failure to properly remediate these substances, may adversely affect our ability to sell or rent the property or to use the property as collateral for future borrowing.

Environmental laws also may impose restrictions on the manner in which property may be used or businesses may be operated, and these restrictions may require substantial expenditures. Environmental laws provide for sanctions in the event of noncompliance and may be enforced by governmental agencies or, in certain circumstances, by private parties. Certain environmental laws and common law principles govern the presence, maintenance, removal and disposal of certain building materials, including asbestos and lead-based paint. Such hazardous substances could be released into the air and third parties may seek recovery from owners or operators of real properties for personal injury or property damage associated with exposure to released hazardous substances.

In addition, if any property in our portfolio is not properly connected to a water or sewer system, or if the integrity of such systems is breached, microbial matter or other contamination can develop. If this were to occur, we could incur significant remedial costs and we may also be subject to private damage claims and awards, which could be material. If we become subject to claims in this regard, it could materially and adversely affect us.

Property values may also be affected by the proximity of such properties to electric transmission lines. Electric transmission lines are one of many sources of electro-magnetic fields ("EMFs"), to which people may be exposed. Research completed regarding potential health concerns associated with exposure to EMFs has produced inconclusive results. Notwithstanding the lack of conclusive scientific evidence, some states now regulate the strength of electric and magnetic fields emanating from electric transmission lines and other states have required transmission facilities to measure for levels of EMFs. On occasion, lawsuits have been filed (primarily against electric utilities) that allege personal injuries from exposure to transmission lines and EMFs, as well as from fear of adverse health effects due to such exposure. This fear of adverse health effects from transmission lines may be considered both when property values are determined to obtain financing and in condemnation proceedings. We may not, in certain circumstances, search for electric transmission lines near our properties, but are aware of the potential exposure to damage claims by persons exposed to EMFs.

The cost of defending against such claims of liability, of compliance with environmental regulatory requirements, of remediating any contaminated property, or of paying personal injury claims could materially adversely affect our business, assets or results of operations and, consequently, amounts available for distribution to our stockholders.

We cannot provide any assurance properties which we acquire will not have any material environmental conditions, liabilities or compliance concerns. Accordingly, we have no way of determining at this time the magnitude of any potential liability to which we may be subject arising out of environmental conditions or violations with respect to the properties we own.

Costs associated with addressing indoor air quality issues, moisture infiltration and resulting mold remediation may be costly.

As a general matter, concern about indoor exposure to mold or other air contaminants has been increasing as such exposure has been alleged to have a variety of adverse effects on health. As a result, there have been a number of lawsuits in our industry against owners and managers of apartment communities relating to indoor air quality, moisture infiltration and resulting mold. Some of our properties may contain microbial matter such as mold and mildew. The terms of our property and general liability policies generally exclude certain mold-related claims. Should an uninsured loss arise against us, we would be required to use our funds to resolve the issue, including litigation costs. We can offer no assurance that liabilities resulting from indoor air quality, moisture infiltration and the presence of or exposure to mold will not have a future impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our costs associated with and the risk of failing to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act may affect our net income.

We generally expect that our properties will be subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (the “Disabilities Act”). Under the Disabilities Act, all places of public accommodation are required to comply with federal requirements related to access and use by disabled persons. The Disabilities Act has separate compliance requirements for “public accommodations” and “commercial facilities” that generally require that buildings and services be made accessible and available to people with disabilities. The Disabilities Act does not, however, consider residential properties, such as apartment properties, to be public accommodations or commercial facilities, except to the extent portions of such facilities, such as a leasing office, are open to the public. The Disabilities Act’s requirements could require removal of access barriers and could result in the imposition of injunctive relief, monetary penalties or, in some cases, an award of damages. We will attempt to acquire properties that comply with the Disabilities Act or place the burden on the seller or a third party to ensure compliance with such laws. However, we cannot assure you that we will be able to acquire properties or allocate responsibilities in this manner. If we cannot, costs in complying with these laws may adversely affect our results of operations financial condition and ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

We must comply with the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (the “FHAA”), and failure to comply could result in substantial costs.

We must comply with the FHAA, which requires that apartment properties first occupied after March 13, 1991 be accessible to handicapped residents and visitors. As with the Disabilities Act, compliance with the FHAA could require removal of structural barriers to handicapped access in a community, including the interiors of apartment units covered under the FHAA. Recently there has been heightened scrutiny of apartment housing properties for compliance with the requirements of the FHAA and the Disabilities Act and an increasing number of substantial enforcement actions and private lawsuits have been brought against apartment communities to ensure compliance with these requirements. Noncompliance with the FHAA could result in the imposition of fines, awards of damages to private litigants, payment of attorneys’ fees and other costs to plaintiffs, substantial litigation costs and substantial costs of remediation.

United States Federal Income Tax Risks

Legislative or regulatory action could adversely affect the returns to our investors.

Legislative, regulatory or administrative changes could be enacted or promulgated at any time, either prospectively or with retroactive effect, and may adversely affect us and/or our stockholders.

On December 22, 2017, a bill informally known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the “TCJA”) was signed into law. The TCJA makes significant changes to the U.S. federal income tax rules for taxation of individuals and corporations, generally effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017. In addition to reducing corporate and individual tax rates, the TCJA eliminates or restricts various deductions. One such deduction limitation is a general limitation of the deduction for net business interest expense in excess of 30% of a business’s “adjusted taxable income,” except for taxpayers that engage in certain real estate businesses and elect

out of this rule (provided that such electing taxpayers must use an alternative depreciation system with longer depreciation periods). Most of the changes applicable to individuals are temporary and apply only to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026. The TCJA makes numerous large and small changes to the tax rules that do not affect the REIT qualification rules directly but may otherwise affect us or our stockholders.

While the changes in the TCJA generally appear to be favorable with respect to REITs and their stockholders, the extensive changes to non-REIT provisions in the Code may have unanticipated effects on us or our stockholders. Moreover, Congressional leaders have recognized that the process of adopting extensive tax legislation in a short amount of time without hearings and substantial time for review is likely to have led to drafting errors, issues needing clarification and unintended consequences that will have to be revisited in subsequent tax legislation. At this point, although certain additional guidance has been provided by Treasury and the IRS, it is not clear if or when Congress will address these issues or when the IRS will issue additional administrative guidance on the changes made in the TCJA.

We urge you to consult with your own tax advisor with respect to the status of the TCJA and other legislative, regulatory or administrative developments and proposals and their potential effect on an investment in shares of our common stock.

Dividends paid by REITs do not qualify for the reduced tax rates provided under current law.

Dividends paid by REITs are generally not eligible for the reduced 15% maximum tax rate for dividends paid to individuals (20% for those with taxable income above certain thresholds that are adjusted annually under current law). The more favorable rates applicable to regular corporate dividends could cause stockholders who are individuals to perceive investments in REITs to be relatively less attractive than investments in the stock of non-REIT corporations that pay dividends to which more favorable rates apply, which could reduce the value of the stocks of REITs. However, under the TCJA regular dividends from REITs are treated as income from a pass-through entity and are eligible for a 20% deduction. As a result, our regular dividends will be taxed at 80% of an individual's marginal tax rate. The current maximum rate is 37% resulting in a maximum tax rate of 29.6% on our dividends. Dividends from REITs as well as regular corporate dividends will also be subject to a 3.8% Medicare surtax for taxpayers with modified adjusted gross income above \$200,000 (if single) or \$250,000 (if married and filing jointly).

We may decide to borrow funds to satisfy our REIT minimum distribution requirements, which could adversely affect our overall financial performance.

We may decide to borrow funds in order to meet the REIT minimum distribution requirements even if our management believes that the then prevailing market conditions generally are not favorable for such borrowings or that such borrowings would not be advisable in the absence of such tax considerations. If we borrow money to meet the REIT minimum distribution requirements or for other working capital needs, our expenses will increase, our net income will be reduced by the amount of interest we pay on the money we borrow and we will be obligated to repay the money we borrow from future earnings or by selling assets, any or all of which may decrease future distributions to stockholders.

To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we may be forced to forego otherwise attractive opportunities, which may delay or hinder our ability to meet our investment objectives and adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must satisfy certain tests on an ongoing basis concerning, among other things, the sources of our income, nature of our assets and the amounts we distribute to our stockholders. We may be required to make distributions to stockholders at times when it would be more advantageous to reinvest cash in our business or when we do not have funds readily available for distribution. Compliance with the REIT qualification requirements may hinder our ability to operate solely on the basis of maximizing profits and adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

If we fail to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we will be subject to tax on our income, and the amount of distributions we make to our stockholders will be less.

We intend to maintain our qualification as a REIT under the Code. A REIT generally is not taxed at the corporate level on income and gains that it distributes to its stockholders on a timely basis. We do not intend to request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"), as to our REIT status. Qualification as a REIT involves the application of highly technical and complex rules for which there are only limited judicial or administrative interpretations. The determination of various factual matters and circumstances not entirely within our control may affect our ability to continue to qualify as a REIT. In addition, new legislation, regulations, administrative interpretations or court decisions could significantly change the tax laws with respect to qualification as a REIT or the U.S. federal income tax consequences of such qualification, including changes with retroactive effect.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year:

- we would not be allowed to deduct our distributions to our stockholders when computing our taxable income;
- we would be subject to U.S. federal income tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax in tax years beginning before January 1, 2018) on our taxable income at regular corporate rates;
- we generally would be disqualified from being taxed as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost, unless entitled to relief under certain statutory provisions;
- we would have less cash to make distributions to our stockholders; and
- we might be required to borrow additional funds or sell some of our assets in order to pay corporate tax obligations we may incur as a result of our disqualification.

Although our organization and current and proposed method of operation is intended to enable us to maintain our qualification to be taxed as a REIT, it is possible that future economic, market, legal, tax or other considerations may cause our board of directors to revoke our REIT election. Even if we maintain our qualification to be taxed as a REIT, we expect to incur some taxes, such as state and local taxes, taxes imposed on certain subsidiaries and potential U.S. federal excise taxes.

We encourage you to read Exhibit 99.1-“Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” to this report for further discussion of the tax issues related to an investment in us.

The ability of our Board of Directors to revoke our REIT election without stockholder approval may cause adverse consequences to our stockholders.

Our Charter provides that our Board of Directors may revoke or otherwise terminate our REIT election, without the approval of our stockholders, if it determines that it is no longer in our best interest to continue to maintain our qualification as a REIT. If we cease to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we would become subject to U.S. federal income tax on our taxable income without the benefit of the dividends paid deduction and would no longer be required to distribute most of our taxable income to our stockholders, which may have adverse consequences on the total return to our stockholders.

To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must meet annual distribution requirements, which may result in our distributing amounts that may otherwise be used for our operations.

To obtain the favorable tax treatment accorded to REITs, we generally are required each year to distribute to our stockholders at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (excluding net capital gain), determined without regard to the deduction for distributions paid. We are subject to U.S. federal income tax on our undistributed taxable income and net capital gain and to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on any amount by which distributions we pay with respect to any calendar year are less than the sum of (i) 85% of our ordinary income, (ii) 95% of our capital gain net income and (iii) 100% of our undistributed income from prior years. These requirements could cause us to distribute amounts that otherwise would be spent on investments in real estate assets, and it is possible that we might be required to borrow funds, possibly at unfavorable rates, or sell assets to fund these distributions. Although we intend to make distributions sufficient to meet the annual distribution requirements and to avoid U.S. federal income and excise taxes on our earnings, it is possible that we might not always be able to do so.

Complying with REIT requirements may cause us to forgo otherwise attractive opportunities.

To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must continually satisfy various tests regarding sources of income, nature and diversification of assets, amounts distributed to stockholders and the ownership of shares of our capital stock. In order to satisfy these tests, we may be required to forgo investments that might otherwise be made. Accordingly, compliance with the REIT requirements may hinder our investment performance.

In particular, at least 75% of our total assets at the end of each calendar quarter must consist of real estate assets, government securities, and cash or cash items. For this purpose, “real estate assets” generally include interests in real property, such as land, buildings, leasehold interests in real property, stock of other entities that qualify as REITs, interests in mortgage loans secured by real property, investments in stock or debt instruments during the one-year period following the receipt of new capital and regular or residual interests in a real estate mortgage investment conduit. In addition, the amount of securities of a single issuer that we hold, other than securities qualifying under the 75% asset test and certain other securities, must generally not exceed either 5% of the value of our gross assets or 10% of the vote or value of such issuer’s outstanding securities.

A REIT’s net income from prohibited transactions is subject to a 100% penalty tax. In general, prohibited transactions are sales or other dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, held in inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. It may be possible to reduce the impact of the prohibited transaction tax and the holding of assets not

qualifying as real estate assets for purposes of the REIT asset tests by conducting certain activities, or holding non-qualifying REIT assets through a taxable REIT subsidiary (a “TRS”), subject to certain limitations as described below. To the extent that we engage in such activities through a TRS, the income associated with such activities will be subject to full U.S. federal corporate income tax.

Certain of our business activities are potentially subject to the prohibited transaction tax, which could reduce the return on any investment in our securities.

Our ability to dispose of property is restricted to a substantial extent as a result of our REIT status. Under applicable provisions of the Code regarding prohibited transactions by REITs, we will be subject to a 100% tax on any gain recognized on the sale or other disposition of any property (other than foreclosure property) that we own, directly or through any subsidiary entity, including IROP, but excluding a TRS, that is deemed to be inventory or property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of trade or business. Whether property is inventory or otherwise held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends on the particular facts and circumstances surrounding each property. No assurance can be given that any particular property we own, directly or through any subsidiary entity, including IROP, but excluding a “TRS”, will not be treated as inventory or property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business.

The use of TRSs would increase our overall tax liability.

Some of our assets may need to be owned or sold, or some of our operations may need to be conducted by TRSs. We do not currently have significant operations through a TRS but may in the future. A TRS will be subject to U.S. federal and state income tax on its taxable income. The after-tax net income of a TRS would be available for distribution to us. Further, we will incur a 100% excise tax on transactions with a TRS that are not conducted on an arm’s length basis. For example, to the extent that the rent paid by a TRS exceeds an arm’s length rental amount, such amount is potentially subject to the excise tax. We intend that all transactions between us and any TRS we form will be conducted on an arm’s length basis, and, therefore, any amounts paid by any TRS we form to us will not be subject to the excise tax. However, no assurance can be given that no excise tax would arise from such transactions.

If our operating partnership, IROP, is not treated as a partnership or disregarded entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes, its income may be subject to taxation.

We intend to maintain the status of IROP as a partnership or disregarded entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, if the IRS were to successfully challenge the status of IROP as a partnership or disregarded entity for such purposes, it would be taxable as a corporation. In such event, this would reduce the amount of distributions that IROP could make to us. This would also result in our losing REIT status, and becoming subject to a corporate level tax on our own income. This would substantially reduce our cash available to pay distributions and the yield on any investment in our securities. In addition, if any of the partnerships or limited liability companies through which IROP owns its properties, in whole or in part, loses its characterization as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be subject to taxation as a corporation, thereby reducing distributions to IROP. Such a recharacterization of an underlying property owner could also threaten our ability to maintain REIT status.

Distributions to tax-exempt investors may be classified as unrelated business taxable income, or UBTI, and tax-exempt investors would be required to pay tax on such income and to file income tax returns.

Neither ordinary nor capital gain distributions with respect to our common stock nor gain from the sale of stock should generally constitute UBTI to a tax-exempt investor. However, there are certain exceptions to this rule, including:

- under certain circumstances, part of the income and gain recognized by certain qualified employee pension trusts with respect to our stock may be treated as UBTI if our stock is predominately held by qualified employee pension trusts, such that we are a “pension-held” REIT (which we do not expect to be the case);
- part of the income and gain recognized by a tax-exempt investor with respect to our stock would constitute UBTI if such investor incurs debt in order to acquire our common stock; and
- part or all of the income or gain recognized with respect to our stock held by social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts and qualified group legal services plans which are exempt from U.S. federal income taxation under Sections 501(c)(7), (9), (17) or (20) of the Code may be treated as UBTI.

We encourage you to consult your own tax advisor to determine the tax consequences applicable to you if you are a tax-exempt investor.

Distributions to foreign investors may be treated as an ordinary income distribution to the extent that it is made out of current or accumulated earnings and profits.

In general, foreign investors will be subject to regular U.S. federal income tax with respect to their investment in our stock if the income derived therefrom is “effectively connected” with the foreign investor’s conduct of a trade or business in the United States. A distribution to a foreign investor that is not attributable to gain realized by us from the sale or exchange of a “U.S. real property interest” within the meaning of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980, as amended “FIRPTA” will be treated as an ordinary income distribution to the extent that it is made out of current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes). Generally, any ordinary income distribution will be subject to a U.S. withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution, unless this tax is reduced by the provisions of an applicable treaty.

Foreign investors may be subject to FIRPTA tax upon the sale of their shares of our stock.

A foreign investor disposing of a U.S. real property interest, including shares of stock of a U.S. corporation whose assets consist principally of U.S. real property interests, is generally subject to FIRPTA tax on the gain recognized on the disposition. Such FIRPTA tax does not apply, however, to the disposition of stock in a REIT if the REIT is “domestically controlled.” A REIT is “domestically controlled” if less than 50% of the REIT’s stock, by value, has been owned directly or indirectly by persons who are not U.S. persons during a continuous five-year period ending on the date of disposition or, if shorter, during the entire period of the REIT’s existence. While we intend to qualify as “domestically controlled,” we cannot assure you that we will. If we were to fail to so qualify, gain realized by foreign investors on a sale of shares of our stock would be subject to FIRPTA tax, unless the shares of our stock were traded on an established securities market and the foreign investor did not at any time during a specified testing period directly or indirectly own more than 10% of the value of our outstanding common stock.

Foreign investors may be subject to FIRPTA tax upon a capital gain dividend.

A foreign investor may be subject to FIRPTA tax upon the payment of any capital gain dividend by us if such dividend is attributable to gain from sales or exchanges of U.S. real property interests.

We encourage you to consult your own tax advisor to determine the tax consequences applicable to you if you are a foreign investor.

We may make distributions consisting of both stock and cash, in which case stockholders may be required to pay income taxes in excess of the cash distributions they receive.

We may make distributions that are paid in cash and stock at the election of each stockholder and may distribute other forms of taxable stock dividends. Taxable stockholders receiving such distributions will be required to include the full amount of the distributions as ordinary income to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, stockholders may be required to pay income taxes with respect to such distributions in excess of the cash received. If a stockholder sells the stock that it receives in order to pay this tax, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in income with respect to the distribution, depending on the market price of our stock at the time of the sale. Furthermore, in the case of certain non-U.S. stockholders, we may be required to withhold federal income tax with respect to taxable dividends, including taxable dividends that are paid in stock. In addition, if a significant number of our stockholders decide to sell their shares in order to pay taxes owed with respect to taxable stock dividends, it may put downward pressure on the trading price of our stock.

If our operating partnership, IROP, were classified as a “publicly traded partnership” taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes under the Code, we would cease to maintain our qualification as a REIT and would suffer other adverse tax consequences.

We intend for IROP to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the IRS were to successfully challenge the status of IROP as a partnership, however, IROP generally would be taxable as a corporation. In such event, we likely would fail to maintain our status as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and the resulting corporate income tax burden would reduce the amount of distributions that IROP could make to us. This would substantially reduce the cash available to pay distributions to our stockholders. In addition, if any of the partnerships or limited liability companies through which the operating partnership owns its properties, in whole or in part, loses its characterization as a partnership and is not otherwise disregarded for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be subject to taxation as a corporation, thereby reducing distributions to the operating partnership. Such a recharacterization of an underlying property owner could also threaten our ability to maintain our REIT qualification.

Our stockholders may be restricted from acquiring or transferring certain amounts of our common stock.

Certain provisions of the Code and the stock ownership limits in our Charter may inhibit market activity in our capital stock and restrict our business combination opportunities. In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Code, may not own, beneficially or constructively, more than 50% in value of our issued and outstanding stock at any time during the last half of a taxable year. Attribution rules in the Code determine if any individual or entity beneficially or constructively owns our capital stock under this requirement. Additionally, at least 100 persons must beneficially own our capital stock during at least 335 days of a taxable year. To help insure that we meet these tests, our Charter restricts the acquisition and ownership of shares of our stock.

Our Charter, with certain exceptions, authorizes our Board of Directors to take such actions as are necessary and desirable to preserve our qualification as a REIT. Unless exempted by our Board of Directors, our Charter prohibits any person from beneficially or constructively owning more than 9.8% in value or number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of the outstanding shares of our common stock or capital stock. Our Board of Directors may not grant an exemption from these restrictions to any proposed transferee whose ownership in excess of ownership limits would result in our failing to maintain our qualification as a REIT. These restrictions on transferability and ownership will not apply, however, if our Board of Directors determines that it is no longer in our best interest to continue to maintain our qualification as a REIT.

Risks Related to Our Organization and Structure

The Maryland General Corporation Law prohibits certain business combinations, which may make it more difficult for us to be acquired.

Under the Maryland General Corporation Law, “business combinations” between a Maryland corporation and an “interested stockholder” or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder became an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange, or in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as (i) any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation; or (ii) an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under the statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board.

After the expiration of the five-year period described above, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder must generally be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

- 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of the then outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and
- two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation, other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected, or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation’s common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under the Maryland General Corporation Law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares. The Maryland General Corporation Law also permits various exemptions from these provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Pursuant to the statute, our board of directors has by resolution exempted business combinations between us and any other person from these provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law, provided that the business combination is first approved by our board of directors and, consequently, the five year prohibition and the supermajority vote requirements will not apply to such business combinations. As a result, any person approved by our board of directors will be able to enter into business combinations with us that may not be in the best interests of our stockholders without compliance by us with the supermajority vote requirements and other provisions of the statute. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or our board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Stockholders have limited control over changes in our policies and operations.

Our board of directors determines our major policies, including those regarding our investment objectives and strategies, financing, growth, debt capitalization, REIT qualification and distributions. Our board of directors may amend or revise these and other policies without a vote of the stockholders. Under our charter and the Maryland General Corporation Law, our stockholders generally have a right to vote only on the following matters:

- the election or removal of directors;
- the amendment of our charter, except that our board of directors may amend our charter without stockholder approval to:
 - change our name;
 - change the name or other designation or the par value of any class or series of stock and the aggregate par value of our stock;
 - increase or decrease the aggregate number of our authorized shares;
 - increase or decrease the number of our shares of any class or series of stock that we have the authority to issue; and
 - effect certain reverse stock splits;
- our dissolution; and
- our being a party to any acquisition, consolidation, sale or other disposition of substantially all of our assets or statutory share exchange.

All other matters are subject to the discretion of our board of directors.

Our authorized but unissued shares of common and preferred stock may prevent a change in our control.

Our charter authorizes us to issue additional authorized but unissued shares of common or preferred stock. In addition, our board of directors may, without stockholder approval, amend our charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of our stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that we have authority to issue and classify or reclassify any unissued shares of common or preferred stock into other classes or series of stock and set the preferences, rights and other terms of the classified or reclassified shares. As a result, our board of directors may establish a series of common or preferred stock that could delay or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for our common stock or otherwise be in the best interest of our stockholders.

Because of our holding company structure, we depend on our operating partnership, IROP, and its subsidiaries for cash flow; however, we will be structurally subordinated in right of payment to the obligations of IROP and its subsidiaries.

We are a holding company with no business operations of our own. Our only significant asset is and will be the partnership interests in IROP. We conduct, and intend to continue to conduct, all of our business operations through IROP. Accordingly, our only source of cash to pay our obligations is distributions from IROP and its subsidiaries of their net earnings and cash flows. We cannot assure you that IROP or its subsidiaries will be able to, or be permitted to, make distributions to us that will enable us to make distributions to our stockholders from cash flows from operations. Each of IROP's subsidiaries is a distinct legal entity and, under certain circumstances, legal and contractual restrictions may limit our ability to obtain cash from such entities. In addition, because we are a holding company, your claims as stockholders will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future liabilities and obligations of IROP and its subsidiaries. Therefore, in the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization, our assets and those of IROP and its subsidiaries will be able to satisfy your claims as stockholders only after all of our and IROP's and its subsidiaries' liabilities and obligations have been paid in full.

Our rights and the rights of our stockholders to recover on claims against our directors are limited, which could reduce your and our recovery against them if they negligently cause us to incur losses.

The Maryland General Corporation Law provides that a director has no liability in such capacity if he performs his duties in good faith, in a manner he reasonably believes to be in our best interests and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances. In addition, our directors and officers will not be liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages unless the director or officer actually received an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services, or is adjudged to be liable to us or our stockholders based on a finding that his or her action, or failure to act, was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty and was material to the cause of action adjudicated in the proceeding. We will indemnify and advance expenses to our directors and officers to the maximum extent permitted by the Maryland General Corporation Law and we are permitted to purchase and maintain insurance or provide similar protection on behalf of any directors, officers, employees and agents, against any liability asserted which was incurred in any such capacity with us or arising out of such status.

Risks Relating to the Market for our Common Stock

The percentage of ownership of any of our common stockholders may be diluted if we issue new shares of common stock.

Stockholders have no rights to buy additional shares of stock if we issue new shares of stock. We may issue common stock, convertible debt or preferred stock pursuant to a public offering or a private placement, to sellers of properties we directly or indirectly acquire instead of, or in addition to, cash consideration. Because our decision to issue securities in any future offering will depend on market conditions and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the amount, timing or nature of our future offerings. Any of our common stockholders who do not participate in any future stock issuances will experience dilution in the percentage of the issued and outstanding stock they own.

Sales of our common stock, or the perception that such sales will occur, may have adverse effects on our share price.

We cannot predict the effect, if any, of future sales of common stock, or the availability of shares for future sales, on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of common stock, including shares of common stock issuable upon the exchange of units of our operating partnership, IROP, that we may issue from time to time, the sale of shares of common stock held by our current stockholders and the sale of any shares we may issue under our long-term incentive plan, or the perception that these sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

An increase in market interest rates may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

One of the factors that investors may consider in deciding whether to buy or sell our common stock is our distribution yield, which is our distribution rate as a percentage of our share price, relative to market interest rates. If market interest rates increase, prospective investors may desire a higher distribution yield on our common stock or may seek securities paying higher dividends or interest. The market price of our common stock likely will be based primarily on the earnings that we derive from rental income with respect to our properties and our related distributions to stockholders, and not from the underlying appraised value of the properties themselves. As a result, interest rate fluctuations and capital market conditions are likely to affect the market price of our common stock, and such effects could be significant. For example, if interest rates rise without an increase in our distribution rate, the market price of our common stock could decrease because potential investors may require a higher distribution yield on our common stock as market rates on interest-bearing securities, such as bonds, rise.

Some of our distributions may include a return of capital for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Some of our distributions may include a return of capital. To the extent that we decide to make distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such distributions would generally be considered a return of capital for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent of the holder's adjusted tax basis in its shares, and thereafter as gain on a sale or exchange of such shares.

Future issuances of debt securities, which would rank senior to our common stock upon liquidation, or future issuances of preferred equity securities, may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

In the future, we may issue debt or equity securities or incur other borrowings. Upon our liquidation, holders of our debt securities, other loans and preferred stock will receive a distribution of our available assets before common stockholders. Any preferred stock, if issued, likely will also have a preference on periodic distribution payments, which could eliminate or otherwise limit our ability to make distributions to common stockholders. Common stockholders bear the risk that our future issuances of debt or equity securities or our incurrence of other borrowings may negatively affect the trading price of our common stock.

The market prices for our common stock may be volatile.

The prices at which our common stock may sell in the public market may be volatile. Fluctuations in the market prices of our common stock may not be correlated in a predictable way to our performance or operating results. The prices at which our common stock trade may fluctuate as a result of factors that are beyond our control or unrelated to our performance or operating results.

We have not established a minimum dividend payment level and we cannot assure you of our ability to pay dividends in the future or the amount of any dividends.

Our board of directors will determine the amount and timing of distributions. In making this determination, our directors will consider all relevant factors, including REIT minimum distribution requirements, the amount of core funds from operation, restrictions under Maryland law, capital expenditures and reserve requirements and general operational requirements. We cannot assure you that

we will be able to make distributions in the future or in amounts similar to our past distributions. We may need to fund distributions through borrowings, returning capital or selling assets, which may be available only at commercially unattractive terms, if at all. Any of the foregoing could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

ITEM 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments*

None.

ITEM 2. Properties

We hold fee title to all of the apartment properties in our portfolio. The following table presents an overview of our portfolio as of December 31, 2018.

Market	Property Count	Units ^(a)	Gross Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value	Period End Occupancy ^(b)	Average Occupancy ^(c)	Average Effective Rent per Occupied Unit ^(d)
Atlanta, GA	5	1,796	220,408	(14,437)	205,971	93.4%	92.4%	1,119
Louisville, KY	6	1,710	190,231	(16,551)	173,680	88.0%	87.8%	963
Oklahoma City, OK	5	1,658	75,781	(9,202)	66,579	94.7%	94.5%	655
Columbus, OH	6	1,547	148,585	(4,659)	143,926	91.6%	91.2%	964
Memphis, TN	4	1,383	140,660	(13,026)	127,634	92.8%	92.7%	1,077
Raleigh - Durham, NC	5	1,372	187,887	(12,855)	175,032	90.5%	90.5%	1,149
Indianapolis, IN	4	916	89,496	(5,819)	83,677	92.4%	93.4%	977
Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL	3	840	119,562	(1,700)	117,862	94.9%	93.6%	1,117
Dallas, TX	3	734	86,652	(6,188)	80,464	96.0%	96.2%	1,173
Myrtle Beach, SC - Wilmington, NC	3	628	62,148	(1,654)	60,494	92.8%	94.8%	965
Charleston, SC	2	518	79,414	(5,950)	73,464	91.5%	92.4%	1,287
Little Rock, AR	2	462	55,328	(5,070)	50,258	96.1%	94.3%	972
Chicago, IL	1	370	29,889	(2,862)	27,027	93.2%	91.9%	1,065
Austin, TX	1	300	35,935	(3,295)	32,640	92.7%	92.8%	1,270
Orlando, FL	1	297	48,173	(3,552)	44,621	98.0%	96.8%	1,439
Chattanooga, TN	2	295	26,670	(2,183)	24,487	93.2%	93.9%	971
Baton Rouge, LA	1	264	28,610	(813)	27,797	74.6%	75.4%	952
Asheville, NC	1	252	28,506	(2,207)	26,299	96.4%	97.3%	1,106
Charlotte, NC	1	208	42,040	(3,089)	38,951	94.2%	92.7%	1,506
Huntsville, AL	1	178	16,318	(1,293)	15,025	96.1%	98.0%	928
St. Louis, MO	1	152	33,347	(3,797)	29,550	96.1%	95.9%	1,411
TOTAL	58	15,880	\$1,745,640	\$ (120,202)	\$1,625,438	92.5%	92.3%	\$ 1,035

- (a) Units represent the total number of apartment units available for rent at December 31, 2018.
- (b) Physical occupancy for each of our properties is calculated as (i) total units rented as of December 31, 2018 divided by (ii) total units available as of December 31, 2018, expressed as a percentage.
- (c) Average occupancy represents the daily average occupancy of available units for the three-month period ended December 31, 2018.
- (d) Average effective monthly rent, per unit, represents the average monthly rent for all occupied units for the three-month period ended December 31, 2018.

Additional information on our consolidated properties is contained in "Schedule III - Real Estate and Accumulated Depreciation" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of our business operations. Matters which arise out of allegations of bodily injury, property damage, and employment practices are generally covered by insurance. While the resolution of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, we currently believe the final outcome of such matters will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. *Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities*

Market Information; Holders

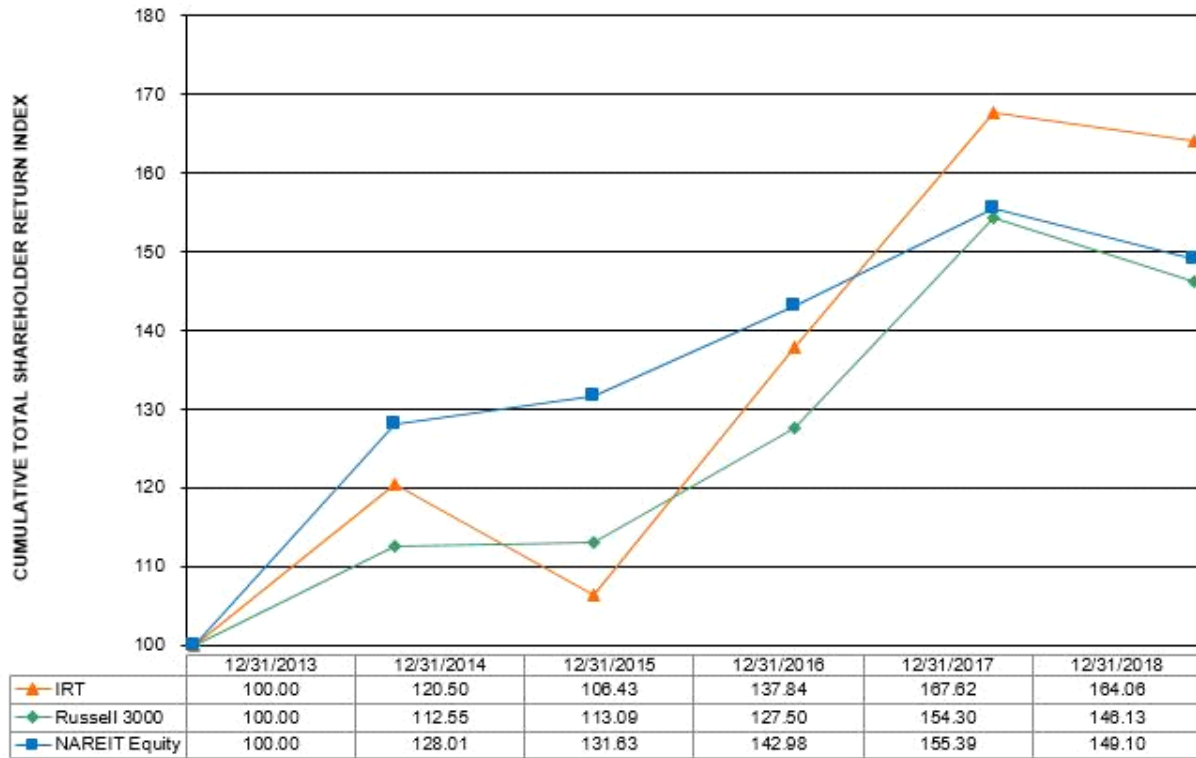
Our common stock is listed and traded on the NYSE under the symbol "IRT". At the close of business on February 20, 2019, the closing price for our common stock was \$10.70 per share and there were 56 holders of record, one of which is the holder for all beneficial owners who hold in street name.

Dividends

Our quarterly dividend rate is currently \$0.18 per common share. Our Board of Directors reviews and declares the dividend rate quarterly. Actual dividends paid by us will be affected by a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the revenues received from our apartment communities, our operating expenses, the interest expense incurred on borrowings and unanticipated capital expenditures. We expect to make future quarterly distributions to stockholders; however, future distributions will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on our actual funds from operations, our financial condition, capital requirements, the annual distribution requirements under the REIT provisions of the Code (see "Business - Qualification as a Real Estate Investment Trust" above) and such other factors as our Board of Directors deems relevant.

PERFORMANCE GRAPH

On August 13, 2013, our common stock commenced trading on the NYSE MKT. On July 31, 2017 we transferred the listing of our common stock to the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) from the NYSE MKT. The following graph compares the index of the cumulative total shareholder return on our common shares for the measurement period beginning December 31, 2013 and ending December 31, 2018 with the cumulative total returns of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT) Equity REIT index and the Russell 3000 Index. The following graph assumes that each index was 100 on the initial day of the relevant measurement period and that all dividends were reinvested.



Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities

As of January 1, 2018, an aggregate of 3,011,351 common units in IROP were outstanding and held by unaffiliated entities or persons who received the units in exchange for property contributions. We did not issue any units in IROP in calendar year 2018. As previously disclosed, the units in IROP are subject to exchange agreements that permit the holders of the units to tender the units to us for cash in an amount equal to the market price (based on a trailing average computation) of an equivalent number of shares of our common stock at the time we receive notice of the exchange. We have the option, in lieu of paying cash, to settle the exchange for a number of shares of our common stock equal to the number of units tendered for exchange. On January 5, 2018, we issued 186,717 shares of common stock, on March 1, 2018, we issued 1,925,419 shares of common stock, and on July 16, 2018, we issued 18,108 shares of common stock, in each case in exchange for an equal number of units. Our issuances of the shares of common stock were exempt from registration pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. As a result of these exchanges, as well as unit exchanges that we settled for cash, at December 31, 2018 and at February 20, 2019, there remained outstanding 881,107 units and 881,107 units, respectively, outstanding and held by unaffiliated third parties.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

None.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2018.

Plan Category	(a) Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants, and Rights	(b) Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants, and Rights	(c) Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column(a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	195,000	(1)\$ 9.35	3,255,012 (2)
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	-	n/a	-
Total	195,000	(1)	3,255,012 (2)

- (1) Includes 195,000 shares of our common stock underlying stock appreciation rights or “SARs” outstanding under the incentive award plan at December 31, 2018. This is the gross number of shares of our common stock with respect to which the SARs are exercisable, not the net number of such shares which would actually be issued upon any exercise. Excludes 303,819 restricted common stock awards that remained subject to forfeiture at December 31, 2018 because they are neither to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights nor available for future issuance.
- (2) Assumes the reduction of the number of shares of our common stock remaining issuable under the long-term incentive plan at December 31, 2018 by the number of shares of our common stock reported in column (a).

ITEM 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table summarizes selected financial data about our company (dollars in thousands, except share and per share data). The following selected financial data information should be read in conjunction with Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” and our consolidated financial statements, including the notes thereto, included elsewhere herein.

	As of and for the years ended December 31				
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Operating Data:					
Total revenue	\$ 191,232	\$ 161,216	\$ 153,388	\$ 109,576	\$ 49,171
Property operating expenses	(76,363)	(64,716)	(63,148)	(46,281)	(21,636)
Total expenses	(139,410)	(115,791)	(113,726)	(99,394)	(40,630)
Interest expense	(36,006)	(28,702)	(35,535)	(23,553)	(8,496)
Net income (loss)	26,610	31,441	(9,555)	30,156	2,944
Net income (loss) allocable to common shares	26,288	30,206	(9,801)	28,242	2,940
Earnings (loss) per share:					
Basic	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.19)	\$ 0.78	\$ 0.14
Diluted	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.19)	\$ 0.78	\$ 0.14
Balance Sheet Data:					
Investments in real estate, net	\$ 1,548,153	\$ 1,420,059	\$ 1,197,845	\$ 1,332,377	\$ 665,736
Total assets	1,659,336	1,450,624	1,294,237	1,383,188	694,150
Total indebtedness, net	985,488	778,442	743,817	966,611	418,901
Total liabilities	1,029,291	804,505	765,546	993,158	431,116
Total equity	630,045	646,119	528,691	390,030	263,034

	As of and for the years ended December 31				
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Other Data:					
Property portfolio occupancy	92.5%	94.0%	94.5%	93.0%	92.7%
Common shares outstanding	89,184,443	84,708,551	68,996,070	47,070,678	31,800,076
Limited partnership units outstanding (1)	881,107	3,011,351	2,908,949	3,154,931	1,282,449
Total common shares and limited partnership units outstanding	90,065,550	87,719,902	71,905,019	50,225,609	33,082,525
Cash distributions declared per common share/unit	\$ 0.7200	\$ 0.7200	\$ 0.7200	\$ 0.7200	\$ 0.7200

(1) Held by persons other than IRT and its subsidiaries.

ITEM 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (“MD&A”) is intended to help provide an understanding of our business, financial condition and results of operations. This MD&A should be read in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this report. This report, including the following MD&A, contains forward-looking statements regarding future events or trends that are intended to be made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. We assume no obligation to update or supplement forward-looking statements because of subsequent events. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements. Factors which may cause our actual results or performance to differ materially from those contemplated by forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the risk the following:

- Unfavorable changes in economic conditions, either nationally or regionally in one or more of the markets in which we operate, could adversely impact us;

- Competition could limit our ability to lease apartments or increase or maintain rental income;
- Short-term leases expose us to the effects of declining market rents;
- Redevelopment risks could impact our profitability;
- Labor and materials required for maintenance, repair, renovation or capital expenditure may be more expensive than anticipated;
- Competition could adversely affect our ability to acquire properties;
- Our acquisition strategy may not produce the cash flows expected;
- Failure to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences;
- Litigation risks could affect our business;
- Damage from catastrophic weather and other natural events could result in losses;
- A cybersecurity incident and other technology disruptions could negatively impact our business;
- Volatility in capital markets may result in fluctuations in our share price;
- Debt financing and other required capital may not be available to us or may only be available on adverse terms;
- Rising interest rates could both increase our borrowing costs, thereby adversely affecting our cash flows and the amounts available for distribution to our shareholders, and decrease our share price, if investors seek higher yields through other investments;
- Failure to hedge effectively against interest rates may adversely affect results of operations; and
- Additional factors as discussed in Item 1A. “Risk Factors”. Forward-looking statements and related uncertainties are also included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this report.

Overview

See Item 1. *Business* for an overview of our company.

Business Objective and Investment Strategies

See Item 1. *Business* for discussion regarding our business objective and investment strategies.

Recent Trends

An important part of our investment strategy is to strengthen our balance sheet and drive long-term growth and unlock value through portfolio enhancements. Our value add program, which is comprised of renovations and upgrades at selected communities to drive increased rental rates, is a core component of this strategy. As discussed earlier, we have identified 4,314 units across 14 of our communities for renovations and upgrades as part of value add programs, and estimate the total investment to complete these renovations and upgrades will be approximately \$50.0 million. As of December 31, 2018, we had completed renovations and upgrades at 1,232 of the 4,314 units. We expect to complete the remaining value add projects at the selected communities during 2019 and through the first half of 2020. While demand in 2018 for our same store portfolio remained relatively strong, we experienced occupancy declines during 2018 at some of our communities subject to the value add program, primarily due to construction activities. As we continue to execute on our value add program, we remain focused on realizing increases in rents as a result of the renovations and upgrades while normalizing occupancy levels at the subject properties.

In 2018, we acquired eight communities, totaling 2,379 units. These acquisitions represent the execution of our strategy to gain scale within desired submarkets. In 2019, subject to market conditions, we intend to continue to seek opportunities to gain scale within our existing markets through acquisitions of communities which fit within our investment strategy. We face competition for attractive investment opportunities from other real estate investors and, as a result, we may be unable to acquire additional properties on desirable terms, or at all.

A disciplined management of property level operating expenses, which impacts the net operating income (“NOI”), of our portfolio, is an important part of our operating strategy. Our same store property level operating expenses increased by 1.1% for the year ended December 31, 2018 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2017. Despite such increase, our same store property level NOI increased by 2.6% for the year ended December 31, 2018 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2017. We currently anticipate an increase in our total same store property level operating expenses for the year ending December 31, 2019, primarily as the result of increases in real estate taxes. To the extent that real estate taxes rise due to general economic conditions within a submarket, we would

expect our geographic competitors to be similarly impacted and would accordingly expect rental rate increases to go into effect across the broader submarket, which we expect would offset or reduce the effects of the increase in real estate taxes. To the extent real estate taxes rise as a result of improvements to our properties from our value add initiative, we believe the increased occupancy and higher rental rates which we expect to achieve from the improvements would off-set or reduce the increased tax expense. Given the short-term nature of our leases, to the extent real estate taxes rise we would expect to seek to offset the increased expense through increases in rental rates.

See Item 1. *Business* for an additional discussion regarding developments in our business during 2018.

Results of Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2018 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	SAME STORE PROPERTIES				NON SAME STORE PROPERTIES				CONSOLIDATED			
	2018	2017	Increase (Decrease)	% Change	2018	2017	Increase (Decrease)	% Change	2018	2017	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Period-end Property Data:												
Number of properties	37	37			21	15	6	40.0%	58	52	6	11.5%
Number of units	10,329	10,329			5,551	3,688	1,863	50.5%	15,880	14,017	1,863	13.3%
Revenue:												
Rental income	\$ 115,592	\$ 113,705	\$ 1,887	1.7%	\$ 54,921	\$ 29,768	\$ 25,153	84.5%	\$ 170,513	\$ 143,473	\$ 27,040	18.8%
Reimbursement and other income	14,175	13,554	621	4.6%	6,024	3,470	2,554	73.6%	20,199	17,024	3,175	18.7%
Total revenue	129,767	127,259	2,508	2.0%	60,945	33,238	27,707	83.4%	190,712	160,497	30,215	18.8%
Expenses:												
Real estate operating expenses	51,736	51,198	538	1.1%	24,627	13,518	11,109	82.2%	76,363	64,716	11,647	18.0%
Net Operating Income	\$ 78,031	\$ 76,061	\$ 1,970	2.6%	\$ 36,318	\$ 19,720	\$ 16,598	84.2%	\$ 114,349	\$ 95,781	\$ 18,568	19.4%
Other Income:												
Property management									520	719	(199)	-27.7%
Total other income									520	719	(199)	-27.7%
Corporate and other expenses:												
Property management expenses									6,963	6,006	957	15.9%
General and administrative expenses									10,817	9,526	1,291	13.6%
Acquisition and integration expenses									-	1,342	(1,342)	-
Depreciation and amortization expense									45,221	34,201	11,020	32.2%
Casualty related costs									46	-	46	-
Total corporate and other expenses									63,047	51,075	11,972	23.4%
Operating Income (loss)									51,822	45,425	6,397	14.1%
Interest expense									(36,006)	(28,702)	(7,304)	25.4%
Interest income									144	89	55	61.8%
Net gains (losses) on sale of assets									10,650	18,825	(8,175)	-43.4%
Gains (losses) on extinguishment of debt									-	(572)	572	-100.0%
Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses									-	(3,624)	3,624	-
Net income (loss)									26,610	31,441	(4,831)	-15.4%
(Income) loss allocated to noncontrolling interests									(322)	(1,235)	913	-73.9%
Net income (loss) available to common shares									\$ 26,288	\$ 30,206	\$ (3,918)	-13.0%

Revenue

Rental Income. Rental revenue increased \$27.0 million to \$170.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$143.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$1.9 million increase in same store rental income driven by a 3.3% increase in average effective monthly rents compared to the prior year period and a \$25.1 million increase in our non same store portfolio. The non same store rental income increase was due to the number of properties included in each period being different as a result of the timing of property sales and acquisitions.

Tenant reimbursement and other income. Tenant reimbursement and other income increased \$3.2 million to \$20.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$17.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase was due to a \$0.6 million increase in same store reimbursement and other income attributable to higher move-in and related fees and a \$2.6 million increase in non same store reimbursement and other income. The non same store reimbursement income increase was due to the number of properties included in each period being different as a result of the timing of property sales and acquisitions.

Property management income. Property management income was \$0.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 compared to \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. This was due to a decrease in the size of our third-party managed property portfolio. As of December 31, 2018, we have exited the third-party management space and no longer have any properties that we manage for others.

Expenses

Property operating expenses. Property operating expenses increased \$11.7 million to \$76.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$64.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase was primarily due to a \$0.6 million increase in same store real estate operating expenses and a \$11.1 million increase in non same store real estate operating expenses. The non same store real estate operating expense increase was due to the number of properties included in each period being different as a result of the timing of property sales and acquisitions.

Property management expenses. Property management expenses increased \$1.0 million to \$7.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$6.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. This was primarily due to an increase in software costs, travel costs, and legal fees for our property management company as the size of our property portfolio has grown.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased \$1.3 million to \$10.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$9.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$0.6 million increase in stock based compensation and a \$0.4 million increase in professional fees.

Acquisition and integration expenses. Acquisition and integration expenses were \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. All acquisition costs were capitalized during the year ended December 31, 2018 because all acquisitions after January 1, 2018 were accounted for as asset acquisitions rather than business combinations. The expenses incurred in the year ended December 31, 2017 were primarily related to the acquisition of a nine-community portfolio (the HPI Portfolio).

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$11.0 million to \$45.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$34.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$7.9 million increase in depreciation expense due to property acquisitions during 2017 and 2018 and a \$1.9 million increase in in-place lease intangible amortization, and a \$1.2 million increase in the depreciation and amortization for our same store portfolio.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased \$7.3 million to \$36.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 from \$28.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. This was primarily due to a \$201.7 million increase in the balance of our unsecured credit facility from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2018, which related to our investments in additional property acquisitions and value add related capital expenditures.

Net gains (losses) on sale of assets. During the year ended December 31, 2018, two multi-family properties were sold resulting in gains of \$10.7 million. During the year ended December 31, 2017, four multi-family properties were sold resulting in gains of \$18.8 million.

Gains (losses) on extinguishment of debt. We did not recognize a gain or loss on the extinguishment of debt during the year ended December 31, 2018. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we recognized a \$0.6 million loss on the extinguishment of debt related to the partial extinguishment of our prior secured credit facility.

Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses. We did not incur any acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses for the year ended December 31, 2018. Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses were \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 due to defeasance related costs incurred in connection with the HPI Portfolio acquisitions.

Year Ended December 31, 2017 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	SAME STORE PROPERTIES				NON SAME STORE PROPERTIES				CONSOLIDATED			
	2017	2016	Increase (Decrease)	% Change	2017	2016	Increase (Decrease)	% Change	2017	2016	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Property Data:												
Number of properties	42	42			10	4	6	150.0%	52	46	6	13.0%
Number of units	11,677	11,677			2,340	1,305	1,035	79.3%	14,017	12,982	1,035	8.0%
Revenue:												
Rental income	\$ 129,015	\$ 124,769	\$ 4,246	3.4%	\$ 14,458	\$ 12,647	\$ 1,811	14.3%	\$ 143,473	\$ 137,416	\$ 6,057	4.4%
Reimbursement and other income	15,227	14,116	1,111	7.9%	1,797	1,827	(30)	-1.6%	17,024	15,943	1,081	6.8%
Total revenue	144,242	138,885	5,357	3.9%	16,255	14,474	1,781	12.3%	160,497	153,359	7,138	4.7%
Expenses:												
Real estate operating expenses	57,515	56,120	1,395	2.5%	7,201	7,028	173	2.5%	64,716	63,148	1,568	2.5%
Net Operating Income (a)	\$ 86,727	\$ 82,765	\$ 3,962	4.8%	\$ 9,054	\$ 7,446	\$ 1,608	21.6%	\$ 95,781	\$ 90,211	\$ 5,570	6.2%
Other Income:												
Property management									719	29	690	-
Total other income									719	29	690	-
Corporate and other expenses:												
Property management expenses									6,006	4,847	1,159	23.9%
General and administrative expenses									9,526	10,864	(1,338)	-12.3%
Acquisition and integration expenses									1,342	43	1,299	-
Depreciation and amortization expense									34,201	34,824	(623)	-1.8%
Total corporate and other expenses									51,075	50,578	497	1.0%
Operating Income (loss)									45,425	39,662	5,763	14.5%
Interest expense									(28,702)	(35,535)	6,833	-19.2%
Interest income									89	(4)	93	-
Net gains (losses) on sale of assets									18,825	31,776	(12,951)	-40.8%
Gains (losses) on extinguishment of debt									(572)	(1,210)	638	-52.7%
TSRE financing extinguishment and employees and separation expenses									(3,624)	-	(3,624)	-
Management internalization expense									-	(44,976)	44,976	-100.0%
Gains (losses) on TSRE merger and property acquisitions									-	732	(732)	-100.0%
Net income (loss)									31,441	(9,555)	40,996	-429.1%
(Income) loss allocated to noncontrolling interests									(1,235)	(246)	(989)	402.0%
Net income (loss) available to common shares									\$ 30,206	\$ (9,801)	\$ 40,007	-408.2%

Revenue

Rental Income. Rental revenue increased \$6.1 million to \$143.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$137.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$4.2 million increase due to improved occupancy and rental rates at our same store properties and a \$1.8 million increase in our non-same store portfolio.

Tenant reimbursement and other income. Tenant reimbursement and other income increased \$1.1 million to \$17.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$15.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The increase was due to a \$1.1 million increase in same store reimbursement and other income attributable to our continued focus on driving non-rental revenue and fee income.

Property management income. Property management income was \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 compared to \$0.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. This was due to third party property management income that we received for managing properties on behalf of third parties during the current period. This service did not exist prior to our management internalization in December 2016.

Expenses

Property operating expenses. Property operating expenses increased \$1.6 million to \$64.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$63.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$1.4 million increase in real estate operating expense in our same store portfolio.

Property management expenses. Property management expenses increased \$1.2 million to \$6.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$4.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. This increase coincides with the abovementioned increase in property management income driven by our management internalization. After our management internalization, property management expenses include costs incurred to directly support on-site management. Prior to this, property management expenses included property and construction management fees paid to our former property manager.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses decreased \$1.4 million to \$9.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$10.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. After our management internalization, general and administrative expenses included office and compensation expenses, including stock-based compensation, for our asset management and corporate employees. Prior to this, general and administrative expenses were mostly comprised of fees paid to our former advisor.

Acquisition and integration expenses. Acquisition and integration expenses were \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. These expenses primarily related to the acquisition of the HPI Portfolio.

Depreciation and amortization expense. Depreciation and amortization expense decreased \$0.6 million to \$34.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$34.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The decrease was primarily attributable to a \$3.7 million decrease of amortization expense related to intangible assets in our same store portfolio. This decrease was offset by a \$3.2 million increase in depreciation and amortization expense related to our 10 acquisitions in 2017.

Interest expense. Interest expense decreased \$6.8 million to \$28.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 from \$35.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2016. The decrease was primarily due to debt reductions in 2016 when our term loan was fully repaid and our credit facility balance decreased by \$121.5 million.

Net gains (losses) on sale of assets. During the year ended December 31, 2017, four multi-family properties were sold resulting in gains of \$18.8 million.

Gains (losses) on extinguishment of debt. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we recognized a \$0.6 million loss on the extinguishment of debt related to the partial extinguishment of our prior secured credit facility. During the year ended December 31, 2016, we recognized a \$1.2 million loss on the extinguishment of the debt related to the write-off of the unamortized deferred financing costs associated with debt that was extinguished.

Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses. Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses were \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2017 due to defeasance related costs incurred in connection with the HPI Portfolio acquisitions.

Management internalization expense. During the year ended December 31, 2016, we recognized a \$45.0 million loss due to our management internalization.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Funds from Operations and Core Funds from Operations

We believe that FFO and Core FFO (“CFFO”), each of which is a non-GAAP financial measure, are additional appropriate measures of the operating performance of a REIT and us in particular. We compute FFO in accordance with the standards established by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (“NAREIT”), as net income or loss allocated to common shares (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding real estate-related depreciation and amortization expense, gains or losses on sales of real estate and the cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles. While our calculation of FFO is in accordance with NAREIT’s definition, it may differ from the methodology for calculating FFO utilized by other REITs and, accordingly, may not be comparable to FFO computations of such other REITS.

We compute CFFO by adjusting FFO to remove the effect of items that do not reflect ongoing property operations, including stock compensation expense, depreciation and amortization of other items not added back in the computation of FFO, amortization of deferred financing costs, acquisition and integration expenses, and other non-cash or non-operating gains or losses related to items such as debt extinguishment costs we incur when we sell a property subject to secured debt, asset sales, debt extinguishments, and acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses. NAREIT does not provide guidelines for computing CFFO.

Our calculation of CFFO may differ from the methodology used for calculating CFFO by certain other REITs and, accordingly, our CFFO may not be comparable to CFFO reported by other REITs. Our management utilizes FFO and CFFO as measures of our operating performance, and believe they are also useful to investors, because they facilitate an understanding of our operating performance after adjustment for certain non-cash or non-recurring items that are required by GAAP to be expensed but may not necessarily be indicative of current operating performance and our operating performance between periods. Furthermore, although FFO, CFFO and other supplemental performance measures are defined in various ways throughout the REIT industry, we believe that FFO and CFFO may provide us and our investors with an additional useful measure to compare our financial performance to certain other REITs. Neither FFO nor CFFO is equivalent to net income or cash generated from operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP. Furthermore, FFO and CFFO do not represent amounts available for management’s discretionary use because of needed capital replacement or expansion, debt service

obligations or other commitments or uncertainties. Accordingly, FFO and CFFO do not measure whether cash flow is sufficient to fund all of our cash needs, including principal amortization and capital improvements. Neither FFO nor CFFO should be considered as an alternative to net income or any other GAAP measurement as an indicator of our operating performance or as an alternative to cash flow from operating, investing, and financing activities as a measure of our liquidity.

Set forth below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) to FFO and Core FFO for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 (in thousands, except share and per share information):

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2018		For the Year Ended December 31, 2017		For the Year Ended December 31, 2016	
	Amount	Per Share (1)	Amount	Per Share (1)	Amount	Per Share (1)
	Funds From Operations:					
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 0.30	\$ 31,441	\$ 0.41	\$ (9,555)	\$ (0.17)
Adjustments:						
Real estate depreciation and amortization	45,067	0.51	34,097	0.45	34,824	0.63
Net (gains) losses on sale of assets	(11,561)	(0.13)	(23,076)	(0.30)	(31,776)	(0.58)
Funds From Operations	\$ 60,116	\$ 0.68	\$ 42,462	\$ 0.56	\$ (6,507)	\$ (0.12)
Core Funds From Operations:						
Funds From Operations	\$ 60,116	\$ 0.68	\$ 42,462	\$ 0.56	\$ (6,507)	\$ (0.12)
Adjustments:						
Stock-based compensation	2,524	0.03	1,967	0.02	1,222	0.02
Amortization of deferred financing costs	1,430	0.02	1,469	0.02	3,064	0.06
Acquisition and integration expenses	-	-	1,342	0.02	43	-
Other depreciation and amortization	154	-	104	-	-	-
Other expense (income)	(52)	-	(94)	-	-	-
(Gains) losses on extinguishment of debt	-	-	572	0.01	1,210	0.02
Debt extinguishment costs included in net gains (losses) on sale of assets	911	0.01	4,251	0.06	-	-
Management internalization expense	-	-	-	-	44,976	0.82
Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses	-	-	3,624	0.04	-	-
(Gains) losses on TSRE merger and property acquisitions	-	-	-	-	(732)	(0.01)
Core Funds From Operations	\$ 65,083	\$ 0.74	\$ 55,697	\$ 0.73	\$ 43,276	\$ 0.79

(1) Based on 88,289,110, 76,291,465 and 55,092,382 weighted average shares and units outstanding for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016, respectively.

Same Store Portfolio Net Operating Income

We believe that Net Operating Income (“NOI”), a non-GAAP measure, is a useful measure of our operating performance. We define NOI as total property revenues less total property operating expenses, excluding depreciation and amortization, asset management fees, acquisition and integration expenses, casualty related costs, and general administrative expenses. In connection with our management internalization which was completed in the fourth quarter of 2016, we modified our calculation of NOI to exclude property management expenses. We retrospectively adjusted previously reported NOI to conform to this change in the table below.

Other REITs may use different methodologies for calculating NOI, and accordingly, our NOI may not be comparable to other REITs. We believe that this measure provides an operating perspective not immediately apparent from GAAP operating income or net income. We use NOI to evaluate our performance on a same store and non-same store basis because NOI measures the core operations of property performance by excluding corporate level expenses and other items not related to property operating performance and captures trends in rental housing and property operating expenses. However, NOI should only be used as an alternative measure of our financial performance.

We review our same store properties or portfolio at the beginning of each calendar year. Properties are added into the same store portfolio if they were owned at the beginning of the previous year. Properties that have been sold or classified as held for sale are excluded from the same store portfolio. The current same store portfolio is comprised of properties owned as of January 1, 2017. As such, the table below does not include results for the year ended December 31, 2016 (in thousands).

	Twelve-Months Ended December 31 (a)		
	2018	2017	% change
Revenue:			
Rental income	\$ 115,592	\$ 113,705	1.7%
Reimbursement and other income	14,175	13,554	4.6%
Total revenue	129,767	127,259	2.0%
Operating Expenses:			
Real estate taxes	16,096	15,456	4.1%
Property insurance	2,621	2,752	-4.8%
Personnel expenses	12,546	12,282	2.1%
Utilities	8,195	8,015	2.2%
Repairs and maintenance	4,326	4,606	-6.1%
Contract services	4,024	3,890	3.4%
Advertising expenses	1,417	1,458	-2.8%
Other expenses	2,511	2,739	-8.3%
Total operating expenses	51,736	51,198	1.1%
Net operating income	\$ 78,031	\$ 76,061	2.6%
NOI Margin	60.1%	59.8%	0.3%
Average Occupancy	94.1%	94.7%	-0.6%
Average effective monthly rent, per unit	\$ 1,033	\$ 1,009	2.4%
Reconciliation of Same-Store Net Operating Income to Net Income (loss)			
Same-store portfolio net operating income (a)	\$ 78,031	\$ 76,061	
Non same-store net operating income	36,318	19,720	
Property management income	520	719	
Property management expenses	(6,963)	(6,006)	
General and administrative expenses	(10,817)	(9,526)	
Acquisition and integration expenses	—	(1,342)	
Depreciation and amortization	(45,221)	(34,201)	
Casualty related costs	(46)	—	
Interest expense	(36,006)	(28,702)	
Other income (expense)	144	89	
Net gains (losses) on sale of assets	10,650	18,825	
Gains (losses) on extinguishment of debt	—	(572)	
Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses	—	(3,624)	
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 31,441	

(a) Same store portfolio for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 includes 37 properties, which represent 10,329 units.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Overview

Liquidity is a measure of our ability to meet potential cash requirements, including ongoing commitments to repay borrowings, fund and maintain investments, pay distributions and other general business needs. We believe our available cash balances, financing arrangements and cash flows from operations will be sufficient to fund our liquidity requirements with respect to our existing portfolio for the next 12 months and the foreseeable future.

Our primary cash requirements are to:

- make investments and fund the associated costs, including expenditures, to continue our value add initiatives to improve the quality and performance of our properties;
- repay our indebtedness;

- fund recurring maintenance necessary to maintain our properties;
- pay our operating expenses; and
- distribute a minimum of 90% of our REIT taxable income (determined without regard to the deduction for dividends paid and excluding net capital gain) and to make investments in a manner that enables us to maintain our qualification as a REIT.

We intend to meet our liquidity requirements primarily through a combination of one or more of the following:

- the use of our cash and cash equivalent of \$9.3 million as of December 31, 2018;
- existing and future unsecured financing and financing secured directly or indirectly by the apartment properties in our portfolio including advances under our unsecured credit facility;
- cash generated from operating activities;
- net cash proceeds from property sales, including sales undertaken as part of our capital recycling strategy and other sales; and
- proceeds from the sales of our common stock and other equity securities, including common stock that may be sold under our at-the-market program.

We continue to seek to reduce our leverage ratio over time through the execution of various strategies. These strategies include using the proceeds from sales of properties which are outside our core geographic footprint in the Southeastern United States or which we believe have limited potential for further improvements to their operating results to repay a portion of our indebtedness and selectively raising capital through the sale of common stock under our at-the-market program and re-investing the proceeds into our value add program in order to increase our portfolio's gross asset value. We have successfully continued to implement these strategies, which began in 2015, to reduce our leverage and reduce our exposure to short term indebtedness.

- During 2018, we announced the continuation of our capital recycling initiative aimed to dispose of assets in markets that lack scale, in order to invest in attractive non-gateway markets where scale has been, or can be, achieved. As part of this capital recycling initiative, we sold two targeted properties for \$77.3 million, in the aggregate, generating net cash proceeds of \$26.8 million, in the aggregate, after costs and repayment of property specific financing.
- During 2018, we focused on maintaining and enhancing our financial flexibility through an increase in unsecured borrowings and actively managing debt maturities. On October 30, 2018, we entered into a five-year, \$200.0 million unsecured term loan agreement with KeyBank. The loan matures on January 2024 and bears interest at a spread over LIBOR, based on our overall leverage. At closing, the spread to LIBOR was 145 basis points. At closing, we drew \$150.0 million with the remaining \$50.0 million available for twelve months following closing. We applied proceeds of the draw to reduce outstanding borrowings under our credit facility. In connection with the new term loan, we purchased an interest rate collar with an initial notional value of \$100.0 million, a 2.5% cap, a 2.25% floor, and a maturity date of January 17, 2024.
- During 2018, we issued 2,196,164 shares of common stock under our at-the-market offering program at an average price per share of \$10.32, generating proceeds to us (net of approximately \$0.5 million in commissions) of approximately \$22.2 million. At December 31, 2018, approximately \$115.2 million remained available for share issuances under our at-the-market offering program.

Cash Flows

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, we maintained cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash of approximately \$16.0 million and \$14.6 million, respectively. Our cash and cash equivalents were generated from the following activities (dollars in thousands):

	For the Years Ended December 31		
	2018	2017	2016
Cash flow from operating activities	\$ 68,530	\$ 54,324	\$ (7,533)
Cash flow from investing activities	(229,457)	(191,709)	27,884
Cash flow from financing activities	162,353	125,594	(37,655)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash	1,426	(11,791)	(17,304)
Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash, beginning of period	14,619	26,410	43,714
Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash, end of the period	<u>\$ 16,045</u>	<u>\$ 14,619</u>	<u>\$ 26,410</u>

Our cash inflow from operating activities during the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 were primarily driven by ongoing operations of our properties. Our cash outflow from operating activities during the year ended December 31, 2016 was related to the cost of our management internalization partially offset by ongoing operations of our properties.

Our cash outflow from investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2018 was primarily driven by \$215.8 million of outflows related to eight property acquisitions. Our cash outflow from investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2017 was primarily driven by \$221.8 million of outflows related to ten property acquisitions. This was partially offset by \$44.5 million of inflows related to four property sales. Our cash inflow from investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2016 was primarily due to the disposition of three properties.

Our cash inflow from financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2018 was primarily driven by proceeds from our unsecured credit facility and term loans of \$400.0 million. This was partially offset by \$198.3 million of repayments of our unsecured credit facility and \$52.5 million of distributions of our common stock. Our cash inflow from financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2017 was primarily driven by \$137.4 million of inflows related to the issuance of common stock. Our cash outflow from financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2016 was primarily due to repayments of mortgage indebtedness and the interim facility with proceeds from the three property dispositions.

As a REIT, we evaluate our dividend coverage based on our cash flow from operating activities, excluding changes in other assets and liabilities. During the year ended December 31, 2018, we paid distributions to our common stockholders and non-controlling interests of \$53.1 million and generated cash flows from operating activities, before changes in working capital of \$65.1 million.

Capitalization

Refer to Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data, Note 4: Indebtedness and Note 6: Stockholder Equity and Non-Controlling Interest, for information regarding our capitalization.

Contractual Commitments

The table below summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2018 (dollars in thousands):

	Payment due by Period				
	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More Than 5 Years
Principal payments on outstanding debt obligations	\$ 991,415	\$ 4,950	\$ 189,911	\$ 227,903	\$ 568,651
Interest payments on outstanding debt obligations (1)	177,636	38,719	72,254	48,602	18,061
Operating lease obligations	4,227	248	864	757	2,358
Total	<u>\$ 1,173,277</u>	<u>\$ 43,917</u>	<u>\$ 263,028</u>	<u>\$ 277,262</u>	<u>\$ 589,070</u>

- (1) Our unsecured credit facility assumes a 30-day LIBOR rate of 2.46% as of December 14, 2018. Our \$100 million term loan assumes a 30-day LIBOR rate of 2.47% as of December 18, 2018. Our \$200 million term loan assumes a 30-day LIBOR rate of 2.46% as of December 14, 2018.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

There were no off-balance sheet arrangements during the year ended December 31, 2018 that have or are likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures, or capital resource that is material to our interests.

Terms of Leases and Tenant Characteristics

The leases for our portfolio typically follow standard forms customarily used between landlords and tenants in the geographic area in which the relevant property is located. Under such leases, the tenant typically agrees to pay an initial deposit (generally one month's rent) and/or associated application and move in-fees, and then pays rent on a monthly basis during the term of the lease. As landlord, we are directly responsible for all real estate taxes, sales and use taxes, special assessments, property-level utilities, insurance and building repairs, and other building operation and management costs. Individual tenants are generally responsible for the utility costs of their unit. Our lease terms are generally for one year or less and average twelve months.

Our apartment tenant composition varies across the regions in which we operate, includes single and family renters and is generally reflective of the principal employers in the relevant region. Our apartment properties predominantly consist of one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, although some of our apartment properties also have three-bedroom units.

Insurance

Our multifamily properties are covered by all risk property insurance covering 110% of the replacement cost for each building and business interruption and rental loss insurance (covering up to twelve months of loss). On a case-by-case basis, based on an assessment of the likelihood of the risk, availability and cost of insurance, and in accordance with standard market practice, we obtain earthquake, windstorm, flood, terrorism and boiler and machinery insurance. We carry comprehensive liability insurance and umbrella policies for each of our properties at levels which we believe are prudent in light of our business activities and are in accordance with standard market practice. We seek certain extensions of coverage, valuation clauses, and deductibles in accordance with standard market practice and availability. Although we may carry insurance for potential losses associated with our multifamily properties, we may still incur losses due to uninsured risks, deductibles, co-payments or losses in excess of applicable insurance coverage and those losses may be material.

Inflation

Our resident leases at our apartment communities allow, at the time of renewal, for adjustments in the rent payable thereunder, and thus may enable us to seek rent increases. Almost all leases are for one year or less. The short-term nature of these leases generally serves to reduce our risk to adverse effects of inflation.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Policies

We consider the accounting policies discussed below to be critical to an understanding of how we report our financial condition and results of operations because their application places the most significant demands on the judgment of our management.

Our financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Revenue Recognition

We apply FASB ASC Topic 840, "Leases" with respect to our accounting for rental income. We primarily lease apartments units under operating leases generally with terms of one year or less. Rental payments are generally due monthly and rental revenues are recognized on an accrual basis when earned. We apply FASB ASC Topic 606, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" with respect to tenant reimbursement and other property income. Tenant reimbursement income represents reimbursement from tenants for utility charges, while other property income includes cable, parking, trash, late fees, application fees, and other miscellaneous property related income. The performance obligations of providing residents with these services are stipulated within the lease agreement and may be provided over time or at a point in time. The services provided over time include cable, parking, and trash services, which are generally provided over a monthly period for the term of the respective lease. The services provided at a point in time include late

fees and application fees. Given the short period of time over which this revenue is then recognized and since payments with respect to tenant reimbursement and other property income are generally due monthly, no contract assets or liabilities have been recognized.

Investments in Real Estate

Allocation of Purchase Price of Acquired Assets

Effective January 1, 2018, FASB ASC Topic 805, "Business Combinations" was amended to clarify the definition of a business by more clearly outlining the requirements for an integrated set of assets and activities to be considered a business and by establishing a practical framework to determine when the integrated set of assets and activities is a business. Prior to January 1, 2018, the properties we acquired were generally considered businesses and were accounted for as business combinations. Subsequent to January 1, 2018, we expect the properties we acquire to generally not be considered businesses and, therefore, to be accounted for as asset acquisitions.

Under business combination accounting, the fair value of the real estate acquired is allocated to the acquired tangible assets, generally consisting of land, building and tenant improvements, and identified intangible assets and liabilities, consisting of the value of above-market and below-market leases for acquired in-place leases and the value of tenant relationships, based, in each case, on their fair values. Transaction costs and fees incurred related to the acquisition are expensed as incurred. Under asset acquisition accounting, the costs to acquire real estate, including transaction costs related to the acquisition, are accumulated and then allocated to the individual assets and liabilities acquired based upon their relative fair value. Under both business combination and asset acquisition accounting, transaction costs and fees incurred related to the financing of an acquisition are capitalized and amortized over the life of the related financing.

We estimate the fair value of acquired tangible assets (consisting of land, building and improvements), identified intangible assets (consisting of in-place leases), and assumed debt at the date of acquisition, based on the evaluation of information and estimates available at that date.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

Management evaluates the recoverability of its investment in real estate assets, including related identifiable intangible assets, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 360, "Property, Plant and Equipment." This statement requires that long-lived assets be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that recoverability of the assets is not assured.

Management reviews its long-lived assets on an ongoing basis and evaluates the recoverability of the carrying value when there is an indicator of impairment. An impairment charge is recorded when it is determined that the carrying value of the assets exceeds the fair value. The estimated cash flows used for the impairment analysis and the determination of estimated fair value are based on our plans for the respective assets and our views of market and economic conditions. The estimates consider matters such as current and historical rental rates, occupancies for the respective and/or comparable properties, and recent sales data for comparable properties. Changes in estimated future cash flows due to changes in our plans or views of market and economic conditions could result in recognition of impairment losses, which, under the applicable accounting guidance, could be substantial.

Share-Based Compensation

We account for stock-based compensation in accordance with FASB ASC Subtopic 505-50, "Equity - Equity Payments to Non-Employees" and FASB ASC Topic 718, "Compensation - Stock Compensation". We did not have any employees prior to December 20, 2016 and therefore accounted for share-based compensation as nonemployee awards. Stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and revalued at the end of each accounting period. The expense is recognized over the requisite service period, which is the vesting period. Any share-based compensation awards granted to employees are measured based on the grant-date fair value of the award and we record compensation expense for the entire award on a straight-line basis, over the related vesting period, for the entire award.

ITEM 7A. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*

Market risk is the adverse effect on the value of a financial instrument that results from a change in interest rates. We may be exposed to interest rate changes primarily as a result of long-term debt used to maintain liquidity, fund capital expenditures and expand our real estate investment portfolio and operations. Market fluctuations in real estate financing may affect the availability and cost of funds needed to expand our investment portfolio. In addition, restrictions upon the availability of real estate financing or high interest rates for real estate loans could adversely affect our ability to dispose of real estate in the future. We seek to limit the impact of interest rate changes on earnings and cash flows and to lower our overall borrowing costs. We are and may in the future use derivative financial instruments to hedge exposures to changes in interest rates on loans secured by our assets. The market risk associated with

interest-rate contracts is managed by establishing and monitoring parameters that limit the types and degree of market risk that may be undertaken. With regard to variable rate financing, we assess our interest rate cash flow risk by continually identifying and monitoring changes in interest rate exposures that may adversely impact expected future cash flows and by evaluating hedging opportunities. We maintain risk management control systems to monitor interest rate cash flow risk attributable to both our outstanding and forecasted debt obligations as well as our potential offsetting hedge positions. While this hedging strategy is designed to minimize the impact on our net income and funds from operations of changes in interest rates, the overall returns on any investment in our securities may be reduced. We currently have limited exposure to financial market risks.

We may also be exposed to credit risk in derivative contracts we may use. Credit risk is the failure of the counterparty to perform under the terms of the derivative contract. If the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, the counterparty will owe us, which creates credit risk for us. If the fair value of a derivative contract is negative, we will owe the counterparty and, therefore, do not have credit risk. We seek to minimize the credit risk in derivative instruments by entering into transactions with high-quality counterparties.

Interest Rate Risk and Sensitivity

Interest rates may be affected by economic, geo-political, monetary and fiscal policy, market supply and demand and other factors generally outside our control, and such factors may be highly volatile. A change in market interest rates applicable to the fixed-rate portion of our indebtedness affects the fair value, but it has no effect on interest incurred or cash flows. A change in market interest rates applicable to the variable portion of our indebtedness affects the interest incurred and cash flows, but does not affect the fair value.

As of December 31, 2018, our only interest rate sensitive assets or liabilities related to our principal amount of \$991.4 million of outstanding indebtedness, of which \$585.7 million was fixed rate and \$405.7 million was floating rate, a float-to-fixed interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$150.0 million, and two interest rate collars with a total notional amount of \$250.0 million. As of December 31, 2017, our only interest rate sensitive assets or liabilities related to our principal amount of \$784.6 million of outstanding indebtedness, of which \$580.6 million was fixed rate and \$204.0 million was floating rate, an individual interest rate cap with a notional amount of \$150.0 million and a float-to-fixed interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$100.0 million. We monitor interest rate risk routinely and seek to minimize the possibility that a change in interest rates would impact the interest incurred and our cash flows. To mitigate such risk, we may use interest rate derivative contracts. As of December 31, 2018, and 2017, the fair value of our fixed-rate indebtedness was \$577.1 million and \$564.3 million, respectively. The fair value of our fixed rate indebtedness was estimated using a discounted cash flow analysis utilizing rates that we believe a market participant would expect to pay for debt of a similar type and remaining maturity as if the debt was originated at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. As we expect to remain obligated on our fixed rate instruments to maturity and the amounts due under such instruments would be limited to the outstanding principal balance and any accrued and unpaid interest, we do not expect that fluctuations in interest rates, and the resulting change in fair value of our fixed rate instruments, would have a significant impact on our operations.

As of December 31, 2018, our interest rate swap and interest rate collars had a combined asset fair value of \$8.3 million. The fair values of our interest rate swap and interest rate collar were estimated using a discounted cash flow analysis based on forward interest rate curves. The impact of the interest rate swap and interest rate collar have been included in the table below.

The following table summarizes our indebtedness, and the impact to interest expense for a 12-month period, and the change in the net fair value of our indebtedness assuming an instantaneous increase or decrease of 100 basis points in the LIBOR interest rate curve (dollars in thousands):

	Liabilities Subject to Interest		
	Rate Sensitivity (a)	100 Basis Point Increase	100 Basis Point Decrease
Interest expense from variable-rate indebtedness	\$ 405,743	\$ 125	\$ (1,432)
Fair value of fixed-rate indebtedness	577,112	(25,749)	27,164

(a) Unpaid balance of variable-rate indebtedness as of December 31, 2018 is shown. Fair value of fixed-rate indebtedness as of December 31, 2018 is shown.

ITEM 8. *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data*

**INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.
(A Maryland Corporation)**

<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	50
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2018 and 2017</u>	52
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three Years Ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016</u>	53
<u>Statement of Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the Three Years Ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016</u>	54
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity for the Three Years Ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016</u>	55
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Three Years Ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016</u>	56
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	57
Supplemental Schedule	
<u>Schedule III: Real Estate and Accumulated Depreciation</u>	78

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the stockholders and board of directors
Independence Realty Trust, Inc.:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2018, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated February 22, 2019 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company’s auditor since 2014.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 22, 2019

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the stockholders and board of directors
Independence Realty Trust, Inc.:

Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and subsidiaries' (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the "consolidated financial statements"), and our report dated February 22, 2019 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 22, 2019

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

	As of December 31, 2018	As of December 31, 2017
ASSETS:		
Investments in real estate:		
Investments in real estate, at cost	\$ 1,660,423	\$ 1,504,156
Accumulated depreciation	(112,270)	(84,097)
Investments in real estate, net	1,548,153	1,420,059
Real estate held for sale (see Note 4)	77,285	-
Cash and cash equivalents	9,316	9,985
Restricted cash	6,729	4,634
Accounts receivable and other assets	8,802	7,556
Derivative assets	8,307	7,291
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$787 and \$1,511, respectively	744	1,099
Total Assets	\$ 1,659,336	\$ 1,450,624
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:		
Indebtedness, net of unamortized deferred financing costs of \$5,927 and \$6,198, respectively	\$ 985,488	\$ 778,442
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	22,815	17,216
Accrued interest payable	719	249
Dividends payable	16,162	5,245
Other liabilities	4,107	3,353
Total Liabilities	1,029,291	804,505
Equity:		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized, 0 and 0 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	-	-
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 300,000,000 shares authorized, 89,184,443 and 84,708,551 shares issued and outstanding, including 303,819 and 295,847 unvested restricted common share awards, respectively	892	846
Additional paid in capital	742,429	703,849
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	2,016	4,626
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(122,342)	(85,221)
Total stockholders' equity	622,995	624,100
Noncontrolling interests	7,050	22,019
Total Equity	630,045	646,119
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 1,659,336	\$ 1,450,624

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Operations
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share information)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
REVENUE:			
Rental income	\$ 170,513	\$ 143,473	\$ 137,416
Tenant reimbursement income	6,549	5,719	5,587
Other property income	13,650	11,305	10,356
Property management and other income	520	719	29
Total revenue	<u>191,232</u>	<u>161,216</u>	<u>153,388</u>
EXPENSES:			
Property operating expenses	76,363	64,716	63,148
Property management expenses	6,963	6,006	4,847
General and administrative expenses	10,817	9,526	10,864
Acquisition and integration expenses	-	1,342	43
Depreciation and amortization expense	45,221	34,201	34,824
Casualty related costs	46	-	-
Total expenses	<u>139,410</u>	<u>115,791</u>	<u>113,726</u>
Operating income	<u>51,822</u>	<u>45,425</u>	<u>39,662</u>
Interest expense	(36,006)	(28,702)	(35,535)
Other income (expense)	144	89	(4)
Net gains (losses) on sale of assets	10,650	18,825	31,776
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt	-	(572)	(1,210)
Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses	-	(3,624)	-
Management internalization expense	-	-	(44,976)
Gains (losses) on TSRE merger and property acquisitions	-	-	732
Net income (loss):	<u>26,610</u>	<u>31,441</u>	<u>(9,555)</u>
(Income) loss allocated to noncontrolling interest	(322)	(1,235)	(246)
Net income (loss) allocable to common shares	<u>\$ 26,288</u>	<u>\$ 30,206</u>	<u>\$ (9,801)</u>
Earnings (loss) per share:			
Basic	<u>\$ 0.30</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ (0.19)</u>
Diluted	<u>\$ 0.30</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ (0.19)</u>
Weighted-average shares:			
Basic	<u>87,086,585</u>	<u>73,338,219</u>	<u>52,182,427</u>
Diluted	<u>87,376,991</u>	<u>73,599,869</u>	<u>52,182,427</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
(Dollars in thousands)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 31,441	\$ (9,555)
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Change in fair value of interest rate hedges	(1,382)	845	3,354
Realized (gains) losses on interest rate hedges reclassified to earnings	(1,372)	107	492
Total other comprehensive income	(2,754)	952	3,846
Comprehensive income (loss) before allocation to noncontrolling interests	23,856	32,393	(5,709)
Allocation to noncontrolling interests	(178)	(1,244)	(401)
Comprehensive income (loss) allocable to common shares	\$ 23,678	\$ 31,149	\$ (6,110)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

	Par Value Preferred Shares	Par Value Preferred Shares	Common Shares	Par Value Common Shares	Additional Paid In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings (Accumulated Deficit)	Total Stockholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interests	Total Equity
Balance, January 1, 2016	-	-	47,070,678	\$ 471	\$ 378,187	\$ (8)	\$ (14,500)	\$ 364,150	\$ 25,880	\$ 390,030
Net income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(9,801)	(9,801)	246	(9,555)
Common dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	(37,880)	(37,880)	-	(37,880)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	3,691	-	3,691	155	3,846
Stock compensation expense	-	-	228,000	2	1,220	-	-	1,222	-	1,222
Common share activity related to equity compensation	-	-	(28,869)	-	(143)	-	-	(143)	-	(143)
Conversion of noncontrolling interest to common shares	-	-	245,980	2	2,288	-	-	2,290	(2,290)	-
Issuance of common shares, net	-	-	28,750,000	288	245,164	-	-	245,452	-	245,452
Repurchase of common shares	-	-	(7,269,719)	(73)	(62,083)	-	-	(62,156)	-	(62,156)
Distribution to noncontrolling interest declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,125)	(2,125)
Balance, December 31, 2016	-	-	68,996,070	\$ 690	\$ 564,633	\$ 3,683	\$ (62,181)	\$ 506,825	\$ 21,866	\$ 528,691
Net income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,206	30,206	1,235	31,441
Common dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	(53,246)	(53,246)	-	(53,246)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	943	-	943	9	952
Stock compensation expense	-	-	168,010	1	1,967	-	-	1,968	-	1,968
Repurchase of shares related to equity award tax withholding	-	-	(59,631)	(1)	(568)	-	-	(569)	-	(569)
Conversion of noncontrolling interest to common shares	-	-	64,202	1	619	-	-	620	(620)	-
Issuance of common shares, net	-	-	15,539,900	155	137,198	-	-	137,353	-	137,353
Issuance of noncontrolling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,654	1,654
Distribution to noncontrolling interest declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,125)	(2,125)
Balance, December 31, 2017	-	-	84,708,551	\$ 846	\$ 703,849	\$ 4,626	\$ (85,221)	\$ 624,100	\$ 22,019	\$ 646,119
Net income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,288	26,288	322	26,610
Common dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	(63,409)	(63,409)	-	(63,409)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	(2,610)	-	(2,610)	(144)	(2,754)
Stock compensation expense	-	-	188,196	2	2,558	-	-	2,560	-	2,560
Repurchase of shares related to equity award tax withholding	-	-	(38,712)	-	(354)	-	-	(354)	-	(354)
Conversion of noncontrolling interest to common shares	-	-	2,130,244	21	14,485	-	-	14,506	(14,506)	-

Issuance of common shares, net	-	-	2,196,164	23	21,891	-	-	21,914	-	21,914
Distribution to noncontrolling interest declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(641)	(641)
Balance, December 31, 2018	-	\$ -	89,184,443	\$ 892	\$ 742,429	\$ 2,016	\$ (122,342)	\$ 622,995	\$ 7,050	\$ 630,045

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Dollars in thousands)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 31,441	\$ (9,555)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash flow from operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	45,221	34,201	34,824
Amortization of deferred financing costs, net	1,430	1,464	2,757
Stock compensation expense	2,524	1,968	1,222
Net (gains) losses on sale of assets	(10,650)	(18,825)	(31,776)
Net (gains) losses on extinguishment of debt	-	572	1,210
Change in fair value of derivative instruments	(40)	-	-
Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses	-	3,624	-
(Gains) losses on TSRE merger and property acquisitions	-	-	(732)
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable and other assets	(514)	(1,267)	(477)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	3,284	1,578	(4,328)
Accrued interest payable	469	(242)	(715)
Other liabilities	196	(190)	37
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>68,530</u>	<u>54,324</u>	<u>(7,533)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Acquisition of real estate properties	(215,833)	(221,813)	(1,000)
Disposition of real estate properties	26,802	44,474	39,690
Acquisition of advisory and management contracts	-	-	(143)
Capital expenditures	(40,426)	(14,370)	(10,663)
Cash flow provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(229,457)</u>	<u>(191,709)</u>	<u>27,884</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	21,914	137,353	245,309
Payments related to repurchase of common stock	-	-	(62,156)
Proceeds from unsecured credit facility and term loan	400,000	199,690	103,501
Credit facility repayments	(198,262)	(145,685)	(345,001)
Proceeds from mortgage	-	-	105,980
Mortgage principal repayments	(3,191)	(2,654)	(45,088)
Payments for deferred financing costs	(890)	(2,089)	(1,485)
Distributions on common stock	(52,476)	(52,304)	(36,575)
Distributions to noncontrolling interests	(658)	(2,119)	(2,140)
Payment for interest rate collars	(3,730)	(2,405)	-
Payments related to extinguishment of debt on acquisitions	-	(3,624)	-
Repurchase of shares related to equity award tax withholding	(354)	(569)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>162,353</u>	<u>125,594</u>	<u>(37,655)</u>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash	<u>1,426</u>	<u>(11,791)</u>	<u>(17,304)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash, beginning of period	<u>14,619</u>	<u>26,410</u>	<u>43,714</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash, end of the period	<u>\$ 16,045</u>	<u>\$ 14,619</u>	<u>\$ 26,410</u>
Reconciliation of cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash to the Consolidated Balance Sheet			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,316	\$ 9,985	\$ 20,892
Restricted cash	6,729	4,634	5,518
Total cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash, end of period	<u>\$ 16,045</u>	<u>\$ 14,619</u>	<u>\$ 26,410</u>
Supplemental cash flow information:			
Cash paid for interest	\$ 35,532	\$ 27,368	\$ 33,034
Supplemental disclosure of noncash investing and financing activities:			
Decrease in noncontrolling interest from conversion of common limited partnership units to shares of common stock	\$ 14,506	\$ 620	\$ 2,290
Distributions declared but not paid	\$ 16,162	\$ 5,245	\$ 4,297
Value of limited partnership units issued in acquisitions	\$ -	\$ 1,654	\$ -
Mortgage debt assumed	\$ 54,756	\$ 18,977	\$ -
Capital expenditure accrual	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

NOTE 1: Organization

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (“IRT”), is a self-administered and self-managed Maryland real estate investment trust, or REIT, which was formed on March 26, 2009. Our primary purposes are to acquire, own, operate, improve and manage multifamily apartment communities in non-gateway markets. As of December 31, 2018, we owned and operated 58 multifamily apartment properties, totaling 15,880 units across non-gateway U.S. markets, including Atlanta, Louisville, Memphis, and Raleigh. We own substantially all of our assets and conduct our operations through Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, which we refer to as IROP, of which we are the sole general partner.

As used herein, the terms “we,” “our” and “us” refer to Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and, as required by context, IROP and their subsidiaries.

NOTE 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”). In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary to present fairly our consolidated financial position and consolidated results of operations and cash flows are included.

b. Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements reflect our accounts and the accounts of IROP and its subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Pursuant to FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 810, “Consolidation”, IROP is considered a variable interest entity. As our significant asset is our investment in IROP, substantially all of our assets and liabilities represent the assets and liabilities of IROP.

c. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

d. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash held in banks and highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less when purchased. Cash, including amounts restricted, may at times exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation deposit insurance limit of \$250 per institution. We mitigate credit risk by placing cash and cash equivalents with major financial institutions. To date, we have not experienced any losses on cash and cash equivalents.

e. Restricted Cash

Restricted cash includes tenant escrows and our funds held by lenders to fund certain expenditures or to be released at our discretion upon the occurrence of certain pre-specified events. As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, we had \$6,729 and \$4,634, respectively, of restricted cash.

f. Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Bad Debts

We make estimates of the collectability of our accounts receivable related to base rents, expense reimbursements and other revenue. We analyze accounts receivable and historical bad debt levels, tenant credit worthiness and current economic trends when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts. In addition, tenants experiencing financial difficulties are analyzed and estimates are made in connection with expected uncollectible receivables. Our reported operating results are affected by

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

management's estimate of the collectability of accounts receivable. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016 we recorded bad debt expense of \$644, \$870, and \$975, respectively.

g. Investments in Real Estate

Investments in real estate are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation. Costs, including internal costs, that both add value and appreciably extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Investments in real estate are classified as held for sale in the period in which certain criteria are met including when the sale of the asset is probable and actions required to complete the plan of sale indicate that it is unlikely that significant changes to the plan of sale will be made or the plan of sale will be withdrawn.

Allocation of Purchase Price of Acquired Assets

Effective January 1, 2018, FASB ASC Topic 805, "Business Combinations" was amended to clarify the definition of a business by more clearly outlining the requirements for an integrated set of assets and activities to be considered a business and by establishing a practical framework to determine when the integrated set of assets and activities is a business. Prior to January 1, 2018, the properties we acquired were generally considered businesses and were accounted for as business combinations. Subsequent to January 1, 2018, we expect the properties we acquire to generally not be considered businesses and, therefore, to be accounted for as asset acquisitions.

Under business combination accounting, the fair value of the real estate acquired is allocated to the acquired tangible assets, generally consisting of land, building and tenant improvements, and identified intangible assets and liabilities, consisting of the value of above-market and below-market leases for acquired in-place leases and the value of tenant relationships, based, in each case, on their fair values. Transaction costs and fees incurred related to the acquisition are expensed as incurred. Under asset acquisition accounting, the costs to acquire real estate, including transaction costs related to the acquisition, are accumulated and then allocated to the individual assets and liabilities acquired based upon their relative fair value. Under both business combination and asset acquisition accounting, transaction costs and fees incurred related to the financing of an acquisition are capitalized and amortized over the life of the related financing.

We estimate the fair value of acquired tangible assets (consisting of land, building and improvements), identified intangible assets (consisting of in-place leases), and assumed debt at the date of acquisition, based on the evaluation of information and estimates available at that date.

The aggregate value of in-place leases is determined by evaluating various factors, including the terms of the leases that are in place and assumed lease-up periods. During the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, we acquired in-place leases with a value of \$3,074 and \$2,515, respectively, related to our acquisitions that are discussed further in NOTE 3: Investments in Real Estate. The value assigned to these intangible assets is amortized over the assumed lease up period, typically six months. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 we recorded \$3,429, \$1,536 and \$3,735 of amortization expense for intangible assets, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016 we wrote-off fully amortized intangible assets of \$4,153, \$0, and \$0, respectively. Based on the intangible assets identified above, we expect to record amortization expense of intangible assets of \$744 for 2019.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

Management evaluates the recoverability of its investment in real estate assets, including related identifiable intangible assets, in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 360, "Property, Plant and Equipment". This statement requires that long-lived assets be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that recoverability of the assets is not assured.

Management reviews its long-lived assets on an ongoing basis and evaluates the recoverability of the carrying value when there is an indicator of impairment. An impairment charge is recorded when it is determined that the carrying value of the asset exceeds the fair value. The estimated cash flows used for the impairment analysis and the determination of estimated fair value are based on our plans for the respective assets and our views of market and economic conditions. The estimates consider matters such as current and historical rental rates, occupancies for the respective and/or comparable properties, and recent sales data for comparable properties.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

Changes in estimated future cash flows due to changes in our plans or views of market and economic conditions could result in recognition of impairment losses, which, under the applicable accounting guidance, could be substantial.

Depreciation

Depreciation expense for real estate assets is computed using a straight-line method based on a life of 40 years for buildings and improvements and five to ten years for equipment and fixtures. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 we recorded \$41,792, \$32,665 and \$31,089 of depreciation expense, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2018, we wrote-off fully depreciated fixed assets of \$408.

h. Revenue and Expenses

Rental Income

We apply FASB ASC Topic 840, "Leases" with respect to our accounting for rental income. We primarily lease apartments units under operating leases generally with terms of one year or less. Rental payments are generally due monthly and rental revenues are recognized on an accrual basis when earned.

Our portfolio of properties consists primarily of apartment communities geographically concentrated in the Southeastern United States. North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, Ohio, and Texas comprised 14.93%, 11.21%, 10.95%, 9.76%, 8.73%, 8.20%, and 7.87%, respectively, of our rental revenue for the year ended December 31, 2018. We have no single customer that accounts for 10% or more of revenue.

Tenant Reimbursement and Other Property Income

We apply FASB ASC Topic 606, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" with respect to tenant reimbursement and other property income. Tenant reimbursement income represents reimbursement from tenants for utility charges, while other property income includes cable, parking, trash, late fees, application fees, and other miscellaneous property related income. The performance obligations of providing residents with these services are stipulated within the lease agreement and may be provided over time or at a point in time. The services provided over time include cable, parking, and trash services, which are generally provided over a monthly period for the term of the respective lease. The services provided at a point in time include late fees and application fees. Given the short period of time over which this revenue is then recognized and since payments with respect to tenant reimbursement and other property income are generally due monthly, no contract assets or liabilities have been recognized.

For the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, we recognized revenues of \$195 and \$110, respectively, related to recoveries of lost rental revenue due to natural disasters and other insurable events from our insurance providers.

Advertising Expenses

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, we incurred \$2,172, \$1,806, and \$1,749 of advertising expenses, respectively.

i. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures", fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Where available, fair value is based on observable market prices or parameters or derived from such prices or parameters. Where observable prices or inputs are not available, valuation models are applied. These valuation techniques involve management estimation and judgment, the degree of which is dependent on the price transparency for the instruments or market and the instruments' complexity for disclosure purposes. Assets and liabilities recorded at fair value in our consolidated balance sheets are categorized based upon the level of judgment associated with the inputs used to measure their value. Hierarchical levels, as defined in

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

FASB ASC Topic 820, “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures” and directly related to the amount of subjectivity associated with the inputs to fair valuations of these assets and liabilities, are as follows:

- **Level 1:** Valuations are based on unadjusted, quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date. The types of assets carried at Level 1 fair value generally are equity securities listed in active markets. As such, valuations of these investments do not entail a significant degree of judgment.
- **Level 2:** Valuations are based on quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.
- **Level 3:** Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability, and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls has been determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

The availability of observable inputs can vary depending on the financial asset or liability and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including, for example, the type of investment, whether the investment is new, whether the investment is traded on an active exchange or in the secondary market, and the current market condition. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised by us in determining fair value is greatest for instruments categorized in Level 3.

Fair value is a market-based measure considered from the perspective of a market participant who holds the asset or owes the liability rather than an entity-specific measure. Therefore, even when market assumptions are not readily available, our own assumptions are set to reflect those that management believes market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. We use prices and inputs that management believes are current as of the measurement date, including during periods of market dislocation. In periods of market dislocation, the observability of prices and inputs may be reduced for many instruments. This condition could cause an instrument to be transferred from Level 1 to Level 2 or Level 2 to Level 3.

Fair value for certain of our Level 3 financial instruments is derived using internal valuation models. These internal valuation models include discounted cash flow analyses developed by management using current interest rates, estimates of the term of the particular instrument, specific issuer information and other market data for securities without an active market. In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 820, “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures”, the impact of our own credit spreads is also considered when measuring the fair value of financial assets or liabilities. Where appropriate, valuation adjustments are made to account for various factors, including bid-ask spreads, credit quality and market liquidity. These adjustments are applied on a consistent basis and are based on observable inputs where available. Management’s estimate of fair value requires significant management judgment and is subject to a high degree of variability based upon market conditions, the availability of specific issuer information and management’s assumptions.

FASB ASC Topic 825, “Financial Instruments” requires disclosure of the fair value of financial instruments for which it is practicable to estimate that value. Given that cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are short term in nature with limited fair value volatility, the carrying amount is deemed to be a reasonable approximation of fair value and the fair value input is classified as a Level 1 fair value measurement. The fair value input for the derivatives is classified as a Level 2 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy. The fair value inputs for our unsecured credit facility and our former secured credit facility are classified as Level 2 fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy. The fair value of mortgage indebtedness is based on a discounted cash flows valuation technique. As this technique utilizes current credit spreads, which are generally unobservable, this is classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy. We determine appropriate credit spreads based on the type of debt and its maturity. The following table summarizes the carrying amount and the fair value of our financial instruments as of the periods indicated:

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

Financial Instrument	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,316	\$ 9,316	\$ 9,985	\$ 9,985
Restricted cash	6,729	6,729	4,634	4,634
Derivative assets	8,307	8,307	7,291	7,291
Liabilities				
Debt:				
Unsecured credit facility	153,983	155,743	101,629	104,005
Term loans	248,380	250,000	99,105	100,000
Mortgages	583,125	577,112	577,708	564,333

j. Deferred Financing Costs

Costs incurred in connection with debt financing are deferred and classified within indebtedness and charged to interest expense over the terms of the related debt agreements, under the effective interest method.

k. Income Taxes

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT beginning with the taxable year ended December 31, 2011. Accordingly, we recorded no income tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

To qualify as a REIT, we must meet certain organizational and operational requirements, including a requirement to distribute at least 90% of our ordinary taxable income to stockholders. As a REIT, we generally are not subject to federal income tax on taxable income that we distribute to our stockholders. If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year, we will be subject to federal income taxes on our taxable income at regular corporate rates and will not be permitted to qualify for treatment as a REIT for federal income tax purposes for four years following the year during which qualification is lost unless the Internal Revenue Service grants us relief under certain statutory provisions. Such an event could materially adversely affect our net income and net cash available for distribution to stockholders; however, we believe that we are organized and operate in such a manner as to qualify and maintain treatment as a REIT and intend to operate in such a manner so that we will remain qualified as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. For the year ended December 31, 2018, 37% of dividends were characterized as total capital gain distribution, 39% were characterized as ordinary income and 24% were characterized as return of capital. For the year ended December 31, 2017, 53% of dividends were characterized as total capital gain distribution, 36% were characterized as ordinary income and 11% were characterized as return of capital. For the year ended December 31, 2016, 93% of dividends were characterized as ordinary income and 7% were characterized as return of capital.

l. Share-Based Compensation

We account for stock-based compensation in accordance with FASB ASC Subtopic 505-50, "Equity – Equity Payments to Non-Employees" and FASB ASC Topic 718, "Compensation—Stock Compensation". We did not have any employees prior to the management internalization on December 20, 2016 and therefore accounted for stock-based compensation as non-employee awards. Stock-based compensation cost for non-employee awards is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is revalued at the end of each accounting period. The expense is recognized over the requisite service period, which is the vesting period. Any share-based compensation awards granted to employees are measured based on the grant-date fair value of the award and we record compensation expense for the entire award on a straight-line basis, over the related vesting period. For awards granted to nonemployees who subsequently became employees, the fair values of the awards were revalued on the date the employment status change occurred and the resulting compensation expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the remaining vesting period, for the entire award.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

m. Noncontrolling Interest

Our noncontrolling interest represents limited partnership units of our operating partnership that were issued in connection with certain property acquisitions. We record limited partnership units issued in an acquisition at their fair value on the closing date of the acquisition. The holders of the limited partnership units have the right to redeem their limited partnership units for either shares of our common stock or for cash at our discretion. As the settlement of a redemption is in our sole discretion, we present noncontrolling interest in our consolidated balance sheet within equity but separate from stockholders' equity. Any noncontrolling interests that fail to qualify as permanent equity will be presented as temporary equity and be carried at the greater of historical cost or their redemption value.

n. Derivative Instruments

We may use derivative financial instruments to hedge all or a portion of the interest rate risk associated with our borrowings. The principal objective of such arrangements is to minimize the risks and/or costs associated with our operating and financial structure as well as to hedge specific anticipated transactions. While these instruments may impact our periodic cash flows, they benefit us by minimizing the risks and/or costs previously described. The counterparties to these contractual arrangements are major financial institutions with which we and our affiliates may also have other financial relationships. In the event of nonperformance by the counterparties, we are potentially exposed to credit loss. However, because of the high credit ratings of the counterparties, we do not anticipate that any of the counterparties will fail to meet their obligations.

In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 815, "Derivatives and Hedging", we measure each derivative instrument (including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts) at fair value and record such amounts in our consolidated balance sheet as either an asset or liability. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, the changes in the fair value of the effective portions of the derivative are reported in other comprehensive income and changes in the ineffective portions of cash flow hedges, if any, are recognized in earnings. For derivatives not designated as hedges (or designated as fair value hedges), the changes in fair value of the derivative instrument are recognized in earnings. Any derivatives that we designate in hedge relationships are done so at inception. At inception, we determine whether or not the derivative is highly effective in offsetting changes in the designated interest rate risk associated with the identified indebtedness using regression analysis. At each reporting period, we update our regression analysis and use the hypothetical derivative method to measure any ineffectiveness.

o. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Below is a brief description of recent accounting pronouncements that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

Adopted Within these Financial Statements

In May 2014, the FASB issued an accounting standard classified under FASB ASC Topic 606, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers". This accounting standard generally replaces existing guidance by requiring an entity to recognize the amount of revenue to which it expects to be entitled for the transfer of promised goods or services to customers. This accounting standard applies to all contracts with customers, except those that are within the scope of other Topics in the FASB ASC. Subsequently, the FASB issued amendments to this accounting standard that provided further clarification. These standards amending FASB ASC Topic 606 were effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We adopted these accounting standard updates on January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective approach. A majority of our revenue is derived from real estate lease contracts, which are specifically excluded from the scope of these standards. The portion of our revenue that was impacted by these standards included revenue recorded within the tenant reimbursement income, other property income, and property management and other income captions of our Consolidated Statements of Operations. The adoption of these standards did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements and no cumulative effect adjustment was recorded upon adoption.

In August 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard classified under FASB ASC Topic 230, "Statement of Cash Flows". This accounting standard provides guidance on eight specific cash flow issues: (i) debt prepayment or debt extinguishment costs; (ii) settlement of zero-coupon debt instruments or other debt instruments with coupon interest rates that are insignificant in relation to the effective interest rate of the borrowing; (iii) contingent consideration payments made after a business combination; (iv) proceeds from the settlement of insurance claims; (v) proceeds from the settlement of corporate-owned life insurance policies, including bank-owned life insurance policies; (vi) distributions received from equity method investees; (vii) beneficial interests in securitization transactions; and (viii) separately identifiable cash flows and application of the predominance principle. Subsequently, the FASB issued amendments to this accounting standard that required companies to include restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents with cash

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

and cash equivalents when reconciling the statement of cash flows. The amendments were effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years. We adopted these standards as of January 1, 2018. The adoption of this accounting standard resulted in an increase (decrease) in net cash used in investing activities of \$942, and (\$105) for the years ended December 31, 2017, and 2016, respectively.

In January 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update under FASB ASC Topic 805, "Business Combinations" that changed the definition of a business to assist entities with evaluating whether a set of transferred assets is a business. As a result, the accounting for acquisitions of real estate could be impacted. The new definition will be applied prospectively to any transactions occurring within the period of adoption. We adopted this standard on January 1, 2018. Management expects that the updated standard will result in fewer acquisitions of real estate meeting the definition of a business and fewer acquisition-related costs being expensed in the period incurred, with these costs instead being capitalized as part of the acquired asset.

In February 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update under FASB ASC Topic 610 "Other Income." The amendments in this update provided guidance for partial sales of nonfinancial assets, including partial sales of real estate. Historically, GAAP contained several different accounting models to evaluate whether the transfer of certain assets qualified for sale treatment. This new standard reduces the number of potential accounting models that might apply and clarified which model does apply in various circumstances. Partial sales of nonfinancial assets are common in the real estate industry and include transactions in which the seller retains an equity interest in the entity that owns the assets or has an equity interest in the buyer. This update was effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We adopted this standard as of January 1, 2018. While this is common in the real estate industry, we have never participated in a transaction of this nature, therefore, the adoption of this accounting standard did not have any impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update under FASB ASC Topic 718, "Compensation – Stock Compensation." The amendments in this update provided guidance about which changes to the terms or conditions of a share-based payment award require an entity to apply modification accounting in Topic 718. As a result, the accounting for share-based payment award transactions could be impacted. The updated standard was adopted by us on January 1, 2018. The new definition will be applied prospectively to an award modified on or after the adoption date. The adoption of this accounting standard did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In August 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update under FASB ASC Topic 815, "Derivatives and Hedging." The amendments in this update provided guidance about the application of the hedge accounting guidance in current GAAP based on the feedback received from preparers, auditors, and other stakeholders. As a result, the accounting for derivatives and hedging transactions could be impacted. The updated standard is effective for us on January 1, 2019 with early adoption permitted. We early adopted this update on October 1, 2017. The adoption of this update did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. In accordance with this accounting standard update, upon adoption, we revised our approach to recognizing interest expense for our interest rate swap that was designated as an off-market cash flow hedge. Rather than record interest expense based on the hypothetical derivative method with differences from actual net settlements reflected as ineffectiveness, we will record actual net settlements to interest expense adjusted for the straight-line amortization of the inception clean value of the hedging instrument over the hedge term. The result will be that no ineffectiveness will be recorded in future periods related to our off-market interest rate swap. Since we entered into the off-market hedging relationship in 2017, no transition entry was necessary upon adoption.

Not Yet Adopted Within these Financial Statements

In February 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard classified under FASB ASC Topic 842, "Leases". For lessees, this accounting standard amends lease accounting by requiring (1) the recognition of lease assets and lease liabilities for those leases classified as operating leases on the balance sheet and (2) additional disclosure about leasing arrangements. For lessors, the guidance under the new lease standard is substantially similar to legacy lease accounting standards. This standard is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. In July 2018, the FASB issued an amendment to the new standard, which provides a package of practical expedients that (1) allows lessors to not separate lease and non-lease components in a contract and allocate the consideration in the contract to the separate components if both (i) the timing and pattern of revenue recognition for the non-lease component and the related lease component are the same and (ii) the combined single lease component would be classified as an operating lease and (2) provides a transition option that permits entities to not recast the comparative periods presented when transitioning to the standard. Management expects to adopt the new standard on January 1, 2019 using the modified retrospective approach and the package of practical expedients. Therefore, a cumulative-effect

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

adjustment will be recorded on the effective date and all prior comparative periods will be presented in accordance with legacy lease accounting standards. Management anticipates that our apartment leases, where we are lessor, will continue to be accounted for as operating leases under the new standard and, therefore, we do not expect significant changes in accounting for these leases. For various corporate office leases, where we are lessee, we expect to record a \$308 right of use asset and a lease liability on our consolidated balance sheets upon adoption.

In June 2018, the FASB issued an accounting standard classified under FASB ASC Topic 718, "Compensation – Stock Compensation." The amendments in this update expand the scope of Topic 718 to include share-based payment transactions for acquiring goods and services from nonemployees. As a result, the accounting for share-based payment award transactions could be impacted. This standard is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early application of the amendments in this standard is permitted. Management does not expect this standard to have an impact on our consolidated financial statements as we have not issued share-based payments to non-employees since prior to our management internalization.

NOTE 3: Investments in Real Estate

As of December 31, 2018, our investments in real estate consisted of 58 apartment properties (unaudited). The table below summarizes our investments in real estate:

	2018	2017	Depreciable Lives (In years)
Land	\$ 209,111	\$ 193,026	-
Building	1,384,810	1,279,777	40
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	66,502	31,353	5-10
Total investment in real estate	\$ 1,660,423	\$ 1,504,156	
Accumulated depreciation	(112,270)	(84,097)	
Investments in real estate, net	<u>\$ 1,548,153</u>	<u>\$ 1,420,059</u>	

As of December 31, 2018, we owned three properties that were classified as held for sale. The table below summarizes our held for sale properties. We did not have any properties classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017.

Property Name	Market	Units (unaudited)	Net Carrying Value
Reserve at Eagle Ridge	Chicago, IL	370	\$ 27,027
Carrington Park	Little Rock, AR	202	20,619
Stonebridge at the Ranch	Little Rock, AR	260	29,639
Total		<u>832</u>	<u>\$ 77,285</u>

Acquisitions

The below table summarizes the acquisitions for the year ended December 31, 2018:

Property Name	Date of Purchase	Market	Units (unaudited)	Contract Price
Creekside Corners (1)	01/03/2018	Atlanta, GA	444	\$ 43,901
Hartshire Lakes (1)	01/03/2018	Indianapolis, IN	272	27,597
The Chelsea	01/04/2018	Columbus, OH	312	36,750
Avalon Oaks	02/27/2018	Columbus, OH	235	23,000
Bridgeview	07/11/2018	Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL	348	43,000
Collier Park	07/26/2018	Columbus, OH	232	21,200
Waterford	10/11/2018	Atlanta, GA	260	30,500
Lucerne	11/07/2018	Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL	276	47,000
Total			<u>2,379</u>	<u>\$ 272,948</u>

- (1) These properties were acquired as the last phase of our acquisition of a nine-community portfolio (the "HPI Portfolio"), totaling 2,352 units (unaudited), which we agreed to acquire on September 3, 2017 for a total purchase price of \$228,144.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

The following table summarizes the aggregate fair value of the assets and liabilities associated with the properties acquired during the year ended December 31, 2018, on the date of acquisition.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Fair Value of Asset Acquired During the Year Ended December 31, 2018</u>	
Assets acquired:		
Investments in real estate (a)	\$	270,223
Accounts receivable and other assets		980
Intangible assets		3,074
Total assets acquired	\$	274,277
Liabilities assumed:		
Indebtedness	\$	54,756
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		1,338
Other liabilities		659
Total liabilities assumed	\$	56,753
Estimated fair value of net assets acquired	\$	217,524

(a) Includes \$599 of property related acquisition costs capitalized during the year ended December 31, 2018.

The below table summarizes the acquisitions for the year ended December 31, 2017:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Date of Purchase</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Units (unaudited)</u>	<u>Contract Price</u>
Lakes of Northdale	2/27/2017	Tampa, FL	216	\$ 29,750
Haverford Place	5/24/2017	Lexington, KY	160	14,240
Village at Auburn (1)	6/30/2017	Durham, NC	328	42,950
Cherry Grove (2)	9/26/2017	North Myrtle Beach, SC	172	16,157
Riverchase (2)	9/26/2017	Indianapolis, IN	216	18,899
Kensington (2)	9/26/2017	Canal Winchester, OH	264	24,409
Schirm Farms (2)	9/26/2017	Canal Winchester, OH	264	23,749
Live Oak Trace (2)	10/25/2017	Baton Rouge, LA	264	28,501
Tides at Calabash (2)	11/14/2017	Wilmington, NC	168	14,269
Brunswick Point (2)	12/12/2017	Wilmington, NC	288	30,661
Total			2,340	\$ 243,585

- (1) This property was acquired from a joint venture of which our former advisor was a controlling member. See Note 8: Related Party Transactions and Arrangements. In conjunction with this acquisition, we issued IROP units to third parties that were members of the joint venture that owned the property. See Note 6: Stockholder Equity and Noncontrolling Interests.
- (2) These properties were acquired as a part of our acquisition of the HPI Portfolio, totaling 2,352 units (unaudited), which we agreed to acquire on September 3, 2017 for a total purchase price of \$228,144. In connection with the acquisition of these properties, we incurred defeasance costs totaling \$3,624, which are included in Acquisition related debt extinguishment expenses within the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

Dispositions

The below table summarizes the dispositions for the year ended December 31, 2018:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Date of Sale</u>	<u>Sale Price</u>	<u>Gain (loss) on sale (1)</u>
Aventine Greenville	12/20/2018	\$ 52,500	\$ 6,119
Arbors at the Reservoir	12/27/2018	24,800	4,445
Total		<u>\$ 77,300</u>	<u>\$ 10,564</u>

(1) The gain (loss) for these properties is net of \$911 of debt prepayment premium costs.

The below table summarizes the dispositions for the year ended December 31, 2017:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Date of Sale</u>	<u>Sale Price</u>	<u>Gain (loss) on sale (1)</u>
Copper Mill	5/5/2017	\$ 32,000	\$ 15,595
Heritage Trace	6/1/2017	11,600	(1,256)
Berkshire Square	6/9/2017	16,000	1,510
Crossings	11/28/2017	27,200	3,061
Total		<u>\$ 86,800</u>	<u>\$ 18,910</u>

(1) The gain (loss) on sale for these properties is net of \$4,251 of defeasance and debt prepayment premium costs.

The below table summarizes the dispositions for the year ended December 31, 2016:

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Date of Sale</u>	<u>Sale Price</u>	<u>Gain (loss) on sale</u>
Cumberland Glen (1)	02/18/2016	\$ 18,000	\$ 2,452
Belle Creek	04/07/2016	23,000	14,191
Tresa	05/05/2016	47,000	15,142
Total		<u>\$ 88,000</u>	<u>\$ 31,785</u>

(1) Gain (loss) on sale related to this property includes a defeasance premium of \$1,343.

NOTE 4: Indebtedness

The following tables contains summary information concerning our indebtedness as of December 31, 2018:

<u>Debt:</u>	<u>Outstanding Principal</u>	<u>Unamortized Discount and Debt Issuance Costs</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weighted Average Rate</u>	<u>Weighted Average Maturity (in years)</u>
Unsecured credit facility (1)	\$ 155,743	\$ (1,760)	\$ 153,983	Floating	3.9%	2.7
Unsecured term loans	250,000	(1,620)	248,380	Floating	4.0%	5.4
Mortgages	585,672	(2,547)	583,125	Fixed	3.8%	5.1
Total Debt	<u>\$ 991,415</u>	<u>\$ (5,927)</u>	<u>\$ 985,488</u>		<u>3.9%</u>	<u>4.8</u>

(1) The unsecured credit facility total capacity is \$300,000, of which \$155,743 was outstanding as of December 31, 2018.

<u>Debt:</u>	<u>Original maturities on or before December 31,</u>					
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Thereafter</u>
Unsecured credit facility	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105,743	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -
Unsecured term loans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Mortgages	\$ 4,950	\$ 8,135	\$ 76,033	\$ 70,700	\$ 107,203	\$ 318,651
Total	<u>\$ 4,950</u>	<u>\$ 8,135</u>	<u>\$ 181,776</u>	<u>\$ 120,700</u>	<u>\$ 107,203</u>	<u>\$ 568,651</u>

As of December 31, 2018 we were in compliance with all financial covenants contained in our indebtedness.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

The following tables contains summary information concerning our indebtedness as of December 31, 2017:

Debt:	Outstanding Principal	Unamortized Discount and Debt Issuance Costs	Carrying Amount	Type	Weighted Average Rate	Weighted Average Maturity (in years)
Unsecured credit facility (1)	\$ 104,005	\$ (2,376)	\$ 101,629	Floating	3.0%	3.8
Unsecured Term loans	100,000	(895)	99,105	Floating	3.2%	6.9
Mortgages	580,635	(2,927)	577,708	Fixed	3.7%	5.8
Total Debt	\$ 784,640	\$ (6,198)	\$ 778,442		3.6%	5.7

(1) The secured credit facility total capacity was \$300,000, of which \$104,005 was outstanding as of December 31, 2017.

Credit Facility

On September 17, 2015, we entered into a credit agreement with KeyBank National Association (“KeyBank”) with respect to a \$325,000 senior secured credit facility (the “Secured Credit Facility”). We incurred upfront costs of \$4,722 associated with this facility that were capitalized as deferred financing costs. The Secured Credit Facility consisted of a revolving line of credit in an amount of up to \$125,000 and a term loan in an amount of no less than \$200,000.

On December 21, 2016, we entered into an increase agreement with KeyBank which amended the terms of the previous Secured Credit Facility. The amended agreement increased the revolving line of credit to \$172,500, which reflected the conversion of a portion of the term loan line of credit, which had previously been repaid and was therefore unavailable for re-borrowing, into availability under the revolving line of credit. The amended revised Secured Credit Facility had a total capacity was \$312,500. The other features of the facility remained the same.

On May 1, 2017, we entered into a \$300,000 unsecured credit facility (the “Unsecured Credit Facility”), refinancing and terminating the previous Secured Credit Facility. The Unsecured Credit Facility is comprised of a \$50,000 term loan and a revolving commitment of up to \$250,000. Additionally, we have the right to increase the aggregate amount of the Unsecured Credit Facility to up to \$500,000. The maturity date on the new term loan is May 1, 2022. The maturity date on borrowings outstanding under the revolving commitment is May 1, 2021, subject to our option to extend the revolving commitment for two additional 6-month periods under certain circumstances. We may prepay the Unsecured Credit Facility, in whole or in part, at any time without prepayment fee or penalty, subject to the payment of any breakage costs associated with LIBOR borrowings and certain other conditions as set forth in the loan agreement. At our option, borrowings under the Unsecured Credit Facility will bear interest at a rate equal to either (i) the 1-month LIBOR rate plus a margin of 130 to 220 basis points, or (ii) a base rate plus a margin of 30 to 120 basis points. The applicable margin is determined based upon our total consolidated leverage ratio. In addition, we pay a fee of either 15 basis points (if greater than or equal to 50% of the revolver is used) or 25 basis points (if less than 50% of the revolver is used) on the unused portion of the revolver. The Unsecured Credit Facility requires regular interest only payments. We recognized the refinance as a partial extinguishment of our prior Secured Credit Facility and recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of \$572.

In addition to certain negative covenants, our Unsecured Credit Facility with KeyBank has financial covenants that require us to (i) maintain a consolidated leverage ratio below thresholds described in the debt agreement, (ii) maintain a minimum consolidated fixed charge coverage ratio, (iii) maintain a minimum consolidated tangible net worth, and (iv) maintain a minimum liquidity amount. Additionally, the covenants (i) limit (a) the amount of distributions that IRT can make to a percentage of Funds from Operations (as such term is described in the debt agreement), (b) the amount of recourse indebtedness that may be incurred by us, and (c) the amount of unhedged variable rate indebtedness that may be incurred by us, and (ii) require us to maintain a pool of unencumbered properties with an occupancy level of not less than 85%.

In January 2019, we drew down \$14,000 on the Unsecured Credit Facility.

Term Loans

On September 17, 2015, we entered into a credit agreement with KeyBank with respect to a \$120,000 senior interim term loan facility (“Interim Facility”). We incurred upfront deferred costs of \$2,092 associated with this Interim Facility. On June 24, 2016, the Interim Facility was amended to replace the Interim Facility with a \$40,000 senior secured term loan. Upon entering into the senior secured term loan, we borrowed \$40,000, using \$416 to pay closing costs and \$33,512 to repay the remaining balance under the

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

Interim Facility. The maturity date of the senior secured term loan was September 17, 2018, subject to acceleration in the event of customary events of default. The term loan required monthly interest only payments. The senior secured term loan was repaid in October 2016.

On November 20, 2017, we entered into a loan agreement for a \$100,000 unsecured term loan that will mature in November 2024. We incurred upfront deferred costs of \$917 associated with this facility. The unsecured term loan requires monthly interest only payments. The interest rate on the unsecured term loan is LIBOR plus a spread of 1.60% - 2.50% based on our consolidated leverage ratio. The proceeds from this loan reduced borrowings then outstanding under the revolving portion of our Unsecured Credit Facility.

On October 30, 2018, we entered into a five-year, \$200,000 unsecured term loan agreement with KeyBank. The loan matures in January 2024 and bears interest at a spread over LIBOR, based on our overall leverage. At closing, the spread to LIBOR was 145 basis points. At closing, we drew \$150,000 under the loan. The remaining \$50,000 was drawn in February 2019. We applied proceeds of both draws to reduce outstanding borrowings under our Unsecured Credit Facility. We incurred upfront deferred costs of \$821 associated with this facility.

Mortgages

On January 3, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of our Hartshire Lakes property, we assumed a \$16,000 loan secured by a first mortgage on the property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 4.68% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through January 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule. The loan matures January 2025. The loan was recorded at its fair value of \$15,936 based on a discounted cash flows valuation technique. As this technique utilizes current credit spreads, which are generally unobservable, this is classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy.

On January 3, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of our Creekside Corners property, we assumed a \$23,500 loan secured by a first mortgage on the property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 4.56% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through January 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule. The loan matures January 2025. The loan was recorded at its fair value of \$23,426 based on a discounted cash flows valuation technique. As this technique utilizes current credit spreads, which are generally unobservable, this is classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy.

On October 11, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of our Waterford Landing property, we assumed a \$15,500 loan secured by a first mortgage on the property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 4.82% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through January 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule. The loan matures January 2026. The loan was recorded at its fair value of \$15,394 based on a discounted cash flows valuation technique. As this technique utilizes current credit spreads, which are generally unobservable, this is classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, in connection with two property dispositions, we extinguished property mortgages and made partial paydowns totaling \$46,772.

On December 12, 2017, in connection with our acquisition of our Brunswick Point property, we assumed a \$19,000 loan secured by a first mortgage on the property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 4.4% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through May 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule, and matures May 2025. This loan was recorded at its fair value of \$18,977 based on a discounted cash flows valuation technique. As this technique utilizes current credit spreads, which are generally unobservable, this is classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, in connection with four property dispositions, we extinguished property mortgages totaling \$35,901.

In February of 2016, we repaid \$6,659 of mortgage indebtedness as part of the disposition of our Cumberland property.

In March of 2016, we repaid \$43,694 of mortgage indebtedness related to the Oklahoma City portfolio of properties we acquired in 2014 through a refinancing whereby IROP drew down on the secured credit facility.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

On May 26, 2016, we entered into a loan agreement for a \$25,050 loan secured by a first mortgage on our Aston property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 3.4% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through December 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule, and matures June 2023.

On May 17, 2016, we entered into a loan agreement for a \$31,250 loan secured by a first mortgage on our Avenues at Craig Ranch property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 3.3% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through May 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule, and matures June 2023.

On May 20, 2016, we entered into a loan agreement for a \$49,680 loan secured by a first mortgage on our Waterstone at Big Creek property. The loan bears interest at a rate of 3.7% per annum, provides for monthly payments of interest only through June 2019, when principal and interest payments will be due monthly based on a 30-year amortization schedule, and matures June 2026.

NOTE 5: Derivative Financial Instruments

We have and may in the future use derivative financial instruments to hedge all or a portion of the interest rate risk associated with our borrowings. The principal objective of such arrangements is to minimize the risks and/or costs associated with our operating and financial structure as well as to hedge specific anticipated transactions. While these instruments may impact our periodic cash flows, they benefit us by minimizing the risks and/or costs previously described. The counterparties to these contractual arrangements are major financial institutions with which we and our affiliates may also have other financial relationships. In the event of nonperformance by the counterparties, we are potentially exposed to credit loss. However, because of the high credit ratings of the counterparties, we do not anticipate that any of the counterparties will fail to meet their obligations.

The following table summarizes the aggregate notional amount and estimated net fair value of our derivative instruments as of December 31, 2018 and 2017:

	December 31, 2018			December 31, 2017		
	Notional	Fair Value of Assets	Fair Value of Liabilities	Notional	Fair Value of Assets	Fair Value of Liabilities
Cash flow hedges:						
Interest rate swap	\$ 150,000	\$ 4,751	\$ —	\$ 150,000	\$ 4,700	\$ —
Interest rate collars	250,000	3,556	—	50,000	1,297	—
	400,000	8,307	—	200,000	5,997	—
Freestanding derivatives:						
Interest rate collar	—	—	—	50,000	1,294	—
Total	\$ 400,000	\$ 8,307	\$ —	\$ 250,000	\$ 7,291	\$ —

Interest rate swap

On June 24, 2016, we entered into an interest rate swap contract with a notional value of \$150,000, a strike rate of 1.145% and a maturity date of June 17, 2021. We designated this interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge at inception and determined that the hedge is highly effective in offsetting interest rate fluctuations associated with the identified indebtedness. We did not recognize any ineffectiveness associated with this cash flow hedge through April 2017. On April 17, 2017, in conjunction with the refinancing of our credit facility, we restructured our existing interest rate swap to remove the LIBOR floor. This resulted in a decrease in the strike rate to 1.1325%. The notional value and maturity date remained the same. We designated the restructured interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge at inception and determined that the hedge is highly effective in offsetting interest rate fluctuations associated with the identified indebtedness. Upon our early adoption of accounting standard updates to ASC Topic 815, "Derivatives and Hedging," ineffectiveness is no longer measured or reported.

Interest rate collar

On October 17, 2018, we purchased an interest rate collar with an initial notional value of \$100,000, a 2.50% cap and 2.25% floor, and a maturity date of January 17, 2024. The notional value was adjusted to \$150,000 in November 2018. We designated this interest rate collar as a cash flow hedge at inception and determined that the hedge is highly effective in offsetting interest rate fluctuations associated with the identified indebtedness.

On November 17, 2017, in connection with our new \$100,000 unsecured term loan, we purchased an interest rate collar with a notional value of \$100,000, a 2.00% cap and 1.25% floor, and a maturity date of November 17, 2024. We designated \$50,000 of the interest rate collar as a cash flow hedge at inception and determined that the hedge is highly effective in offsetting interest rate fluctuations associated with the identified indebtedness. We concluded that this hedging relationship was and will continue to be highly effective using the hypothetical derivative method.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements As of December 31, 2018 (Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

The other \$50,000 notional value interest rate collar was accounted for as a freestanding derivative from inception. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we recognized a \$94 gain within other income (expense) in our consolidated statements of operations reflecting the change in fair value of the instrument from its inception date through December 31, 2017. On January 4, 2018, we designated this other \$50,000 notional value interest rate collar as a cash flow hedge and determined that the hedge is highly effective in offsetting interest rate fluctuations associated with the identified indebtedness. We concluded that this hedging relationship was and will continue to be highly effective using the hypothetical derivative method.

Effective interest rate swaps and collars are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income and the fair value of these hedge agreements is included in other assets or other liabilities.

For interest rate swaps and collars that are considered effective hedges, we reclassified realized gains (losses) of \$1,372, (\$107) and (\$492) to earnings within interest expense for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. For interest rate swaps that are considered effective hedges, we expect \$2,004 to be reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income to earnings over the next 12 months.

NOTE 6: Stockholder Equity and Noncontrolling Interest

Stockholder Equity

On August 4, 2017, we entered into an At-the-Market Issuance Sales Agreement (the "ATM Sales Agreement") with various sales agents. Pursuant to the ATM Sales Agreement, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, having an aggregate offering price of up to \$150,000, from time to time through the sales agents. The sales agents are entitled to compensation in an agreed amount not to exceed 2.0% of the gross sales price per share for any shares sold from time to time under the ATM Sales Agreement. We have no obligation to sell any of the shares under the ATM Sales Agreement and may at any time suspend solicitations and offers under the ATM Sales Agreement. During the year ended December 31, 2018, 2,196,164 shares were issued at an average price of \$10.32 per share, resulting in \$22,213 of net proceed, after deducting \$453 of commissions. Pursuant to the Sales Agreement \$115,241 remained available for issuance as of December 31, 2018.

On September 11, 2017, we issued 12,500,000 shares of our common stock at a public offering price of \$9.25 per share. We also closed on the underwriters' option to purchase an additional 1,875,000 shares of common stock at the public offering price. As a result of the offering and exercise of the underwriters' option, we received approximately \$126,100 in net proceeds, after deducting the underwriting discount and offering expenses.

Effective the first quarter of 2018, we transitioned to a quarterly distribution of cash dividends on our common stock. Prior to this, we paid monthly distributions of cash dividends on our common stock.

Our board of directors declared the following dividends in 2018:

Quarter	Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Declared Per Share
First quarter 2018	March 13, 2018	April 4, 2018	April 20, 2018	\$ 0.18
Second quarter 2018	June 13, 2018	July 7, 2018	July 20, 2018	\$ 0.18
Third quarter 2018	September 17, 2018	October 5, 2018	October 19, 2018	\$ 0.18
Fourth quarter 2018	December 13, 2017	December 27, 2018	January 24, 2019	\$ 0.18

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

Our board of directors declared the following dividends in 2017:

Month	Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Declared Per Share
January 2017	January 12, 2017	January 31, 2017	February 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
February 2017	January 12, 2017	February 28, 2017	March 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
March 2017	January 12, 2017	March 31, 2017	April 17, 2017	\$ 0.06
April 2017	April 12, 2017	April 28, 2017	May 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
May 2017	April 12, 2017	May 31, 2017	June 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
June 2017	April 12, 2017	June 30, 2017	July 17, 2017	\$ 0.06
July 2017	July 14, 2017	July 31, 2017	August 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
August 2017	July 14, 2017	August 31, 2017	September 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
September 2017	July 14, 2017	September 29, 2017	October 13, 2017	\$ 0.06
October 2017	October 12, 2017	October 31, 2017	November 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
November 2017	October 12, 2017	November 30, 2017	December 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
December 2017	October 12, 2017	December 29, 2017	January 17, 2018	\$ 0.06

Noncontrolling Interest

During 2018, holders of IROP units exchanged 2,130,244 units for 2,130,244 shares of our common stock.

During 2017, holders of IROP units exchanged 64,202 units for 64,202 shares of our common stock.

In June 2017, we issued 166,604 IROP units in connection with our acquisition of Village at Auburn (formerly known as South Terrace). The IROP units were valued at \$1,654 based on the price of our common stock. See Note 3: Investments in Real Estate for details on the property acquisition.

As of December 31, 2018, 881,107 IROP units held by unaffiliated third parties remain outstanding with a redemption value of \$8,089, based on IRT's stock price of \$9.18 as of December 31, 2018.

Effective the first quarter of 2018, we transitioned to a quarterly distribution of cash dividends on our operating partnership's LP units. Prior to this, we paid monthly distributions of cash dividends on our operating partnership's LP units.

Our board of directors declared the following distributions on our operating partnership's LP units during 2018:

Quarter	Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Declared Per Share
First quarter 2018	March 13, 2018	April 4, 2018	April 20, 2018	\$ 0.18
Second quarter 2018	June 13, 2018	July 7, 2018	July 20, 2018	\$ 0.18
Third quarter 2018	September 17, 2018	October 5, 2018	October 19, 2018	\$ 0.18
Fourth quarter 2018	December 13, 2017	December 27, 2018	January 24, 2019	\$ 0.18

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

Our board of directors declared the following distributions on our operating partnership's LP units during 2017:

Month	Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Declared Per Share
January 2017	January 12, 2017	January 31, 2017	February 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
February 2017	January 12, 2017	February 28, 2017	March 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
March 2017	January 12, 2017	March 31, 2017	April 17, 2017	\$ 0.06
April 2017	April 12, 2017	April 28, 2017	May 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
May 2017	April 12, 2017	May 31, 2017	June 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
June 2017	April 12, 2017	June 30, 2017	July 17, 2017	\$ 0.06
July 2017	July 14, 2017	July 31, 2017	August 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
August 2017	July 14, 2017	August 31, 2017	September 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
September 2017	July 14, 2017	September 29, 2017	October 13, 2017	\$ 0.06
October 2017	October 12, 2017	October 31, 2017	November 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
November 2017	October 12, 2017	November 30, 2017	December 15, 2017	\$ 0.06
December 2017	October 12, 2017	December 29, 2017	January 15, 2018	\$ 0.06

NOTE 7: Equity Compensation Plans

Long Term Incentive Plan

In May 2016, our shareholders approved and our board of directors adopted an amended and restated Long Term Incentive Plan (the "Incentive Plan"), which provides for the grants of awards to our directors, officers and full-time employees, full-time employees of our former advisor and its affiliates, full-time employees of entities that provide services to our former advisor, directors of our former advisor or of entities that provide services to it, certain of our consultants and certain consultants to our former advisor and its affiliates or to entities that provide services to our former advisor. The Incentive Plan authorizes the grant of restricted or unrestricted shares of our common stock, performance share units ("PSUs"), non-qualified and incentive stock options, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), dividend equivalents and other stock- or cash-based awards. In conjunction with the amendment, the number of shares of common stock issuable under the Incentive Plan was increased to 4,300,000 shares and the term of the incentive plan was extended to May 12, 2026.

Under the incentive plan or predecessor incentive plans, we have granted restricted shares and stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), to employees and employees of our former advisor. These awards generally vested over a three or four year period. In addition, we have granted unrestricted shares to our directors. These awards generally vested immediately.

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 we recognized \$2,524, \$1,968 and \$1,222 of stock compensation expense, respectively.

A summary of the restricted common share awards activity of the incentive plan is presented below.

	2018		2017		2016	
	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share
Balance, January 1,	295,847	\$ 7.84	281,005	\$ 6.99	117,000	\$ 9.13
Granted	233,706	8.64	168,010	9.17	228,000	6.33
Vested	(175,555)	7.99	(142,748)	7.68	(60,661)	8.62
Forfeited	(50,179)	8.45	(10,420)	8.56	(3,334)	7.47
Balance, December 31,	<u>303,819</u>	<u>\$ 8.22</u>	<u>295,847</u>	<u>\$ 7.84</u>	<u>281,005</u>	<u>\$ 6.99</u>

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

As of December 31, 2018, the unearned compensation cost relating to unvested restricted common share awards was \$1,948. The estimated fair value of restricted common share awards vested during 2018, 2017, and 2016 was \$1,539, \$1,319, and \$427, respectively.

A summary of the SARs activity of the incentive plan is presented below.

	2018		2017		2016	
	SARs	Weighted Average Exercise Price	SARs	Weighted Average Exercise Price	SARs	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding, January 1,	250,000	\$ 9.28	337,000	\$ 9.15	351,000	\$ 9.13
Granted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Expired	—	—	—	—	(2,000)	9.35
Exercised	(55,000)	9.02	(84,000)	8.78	(8,000)	8.20
Forfeited	—	—	(3,000)	9.35	(4,000)	9.35
Outstanding, December 31,	195,000	\$ 9.35	250,000	\$ 9.28	337,000	\$ 9.15
SARs exercisable at December 31,	195,000		160,000		128,998	

As of December 31, 2018, our closing common stock price was \$9.18. The exercise price of all outstanding SARs was \$9.35. Therefore, the total intrinsic value of SARs outstanding and exercisable at December 31, 2018 was \$0. The weighted average contractual life of outstanding and exercisable SARs is 1.2 years. As of December 31, 2018, there was no unearned compensation cost relating to unvested SAR awards.

The following table summarizes the PSUs granted for the year ended December 31, 2018:

Grant Date	Type of PSUs Granted	Number of PSUs Granted	Performance Period Commencement Date	Performance Period End Date	Grant Date Fair Value	Number of PSUs Outstanding as of December 31, 2018
February 23, 2018	Relative 3-year TSR vs NAREIT Apartment Index	317,906	January 1, 2018	December 31, 2020	\$ 4.19	317,906
February 23, 2018	Strategic Objectives	136,245	January 1, 2018	December 31, 2020	\$ 8.67	136,245

Our assumptions used in computing the fair value of the PSUs at the dates of their respective awards, using the Monte Carlo method, were as follows:

For the year ended December 31, 2018	
Dividend yield	8.2%
Volatility	28.0% (a)
Expected term	2.9 years

- (a) This represents the volatility assumption used for IRT. The volatility assumptions used for our peer group and the NAREIT Mortgage Index ranged from 19% to 41%.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

The following table summarizes the PSUs granted for the year ended December 31, 2017:

Grant Date	Type of PSUs Granted	Number of PSUs Granted	Performance Period Commencement Date	Performance Period End Date	Grant Date Fair Value	Number of PSUs Outstanding as of December 31, 2018
	Relative 3-year TSR vs NAREIT					
February 28, 2017	Apartment Index	135,881	January 1, 2017	December 31, 2019	4.83	135,881
February 28, 2017	Absolute 3-Year TSR	45,294	January 1, 2017	December 31, 2019	3.13	45,294
July 26, 2017	Strategic Objectives	45,294	January 1, 2017	December 31, 2019	9.87	45,294

Our assumptions used in computing the fair value of the PSUs at the dates of their respective awards, using the Monte Carlo method, were as follows:

	For the year ended December 31, 2017
Dividend yield	8.1%
Volatility	27.0% (a)
Expected term	2.8 years

- (a) This represents the volatility assumption used for IRT. The volatility assumptions used for our peer group and the NAREIT Mortgage Index ranged from 19% to 28%.

The Company estimates future expenses associated with PSUs outstanding at December 31, 2018 to be \$1,948, which will be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.2 years.

On February 6, 2019, our compensation committee awarded 92,925 restricted stock awards, valued at \$10.35 per share, or \$962 in the aggregate to non-executive employees. These restricted stock awards vest over a three-year period.

NOTE 8: 2016 Management Internalization

On December 20, 2016, we completed our management internalization, which consisted of two parts: (i) our acquisition of our external advisor, which was a subsidiary of RAIT, and (ii) our acquisition of substantially all of its assets and the assumption of certain liabilities relating to the multifamily property management business of RAIT, including property management contracts relating to apartment properties owned by us, RAIT and third parties.

In accounting for the management internalization transaction, we first evaluated the net assets that were acquired. We also considered pre-existing relationships that were settled as part of the transaction, which included the advisory agreement and our properties' property management agreements. In evaluating the amount by which these contracts were favorable or unfavorable to us, we compared the actual amounts historically paid and that would be owed under these agreements to a range of potential market arrangements and then applying a discount rate to the two sets of cash flows. The most significant difference between our agreements and the potential markets arrangements observed was our inability to terminate the advisory agreement until October 1, 2020 as well as the advisory agreement's termination fee. The impact of this difference led to the conclusion that these agreements were unfavorable to us, on a present value basis, by more than \$43,000, which was the purchase price for the management internalization.

Accordingly, the difference between estimated fair value of the net assets acquired of \$143 and the consideration transferred of \$43,000 represents the settlement of pre-existing relationships between us and RAIT. Accordingly, the difference of \$42,857 was recognized as a loss in our income statement as management internalization expense.

As part of our management internalization, we incurred \$2,119 of acquisition-related expenses. These acquisition-related expenses were recognized in earnings immediately and are included within management internalization expense.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

NOTE 9: Related Party Transactions and Arrangements

Fees and Expenses Paid to Our Former Advisor

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, our former advisor earned \$0, \$0, and \$7,092 of asset management fees, respectively. These fees are included within general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations.

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, our former advisor earned \$0, \$0 and \$350 of incentive fees, respectively. These fees are included within general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations.

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, we incurred costs of \$0, \$727 and \$0, respectively, with respect to our shared services agreement with our former advisor, under which our former advisor provided us with certain back office support services. The term of the share services agreement was from December 21, 2016 to June 20, 2017, and the associated fees are included within general and administrative expenses in our consolidated statements of operations.

Property Management Fees Paid to Our Former Property Manager and Earned from RAIT

On December 20, 2016, in connection with our management internalization, we acquired property management agreements with respect to each of our properties from RAIT Residential, our former property manager, which is wholly owned by RAIT. Subsequent to this transaction, we earned \$63, \$257, and \$0, respectively, of property management fees from RAIT for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016.

For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, our former property manager earned \$0, \$0, and \$4,769, respectively, of property management and leasing fees.

Dividends Paid to Affiliates of Our Former Advisor

On October 5, 2016, we repurchased and retired all 7,269,719 shares of our common stock owned by subsidiaries of RAIT.

Since October 5, 2016, RAIT has not owned any shares of our common stock. For the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, we declared and subsequently paid dividends of \$0, \$0 and \$3,926, respectively, related to shares of common stock owned by subsidiaries of RAIT.

RAIT Indebtedness

In the second quarter of 2016, we repaid \$38,075 of mortgage indebtedness with proceeds from two property dispositions. This indebtedness was held by RAIT. Total interest expense paid to RAIT for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 was \$0, \$0 and \$361, respectively.

Village at Auburn Acquisition

In June 2017, we acquired Village at Auburn, a 328-unit property in Durham, NC for \$42,950 from a joint venture, of which a subsidiary of RAIT was a controlling member. For further information, see Note 3: Investment in Real Estate.

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)**

NOTE 10: Earnings (Loss) Per Share

The following table presents a reconciliation of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016:

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2018	2017	2016
Net Income (loss)	\$ 26,610	\$ 31,441	\$ (9,555)
(Income) loss allocated to non-controlling interests	(322)	(1,235)	(246)
Net Income (loss) allocable to common shares	<u>26,288</u>	<u>30,206</u>	<u>(9,801)</u>
Weighted-average shares outstanding—Basic	87,086,585	73,338,219	52,182,427
Dilutive securities	290,406	261,650	—
Weighted-average shares outstanding—Diluted	<u>87,376,991</u>	<u>73,599,869</u>	<u>52,182,427</u>
Earnings (loss) per share—Basic	<u>\$ 0.30</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ (0.19)</u>
Earnings (loss) per share—Diluted	<u>\$ 0.30</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ (0.19)</u>

Certain IROP units and unvested shares totaling 881,107, 3,011,351, and 3,175,720 for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively, were excluded from the earnings (loss) per share computation because their effect would have been anti-dilutive.

NOTE 11: Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

The following table summarizes our quarterly financial data which, in the opinion of management, reflects all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of our results of operations:

	For the Three-Month Periods Ended			
	March 31	June 30	September 30	December 31
2018				
Total revenue	\$ 45,755	\$ 46,889	\$ 48,779	\$ 49,809
Net income (loss)	3,500	3,545	4,836	14,729
Net income (loss) allocable to common shares	3,412	3,509	4,787	14,580
Total earnings (loss) per share—Basic (1)	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.16
Total earnings (loss) per share—Diluted (1)	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.16
2017				
Total revenue	\$ 39,142	\$ 39,561	\$ 40,066	\$ 42,447
Net income (loss)	4,245	19,521	1,156	6,519
Net income (loss) allocable to common shares	4,077	18,739	1,097	6,293
Total earnings (loss) per share—Basic (1)	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.08
Total earnings (loss) per share—Diluted (1)	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.08

(1) The summation of quarterly per share amounts may not equal the full year amounts due to rounding.

NOTE 12: SEGMENT REPORTING

Segments

We have identified one operating segment and have determined that we have one reportable segment. As a group, our executive officers act as the Chief Operating Decision Maker or CODM. The CODM reviews operating results to make decisions about all investments and resources and to assess performance for the entire company. Our portfolio consists of one reportable segment, investments in real estate through the mechanism of ownership. The CODM manages and reviews our operations as one unit. Resources are allocated without regard to the underlying structure of any investment, but rather after evaluating such economic

Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

As of December 31, 2018

(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share data)

characteristics as returns on investment, leverage ratios, current portfolio mix, degrees of risk, income tax consequences and opportunities for growth.

NOTE 13: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation

We are subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of our business operations. Matters which arise out of allegations of bodily injury, property damage, and employment practices are generally covered by insurance. While the resolution of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, we currently believe the final outcome of such matters will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Other Matters

To the extent that a natural disaster or similar event occurs with more than a remote risk of having a material impact on the consolidated financial statements, we will disclose the estimated range of possible outcomes, and, if an outcome is probable, accrue an appropriate liability.

Lease Obligations

We lease office space in Philadelphia, PA and Chicago, IL. As of December 31, 2018, the annual minimum rent due pursuant to these leases for each of the next five years and thereafter is estimated to be \$248, \$495, \$369, \$375, \$382, and \$2,358 respectively

Independence Realty Trust
Schedule III - Real Estate and Accumulated Depreciation
As of December 31, 2018
(Dollars in thousands)

Property Name	Location	Initial Cost		Cost of Improvements		Gross Carrying Amount		Accumulated Depreciation- Building	Encumbrances (Unpaid Principal)	Year of Acquisition
		Land	Building	Land	Building	Land	Building			
Crestmont	Marietta, GA	\$ 3,254	\$ 13,017	\$ -	\$ 4,714	\$ 3,254	\$ 17,731	\$ (4,361)	\$ (6,218)	2011
Runaway Bay	Indianapolis, IN	3,079	12,318	-	1,010	3,079	13,328	(2,293)	(9,206)	2012
Reserve at Eagle Ridge (a)	Waukegan, IL	5,800	22,743	-	1,346	5,800	24,089	(2,862)	(18,850)	2014
Windrush	Edmond, OK	1,677	7,464	-	649	1,677	8,113	(1,135)	-	2014
Heritage Park	Oklahoma, OK	4,234	12,232	-	2,111	4,234	14,343	(2,204)	-	2014
Raindance	Oklahoma, OK	3,503	10,051	-	1,746	3,503	11,797	(1,826)	-	2014
Augusta	Oklahoma, OK	1,296	9,930	-	953	1,296	10,883	(1,526)	-	2014
Invitational	Oklahoma, OK	1,924	16,852	-	1,161	1,924	18,013	(2,511)	-	2014
Kings Landing	Creve Coeur, MO	2,513	29,873	-	961	2,513	30,834	(3,797)	(20,619)	2014
Carrington (a)	Little Rock, AR	1,715	19,526	-	1,823	1,715	21,349	(2,445)	(14,235)	2014
Walnut Hill	Cordova, TN	2,230	25,251	-	1,285	2,230	26,536	(3,234)	(18,650)	2014
Lenox Place	Raleigh, NC	3,480	20,482	-	900	3,480	21,382	(2,544)	(15,991)	2014
Stonebridge Crossing	Memphis, TN	3,100	26,223	-	2,779	3,100	29,002	(3,454)	(19,370)	2014
Bennington Pond	Groveport, OH	2,400	14,828	-	1,044	2,400	15,872	(1,926)	(11,375)	2014
Prospect Park	Louisville, KY	2,837	11,193	-	540	2,837	11,733	(1,262)	(9,230)	2014
Brookside	Louisville, KY	3,947	16,502	-	887	3,947	17,389	(1,907)	(13,455)	2014
Jamestown	Louisville, KY	7,034	27,730	-	7,551	7,034	35,281	(3,960)	(22,880)	2014
Oxmoor	Louisville, KY	7,411	47,095	-	3,798	7,411	50,893	(5,370)	(35,815)	2014
Meadows	Louisville, KY	6,857	30,030	-	1,782	6,857	31,812	(3,513)	(24,245)	2014
Stonebridge at the Ranch (a)	Little Rock, AR	3,315	27,954	-	995	3,315	28,949	(2,625)	(20,527)	2014
Iron Rock Ranch	Austin, TX	5,860	28,911	-	1,163	5,860	30,074	(3,295)	(22,900)	2014
Bayview Club	Indianapolis, IN	2,525	22,506	-	1,372	2,525	23,878	(2,388)	-	2015
Arbors River Oaks	Memphis, TN	2,100	19,045	-	1,480	2,100	20,525	(1,896)	-	2015
Aston	Wake Forest, NC	3,450	34,333	-	424	3,450	34,757	(2,887)	(25,050)	2015
Avenues at Craig Ranch	McKinney, TX	5,500	42,054	-	566	5,500	42,620	(3,536)	(31,250)	2015
Bridge Pointe	Huntsville, AL	1,500	14,306	-	512	1,500	14,818	(1,293)	-	2015
Creekstone at RTP	Durham, NC	5,376	32,727	-	386	5,376	33,113	(2,766)	(22,136)	2015
Fountains Southend	Charlotte, NC	4,368	37,254	-	418	4,368	37,672	(3,089)	(22,975)	2015
Fox Trails	Plano, TX	5,700	21,944	-	1,452	5,700	23,396	(2,082)	-	2015
Lakeshore on the Hill	Chattanooga, TN	925	10,212	-	723	925	10,935	(968)	-	2015
Millenia 700	Orlando, FL	5,500	41,752	-	921	5,500	42,673	(3,552)	(28,746)	2015
Miller Creek at German Town	Memphis, TN	3,300	53,504	-	364	3,300	53,868	(4,442)	-	2015
Pointe at Canyon Ridge	Atlanta, GA	11,100	36,995	-	5,314	11,100	42,309	(3,883)	-	2015
St James at Goose Creek	Goose Creek, SC	3,780	27,695	-	609	3,780	28,304	(2,450)	-	2015
Talison Row at Daniel Island	Daniel Island, SC	5,480	41,409	-	441	5,480	41,850	(3,500)	(32,229)	2015
Trails at Signal Mountain	Chattanooga, TN	1,200	12,895	-	715	1,200	13,610	(1,215)	-	2015
Vue at Knoll Trail	Dallas, TX	3,100	6,077	-	259	3,100	6,336	(570)	-	2015
Waterstone at Brier Creek	Raleigh, NC	4,200	34,651	-	320	4,200	34,971	(2,899)	(16,040)	2015
Waterstone Big Creek	Alpharetta, GA	7,600	61,971	-	325	7,600	62,296	(5,114)	(49,680)	2015
Westmont Commons	Asheville, NC	2,750	25,225	-	531	2,750	25,756	(2,207)	-	2015
Lakes at Northdale	Tampa, FL	3,898	25,543	-	708	3,898	26,251	(1,270)	-	2017
Haverford Place	Lexington, KY	3,927	10,100	-	1,010	3,927	11,110	(539)	-	2017
South Terrace	Durham, NC	5,621	36,923	-	4,615	5,621	41,538	(1,759)	-	2017
Cherry Grove	North Myrtle Beach, SC	550	15,369	-	710	550	16,079	(553)	-	2017
Kensington Commons	Canal Winchester, OH	3,400	20,703	-	732	3,400	21,435	(699)	-	2017
Schirm Farms	Canal Winchester, OH	3,960	19,488	-	972	3,960	20,460	(660)	-	2017
Riverchase	Indianapolis, IN	1,460	17,250	-	393	1,460	17,643	(563)	-	2017
Live Oak Trace	Baton Rouge, LA	1,060	27,362	-	188	1,060	27,550	(813)	-	2017
Tides at Calabash	Wilmington, NC	1,880	12,214	-	265	1,880	12,479	(352)	-	2017
Brunswick Point	Wilmington, NC	2,150	28,214	-	795	2,150	29,009	(749)	(19,000)	2017
Creekside Corners	Lithonia, GA	6,140	37,282	-	2,305	6,140	39,587	(965)	(23,500)	2018
Hartshire Lakes	Bargersville, IN	3,070	24,206	-	308	3,070	24,514	(575)	(16,000)	2018
The Chelsea	Columbus, OH	2,739	33,694	-	170	2,739	33,864	(779)	-	2018
Avalon Oaks	Columbus, OH	4,189	18,297	-	857	4,189	19,154	(397)	-	2018
Bridgeview	Tampa, FL	10,671	31,949	-	134	10,671	32,083	(336)	-	2018
Collier Park	Grove City, OH	2,325	18,676	-	109	2,325	18,785	(197)	-	2018
Waterford Landing	McDonough, GA	2,867	27,467	-	57	2,867	27,524	(114)	(15,500)	2018
Lucerne	Brandon, FL	3,114	43,537	-	7	3,114	43,544	(95)	-	2018
Total Investment in Real Estate		\$ 219,941	\$ 1,455,034	\$ —	\$ 70,665	\$ 219,941	\$ 1,525,699	\$ (120,202)	\$ (585,672)	

(a) This property was classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2018.

Investments in Real Estate	For the year ended		
	December 31, 2018 (a)	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016 (b)
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 1,504,156	\$ 1,319,350	\$ 1,372,015
Additions during period:			
Acquisitions	270,220	241,071	—
Improvements to land and building	41,587	14,368	10,664
Deductions during period:			
Dispositions of real estate	(69,915)	(70,633)	(63,329)
Asset write-offs	(408)	—	—
Balance, end of period:	<u>\$ 1,745,640</u>	<u>\$ 1,504,156</u>	<u>\$ 1,319,350</u>

Accumulated Depreciation	For the year ended		
	December 31, 2018 (a)	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016 (b)
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 84,097	\$ 60,719	\$ 39,638
Depreciation expense	41,652	32,586	31,085
Dispositions of real estate	(5,139)	(9,208)	(10,004)
Asset write-off	(408)	—	—
Balance, end of period:	<u>\$ 120,202</u>	<u>\$ 84,097</u>	<u>\$ 60,719</u>

(a) Includes properties classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2018.

(b) Includes properties classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016.

ITEM 9. *Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure*

None.

ITEM 9A. *Controls and Procedures*

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the “Exchange Act”), is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

Under the supervision of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer and with the participation of our disclosure committee, we have carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer determined that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective at the reasonable assurance level.

Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risks that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* (2013 Framework). Based on this assessment, management believes that, as of December 31, 2018, our internal control over financial reporting is effective.

Our independent registered public accounting firm has issued an attestation report on our internal control over financial reporting. This report is included as part of Item 8 in this annual report on Form 10-K.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting or in other factors during our last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or were reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 9B. *Other Information*

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. *Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance*

The information required by this item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement with respect to our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 11. *Executive Compensation*

The information required by this item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement with respect to our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement with respect to our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence

The information required by this item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement with respect to our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this item will be set forth in our definitive proxy statement with respect to our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, and is incorporated herein by reference.

PART IV

ITEM 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

The following documents are filed as part of this report:

1. Consolidated Financial Statements

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

Independence Realty Trust, Inc.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2018 and 2017.

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

2. Financial Statement Schedules

Schedule III: Real Estate and Accumulated Depreciation

All other schedules are not applicable.

3. Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed as part of, or incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit	Description
2.1	<u>Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 11, 2015, by and among Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (“IRT”), Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP (“IROP”), Adventure Merger Sub LLC, IRT Limited Partner, LLC, Trade Street Residential, Inc. and Trade Street Operating Partnership, LP, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to IRT’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 12, 2015 (the “5/12/15 Form 8-K”).</u>
2.2	<u>Amendment No. 1, dated as of September 11, 2015, to Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 11, 2015, by and among Independence Realty Trust, Inc., IROP, Adventure Merger Sub LLC, IRT Limited Partner, LLC, Trade Street Residential, Inc. and Trade Street Operating Partnership, LP, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of IRT’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 11, 2015).</u>

EXHIBIT INDEX

- 3.1 [Articles of Restatement of Independence Realty Trust, Inc., dated as of August 20, 2013, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on August 20, 2013.](#)
- 3.2 [Amended and Restated Bylaws of IRT adopted March 3, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to IRT's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 \(the "2016 10-K"\).](#)
- 4.1 [Exchange Rights Agreement dated as of August 28, 2014 among IRT, IROP and the limited partners named therein, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to IRT's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2014.](#)
- 4.2 [Exchange Rights Agreement dated as of December 30, 2014 among IRT, IROP and the limited partners named therein, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1.9 to IRT's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 \(the "2014 10-K"\).](#)
- 4.3 [Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of IROP, dated as of March 3, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1.12 to the 2016 10-K.](#)
- 4.4 [Exchange Rights Agreement dated June 30, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1.13 to IRT's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.](#)
- 10.1 [At-the-Market Issuance Agreement dated August 4, 2017, among Independence Realty Trust, Inc., Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, Capital One Securities, Inc., KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to IRT's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2017.](#)
- 10.2 [Independence Realty Trust, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Form of Stock Appreciation Rights Award Certificate adopted January 31, 2014, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 6, 2014 \(the "2/6/14 Form 8-K"\).*](#)
- 10.3 [Independence Realty Trust, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Form of Restricted Stock Award Certificate adopted January 31, 2014, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the 2/6/14 Form 8-K.*](#)
- 10.4 [IRT 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan, as amended and restated as of May 12, 2016 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 17, 2016.*](#)
- 10.5 [Amendment No. 1 dated as of May 2, 2017 to the IRT Long Term Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to IRT's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2017 \(the "2017 Q1 10-Q"\).*](#)
- 10.6 [Notice of Amendment of Outstanding Awards as of May 2, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q.](#)
- 10.7 [Form of Indemnification Agreement approved March 3, 2017 for IRT directors and executive officers, together with the schedule required by Instruction 2 of Item 601 of Regulation S-K, listing the parties to substantially identical agreements, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7.2 to the 2016 10-K.](#)
- 10.8 [Credit Agreement dated as of May 1, 2017 by and among Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP and the subsidiary borrowers named therein, collectively, as borrower, Citibank, N.A. and KeyBank National Association, as the initial lenders, issuing lenders and swing loan lenders, the other lenders party thereto, KeyBank National Association, as administrative agent, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and The Huntington National Bank, as co-syndication agents, and Bank of America, N.A., Capital One, National Association, Citizens Bank, N.A., Comerica Bank and Regions Bank, as co-documentation agents, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and KeyBank Capital Markets, as joint bookrunners and Citigroup Global Markets Inc., KeyBank Capital Markets and The Huntington National Bank, as joint lead arrangers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.22.1 to IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 4, 2017.](#)

EXHIBIT INDEX

- 10.9 [Term Loan Agreement dated as of November 20, 2017 by and among Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP and the subsidiary borrowers named therein, collectively, as borrower, KeyBank National Association \(“KeyBank”\), as an initial lender thereunder together with the other lenders named therein, KeyBank, as administrative agent, Capital One, National Association \(“Capital One”\) and The Huntington National Bank \(“HNB”\), as co-syndication agents, and KeyBank Capital Markets \(“KeyBank Markets”\), Capital One and HNB, as joint bookrunners and KeyBank Markets, Capital One and HNB, as joint lead arrangers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to IRT’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 21, 2017.](#)
- 10.10 [Employment Agreement, dated December 20, 2016, by and between IRT and Scott F. Schaeffer, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the 12/22/16 Form 8-K.*](#)
- 10.11 [Employment Agreement, dated December 20, 2016, by and between IRT and James J. Sebra, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the 12/22/16 Form 8-K. *](#)
- 10.12 [Employment Agreement, dated December 20, 2016, by and between IRT and Farrell M. Ender, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the 12/22/16 Form 8-K. *](#)
- 10.13 [Form of 2017 Cash Bonus Award Grant Agreement adopted as of February 28, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q. *](#)
- 10.14 [Form of 2017 Performance Share Unit Award Grant Agreement adopted as of February 28, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q. *](#)
- 10.15 [Form of Restricted Stock Award Certificate for Eligible Officers adopted as of February 28, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q.*](#)
- 10.16 [Form of Restricted Stock Award Certificate for Non-Eligible Officers of IRT adopted as of February 28, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q.*](#)
- 10.17 [Form of Restricted Stock Award Certificate for Non-Eligible Officers of RAIT Financial Trust adopted as of February 28, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the 2017 Q1 10-Q.*](#)
- 10.18 [HPI Purchase and Sale Agreement dated September 3, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to IRT’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 \(the “2017 Q3 10-Q”\).](#)
- 10.19 [First Amendment to HPI Purchase and Sale Agreement dated September 25, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the 2017 Q3 10-Q.](#)
- 10.20 [Second Amendment to HPI Purchase and Sale Agreement dated October 24, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the 2017 Q3 10-Q.](#)
- 10.21 [Term Loan Agreement dated as of October 30, 2018 by and among IROP and the subsidiary borrowers named therein, collectively, as borrower, KeyBank National Association \(“KeyBank”\), as an initial lender thereunder together with the other lenders named therein, KeyBank, as administrative agent, Citibank, N.A. \(“Citibank”\), as syndication agent, Citibank and KeyBank Capital Markets \(“KeyBank Markets”\), as joint bookrunners and Citibank and KeyBank Markets, as joint lead arrangers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to IRT’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2018.](#)
- 10.22 [Summary of Non-Employee Director Compensation, filed herewith.*](#)
- 10.23 [Form of Cash Bonus Award Grant Agreement under the Independence Realty Trust, Inc. 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan, filed herewith.*](#)
- 10.24 [Form of Performance Share Unit Award Grant Agreement under the Independence Realty Trust, Inc. 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan, filed herewith.*](#)
- 10.25 [Form of Restricted Stock Award Certificate for Eligible Officers under the Independence Realty Trust, Inc. 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan, filed herewith. *](#)
- 21.1 [Subsidiaries of IRT, filed herewith.](#)
- 23.1 [Consent of KPMG LLP, filed herewith.](#)
- 31.1 [Certification of the Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.](#)
- 31.2 [Certification of the Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.](#)

EXHIBIT INDEX

-
- 32.1 [Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.](#)
- 32.2 [Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.](#)
- 99.1 [Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations filed herewith.](#)
- 99.2 [Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of Trade Street Residential, Inc. as of June 30, 2015 and for the three and six months ended July 30, 2015 and 2014 , incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 to the 9/18/15 Form 8-K.](#)
- 99.3 [Audited Consolidated Financial Statements of Trade Street Residential, Inc. as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for each year in the three-year period ended December 31, 2014, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 of IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 11, 2015.](#)
- 99.4 [Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. as of and for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and for the year ended December 31, 2014 , incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.4 to the 9/18/15 Form 8-K.](#)
- 99.5 [Combined Statements of Revenue and Certain Expenses of the multi-family properties located in Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, and South Carolina for the six-month period ended June 30, 2017 \(unaudited\) and for the year ended December 31, 2016 incorporated by reference to exhibit 99.2 to IRT's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 5, 2017.](#)
- 101 XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language). The following materials, formatted in XBRL: (i) Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016. (iii) Consolidated Statements of Equity for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, (iv) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017, and 2016, and (v) notes to the consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2018, filed herewith.

* Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.

ITEM 16. *Form 10-K Summary*

None.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.

Date: February 22, 2019

By: /s/ SCOTT F. SCHAEFFER

Scott F. Schaeffer
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ SCOTT F. SCHAEFFER</u> Scott F. Schaeffer	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ JAMES J. SEBRA</u> James J. Sebra	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer)	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ JASON R. DELOZIER</u> Jason R. Delozier	Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ WILLIAM C. DUNKELBERG</u> William C. Dunkelberg	Director	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ RICHARD GEBERT</u> Richard D. Gebert	Director	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ MACK D. PRIDGEN III</u> Mack D. Pridgen III	Director	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ RICHARD H. ROSS</u> Richard H. Ross	Director	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ DEFOREST B. SOARIES, JR.</u> DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.	Director	February 22, 2019
<u>/s/ MELINDA McCLURE</u> Melinda H. McClure	Director	February 22, 2019

85

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 2: EX-10.22 (EX-10.22)

Exhibit 10.22

Schedule of Non-Employee Director Compensation (as revised, effective January 1, 2018)

1. Annual Retainer:
 - a. \$40,000 cash.
 - b. \$60,000 in common stock.
2. Annual Committee Chair Fees:

- a. Audit Committee Chair - \$20,000.
 - b. Compensation Committee Chair - \$15,000.
 - c. Nominating and Governance Committee Chair - \$10,000
3. Annual Committee Member (other than Chair) Fees:
- a. Audit Committee - \$7,500.
 - b. Compensation Committee - \$5,000.
 - c. Nominating and Governance Committee - \$5,000

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 3: EX-10.23 (EX-10.23)

Exhibit 10.23

**INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.
CASH BONUS AWARD GRANT AGREEMENT**

To: [Name]

Attached as Appendix A hereto is the Annual Cash Bonus Plan (the "Annual Cash Bonus Plan") as adopted pursuant to Article X of the Independence Realty Trust 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). You have been granted the opportunity to earn a cash award (the "Cash Bonus Award") under the Annual Cash Bonus Plan. This Cash Bonus Award Grant Agreement (the "Grant Agreement") sets forth the terms and conditions related to such Cash Bonus Award. The Award is contingent upon your acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms and conditions as set forth in this Grant Agreement and the Plan.

Grant Date:

Target Cash Bonus Amount: \$ _____

Cash Award Opportunity: Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Grant Agreement and the Plan, the Company hereby notifies you that you have the opportunity to receive a Cash Bonus Award in an amount calculated in the manner set forth in the Annual Cash Bonus Plan. The actual amount of the Cash Bonus Award shall be determined according to the achievement or non-achievement of performance targets (the "Performance Targets") established by the Committee and set forth in in the Annual Cash Bonus Plan. The Participant shall not be entitled to receive any portion of the Cash Bonus Award that does not become payable because of the failure to fully satisfy the Performance Targets.

Tax Liability and Payment of Taxes: You acknowledge and agree that any income or other taxes due from you with respect to the Cash Bonus Award issued pursuant to this Grant Agreement shall be your responsibility. Upon payment of the Cash Bonus Award, the Company will withhold a portion of such Cash Bonus Award in order to satisfy your tax obligations.

Delivery: The actual payment of the Cash Bonus Award, as adjusted pursuant to this Grant Agreement or the Plan, will be made as soon as practicable following the Committee's determination of the achievement or nonachievement of the Performance Targets; provided, however, that, in order to comply with certain rules concerning the regulation of deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, in no event will any such payment be made later than March 15th of the year following the year to which the Annual Cash Bonus Plan relates.

Transferability: You may not transfer or assign the Cash Bonus Award for any reason, other than under your will or as required by intestate laws. Any attempted transfer or assignment will be null and void.

Clawback:

In addition to, and not in limitation of, the forfeiture provisions of any clawback or recoupment policy adopted by the company from time to time or in effect from time to time under applicable law or exchange listing rules, the Company may recover amounts paid to you pursuant to this Cash Bonus Award to the extent that the Committee, following an appropriate investigation and consideration of all relevant circumstances, determines that you have engaged in fraud or willful misconduct that caused the requirement for a material accounting restatement of the Company's financial statements due to material noncompliance with any financial reporting requirement (excluding any restatement due solely to a change in accounting rules).

Miscellaneous:

As a condition of the granting of this Cash Bonus Award, you agree, for yourself and your legal representatives and/or guardians, that this Grant Agreement shall be interpreted by the Committee and that any such interpretation of the terms of this Grant Agreement and any determination made by the Committee pursuant to this Grant Agreement shall be final, binding and conclusive. This Grant Agreement may be executed in counterparts. This Grant Agreement and the Cash Bonus Award granted hereunder shall be governed by Maryland Law.

This Grant Agreement and the Cash Bonus Award granted hereunder are granted under and governed by the terms and conditions of the Plan, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference. Additional provisions regarding your Cash Bonus Award and definitions of capitalized terms used and not defined in this Grant Agreement can be found in the Plan. Any inconsistency between this Grant Agreement and the Plan shall be resolved in favor of the Plan. You hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Plan. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provisions of this Grant Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Grant Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect. In the event that any provision of this Grant Agreement or any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or other portion hereof (or omission thereof) should be held to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason, such provision or portion thereof shall be modified or deleted in such a manner so as to make this Grant Agreement as so modified legal and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law.

BY SIGNING BELOW AND ACCEPTING THIS GRANT AGREEMENT AND THE CASH BONUS AWARD GRANTED HEREUNDER, YOU AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND IN THE PLAN. YOU ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE PLAN.

Authorized Officer

[Participant]

Appendix A

ANNUAL CASH BONUS PLAN

Cash Bonus Awards

For IRT's 20__ fiscal year, the Compensation Committee has implemented this Annual Cash Bonus Plan to incentivize Eligible Officers to produce a high level of operational performance by explicitly linking the majority of their annual bonuses to certain objectives and formulaic metrics that the Compensation Committee believes are important drivers in the creation of shareholder value, while also rewarding more subjective elements of each Eligible Officer's performance through a subjective component. This program sets forth a target cash bonus award level for each Eligible Officer participant composed of two components, as described below:

- "Objective/Formulaic Component" — the objective/formulaic component of the Cash Bonus Award that may be earned by each Eligible Officer will be determined by IRT's performance relative to specified objective performance criteria established by the Compensation Committee as described below.
- "Subjective Component" – the subjective component of the Cash Bonus Award may be determined based on the Compensation Committee's subjective evaluation of such participant's performance.
- Allocation of Components and Calculation of the Cash Bonus Award. Cash Bonus Awards are allocated __% to the objective/formulaic component and __% to the subjective component for _____ and _____, and ___% to the objective/formulaic component and ___% to the subjective component for _____.

The amount of the Cash Bonus Award of any Eligible Officer will be calculated by: (a) determining the sum of the results of multiplying weighting for each metric (described below) by the Relevant Percentage (described below) achieved with respect to each metric, (b) multiplying such sum by the objective criteria allocation to obtain a percentage referred to as the "Objective Criteria Bonus Earned", (c) determining the result of multiplying the subjective criteria Relevant Percentage by the subjective criteria allocation to obtain a percentage referred to as the "Subjective Criteria Bonus Earned", (d) multiplying the 20__ base salary of the relevant Eligible Officer by the sum the Objective Criteria Bonus Earned and the Subjective Criteria Bonus Earned. The actual Cash Bonus Award earned by a participant may range from 0% to each Eligible Officer's maximum percentage of base salary indicated in the table below, and will be determined based on actual performance for the year.

The individual Cash Bonus Award ranges, as a percentage (each, a "Relevant Percentage") of base salary for Threshold, Target and Maximum performance levels for each of the Eligible Officers, will be as follows:

<u>Executive</u>	<u>Cash Bonus Award Ranges</u>		
	<u>Threshold</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Maximum</u>

Objective/Formulaic Criteria

The Compensation Committee has established the following objective performance metrics to be utilized in determining any payout with respect to the Cash Bonus Awards and their relative weighting:

Objective Performance Criteria	Weighting
---------------------------------------	------------------

All of these objective performance criteria shall be calculated in a manner consistent with how IRT discloses the metric in its public reporting; provided that the Compensation Committee will retain discretion to adjust the calculation of these metrics if it determines, due to unanticipated business developments, transactions or other factors affecting the calculation of such metrics, that such an adjustment would enhance incentivizing or rewarding actions in the best interests of IRT’s stockholders. The actual Cash Bonus Award payment realized by an Eligible Officer with respect to each applicable metric will depend on IRT’s achievement of at least the “Threshold” level of performance established by the Compensation Committee with respect to that metric. There will be no Cash Bonus Award payable for that metric in the event IRT achieves less than the Threshold level. IRT’s achievement of the Threshold level for a designated metric will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to that metric; the achievement of the Target level for a designated metric will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to that metric; and the achievement of the Maximum level for a designated metric will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to that metric. If the calculated percentage is between Threshold and Target or between Target and Maximum for an annual performance period, then the earned percentage will be determined by linear interpolation. See “Allocation of Components and Calculation of the Cash Bonus Award” above for a description of how the Cash Bonus Awards will be calculated. The threshold, target and maximum amounts of each objective performance criteria have been separately communicated to each Eligible Officer.

Subjective Criteria

The Subjective Bonus Award portion of each Eligible Officer’s Cash Bonus will be based on the Compensation Committee’s subjective evaluation of the Eligible Officer’s performance relative to achieving specified individual criteria established for each participant, which the Compensation Committee has determined are also important elements of each Eligible Officer’s contribution to the creation of overall shareholder value. These include the following elements; provided that the Compensation Committee will retain discretion to add or modify subjective criteria if it determines, due to unanticipated business developments, transactions or other factors affecting IRT, that such additions or modifications to the subjective criteria would enhance incentivizing or rewarding actions in the best interests of IRT’s stockholders:

The Eligible Officer’s achievement of the Threshold level for subjective criteria will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to subjective criteria; the achievement of the Target level for subjective criteria will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to that metric; and the achievement of the Maximum level for subjective criteria will result in a payout of such Eligible Officer’s Relevant Percentage of the proportion of the Cash Bonus Award allocated to subjective criteria. If the calculated percentage is between Threshold and Target or between Target and Maximum for an annual performance period, then the earned

percentage will be determined by linear interpolation. See “Allocation of Components and Calculation of the Cash Bonus Award” above for a description of how the Cash Bonus Awards will be calculated.

Cash Bonus Award Payments

- All Cash Bonus Award payments will be made in the year following the completion of the annual performance period to which the Cash Bonus Award payment relates. The actual payment to each Eligible Officer will be made as soon as practical after final certification of the underlying performance results and approval of such payment by the Compensation Committee; provided, however, that, in order to comply with certain rules concerning the regulation of deferred compensation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, in no event will any such payment be made later than March 15 of such year.
- An Eligible Officer who terminates employment with IRT prior to the conclusion of the performance period with respect to which an applicable Cash Bonus Award payment relates will not receive a Cash Bonus Award payment, except as otherwise provided in his or her employment agreement or as otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee in its discretion.
- An Eligible Officer who terminates employment with IRT after the conclusion of the performance period with respect to which a Cash Bonus Award relates but prior to the actual payment date described above will not receive a Cash Bonus Award payment, except that:
 - In the event of such participant’s death or disability (as defined in the 2016 Plan) (“Disability”), an otherwise eligible participant may receive a Cash Bonus Award payment in the amount of such participant’s full Cash Bonus Award, as determined by the Compensation Committee.
 - In the event of the termination of such participant’s employment by the Company without Cause within one year following a Change of Control (as defined in the relevant Eligible Employee’s employment agreement, or, if not so defined, in the 2016 Plan), an otherwise eligible participant may receive a Cash Bonus Award payment in the amount of such participant’s full Cash Bonus Award, as determined by the Compensation Committee. Payment of any Cash Bonus Award in this case may be conditioned on the participant’s execution of a general release of claims against the Company and its affiliates in a form reasonably prescribed by the Company, and on that release becoming irrevocable within 60 days after such termination.

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 4: EX-10.24 (EX-10.24)

Exhibit 10.24

**INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.
LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN
PERFORMANCE SHARE UNIT AWARD
GRANT AGREEMENT**

To: [_____]

You have been granted a 20__ Performance Share Unit Award (the “Award”) pursuant to the Independence Realty Trust Long Term Incentive Plan (“Plan”). This Performance Share Unit Award Grant Agreement (the “Grant Agreement”) sets forth the potential number of Performance Share Units (each, a “Unit”) that may vest and be redeemed under this Award and its terms and conditions. The Award is contingent upon your acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms and conditions as set forth in this Grant Agreement and Plan.

Grant Date:

Target Number of Performance Share
Units:

The actual number of Performance Share Units that may vest and be redeemed shall be determined according to the level of achievement of the performance targets (“Performance Targets”) established by the Committee (as defined in the Plan) and set forth in Appendix A hereto.

Nature of Units:

Each Unit represents the right to receive one share of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (“IRT”) common stock or the cash equivalent based on Fair Market Value (as defined in the Plan) on the date of vesting, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, and consistent with the provisions of the Plan, including any adjustment hereunder or thereunder, as applicable. The Committee shall determine in its sole discretion at any time and from time to time through the date of vesting of the Unit whether any or all vested Units shall be redeemed with Shares or

cash or any combination thereof.

Vesting:

The Performance Share Units awarded pursuant to the terms of this Grant Agreement, shall vest 50% upon achievement of the Performance Targets determined as of the last day of the three-year performance period (the "Performance Period"). The Compensation Committee will make a determination on your satisfaction of Performance Targets within two months of the completion of the Performance Period (the "Determination Date"), which shall also be the initial vesting date of such Units. The remaining 50% of the Performance Share Units shall vest on the first anniversary of the last day of the Performance Period. In each case, except as otherwise provided herein, vesting is contingent upon your continued employment through the vesting date. To the extent the Performance Targets are not met, you will not vest in the Units.

The above notwithstanding:

(i) if your employment is terminated due to death, Disability, termination by IRT without Cause or resignation with Good Reason (each, as defined in the your Employment Agreement) (each, a "Qualified Termination") prior to the conclusion of the Performance Period, then such performance period will be shortened to conclude on the last day of the calendar quarter immediately preceding the date of such Qualified Termination (a "Shortened Performance Period"). In such event, the Compensation Committee will determine within two months after the date of such Qualified Termination the number of Performance Share Units earned, if any, for such Shortened Performance Period in accordance with the performance criteria established for such award. Your earned Performance Share Units, if any, will vest as of the date that the Compensation Committee determines the achievement of such performance criteria and will not be subject to the additional time based vesting period.

The number of Performance Share Units vested shall be determined on a pro rata basis by multiplying the number of Performance Share Units earned by a fraction, the numerator is the number of days in the Shortened Performance Period and the denominator of which is the number of days in the original 3-year Performance Period.

(ii) if your employment is terminated due to a Qualified Termination after to the conclusion of the Performance Period, any then remaining time-based vesting period otherwise applicable to earned Performance Share Units will be waived as of the date of such termination.

The above-described special treatment upon a Qualifying Termination is conditioned on your (or, if the case of your death, your estate's) execution of a general release of claims against IRT and its affiliates in a form prescribed by IRT and to such release becoming irrevocable within 60 days after such termination. If this release requirement is not timely satisfied, all Units that would otherwise vest as a result of such termination will instead be forfeited and you (or your estate, as applicable) will have no further rights with respect thereto.

Vesting at Retirement

If your employment is terminated due to “Retirement” (as defined below) Performance Share Units shall vest in the following manner.

If your Retirement occurs during the Performance Period, the number of Performance Share Units vested shall be determined on a pro rata basis by multiplying the Performance Share Units earned in the Performance Period pursuant to Appendix A by a fraction, the numerator is the number of days from the beginning of the Performance Period to the date of your Retirement and the denominator of which is the total number of days in the 3-year Performance Period.

If your Retirement occurs after the Performance Period, 100% of your Performance Share Units earned in the Performance Period shall vest upon Retirement.

The above notwithstanding in no event shall you vest in any Performance Share Units if the Performance Targets are not met.

For purposes of this section “Retirement” shall mean your voluntary separation of employment following satisfaction of the “Rule of 70.” The Rule of 70 shall be satisfied upon (1) completion of at least fifteen (15) years of service with IRT or its related entities; (2) attainment of age 55 and (3) your combined age and service equals at least 70. [Solely for purposes of clauses (1) and (3) above, RAIT Financial Trust will be deemed a “related entity” with respect to IRT.]You may separate upon Retirement subject to (i) your providing at least six (6) months’ advanced notice to IRT; and (ii) your consent to enter into non-compete, non-solicitation agreement with IRT (including related entities) for a period of up to three years; and (iii) your execution of a general release of claims against IRT and its affiliates in a form prescribed by IRT, which release must become irrevocable within 60 days following such Retirement. Any or all of the above conditions (i) through (iii) may be waived or modified at the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee.

Performance Period:

Fiscal Years 20__, 20__ and 20__.

Voting/Dividend Rights:

Units will not have any voting rights.

Following the 3-year Performance Period, IRT shall establish a "Dividend Equivalent Account" with respect to those Performance Share Units that have been earned but which remain unvested. If any dividends are paid with respect to IRT's common shares, you will receive a credit to your Performance Share Unit Award Dividend Account equal to the value of the cash dividends that would have been distributed if you held the number of IRT's common shares

represented by such unvested Units. (No credit shall be made with respect to Performance Share Units vesting at the end of the 3-year Performance Period.) On the same date that Shares are distributed in respect of such unvested Performance Share Units, a cash payment will be paid to you by IRT equal to the value of the aggregate amount of cash credited to your Dividend Equivalent Account for the corresponding number of common shares represented by such Performance Share Units. No interest shall accrue with respect to any cash amounts credited to your Dividend Equivalent Account. If any unvested Performance Share Units are forfeited for any reason prior to vesting, the aggregate amount credited to your Dividend Equivalent Account with respect to such unvested Performance Share Units shall also be forfeited and you shall not have any rights with respect to any such amounts.

Tax Liability and Payment of Taxes:

You acknowledge and agree that any income or other taxes due from you with respect to the Award issued pursuant to this Grant Agreement shall be your responsibility. Unless otherwise determined by IRT, a portion of the Shares otherwise distributable in respect of your Units will be withheld to satisfy your tax obligations arising with respect to the vesting or issuance of such Shares.

Section 409A:

Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan, the delivery of Shares or cash hereunder may only be accelerated to the extent permitted by Section 409A.

To the extent any payment under this Award is conditioned on the effectiveness of a release of claims and the period you are afforded to consider the release spans two calendar years, payment will be made in the second calendar year.

Redemption: Except as otherwise provided below, within 10 days following the vesting of any Unit, IRT shall deliver one Share in respect of that Unit; provided, however, that IRT, in its sole discretion, shall have the option to pay you the fair market value of the Share, which shall be measured as of the date when the right to the Share became vested, in lieu of delivery of the Share.

The above notwithstanding, in the event that the Units vest due to Retirement or a Qualifying Termination (other than due to your death) after you have meet the age and service requirements described in the definition of Retirement, Shares will be distributed in respect of 50% of any earned Units within two and one-half months following December 31, 20__¹ (to the extent not already distributed prior to such Retirement or Qualifying Termination) and in respect of the remaining 50% of any earned Units within 10 days of December 31, 20__.²

The Committee may condition delivery of Shares or cash, as applicable, upon the prior receipt from you of any undertakings which it may determine are required to assure that the Shares or cash, as applicable, are/is being issued in compliance with federal and state securities laws. The right to payment of any fractional shares shall be satisfied in cash, measured by the product of the fractional amount times the fair market value of a Share at the time of payment.

Transferability: You may not transfer or assign the award for any reason, other than under your will or as required by intestate laws. Any attempted transfer or assignment will be null and void.

Restrictions on Resale: By accepting this Grant Agreement, you agree to be bound by IRT's policies regarding the transfer of the Shares and understand that there may be certain times during the year in which the you will be prohibited from selling, transferring, pledging, donating, assigning, mortgaging, or encumbering Shares.

Clawback: In addition to, and not in limitation of, the forfeiture provisions of any clawback or recoupment policy adopted by IRT from time to time or in effect from time to time under applicable law or exchange listing rules, IRT may recover amounts paid to you pursuant to this Award to the extent that the Committee, following an appropriate investigation and consideration of all relevant circumstances, determines that you have engaged in fraud or willful misconduct that caused the requirement for a material accounting restatement of IRT's financial statements due to material noncompliance with any financial reporting requirement (excluding any restatement due solely to a change in accounting rules).

¹ The last day of the regular Performance Period

² The first anniversary of the end of the regular Performance Period.

Miscellaneous:

As a condition of the granting of this Award, you agree, for yourself and your legal representatives and/or guardians, that this Grant Agreement shall be interpreted by the Board (or a committee thereof)

and that any such interpretation of the terms of this Grant Agreement and any determination made by the Board (or a committee thereof) pursuant to this Grant Agreement shall be final, binding and conclusive. This Grant Agreement may be executed in counterparts. This Grant Agreement and the Award granted hereunder shall be governed by Maryland Law.

This Grant Agreement and the Award granted hereunder are granted under and governed by the terms and conditions of the Plan, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference. Additional provisions regarding your Award and definitions of capitalized terms used and not defined in this Grant Agreement can be found in the Plan. Any inconsistency between this Grant Agreement and the Plan shall be resolved in favor of the Plan. You hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Plan. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provisions of this Grant Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Grant Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect. In the event that any provision of this Grant Agreement or any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or other portion hereof (or omission thereof) should be held to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason, such provision or portion thereof shall be modified or deleted in such a manner so as to make this Grant Agreement as so modified legal and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law.

BY SIGNING BELOW AND ACCEPTING THIS GRANT AGREEMENT AND THE AWARD GRANTED
HEREUNDER, YOU AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND IN THE
PLAN. YOU ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE PLAN.

Authorized Officer

Grantee

Appendix A

The actual number of Performance Share Units that may vest and be redeemed will be based on the attainment of relative Total Shareholder Return (“TSR”) hurdles over a three-year period, which include both share price appreciation and reinvestment of common stock dividends, as well as a subjective evaluation of your individual performance.

The actual number of Performance Share Units earned may range from 0% to 150% of target based on actual performance during the performance period.

<u>Performance Criteria</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Threshold</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Relative 3-year TSR	70%	30th Percentile = 50% of Target for this component	50th Percentile = 100% of Target for this component	75th Percentile = 150% of Target for this component
Subjective Criteria	30%	Determined in the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee (may range from 0 to 150% of Target for this component)		

No Performance Shares Units will be earned for performance below threshold. The number of Performance Share Units earned for performance outcomes between threshold and target, or target and maximum, will be determined by straight line interpolation.

Relative 3-year TSR

For purposes of determining the Company’s achievement against this metric, the Company’s TSR will be compared to the constituents of the FTSE NAREIT Apartment Index (the “Index”) over the performance period, using the relative percentile ranking approach for all constituents that are included in the Index over the full performance period.

Subjective Criteria

The number of Performance Share Units earned with respect to this portion of the award will be based on the Compensation Committee’s subjective evaluation of your performance over the applicable performance period.

8

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 5: EX-10.25 (EX-10.25)

Exhibit 10.25

[Specimen Award to Eligible Officers]

**INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.
LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN
RESTRICTED STOCK AWARD CERTIFICATE**

To the Grantee Named on Schedule 1:

You have been granted Restricted Stock of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (the “Company”) under Section 9.1 of the Independence Realty Trust, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan (the “Plan”). This Restricted Stock Award Certificate (the “Award Certificate”) sets forth the aggregate number of shares under this Award and its terms and conditions. This Award is contingent upon your acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms and conditions as set forth in this Award Certificate and in the Plan.

Grant Date:

Number of Shares: SEE SCHEDULE 1

Vesting: Your Award will vest provided that you continue in service with the Company through the following:

[insert vesting increments and dates]

Additionally, all otherwise unvested Shares subject to this Award will vest if your service is terminated by the Company without Cause within one year following a Change in Control

(as defined in the Plan), subject to your execution of a general release of claims against the Company and its affiliates in a form reasonably prescribed by the Company and to such release becoming irrevocable within 60 days after such termination. If you fail to timely satisfy this release requirement, all Restricted Shares otherwise vesting under this paragraph will be forfeited and you will have no further rights with respect thereto.

If your employment service with the Company terminates by reason of death or Disability, any otherwise unvested Shares subject to this Award will then vest.

If your service with the Company terminates prior to full vesting for any reason other than death, Disability or termination by the Company without Cause within one year following a Change in Control, you shall forfeit any remaining unvested Restricted Stock and related dividends subject to this Award as of the date of such termination of service. Upon a forfeiture, unvested Restricted Stock and related dividends shall be transferred to the Company.

For purposes of this Section, “service with the Company” will include service with an Affiliate, but only during the period at such affiliation.

Restricted Stock Grant Award Certificate

Rights a Shareholder:

Except as otherwise provided in this Award Certificate or the Plan, you shall have all the rights of a stockholder of the Company with respect to the Restricted Stock, including, without limitation, voting rights and allocation of cash or stock dividends, provided that any distributions or dividends will be withheld and subjected to the same vesting conditions as the Restricted Stock with respect to which they were paid (and will be released to you when such Shares cease to be subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture).

The Company may require you to execute an "Investment Representation Statement" and enter into a shareholder's agreement or any other agreement required by the Board or shareholders in general, with such terms and conditions as the Company may prescribe.

Tax Liability of the Participant and
Payment of Taxes:

You acknowledge and agree that any income or other taxes due from you with respect to the Restricted Stock issued pursuant to this Award Certificate shall be your responsibility. Upon vesting of Shares subject to this Award, unless otherwise determined by the Company, a portion of your those Shares will be withheld to satisfy your tax obligations arising with respect to those Shares.

Upon execution of this Award Certificate, you may file an election under Section 83(b) of the Code (See attached Exhibit A). You have been given the opportunity to obtain the advice of your tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of the Restricted Stock and the provisions of this Award Certificate. You assume all responsibility for filing the Section 83(b) election and paying any taxes resulting from such election or from failure to file the election and paying taxes resulting from the lapse of the restrictions on the unvested shares. Tax obligations arising from the Section 83(b) election must be paid by you and cannot be satisfied by withholding shares.

Transferability:

Until the Restricted Stock vests and become non-forfeitable, you may not transfer or assign the Restricted Stock for any reason, other than under your will or as required by intestate laws. Any attempted transfer or assignment will be null and void.

Restrictions on Resale:

By accepting this Award Certificate, you agree not to sell any Restricted Stock acquired under this Award Certificate at a time when applicable laws, the Company or Company policies, any stockholder agreement or other agreement to which you are a party or any agreement between the Company and its underwriters, prohibit a sale.

Miscellaneous:

As a condition of the granting of this Award, you agree, for yourself and your legal representatives and/or guardians, that this Award Certificate shall be interpreted by the Board (or a committee thereof)

and that any such interpretation of the terms of this Award Certificate and any determination made by the Board (or a committee thereof) pursuant to this Award Certificate shall be final, binding and conclusive. This Award Certificate may be executed in counterparts. This Award Certificate and the Restricted Stock granted hereunder shall be governed by Maryland Law.

This Award Certificate and the Restricted Stock granted hereunder are granted under and governed by the terms and conditions of the Plan, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference. Additional provisions regarding your Restricted Stock and definitions of capitalized terms used and not defined in this Restricted Stock can be found in the Plan. Any inconsistency between this Award Certificate and the Plan shall be resolved in favor of the Plan. The Participant hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Plan. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provisions of this Award Certificate shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Award Certificate, which shall remain in full force and effect. In the event that any provision of this Award Certificate or any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or other portion hereof (or omission thereof) should be held to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason, such provision or portion thereof shall be modified or deleted in such a manner so as to make this Award Certificate as so modified legal and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law.

BY ACCEPTING THIS AWARD CERTIFICATE AND THE RESTRICTED STOCK GRANTED HEREUNDER, YOU AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND IN THE PLAN. YOU ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE PLAN.

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC.
TWO LIBERTY PLACE
50 S. 16TH STREET, SUITE 3575
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102

To: Participants Receiving Share Awards
Re: "83(b) Election" for Federal Income Tax Treatment

You have been awarded Common Shares of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. ("Common Shares") pursuant to the Independence Realty Trust, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") as described in the Restricted Stock Award Certificate (the "Award"). This memorandum outlines the tax treatment of the Award, and explains the opportunity you have to impact that treatment if you make an appropriate election as provided under Section 83(b) of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code"), or an "83(b) election". **This memorandum is for information purposes only and should not be construed as tax or financial planning advice. You should consult with your personal tax advisor to determine the most appropriate course based on your personal financial goals.**

Federal Income Taxes

The Award consists of Common Shares, the Fair Market Value of which is taxed at ordinary income rates when the restrictions applicable to the Common Shares lapse and you become "vested" in such Common Shares. The vesting schedule of the Common Shares is set forth in your Award. The Award provides that, unless otherwise determined by the Company, any withholding tax arising on a vesting date will be satisfied by having Common Shares subject to the Award withheld with a Fair Market Value equal to the tax due.

Under Section 83(b) of the Code, you have the option of electing to include in your taxable income for the year of grant the Fair Market Value at the grant date of some or all of the unvested Common Shares included in the Award. An 83(b) election allows you to establish a tax basis in the shares subject to your Award on the date of grant, such that any appreciation in the value of those shares will be treated as capital gain (and will be taxed as preferential long-term capital gain rates, if you meet the requisite long-term capital gain holding period). The risk, however, is that if you do not vest in the Common Shares included in the Award after having made a Section 83(b) election, you will have paid federal income taxes on property that will be forfeited and the taxes paid are not deductible. In addition, any withholding taxes due when you make an 83(b) election must be paid in cash and cannot be satisfied by having Common Shares subject to the Award withheld.

Under your current Award, if you make an 83(b) election, you are required to immediately include in your ordinary income an amount equal to the product resulting from multiplying the Fair Market Value of a Common Share on the grant date by the number of Common Shares in your Award subject to your 83(b) election. You will have no additional tax liability when vesting occurs. When you sell any Common Shares in your Award, any change in the value of those shares will be treated as capital gain or loss at that time.

If you do not make an 83(b) election, the Fair Market Value of such Common Shares on the vesting date, including any appreciation after the date of grant and any accrued dividends then released to you, will be includable as ordinary income at the time those Common Shares vest.

Code Section 83(b) election

A copy of the 83(b) election form is included with your Award Certificate. **The 83(b) election must be filed with the IRS within 30 days of the grant date of the Award.** This initial filing must be made with the Internal Revenue Service Center with which you file your Federal income tax returns. Additionally, you are required to file a copy of your 83(b) election (1) with your income tax return for the taxable year in which you receive the Award (in this case, your 20__ tax return) and (2) with the Company Human Resources department. **The 83(b) election is irrevocable except with the consent of the IRS.** You need not make the election with respect to all of the Common Shares granted in the Award.

SCHEDULE 1

Restricted Stock Grant Award Certificate

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 6: EX-21.1 (EX-21.1)

Exhibit 21.1

**Independence Realty Trust, Inc.
Subsidiaries**

<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>Domestic Jurisdiction</u>	<u>DBA Names</u>
Bayview Club Apartments Indiana, LLC	Delaware	
Bennington Pond LLC	Ohio	
Bennington Pond Managing Member, LLC	Delaware	
Bridgeview Apartments, LLC	Florida	
Brookside CRA-B1, LLC	Delaware	
Brunswick Point North Carolina, LLC	Delaware	
BSF-Arbors River Oaks	Florida	
BSF Lakeshore, LLC	Florida	
BSF Trails, LLC	Florida	
Chelsea Square Apartments Holding Company, LLC	Ohio	
Cherry Grove South Carolina, LLC	Delaware	
Creekside Corners Georgia, LLC	Delaware	
Fox Partners, LLC	Texas	
Haverford Place Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
HPI Collier Park LLC	Delaware	
HPI Hartshire LLC	Delaware	
HPI Kensington Commons LLC	Delaware	
HPI Riverchase LLC	Delaware	
HPI Schirm Farms LLC	Delaware	
Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP	Delaware	
Iron Rock Ranch Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Arbors Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IR TS Op Co, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Carrington Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Crestmont Apartments Georgia, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Eagle Ridge Apartments Member, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Eagle Ridge Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Global, LLC	Florida	
IRT Lenoxplace Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Limited Partner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Live Oak Trace Louisiana, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Management, LLC	Delaware	
IRT OKC Portfolio Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT OKC Portfolio Member, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Renovations, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Runaway Bay Apartments, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Stonebridge Crossing Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT UPREIT Lender, LP	Delaware	
IRT UPREIT Lender Limited Partner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Walnut Hill Apartments Owner, LLC	Delaware	
IRT Waterford Landing Apartments, LLC	Delaware	
Jamestown CRA-B1, LLC	Delaware	
JLC/BUSF Associates, LLC	Delaware	
Kentucky TRS, LLC	Delaware	
Kings Landing LLC	Delaware	
Lakes of Northdale Apartments LLC	Delaware	
Lucerne Apartments Tampa, LLC	Florida	
Meadows CRA-B1, LLC	Delaware	
Merce Partners, LLC	Texas	
Millenia 700, LLC	Delaware	
Oxmoor CRA-B1, LLC	Delaware	
Pointe at Canyon Ridge, LLC	Georgia	
Prospect Park CRA-B1, LLC	Delaware	
South Terrace Apartments North Carolina, LLC	Delaware	
SPG Avalon Apts LLC	Ohio	The Village at Auburn

<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>Domestic Jurisdiction</u>	<u>DBA Names</u>
Tides at Calabash North Carolina, LLC	Delaware	
Tides Land North Carolina, LLC	Delaware	
TS Aventine, LLC	Delaware	
TS Big Creek, LLC	Delaware	
TS Brier Creek, LLC	Delaware	
TS Craig Ranch, LLC	Delaware	
TS Creekstone, LLC	Delaware	
TS GooseCreek, LLC	Delaware	
TS Manager, LLC	Florida	
TS Miller Creek, LLC	Delaware	
TS New Bern, LLC	Delaware	
TS Talison Row, LLC	Delaware	
TS Vintage, LLC	Delaware	
TS Westmont, LLC	Delaware	
Wake Forest Apartments, LLC	Delaware	

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 7: EX-23.1 (EX-23.1)

Exhibit 23.1

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
Independence Realty Trust, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statement (No. 333-218130) on Form S-3 and (No. 333-211566, No. 333-191612) on Form S-8 of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. of our reports dated February 22, 2019, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), changes in equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, which reports appear in the December 31, 2018 annual report on Form 10-K of Independence Realty Trust, Inc.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 22, 2019

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 8: EX-31.1 (EX-31.1)

Exhibit 31.1

Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

I, Scott F. Schaeffer, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 of Independence Realty Trust, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 22, 2019

By: /s/ SCOTT F. SCHAEFFER

Scott F. Schaeffer

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive
Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 9: EX-31.2 (EX-31.2)

Exhibit 31.2

Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

I, James J. Sebra, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 of Independence Realty Trust, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most

recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 22, 2019

By: /s/ JAMES J. SEBRA

James J. Sebra

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

(Principal Financial Officer)

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 10: EX-32.1 (EX-32.1)

Exhibit 32.1

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE
SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Scott F. Schaeffer, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: February 22, 2019

/s/ SCOTT F. SCHAEFFER

Scott F. Schaeffer

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 11: EX-32.2 (EX-32.2)

Exhibit 32.2

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE
SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, James J. Sebra, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the

/s/ JAMES J. SEBRA

James J. Sebra

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

(Principal Financial Officer)

[\(Back To Top\)](#)

Section 12: EX-99.1 (EX-99.1)

Exhibit 99.1

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion summarizes the material U.S. federal income tax considerations associated with the purchase, ownership and disposition of our shares of common stock, as well as the applicable requirements under U.S. federal income tax laws to maintain REIT status, and the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of maintaining REIT status. This discussion is based upon the laws, regulations, and reported judicial and administrative rulings and decisions in effect as of the date of the filing of this exhibit with the Securities and Exchange Commission, all of which are subject to change, retroactively or prospectively, and to possibly differing interpretations. This discussion reflects changes to the U.S. federal income tax laws made by legislation commonly referred to as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "TCJA"), which was signed into law on December 22, 2017. The TCJA is a far-reaching and complex revision to the U.S. federal income tax laws with disparate and, in some cases, countervailing impacts on different categories of taxpayers and industries, and it is anticipated that it will require subsequent rulemaking in a number of areas.

This discussion does not purport to deal with the U.S. federal income and other tax consequences applicable to all investors in light of their particular investment or other circumstances, or to all categories of investors, some of whom may be subject to special rules (for example, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, partnerships, trusts, financial institutions and broker-dealers). No ruling on the U.S. federal, state, or local tax considerations relevant to our operation or to the purchase, ownership or disposition of our shares, has been requested from the IRS, or other tax authority. Prospective investors are urged to consult their tax advisors in order to determine the U.S. federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences to them of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our shares of common stock, the tax treatment of a REIT and the effect of potential changes in the applicable tax laws.

Beginning with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011, we elected to be taxed as a REIT under the applicable provisions of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder and receive the beneficial U.S. federal income tax treatment described below, and we intend to continue operating as a REIT so long as REIT status remains advantageous. We cannot assure you that we will continue to meet the applicable requirements under U.S. federal income tax laws, which are highly technical and complex.

In brief, a corporation that invests primarily in real estate can, if it complies with the provisions in Sections 856 through 860 of the Code, qualify as a REIT and claim U.S. federal income tax deductions for the dividends it pays to its stockholders. Such a corporation generally is not taxed on its REIT taxable income to the extent such income is currently distributed to stockholders, thereby completely or substantially eliminating the "double taxation" that a corporation and its stockholders generally bear together. However, as discussed in greater detail below, a corporation could be subject to U.S. federal income tax in some circumstances even if it qualifies as a REIT and would likely suffer adverse consequences, including reduced cash available for distribution to its stockholders, if it failed to qualify as a REIT.

General

In any year in which we qualify as a REIT and have a valid REIT election in place, we will claim deductions for the dividends we pay to the stockholders, and therefore will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on that portion of our REIT taxable income or capital gain which is currently distributed to our stockholders. We will, however, be subject to U.S. federal income tax at normal corporate rates on any REIT taxable income or capital gain not distributed.

Even though we qualify as a REIT, we nonetheless are subject to U.S. federal tax in the following circumstances:

- We are taxed at regular corporate rates on any REIT taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains that we do not distribute to stockholders during, or within a specified period after, the calendar year in which we recognized such income. We may elect to retain and pay income tax on our net long-term capital gain. In that case, a stockholder would include its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain (to the extent we make a timely designation of such gain to the stockholder) in its income, would be deemed to have paid the tax that we paid on such gain, and would be allowed a credit for its proportionate share of the tax deemed to have been paid, and an adjustment would be made to increase the stockholder's basis in our common stock.
- We may be subject to the alternative minimum tax, for tax years beginning before January 1, 2018.

- If we have net income from prohibited transactions, such income will be subject to a 100% tax. “Prohibited transactions” are, in general, sales or other dispositions of property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, rather than for investment, other than foreclosure property.
- If we have net income from the sale or disposition of “foreclosure property,” as described below, that is held primarily for sale in the ordinary course of business or other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property, we will be subject to corporate tax on such income at the highest applicable rate (currently 21%).
- If we fail to satisfy the 75% Gross Income Test or the 95% Gross Income Test, as discussed below, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because other requirements are met, we will be subject to a 100% tax on an amount equal to (1) the greater of (a) the amount by which we fail the 75% Gross Income Test or (b) the amount by which we fail the 95% Gross Income Test, as the case may be, multiplied by (2) a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.
- If we fail to satisfy any of the REIT Asset Tests, as described below, other than certain de minimis failures, but our failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and we nonetheless maintain our REIT qualification because of specified cure provisions, we will be required to pay a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or 21% of the net income generated by the nonqualifying assets during the period in which we failed to satisfy the Asset Tests.
- If we fail to satisfy any other REIT qualification requirements (other than a Gross Income or Asset Tests) and that violation is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, we may retain our REIT qualification, but we will be required to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure.
- If we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (1) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year, (2) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year and (3) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we will be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the sum of (a) the amounts actually distributed (taking into account excess distributions from prior years), plus (b) retained amounts on which federal income tax is paid at the corporate level.
- We may be required to pay monetary penalties to the IRS in certain circumstances, including if we fail to meet record-keeping requirements intended to monitor our compliance with rules relating to the composition of our stockholders.
- A 100% tax may be imposed on some items of income and expense that are directly or constructively paid between us, our lessor or a TRS (as described below) if and to the extent that the IRS successfully adjusts the reported amounts of these items.
- If we acquire appreciated assets from a C corporation (i.e., a corporation generally subject to corporate income tax) in a transaction in which the adjusted tax basis of the assets in our hands is determined by reference to the adjusted tax basis of the assets in the hands of the C corporation, we may be subject to tax on such appreciation at the highest corporate income tax rate then applicable if we subsequently recognize gain on a disposition of such assets during the five-year period following their acquisition from the C corporation. The results described in this paragraph would not apply if the non-REIT corporation elects, in lieu of this treatment, to be subject to an immediate tax when the asset is acquired by us.
- We may have subsidiaries or own interests in other lower-tier entities that are C corporations, such as TRSs, the earnings of which would be subject to federal corporate income tax.

In addition, we and our subsidiaries may be subject to a variety of taxes other than U.S. federal income tax, including payroll taxes and state, local, and non-U.S. income, franchise property and other taxes on assets and operation. We could also be subject to tax in situations and on transactions not presently contemplated.

REIT Qualification Tests

The Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association:

- that elects to be taxed as a REIT;
- that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;
- that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for its status as a REIT;
- that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company;
- that meets the gross income, asset and annual distribution requirements;
- the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons on at least 335 days in each full taxable year, proportionately adjusted for a partial taxable year; and
- generally, in which, at any time during the last half of each taxable year, no more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals or entities treated as individuals for this purpose.

The first six conditions must be met during each taxable year for which REIT status is sought, while the last two conditions do not have to be met until after the first taxable year for which a REIT election is made.

Share Ownership Tests. Our common stock and any other stock we issue must be held by a minimum of 100 persons (determined without attribution to the owners of any entity owning our stock) for at least 335 days in each full taxable year, proportionately adjusted for partial taxable years. In addition, at all times during the second half of each taxable year, no more than 50% in value of our stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (determined with attribution to the owners of any entity owning our stock). However, these two requirements do not apply until after the first taxable year for which we elect REIT status.

Our charter contains certain provisions intended to enable us to meet these requirements. First, it contains provisions restricting the transfer of our stock which would result in any person beneficially owning or constructively owning more than 9.8% in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of any class or series of our outstanding capital stock, including our common stock, subject to certain exceptions. Our board of directors has granted such an exception for IRT and its subsidiaries to own, in the aggregate, up to 100% of our outstanding common stock. Additionally, the terms of the options that may be granted to the independent directors will contain provisions that prevent them from causing a violation of these tests. Our charter also contains provisions requiring each holder of our shares to disclose, upon demand, constructive or beneficial ownership of shares as deemed necessary to comply with the requirements of the Code. Furthermore, stockholders failing or refusing to comply with our disclosure request will be required, under regulations of the Code, to submit a statement of such information to the IRS at the time of filing their annual income tax return for the year in which the request was made.

Subsidiary Entities. A qualified REIT subsidiary is a corporation that is wholly owned by a REIT and is not a TRS. For purposes of the Asset and Gross Income Tests described below, all assets, liabilities and tax attributes of a qualified REIT subsidiary are treated as belonging to the REIT. A qualified REIT subsidiary is not subject to U.S. federal income tax, but may be subject to state or local tax. Although we expect to hold all of our investments through our operating partnership, we may hold investments through qualified REIT subsidiaries. A TRS is described under “Asset Tests” below. A partnership is not subject to U.S. federal income tax and instead allocates its tax attributes to its partners. The partners are subject to U.S. federal income tax on their allocable share of the income and gain, without regard to whether they receive distributions from the partnership. Each partner’s share of a partnership’s tax attributes is determined in accordance with the partnership agreement. For purposes of the Asset and Gross Income Tests, we will be deemed to own a proportionate share of the assets of our operating partnership, and we will be allocated a proportionate share of each item of gross income of our operating partnership.

Asset Tests. At the close of each calendar quarter of each taxable year, we must satisfy a series of tests based on the composition of our assets. After initially meeting the Asset Tests at the close of any quarter, we will not lose our status as a REIT for failure to satisfy the Asset Tests at the end of a later quarter solely due to changes in value of our assets. In addition, if the failure to satisfy the Asset Tests results from an acquisition during a quarter, the failure can be cured by disposing of non-qualifying assets within 30 days after the close of that quarter. We intend to maintain adequate records of the value of our assets to ensure compliance with these tests and will act within 30 days after the close of any quarter as may be required to cure any noncompliance.

At least 75% of the value of our assets must be represented by “real estate assets,” cash, cash items (including receivables) and government securities. Real estate assets include (i) real property (including interests in real property and interests in mortgages on real property (including mortgages secured by both real and personal property if the value of such property does not exceed 15% of the total property securing the loan)), (ii) shares in other qualifying REITs and debt instruments issued by publicly-traded REITs (not to exceed 25% of our assets unless secured by interests in real property) and (iii) personal property leased in connection with real property to the extent that rents attributable to such personal property are treated as “rents from real property”; and (iv) any stock or debt instrument (not otherwise a real estate asset) attributable to the temporary investment of “new capital,” but only for the one-year period beginning on the date we received the new capital. Property will qualify as being attributable to the temporary investment of new capital if the money used to purchase the stock or debt instrument is received by us in exchange for our stock or in a public offering of debt obligations that have a maturity of at least five years.

If we invest in any securities that do not qualify under the 75% test, such securities may not exceed either: (i) 5% of the value of our assets as to any one issuer; or (ii) 10% of the outstanding securities by vote or value of any one issuer. A partnership interest held by a REIT is not considered a “security” for purposes of these tests; instead, the REIT is treated as owning directly its proportionate share of the partnership’s assets. For purposes of the 10% value test, a REIT’s proportionate share is based on its proportionate interest in the equity interests and certain debt securities issued by a partnership. For all of the other Asset Tests, a REIT’s proportionate share is based on its proportionate interest in the capital of the partnership. In addition, as discussed above, the stock of a qualified REIT subsidiary is not counted for purposes of the Asset Tests.

Certain securities will not cause a violation of the 10% value test described above. Such securities include instruments that constitute “straight debt.” A security does not qualify as “straight debt” where a REIT (or a controlled TRS of the REIT) owns other securities of the issuer of that security which do not qualify as straight debt, unless the value of those other securities constitute, in the aggregate, 1% or less of the total value of that issuer’s outstanding securities. In addition to straight debt, the following securities will not violate the 10% value test:

- (1) any loan made to an individual or an estate,
- (2) certain rental agreements in which one or more payments are to be made in subsequent years (other than agreements between a REIT and certain persons related to the REIT),
- (3) any obligation to pay rents from real property,
- (4) securities issued by governmental entities that are not dependent in whole or in part on the profits of (or payments made by) a non-governmental entity,
- (5) any security issued by another REIT, and
- (6) any debt instrument issued by a partnership if the partnership’s income is such that the partnership would satisfy the 75% Gross Income Test described below. In applying the 10% value test, a debt security issued by a partnership is not taken into account to the extent, if any, of the REIT’s proportionate interest in that partnership. Any debt instrument issued by a partnership (other than straight debt or another excluded security) will not be considered a security issued by the partnership if at least 75% of the partnership’s gross income is derived from sources that would qualify for the 75% Gross Income Test, and any debt instrument issued by a partnership (other than straight debt or another excluded security) will not be considered a security issued by the partnership to the extent of the REIT’s interest as a partner in the partnership.

A REIT may own the stock of a TRS. A TRS is a corporation (other than another REIT) that is owned in whole or in part by a REIT, and joins in an election with the REIT to be classified as a TRS. A corporation that is 35% owned by a TRS will also be treated as a TRS. Securities of a TRS are excepted from the 5% and 10% vote and value limitations on a REIT’s

ownership of securities of a single issuer. However, no more than 25% (20% for years beginning after December 31, 2017) of the value of a REIT's assets may be represented by securities of one or more TRSs. We have one TRS, which was inactive during 2017. If we do have an active TRS or form other TRSs in the future, we will be subject to a 100% excise tax on income from certain transactions with a TRS that are not on an arm's-length basis. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, taxpayers are subject to a limitation on their ability to deduct net business interest generally equal to 30% of adjusted taxable income, subject to certain exceptions. This provision may limit the ability of our taxable REIT subsidiaries to deduct interest, which could increase their taxable income.

A REIT is able to cure certain asset test violations. As noted above, a REIT cannot own securities of any one issuer representing more than 5% of the total value of the REIT's assets or more than 10% of the outstanding securities, by vote or value, of any one issuer. However, a REIT would not lose its REIT status for failing to satisfy these 5% or 10% Asset Tests in a quarter if the failure is due to the ownership of assets the total value of which does not exceed the lesser of (i) 1% of the total value of the REIT's assets at the end of the quarter for which the measurement is done, or (ii) \$10 million; provided in either case that the REIT either disposes of the assets within six months after the last day of the quarter in which the REIT identifies the failure (or such other time period prescribed by the Treasury), or otherwise meets the requirements of those rules by the end of that period.

If a REIT fails to meet any of the Asset Tests for a quarter and the failure exceeds the de minimis threshold described above, then the REIT still would be deemed to have satisfied the requirements if (i) following the REIT's identification of the failure, the REIT files a schedule with a description of each asset that caused the failure, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Treasury; (ii) the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect; (iii) the REIT disposes of the assets within six months after the last day of the quarter in which the identification occurred or such other time period as is prescribed by the Treasury (or the requirements of the rules are otherwise met within that period); and (iv) the REIT pays a tax on the failure equal to the greater of (1) \$50,000, or (2) an amount determined (under regulations) by multiplying (x) the highest rate of tax for corporations under Section 11 of the Code, by (y) the net income generated by the assets for the period beginning on the first date of the failure and ending on the date the REIT has disposed of the assets (or otherwise satisfies the requirements).

We believe that our holdings of securities and other assets comply with the foregoing Asset Tests, and we intend to monitor compliance with such tests on an ongoing basis. The values of some of our assets, however, may not be precisely valued, and values are subject to change in the future. Furthermore, the proper classification of an instrument as debt or equity for U.S. federal income tax purposes may be uncertain in some circumstances, which could affect the application of the REIT Asset Tests. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not contend that our assets do not meet the requirements of the Asset Tests.

Gross Income Tests. For each calendar year, we must satisfy two separate tests based on the composition of our gross income, as defined under our method of accounting.

The 75% Gross Income Test. At least 75% of our gross income for the taxable year (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions and certain hedging transactions as discussed below under “-Hedging Transactions” and cancellation of indebtedness income) must result from (i) rents from real property, (ii) interest on obligations secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property, (iii) gains from the sale or other disposition of real property (including interests in real property and interests in mortgages on real property) other than property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our trade or business, (iv) dividends from other qualifying REITs and gain (other than gain from prohibited transactions) from the sale of shares of other qualifying REITs, (v) other specified investments relating to real property or mortgages thereon, and (vi) income attributable to stock or a debt investment that is attributable to a temporary investment of new capital (as described under the 75% Asset Test above) received or earned during the one-year period beginning on the date we receive such new capital. In the case of real estate mortgage loans secured by both real and personal property, if the fair market value of such personal property does not exceed 15% of the total fair market value of all property securing the loan, then the personal property securing the loan will be treated as real property for purposes of determining whether the mortgage is qualifying under the 75% asset test and interest income that qualifies for purposes of the 75% gross income test. We intend to invest funds not otherwise invested in real properties in cash sources or other liquid investments which will allow us to qualify under the 75% Gross Income Test.

Income attributable to a lease of real property will generally qualify as “rents from real property” under the 75% Gross Income Test (and the 95% Gross Income Test described below), subject to the rules discussed below:

Rent from a particular tenant will not qualify if we, or an owner of 10% or more of our stock, directly or indirectly, owns 10% or more of the voting stock or the total number of shares of all classes of stock in, or 10% or more of the assets or net profits of, the tenant (subject to certain exceptions). The portion of rent attributable to personal property rented in connection with real property will not qualify, unless the portion attributable to personal property is 15% or less of the total rent received under, or in connection with, the lease.

Generally, rent will not qualify if it is based in whole, or in part, on the income or profits of any person from the underlying property. However, rent will not fail to qualify if it is based on a fixed percentage (or designated varying percentages) of receipts or sales, including amounts above a base amount so long as the base amount is fixed at the time the lease is entered into, the provisions are in accordance with normal business practice and the arrangement is not an indirect method for basing rent on income or profits.

Rental income will not qualify if we furnish or render services to tenants or manage or operate the underlying property, other than through a permissible "independent contractor" from whom we derive no revenue, or through a TRS. This requirement, however, does not apply to the extent that the services, management or operations we provide are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space, and are not otherwise considered "rendered to the occupant." With respect to this rule, tenants will receive some services in connection with their leases of the real properties. Our intention is that the services to be provided are those usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space, and therefore, providing these services will not cause the rents received with respect to the properties to fail to qualify as rents from real property for purposes of the 75% Gross Income Test (and the 95% Gross Income Test described below). The board of directors intends to hire qualifying independent contractors or to utilize TRSs to render services which it believes, after consultation with our tax advisors, are not usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space.

In addition, we have represented that, with respect to our leasing activities, we will not (i) charge rent for any property that is based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person (except by reason of being based on a percentage of receipts or sales, as described above) (ii) charge rent that will be attributable to personal property in an amount greater than 15% of the total rent received under the applicable lease, or (iii) enter into any lease with a related party tenant.

Amounts received as rent from a TRS are not excluded from rents from real property by reason of the related party rules described above, if the activities of the TRS and the nature of the properties it leases meet certain requirements. In addition, the TRS rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a TRS to its parent REIT to assure that the TRS is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation. Further, a 100% excise tax is imposed on transactions between a TRS and its parent REIT or the REIT's tenants whose terms are not on an arms' length basis.

It is possible that we will be paid interest on loans secured by real property. All interest income qualifies under the 95% Gross Income Test, and interest on loans secured by real property qualifies under the 75% Gross Income Test, provided in both cases, that the interest does not depend, in whole or in part, on the income or profits of any person (other than amounts based on a fixed percentage of receipts or sales). If a loan is secured by both real property and other property, all the interest on it will nevertheless qualify under the 75% Gross Income Test if the amount of the loan does not exceed the fair market value of the real property at the time we commit to make or acquire the loan. We expect that all of our loans secured by real property will be structured this way. Therefore, income generated through any investments in loans secured by real property should be treated as qualifying income under the 75% Gross Income Test.

The 95% Gross Income Test. In addition to deriving 75% of our gross income from the sources listed above, at least 95% of our gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions and certain hedging transactions as discussed below under "-Hedging Transactions" and cancellation of indebtedness income) for the taxable year must be derived from (i) sources which satisfy the 75% Gross Income Test, (ii) dividends, (iii) interest, or (iv) gain from the sale or disposition of stock or other securities that are not assets held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our trade or business. We intend to invest funds not otherwise invested in properties in cash sources or other liquid investments which will allow us to satisfy the 95% Gross Income Test.

Our share of income from the properties will primarily give rise to rental income and gains on sales of the properties, substantially all of which will generally qualify under the 75% Gross Income and 95% Gross Income Tests. Our anticipated operations indicate that it is likely that we will have little or no non-qualifying income.

As described above, we may establish one or more TRSs. The gross income generated by these TRSs would not be included in our gross income. Any dividends from TRSs to us would be included in our gross income and qualify for the 95% Gross Income Test.

If we fail to satisfy either the 75% Gross Income or 95% Gross Income Tests for any taxable year, we may retain our status as a REIT for such year if: (i) the failure was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, (ii) we attach to our return a schedule describing the nature and amount of each item of our gross income, and (iii) any incorrect information on such schedule was not due to fraud with intent to evade U.S. federal income tax. If this relief provision is available, we would remain subject to tax equal to the greater of the amount by which we failed the 75% Gross Income Test or the 95% Gross Income Test, as applicable, multiplied by a fraction meant to reflect our profitability.

Annual Distribution Requirements. We are required to distribute dividends (other than capital gain dividends) to our stockholders each year in an amount at least equal to the excess of: (i) the sum of: (a) 90% of our REIT taxable income (determined without regard to the deduction for dividends paid and by excluding any net capital gain); and (b) 90% of the net income (after tax) from foreclosure property; less (ii) the sum of some types of items of non-cash income. Whether sufficient amounts have been distributed is based on amounts paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if we: (1) declared a dividend before the due date of our tax return (including extensions); (2) distribute the dividend within the 12-month period following the close of the taxable year (and not later than the date of the first regular dividend payment made after such declaration); and (3) file an election with our tax return. Additionally, dividends that we declare in October, November or December in a given year payable to stockholders of record in any such month will be treated as having been paid on December 31 of that year so long as the dividends are actually paid during January of the following year. If we fail to meet the annual distribution requirements as a result of an adjustment to our U.S. federal income tax return by the IRS, or under certain other circumstances, we may cure the failure by paying a “deficiency dividend” (plus penalties and interest to the IRS) within a specified period.

The TCJA may affect the amount of our REIT taxable income for 2018 and subsequent taxable years. The TCJA restricts the deductibility of interest expense by businesses (generally, to 30% of the business’ adjusted taxable income) except, among others, real property businesses electing out of such restrictions; generally we expect our business to qualify as such a real property business, but businesses conducted by our taxable REIT subsidiaries may not qualify and we have not yet determined whether we will make such an election. If we do make such an election, the TCJA requires the use of the less favorable alternative depreciation system to depreciate real property.

We intend to pay sufficient dividends each year to satisfy the annual distribution requirements and avoid U.S. federal income and excise taxes on our earnings; however, it may not always be possible to do so. It is possible that we may not have sufficient cash or other liquid assets to meet the annual distribution requirements due to tax accounting rules and other timing differences. We will closely monitor the relationship between our REIT taxable income and cash flow and, if necessary to comply with the annual distribution requirements, will borrow funds to fully provide the necessary cash flow.

Failure to Qualify. If we fail to qualify, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as a REIT in any taxable year, we may be eligible for relief provisions if the failures are due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and if a penalty tax is paid with respect to each failure to satisfy the applicable requirements. If the applicable relief provisions are not available or cannot be met, we will not be able to deduct our dividends and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax) on our taxable income at regular corporate rates, thereby reducing cash available for distributions. In such event, all distributions to stockholders (to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits) will be taxable as dividends. This “double taxation” results from our failure to qualify as a REIT. Unless entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, we will not be eligible to elect REIT status for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost.

Prohibited Transactions. As discussed above, we will be subject to a 100% U.S. federal income tax on any net income derived from “prohibited transactions.” Net income derived from prohibited transactions arises from the sale or exchange of property held for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our business which is not foreclosure property. There is an exception to this rule for the sale of real property that:

- has been held for at least two years;

- has aggregate expenditures which are includable in the basis of the property not in excess of 30% of the net selling price;
- in some cases, was held for production of rental income for at least two years;
- in some cases, substantially all of the marketing and development expenditures were made through an independent contractor; and
- when combined with other sales in the year, either does not cause the REIT to have made more than seven sales of property during the taxable year, or occurs in a year when the REIT disposes of less than 10% of its assets (measured by U.S. federal income tax basis or fair market value, and ignoring involuntary dispositions and sales of foreclosure property).

Two supplemental alternative requirements are available to REITs seeking to satisfy the safe harbor. First (i) the aggregate adjusted tax bases of all such property sold by the REIT during the year did not exceed 20% of the aggregate tax bases of all property of the REIT at the beginning of the year and (ii) the average annual percentage of properties sold by the REIT compared to all the REIT's properties (measured by adjusted tax bases) in the current and two prior years did not exceed 10%, and second (i) the aggregate fair market value of all such property sold by the REIT during the year did not exceed 20% of the aggregate fair market value of all property of the REIT at the beginning of the year and (ii) the average annual percentage of properties sold by the REIT compared to all the REIT's properties (measured by fair market value) in the current and two prior years did not exceed 10%. Our intention in acquiring and operating the properties is the production of rental income and we do not expect to hold any property for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our business.

Foreclosure Property. Foreclosure property is real property (including interests in real property) and any personal property incident to such real property (1) that is acquired by a REIT as a result of the REIT having bid in the property at foreclosure, or having otherwise reduced the property to ownership or possession by agreement or process of law, after there was a default (or default was imminent) on a lease of the property or a mortgage loan held by the REIT and secured by the property; (2) for which the related loan or lease was made, entered into or acquired by the REIT at a time when default was not imminent or anticipated; and (3) for which such REIT makes an election to treat the property as foreclosure property. REITs generally are subject to tax at the maximum corporate rate (currently 21%) on any net income from foreclosure property, including any gain from the disposition of the foreclosure property, other than income that would otherwise be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% Gross Income Test. Any gain from the sale of property for which a foreclosure property election has been made will not be subject to the 100% tax on gains from prohibited transactions, even if the property is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business.

Hedging Transactions. We may enter into hedging transactions with respect to one or more of our assets or liabilities. Hedging transactions could take a variety of forms, including interest rate swaps or cap agreements, options, futures, contracts, forward rate agreements or similar financial instruments. Any income from a hedging transaction, including gain from a disposition of such a transaction, to manage risk of interest rate or price changes or currency fluctuations with respect to borrowings made or to be made, or ordinary obligations incurred or to be incurred, by us to acquire or own real estate assets which is clearly identified as such before the close of the day on which it was acquired, originated or entered into and with respect to which we satisfy other identification requirements, will be disregarded for purposes of the 75% and 95% Gross Income Tests. There are also rules for disregarding income for purposes of the 75% and 95% Gross Income Tests with respect to hedges of certain foreign currency risks. In addition, if we entered into a hedging transaction (i) to manage the risk of interest rate, price changes, or currency fluctuations with respect to borrowings made or to be made or (ii) to manage the risk of currency fluctuations, and a portion of the hedged indebtedness or property is disposed of and in connection with such extinguishment or disposition we enter into a new clearly identified hedging transaction (a "Counteracting Hedge"), income from the applicable hedge and income from the Counteracting Hedge (including gain from the disposition of such Counteracting Hedge) will not be treated as gross income for purposes of the 95% and 75% gross income tests. To the extent we enter into other types of hedging transactions, the income from those transactions is likely to be treated as non-qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% Gross Income Tests. We intend to structure any hedging transactions in a manner that does not jeopardize our ability to qualify as a REIT.

Characterization of Property Leases. We may purchase either new or existing properties and lease them to tenants. Our ability to claim certain tax benefits associated with ownership of these properties, such as depreciation, would depend on a

determination that the lease transactions are true leases, under which we would be the owner of the leased property for U.S. federal income tax purposes, rather than a conditional sale of the property or a financing transaction. A determination by the IRS that we are not the owner of any properties for U.S. federal income tax purposes may have adverse consequences to us, such as the denial of depreciation deductions (which could affect the determination of our REIT taxable income subject to the distribution requirements) or our satisfaction of the Asset Tests or the Gross Income Tests.

Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships

General. We operate as an UPREIT, which is a structure whereby we own a direct interest in our operating partnership, and our operating partnership, in turn, owns interests in other non-corporate entities that own properties. Such non-corporate entities generally are organized as limited liability companies, partnerships or trusts and are either disregarded for U.S. federal income tax purposes (if our operating partnership was the sole owner) or treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The following is a summary of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of our investment in our operating partnership. This discussion should also generally apply to any investment by us in a property partnership or other non-corporate entity.

A partnership (that is not a publicly traded partnership taxed as a corporation) is not subject to tax as an entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes (see, however, the discussion below about the partnership audit rules). Rather, partners are allocated their proportionate share of the items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit of the partnership, and are potentially subject to tax thereon, without regard to whether the partners receive any distributions from the partnership. We will be required to take into account our allocable share of the foregoing items for purposes of the various Gross Income and Asset Tests, and in the computation of our REIT taxable income and U.S. federal income tax liability. Further, there can be no assurance that distributions from our operating partnership will be sufficient to pay the tax liabilities resulting from an investment in our operating partnership.

We intend that interests in our operating partnership (and any partnership invested in by our operating partnership with one or more partners) will fall within one of the “safe harbors” for the partnership to avoid being classified as a publicly traded partnership. However, our ability to satisfy the requirements of some of these safe harbors depends on the results of our actual operations and accordingly no assurance can be given that any such partnership would not be treated as a publicly traded partnership. Even if a partnership qualifies as a publicly traded partnership, it generally will not be treated as a corporation if at least 90% of its gross income each taxable year is from certain passive sources.

If for any reason our operating partnership (or any partnership invested in by our operating partnership) is taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the character of our assets and items of gross income would change, and as a result, we would most likely be unable to satisfy the Asset Tests and Gross Income Tests described above. In addition, any change in the status of any partnership may be treated as a taxable event, in which case we could incur a tax liability without a related cash distribution. Further, if any partnership was treated as a corporation, items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit of such partnership would be subject to corporate income tax, and the partners of any such partnership would be treated as stockholders, with distributions to such partners subject to the rules applicable to distributions by corporations.

Anti-abuse Treasury regulations have been issued under the partnership provisions of the Code that authorize the IRS, in some abusive transactions involving partnerships, to disregard the form of a transaction and recast it as it deems appropriate. The anti-abuse regulations apply where a partnership is utilized in connection with a transaction (or series of related transactions) with a principal purpose of substantially reducing the present value of the partners’ aggregate U.S. federal tax liability in a manner inconsistent with the intent of the partnership provisions. The anti-abuse regulations contain an example in which a REIT contributes the proceeds of a public offering to a partnership in exchange for a general partnership interest. The limited partners contribute real property assets to the partnership, subject to liabilities that exceed their respective aggregate bases in such property. The example concludes that the use of the partnership is not inconsistent with the intent of the partnership provisions, and thus, cannot be recast by the IRS. However, the anti-abuse regulations are extraordinarily broad in scope and are applied based on an analysis of all the facts and circumstances. As a result, we cannot assure you that the IRS will not attempt to apply the anti-abuse regulations to us. Any such action could potentially jeopardize our status as a REIT and materially affect the tax consequences and economic return resulting from an investment in us.

Income Taxation of the Partnerships and their Partners. Although a partnership agreement will generally determine the allocation of a partnership’s income and losses among the partners, such allocations may be disregarded for U.S. federal

income tax purposes under Section 704(b) of the Code and the Treasury regulations. If any allocation is not recognized for U.S. federal income tax purposes as having “substantial economic effect,” the item subject to the allocation will be reallocated in accordance with the partners’ economic interests in the partnership. We believe that the allocations of taxable income and loss in our operating partnership agreement comply with the requirements of Section 704(b) of the Code and the Treasury regulations.

Among the losses and deductions of the Operating Partnership that would flow to us are the interest deductions of the Operating Partnership and its subsidiary partnerships. The TCJA limits a taxpayer’s net interest expense deduction to 30% of the sum of adjusted taxable income, business interest, and certain other amounts. Adjusted taxable income does not include items of income or expense not allocable to a trade or business, business interest or expense, the new deduction for qualified business income, NOLs, and for years prior to 2022, deductions for depreciation, amortization, or depletion. For partnerships, the interest deduction limitation is applied at the partnership level, subject to certain adjustments to the partners for unused deduction limitation at the partnership level.

The TCJA allows a real property trade or business to elect out of this interest limitation. As noted above we have not yet determined whether we will make such an election for us or our Operating Partnership. If we do make such an election, the TCJA requires the use of the less favorable alternative depreciation system to depreciate real property. The interest deduction limitation applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Pursuant to Section 704(c) of the Code, income, gain, loss and deduction attributable to property contributed to our operating partnership in exchange for units must be allocated in a manner so that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, the unrealized gain or loss attributable to the property at the time of contribution. The amount of such unrealized gain or loss is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value and the adjusted basis of the property at the time of contribution. These allocations are designed to eliminate book-tax differences by allocating to contributing partners lower amounts of depreciation deductions and increased taxable income and gain attributable to the contributed property than would ordinarily be the case for economic or book purposes. With respect to any property purchased by our operating partnership, such property will generally have an initial tax basis equal to its fair market value, and accordingly, Section 704(c) will not apply, except as described further below in this paragraph. The application of the principles of Section 704(c) in tiered partnership arrangements is not entirely clear. Accordingly, the IRS may assert a different allocation method than the one selected by our operating partnership to cure any book-tax differences. In certain circumstances, we create book-tax differences by adjusting the values of properties for economic or book purposes and generally the rules of Section 704(c) of the Code would apply to such differences as well.

Some expenses incurred in the conduct of our operating partnership’s activities may not be deducted in the year they were paid. To the extent this occurs, the taxable income of our operating partnership may exceed its cash receipts for the year in which the expense is paid. As discussed above, the costs of acquiring properties must generally be recovered through depreciation deductions over a number of years. Prepaid interest and loan fees, and prepaid management fees are other examples of expenses that may not be deducted in the year they were paid.

Partnership Audit Rules. Congress recently revised the rules applicable to federal income tax audits of partnerships (such as the Operating Partnership) and the collection of any tax resulting from any such audits or other tax proceedings, generally for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017. Under the new rules, a partnership itself may be liable for a tax computed by reference to the hypothetical increase in partner-level taxes (including interest and penalties) resulting from an adjustment of partnership tax items on audit, regardless of changes in the composition of the partners (or their relative ownership) between the year under audit and the year of the adjustment. The new rules also include an elective alternative method under which the additional taxes resulting from the adjustment are assessed against the affected partners, subject to a higher rate of interest than otherwise would apply. Questions remain as to how the new rules will apply, especially with respect to partners that are REITs (such as us), and it is not clear at this time what effect this new legislation will have on us. However, these changes could increase the U.S. federal income tax, interest, and/or penalties otherwise borne by us in the event of a federal income tax audit of the Operating Partnership or one of its subsidiary partnerships.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation of Stockholders

Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders. This section summarizes the taxation of domestic stockholders that are not tax-exempt organizations. For these purposes, a domestic stockholder is a beneficial owner of our common stock that for U.S. federal income tax purposes is:

- a citizen or individual resident of the United States;
- a corporation (including an entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of a political subdivision thereof (including the District of Columbia);
- an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- any trust if (1) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) it has a valid election in place to be treated as a U.S. person.

If an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds our shares, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A partner of a partnership holding our common stock should consult its tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences to the partner of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our shares by the partnership.

Certain high-income U.S. individuals, estates, and trusts are subject to an additional 3.8% tax on net investment income. For these purposes, net investment income includes dividends and gains from sales of stock. In the case of an individual, the tax is 3.8% of the lesser of the individual's net investment income, or the excess of the individual's modified adjusted gross income over an amount equal to (1) \$250,000 in the case of a married individual filing a joint return or a surviving spouse, (2) \$125,000 in the case of a married individual filing a separate return, or (3) \$200,000 in the case of a single individual.

As long as we qualify as a REIT, a taxable "U.S. stockholder" must generally take into account as ordinary income distributions made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits that we do not designate as capital gain dividends or retained long-term capital gain. For purposes of determining whether a distribution is made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. An individual U.S. stockholder will not qualify for the dividends received deduction generally available to corporations. In addition, dividends paid to a U.S. stockholder generally will not qualify as "qualified dividend income" for the maximum tax rate accorded to capital gains. Qualified dividend income generally includes dividends paid to individuals, trusts and estates by domestic C corporations and certain qualified foreign corporations. Because we are not generally subject to federal income tax on the portion of our REIT taxable income distributed to our stockholders, our dividends generally will not be eligible for the 20% rate (in the case of taxpayers whose taxable income exceeds certain thresholds depending on filing status) on qualified dividend income.

However, under the TCJA, regular dividends from REITs are treated as income from a pass-through entity and are eligible for a 20% deduction. As a result, our regular dividends will be taxed at 80% of an individual's marginal tax rate. The current maximum rate is 37%, resulting in a maximum rate of 29.6%. However, the maximum 20% tax rate for qualified dividend income will apply to our ordinary REIT dividends attributable to dividends received by us from non-REIT corporations.

Distributions that are designated as capital gain dividends will be taxed as long-term capital gains (generally taxable at a maximum rate of 20% in the case of non-corporate domestic stockholders, subject to a maximum rate of 25% for certain recapture of real estate depreciation) to the extent they do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year, without regard to the period for which the stockholder that receives such distribution has held its stock. However, corporate stockholders may be required to treat up to 20% of some types of capital gain dividends as ordinary income. We may also decide to retain, rather than distribute, our net long-term capital gains and pay any tax thereon. In such instances, stockholders would include their proportionate shares of such gains in income, receive a credit on their returns for their proportionate share of our tax payments, and increase the tax basis of their shares of stock by the after-tax amount of such gain.

The aggregate amount of dividends that we may designate as "capital gain dividends" or "qualified dividend income" with respect to any taxable year may not exceed the dividends paid by us with respect to such year, including dividends that are paid in the following year (if they are declared before we timely file our tax return for the year and if made with or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration) are treated as paid with respect to such year. Dividend income is characterized as "portfolio" income under the passive loss rules and cannot be offset by a stockholder's current or suspended passive losses. Although stockholders generally recognize taxable income in the year that a distribution is received, any distribution we declare in October, November or December of any year that is payable to a stockholder of record on a specific date in any such month will be treated as both paid by us and received by the stockholder on December 31 of the

year it was declared if paid by us during January of the following calendar year. Because we are not a pass-through entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes, stockholders may not use any of our operating or capital losses to reduce their tax liabilities.

In certain circumstances, we may have the ability to declare a large portion of a dividend in shares of our stock. In such a case, you would be taxed on 100% of the dividend in the same manner as a cash dividend, even though most of the dividend was paid in shares of our stock.

In general, the sale of our common stock held for more than 12 months will produce long-term capital gain or loss. All other sales will produce short-term gain or loss. In each case, the gain or loss is equal to the difference between the amount of cash and fair market value of any property received from the sale and the stockholder's basis in the common stock sold. However, any loss from a sale or exchange of common stock by a stockholder who has held such stock for six months or less generally will be treated as a long-term capital loss, to the extent that the stockholder treated our distributions as long-term capital gains.

We will report to our domestic stockholders and to the IRS the amount of dividends paid during each calendar year, and the amount (if any) of U.S. federal income tax we withhold. A stockholder may be subject to backup withholding with respect to dividends paid unless such stockholder: (i) is a corporation or comes within other exempt categories; or (ii) provides us with a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption, and otherwise complies with applicable requirements. A stockholder that does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number may also be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. Any amount paid as backup withholding can be credited against the stockholder's U.S. federal income tax liability. In addition, we may be required to withhold a portion of distributions made to any stockholders who fail to certify their non-foreign status to us. See the "Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders" portion of this section.

Domestic stockholders that hold our common stock through certain foreign financial institutions (including investment funds) may be subject to withholding on dividends in respect of, and the gain from the sale of, such common stock, as discussed in "Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders-FATCA Withholding" below.

Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders. Our distributions to a stockholder that is a domestic tax-exempt entity should not constitute UBTI unless the stockholder borrows funds (or otherwise incurs acquisition indebtedness within the meaning of the Code) to acquire its common stock, or the common stock is otherwise used in an unrelated trade or business of the tax-exempt entity. Furthermore, part or all of the income or gain recognized with respect to our stock held by certain domestic tax-exempt entities including social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts and qualified group legal service plans (all of which are exempt from U.S. federal income taxation under Sections 501(c)(7), (9), (17) or (20) of the Code), may be treated as UBTI. Special rules apply to the ownership of REIT shares by Section 401(a) tax-exempt pension trusts. If we would fail to satisfy the "five or fewer" share ownership test (discussed above with respect to the share ownership tests), and if Section 401(a) tax-exempt pension trusts were treated as individuals, tax-exempt pension trusts owning more than 10% by value of our stock may be required to treat a percentage of our dividends as UBTI. This rule applies if: (i) at least one tax-exempt pension trust owns more than 25% by value of our shares, or (ii) one or more tax-exempt pension trusts (each owning more than 10% by value of our shares) hold in the aggregate more than 50% by value of our shares. The percentage treated as UBTI is our gross income (less direct expenses) derived from an unrelated trade or business (determined as if we were a tax-exempt pension trust) divided by our gross income from all sources (less direct expenses). If this percentage is less than 5%, however, none of the dividends will be treated as UBTI.

Prospective tax-exempt purchasers should consult their own tax advisors as to the applicability of these rules and consequences to their particular circumstances.

Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders.

General. The rules governing the U.S. federal income taxation of beneficial owners of our common stock that are nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations and other foreign investors (collectively, "Non-U.S. Stockholders") are complex, and as such, only a summary of such rules is provided in this exhibit. Non-U.S. investors should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact that U.S. federal, state and local income tax or similar laws will have on such investors as a result of an investment in our common stock.

FATCA Withholding. Payments of interest to a Non-U.S. Stockholder will be subject to a 30% withholding tax if the Non-U.S. Stockholder fails to provide the withholding agent with documentation sufficient to show that it is compliant with FATCA. Generally such documentation is provided on an executed IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E, as applicable. If interest is subject to the 30% tax under FATCA, it will not be subject to the 30% tax described below under “Distribution—In General” and “U.S. Federal Income Tax Withholding on Distributions.” Based upon proposed Treasury regulations, which may be relied upon by taxpayers until the final Treasury regulations are issued, the FATCA withholding that was to be effective on January 1, 2019 with respect to payments of the gross proceeds no longer applies. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of this legislation on their investment in our common stock or preferred stock.

Distributions-In General. Distributions paid by us that are not attributable to gain from our sales or exchanges of U.S. real property interests and not designated by us as capital gain dividends will be treated as dividends of ordinary income to the extent that they are made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. Such dividends to Non-U.S. Stockholders ordinarily will be subject to a withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the dividend unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates that tax. However, if income from the investment in our shares of common stock is treated as effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Stockholder’s conduct of a U.S. trade or business, the Non-U.S. Stockholder generally will be subject to a tax at the graduated rates applicable to ordinary income, in the same manner as domestic stockholders are taxed with respect to such dividends (and may also be subject to the 30% branch profits tax in the case of a non-U.S. stockholder that is a foreign corporation that is not entitled to any treaty exemption). Dividends in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits will not be taxable to a stockholder to the extent they do not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder’s shares. Instead, they will reduce the adjusted basis of such shares. To the extent that such dividends exceed the adjusted basis of a Non-U.S. Stockholder’s shares, they will give rise to tax liability if the Non-U.S. Stockholder would otherwise be subject to tax on any gain from the sale or disposition of his shares, as described in the “Sale of Shares” portion of this Section below.

Distributions Attributable to Sale or Exchange of Real Property. Distributions that are attributable to gain from our sales or exchanges of U.S. real property interests will be taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder as if such gain were effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business. Non-U.S. Stockholders would thus be required to file U.S. federal income tax returns and would be taxed at the normal capital gain rates applicable to domestic stockholders, and would be subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals. Also, such dividends may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a corporate Non-U.S. Stockholder not entitled to any treaty exemption. However, generally a capital gain dividend from a REIT is not treated as effectively connected income for a foreign investor if (i) the distribution is received with regard to a class of stock that is regularly traded on an established securities market located in the United States; and (ii) the foreign investor does not own more than 10% of the class of stock at any time during the tax year within which the distribution is received. We expect that our common stock will continue to be regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Withholding on Distributions. For U.S. federal income tax withholding purposes and subject to the discussion above under “FATCA Withholding,” we will generally withhold tax at the rate of 30% on the amount of any distribution (other than distributions designated as capital gain dividends) made to a Non-U.S. Stockholder, unless the Non-U.S. Stockholder provides us with a properly completed IRS (i) Form W-8BEN evidencing that such Non-U.S. Stockholder is eligible for an exemption or reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty (in which case we will withhold at the lower treaty rate) or (ii) Form W-8ECI claiming that the dividend is effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Stockholder’s conduct of a trade or business within the U.S. (in which case we will not withhold tax). We are also generally required to withhold tax at the rate of 21% (35% for years beginning prior to January 1, 2018) on the portion of any dividend to a Non-U.S. Stockholder that is or could be designated by us as a capital gain dividend, to the extent attributable to gain on a sale or exchange of an interest in U.S. real property. Such withheld amounts of tax do not represent actual tax liabilities, but rather, represent payments in respect of those tax liabilities described in the preceding two paragraphs. Therefore, such withheld amounts are creditable by the Non-U.S. Stockholder against its actual U.S. federal income tax liabilities, including those described in the preceding two paragraphs. The Non-U.S. Stockholder would be entitled to a refund of any amounts withheld in excess of such Non-U.S. Stockholder’s actual U.S. federal income tax liabilities, provided that the Non-U.S. Stockholder files applicable returns or refund claims with the IRS.

Sales of Shares. Gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Stockholder upon a sale of shares of our common stock generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation, provided that: (i) such gain is not effectively connected with the conduct by such

Non-U.S. Stockholder of a trade or business within the United States; (ii) the Non-U.S. Stockholder is not present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions apply; and (iii) our REIT is “domestically controlled,” which generally means that less than 50% in value of our shares was held directly or indirectly by foreign persons during the five year period ending on the date of disposition or, if shorter, during the entire period of our existence.

We cannot assure you that we will qualify as “domestically controlled.” If we were not domestically controlled, a Non-U.S. Stockholder’s sale of common shares would be subject to tax, unless our common shares were regularly traded on an established securities market and the selling Non-U.S. Stockholder has not directly, or indirectly, owned during a specified testing period more than 10% in value of our shares of common stock. We believe that our common stock will continue to be regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States. If the gain on the sale of shares were subject to taxation, the Non-U.S. Stockholder would be subject to the same treatment as domestic stockholders with respect to such gain, and the purchaser of such common stock may be required to withhold 15% of the gross purchase price.

If the proceeds of a disposition of common stock are paid by or through a U.S. office of a broker-dealer, the payment is generally subject to information reporting and to backup withholding unless the disposing Non-U.S. Stockholder certifies as to its name, address and non-U.S. status or otherwise establishes an exemption. Generally, U.S. information reporting and backup withholding will not apply to a payment of disposition proceeds if the payment is made outside the United States through a foreign office of a foreign broker-dealer. Under Treasury regulations, if the proceeds from a disposition of common stock paid to or through a foreign office of a U.S. broker-dealer or a non-U.S. office of a foreign broker-dealer that is (i) a “controlled foreign corporation” for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (ii) a person 50% or more of whose gross income from all sources for a three-year period was effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business, (iii) a foreign partnership with one or more partners who are U.S. persons and who, in the aggregate, hold more than 50% of the income or capital interest in the partnership, or (iv) a foreign partnership engaged in the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, then (A) backup withholding will not apply unless the broker-dealer has actual knowledge that the owner is not a Non-U.S. Stockholder, and (B) information reporting will not apply if the Non-U.S. Stockholder certifies its non-U.S. status and further certifies that it has not been, and at the time the certificate is furnished reasonably expects not to be, present in the U.S. for a period aggregating 183 days or more during each calendar year to which the certification pertains. Prospective foreign purchasers should consult their tax advisors concerning these rules.

Additional exemptions from provisions relating to ownership of interests in U.S. real estate by non-U.S. persons are applicable to “qualified shareholders” and “qualified foreign pension plans,” as further described below.

Subject to the exception discussed below, any distribution to a “qualified shareholder” who holds REIT stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. tax as income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business and thus will not be subject to special withholding rules under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Act of 1980 (“FIRPTA”). While a “qualified shareholder” will not be subject to FIRPTA withholding on REIT distributions, certain investors of a “qualified shareholder” (i.e., non-U.S. persons who hold interests in the “qualified shareholder” (other than interests solely as a creditor), and hold more than 10% of the stock of such REIT (whether or not by reason of the investor’s ownership in the “qualified Shareholder”)) may be subject to FIRPTA withholding.

In addition, a sale of our stock by a “qualified shareholder” who holds such stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation under FIRPTA. As with distributions, certain investors of a “qualified shareholder” (i.e., non-U.S. persons who hold interests in the “qualified shareholder” (other than interests solely as a creditor), and hold more than 10% of the stock of such REIT (whether or not by reason of the investor’s ownership in the “qualified shareholder”)) may be subject to FIRPTA withholding on a sale of our stock.

A “qualified shareholder” is a foreign person that (i) either is (a) eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty which includes an exchange of information program and whose principal class of interests is listed and regularly traded on one or more recognized stock exchanges (as defined in such comprehensive income tax treaty), or (b) a foreign partnership that is created or organized under foreign law as a limited partnership in a jurisdiction that has an agreement for the exchange of information with respect to taxes with the United States and has a class of limited partnership units representing greater than 50% of the value of all the partnership units that is regularly traded on the NYSE or NASDAQ markets, (ii) is a qualified collective investment vehicle (defined below), and (iii) maintains records on the identity of each

person who, at any time during the foreign person's taxable year, is the direct owner of 5% or more of the class of interests or units (as applicable) of the entities described in (i)(a) or (b), above.

A qualified collective investment vehicle is a foreign person that (i) would be eligible for a reduced rate of withholding under the comprehensive income tax treaty described above, even if such entity holds more than 10% of the stock of such REIT, (ii) is publicly traded, is treated as a partnership under the Code, is a withholding foreign partnership, and would be treated as a "United States real property holding corporation" if it were a domestic corporation, or (iii) is designated as such by the Secretary of the Treasury and is either (a) fiscally transparent within the meaning of section 894, or (b) required to include dividends in its gross income, but is entitled to a deduction for distributions to its investors.

Qualified Foreign Pension Funds. Any distribution to a "qualified foreign pension fund" (or an entity all of the interests of which are held by a "qualified foreign pension fund") who holds REIT stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. tax as income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business and thus will not be subject to special withholding rules under FIRPTA. In addition, a sale of our stock by a "qualified foreign pension fund" that holds such stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation under FIRPTA.

A qualified foreign pension fund is any trust, corporation or other organization or arrangement (i) which is created or organized under the law of a country other than the United States, (ii) which is established to provide retirement or pension benefits to participants or beneficiaries that are current or former employees (or persons designated by such employees) of one or more employers in consideration for services rendered (iii) which does not have a single participant or beneficiary with a right to more than 5% of its assets or income, (iv) which is subject to government regulation and provides annual information reporting about its beneficiaries to the relevant tax authorities in the country in which it is established or operates, and (v) with respect to which, under the laws of the country in which it is established or operates, (a) contributions to such organization or arrangement that would otherwise be subject to tax under such laws are deductible or excluded from the gross income of such entity or taxed at a reduced rate, or (b) taxation of any investment income of such organization or arrangement is deferred or such income is taxed at a reduced rate.

The tax provisions relating to qualified shareholders and qualified foreign pension funds are complex. Stockholders should consult their tax advisors with respect to the impact of those provisions on them.

Other Tax Considerations

State and Local Taxes. We and you may be subject to state or local taxation in various jurisdictions, including those in which we transact business or reside. Our and your state and local tax treatment may not conform to the U.S. federal income tax consequences discussed above. Consequently, you should consult your own tax advisors regarding the effect of state and local tax laws on an investment in our shares of common stock.

Legislative Proposals. You should recognize that our and your present U.S. federal income tax treatment may be modified by legislative, judicial or administrative actions at any time, which may be retroactive in effect.

The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by Congress, the IRS and the Treasury Department, and statutory changes as well as promulgation of new regulations, revisions to existing statutes, and revised interpretations of established concepts occur frequently. You should consult your advisors concerning the status of legislative proposals that may pertain to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our shares of common stock.

[\(Back To Top\)](#)