COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE INSIGHTS IN MIDST OF COVID-19

As of March 25, 2020 at 8:00 AM CST



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

- ⇒ Clients
 - Investors and developers in all property types
 - ⇒ All types of commercial tenants
- ⇒ Lenders
- ⇒ Attorneys
- ⇒ Government Officials
- ⇒ Property managers
- Peers / colleagues locally and across country



OVERALL FEEL

- Uncertainty of duration of COVID-19 makes for tough planning.
- Many in a "pause while we eagerly seek answers" mode.
- Construction deemed "essential services" and continuing for the most part.
- Contractors and subs holding on to cash.
- ⇒ Layoffs are real. Many people suddenly out of work.
- Small biz has eyes on SBA loans and bill making its way through Congress.
- Municipalities are "all hands on deck".



RETAIL

- Landlords flooded with tenant requests for rent relief from businesses not deemed "Essential Services".
- Some lenders granting mortgage payment deferrals to landlords.
- Grocery stores are doing record sales.
- Restaurants are being forced to get creative to drive sales during the shutdown. Many restaurant tenants noting significant decrease in revenue.
- Large layoffs / reduced hours for retail industry workers
- New retail leases are being stalled, but are not dead.

MULTIFAMILY

- Cash flow for March is fine as most tenants paid their March rent prior to the pandemic's impact.
- Landlords are bracing for when April's rent is due as they'll start to feel a larger impact of newly unemployed tenants who may struggle to pay their rent.
- New leasing has slowed dramatically.
- Student housing concerned about the Spring semester and when universities will be back open.



OFFICE

- Office buildings largely empty.
- ⇒ Rent still being paid.
- Businesses learning to work remotely.
- May have at least a short-term impact on the "co-working" trend.
- Market players curious of the long-term impact COVID-19 will have on the demand for office space as people get used to working from home.



INDUSTRIAL

- ⇒ Limited adverse impact to date.
- Most tenants still up and running as essential services.
- ⇒ Rent is still being paid.
- Some tenants doing more business now than ever.



HOSPITALITY

- ⇒ Hit hard.
- ⇒ Low occupancy.
- ⇒ Right-sizing staff.
- Most staying operational for now.



SELF STORAGE

- Limited adverse impact on existing tenants so far.
- ⇒ When April's rent is due, look for the impact to grow.
- New leasing stalled.



LAND

- Limited adverse impact to date.
- New development projects on hold temporarily.
- ⇒ Buyer's timelines lengthened.



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