Houston | Retail | Investment Sales

QUARTERLY SNAPSHOT | Q2 2023

Navigating Changing Economic Tides: Houston's Retail Market in Q2 2023.

Sales Volume

Year-to-date, the cumulative retail sales volume in the greater Houston area registered at \$153.5 million as of Q2 2023 down from a more robust \$1.071 billion in Q2 2022, reports Real Capital Analytics. In perspective, 2022 experienced the highest deal volume in the second quarter thus far. Rising interest rates and fears of a recession have decreased dealmaking throughout 2023, leading to a sales cooldown from the post-pandemic surge in mid-2021 through mid-2022. However, over the next three to six months, price discovery will narrow the dislocation between buyers and sellers ultimately leading to higher transaction volume in the near future.

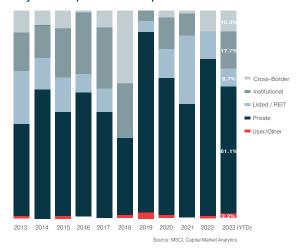
Cumulative Monthly Sales Volume



Buyers and Sellers

The majority of buyers so far in 2023 consisted of 61% private, 18% institutional, 10% cross-border, 9% REIT/listed, and 2% user/other. The majority of sellers were 56% private and 42% institutional. Investors remain attracted to Houston's retail properties though higher capital costs and a widening gap between buyers' and sellers' expectations are slowing down investment activity. Among recent noteworthy transactions in 2023, Highland Capital Management acquired a 193,085-sq.-ft. retail center (Steeplechase Center) from Schreer Management in April 2023. This retail center holds a variety of tenants such as Palais Royal, 99 Cents Only, and Capital One. In addition, this property, which was built in 1982 and renovated in 1990, sold for \$18 million and was 82% leased at the time of sale.

Buyer Capital Composition



Market Cap Rates

Houston's retail market cap rates (6.8%) are right in line with the national benchmark of 6.9% as of Q2 2023. The market sales price per remains at \$227 per sq. ft., unchanged from the previous quarter. Neighborhood and power centers-the non-anchored strips-have the highest cap rates at 7.0%, respectively. Overall, retail market cap rates have compressed on average by 10 basis points annually over the past several years (7.1% in Q2 2017). Despite the decline, higher capital costs and uncertainty around monetary policy are starting to force cap rates upward. Cap rates are expected to rise by 40 basis points (7.2%) by the end of 2023.

Market Sales Price / SF & Cap Rate

