

DETROIT MULTIFAMILY

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Market Analysis Winter 2019

Contacts

Paul Fiorilla

Associate Director of Research Paul.Fiorilla@Yardi.com (800) 866-1124 x5764

Jack Kern

Director of Research and Publications Jack.Kern@Yardi.com (800) 866-1124 x2444

Author

Adriana Pop

Senior Associate Editor

Urban Boom Boosts Demand

Multifamily demand is steady in Detroit, bolstered by household formation and job gains, while occupancy remains above the national average.

Large-scale developments are transforming the city's urban core, attracting businesses and residents alike and increasing construction employment gains to 4,600 jobs in the 12 months ending in November. Monroe Blocks, an \$830 million mixed-use destination built by Bedrock LLC, is slated to bring 1.4 million square feet of office, residential, retail and public space to downtown, further boosting the area's revitalization. The company is also developing Michigan's tallest building at the site of the former J.L. Hudson store. Meanwhile, Ford is redeveloping Michigan Central Station in the Corktown neighborhood, the centerpiece of its 1.2 million-square-foot tech campus, which will focus on autonomous and electric vehicles, while housing 2,500 company employees and 2,500 workers from partners and suppliers.

Drawn by the market's low entry costs and attractive yields, multifamily investors primarily targeted Class B and C assets with a value-add component. Following the completion of only 306 units last year, deliveries are bound to hit a cycle high in 2019, with 2,730 units expected to come online. Demand is anticipated to keep up, bolstering a steady rent growth of 2.7% for the year.

Recent Detroit Transactions

Hoover Square



City: Warren, Mich. Buyer: GSH Group Purchase Price: \$21.8 MM Price per Unit: \$63,743

Kings Gate



City: Sterling Heights, Mich. Buyer: Burton Carol Management Purchase Price: \$9.3 MM Price per Unit: \$72,351

Carlton



City: Detroit Buyer: Andover/M Group Purchase Price: \$11.6 MM Price per Unit: \$80,208

Rivercrest of Clinton Township



City: Clinton Township, Mich. Buyer: Princeton Enterprises Purchase Price: \$3.4 MM Price per Unit: \$50,000