



EdR Updates Leasing Progress for 2017/2018 Lease Term

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 5, 2017 /PRNewswire/-- EdR (NYSE: EDR), a leader in the ownership, development and management of collegiate housing, today provided an update on the Company's leasing progress for the 2017/2018 lease-term in conjunction with the Interface Student Housing Conference in Austin, TX.

EdR's same-community leasing portfolio is currently 120 basis points ahead of prior year with 73.2% of the beds released for the fall (excludes the 5,733 same-community beds at the University of Kentucky as the university's assignment to communities does not occur until May).

The following is a summary of the current status of applications at the University of Kentucky compared to the same time last year:

	2017	2016
Bed Count:		
Same-communities	5,733	4,592
New-communities	1,117	1,141
Total	6,850	5,733
Housing Applications	6,063	6,137
% Applied	89%	107%

“So far, this leasing season has progressed as expected for the majority of our 30,999 bed same-community leasing portfolio,” stated Randy Churchey, chairman and chief executive officer. “However, at the University of Kentucky we are now forecasting fall 2017 opening occupancy of approximately 95% (vs 99% in 2016) with an average rate increase of 3% to 4% for our combined same and new-communities.” Churchey continued, “The percentage of first year students selecting to live on campus has remained fairly constant and applications for this fall are consistent with the prior year, however, the pace at which EdR and the University are changing the culture to attract returning students to reside on campus is, to date, slower than anticipated.”

Based on current leasing velocity and market conditions, including the update for University of Kentucky beds, we are reducing our projection for same-community rental revenue growth by 100 bps. We expect the same-community leasing portfolio to open the 2017/2018 lease-term with occupancy flat and an approximate 2.5% to 3.5% increase in rates, resulting in rental revenue growth in the range of 2.5% to 3.5% (assuming an equal percentage allocation of UK applications to same and new-communities).

Based on the Company's current estimates, management reaffirms its 2017 financial guidance, including net income attributable to common shareholders of \$0.66 to \$0.76 per diluted share and Core FFO per share/unit of \$1.90 to \$2.00.

Preleasing Summary by Tier

	Design Beds	% of NOI	2016 Opening Occupancy	Preleasing at April 3,		Preleasing Ahead/ (Behind)	Projected Rate Growth ⁽¹⁾
				2017	2016		
Same-Communities - by Tier							
Prior Year Occupancy Below 90% (Tier 1)	4,658	14.2 %	78.6 %	51.8 %	44.5 %	7.3 %	(0.7)%
Prior Year Occupancy 90% to 96.9% (Tier 2)	3,697	13.8 %	94.0 %	64.7 %	60.8 %	3.9 %	2.0 %
Prior Year Occupancy 97% and Above (Tier 3)	16,911	72.0 %	99.7 %	81.0 %	82.1 %	(1.1)%	3.6 %
Total Same-Communities ⁽²⁾	25,266	100.0%	95.0%	73.2%	72.0%	1.2 %	3.0 %
Total Other-Communities ⁽³⁾	889			25.0%	43.8%	(18.8)%	
Total New-Communities ⁽⁴⁾	3,429			42.4%			
Total Communities	29,584			68.2%			

The leasing velocity in the above preleasing summary by tier does not include 6,850 same and new-community beds at the University of Kentucky, 656 new-community beds at Boise State University and 417 new-community beds at Northern Michigan University, since each university's assignment process has not yet occurred. The University of Kentucky beds are currently 89% applied for this fall compared to 107% in the prior year. Note that current year applications at Kentucky are negatively impacted by the university's main recruiting events happening later this year than they did in 2016. The beds at Boise State and Northern Michigan University are currently 80% and 51% applied for the fall, respectively.

Players Club is also not included in the above preleasing summary by tier, as the community is being redeveloped for 2018 delivery and is not leasing for the 2017-2018 lease-term.

(1) The projected rate growth represents the midpoint of the projected range each tier and the same-community leasing portfolio in total, including the same-community beds at Kentucky.

(2) The same-community designation for leasing purposes is different than for financial reporting purposes. A community is considered same-community for leasing when the Company has managed the leasing process for at least two leasing cycles, including the 2017/2018 leasing cycle.

(3) Other-communities includes University Towers, serving North Carolina State University. As previously disclosed, University Towers will be reported in other communities in 2017 due to the University implementing a freshman live-on requirement starting this fall. As a result of the new live-on requirements, we are changing the way we market and operate the community in 2017, making year over year results incomparable.

(4) The new-community designation for leasing purposes is different than for financial statement purposes. A community is considered new-community for leasing when the Company has not previously managed the leasing process. Design beds for Total New-Communities include the following: (1) our 2016 acquisitions of Pura Vida Place (100 beds), Carriage House (94 beds) and Urbane (311 beds), plus (2) beds at our 2017 development deliveries of The Local: Downtown (304 beds), Avid Square (475 beds) and SkyVue (824 beds), plus (3) our 2017 acquisitions of Retreat at Corvallis (1,016 beds) and 319 Bragg (305 beds).

About EdR

EdR (NYSE:EDR) is one of America's largest owners, developers and managers of collegiate housing. EdR is a self-administered and self-managed real estate investment trust that owns or manages 88 communities with more than 45,800 beds serving 55 universities in 25 states. EdR is a member of the Russell 2000 Index, the S&P MidCap 400 and the Morgan Stanley REIT indices. For details, please visit the company's Web site at www.EdRtrust.com.

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