

THE PUNCH LIST

Boston Multifamily

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Riding Out the Policy Waves: Where are the Opportunities for Boston Multifamily?

The Greater Boston multifamily market finds itself at an interesting juncture. While current fundamentals paint a picture of strength – characterized by low unemployment, high occupancy, and limited new supply due to existing local policies¹ – a layer of uncertainty has been introduced by the current administration's recent policy initiatives.

For multifamily investors and developers, this evolving environment presents both challenges and potential opportunities. Policies concerning trade, immigration, and federal research funding have the potential to influence key market drivers. Tariffs could elevate construction costs, potentially impacting the feasibility of new developments.² Shifts in immigration policies might affect the labor pool for construction, further influencing timelines and expenses.³ Moreover, potential reductions in NIH funding could have a ripple effect on the region's robust life sciences sector, a significant contributor to local employment.

This uncertainty has already injected volatility into the capital markets, as evidenced by recent fluctuations in treasury yields. Such instability can lead to a slowdown in transaction volume and new construction starts as investors exercise caution while assessing risk.

However, this period of adjustment may favor owners and operators of well-established, efficiently run multifamily assets. With limited new supply anticipated and continued strong underlying demand, these properties are positioned to benefit from sustained high occupancy and steady rent growth, provided the local job market remains resilient.

While navigating this evolving landscape requires careful consideration and diligent underwriting, the underlying strength of the Boston economy offers a degree of insulation. By staying informed and adapting to the changing policy environment, investors and developers can identify and capitalize on emerging opportunities within the Greater Boston multifamily market.



Sources:

- ¹ Boston Business Journal
- ² National Association of Home Builders
- ³ CBS News
- ⁴ Urban Institute
- ⁵ Market Watch

State of the Market

Source: CoStar

4 March 2025 Transactions **1\$2,907**Market
Rent

↓5.70% Vacancy

1 \$373,278Sale Price/Unit
T-12

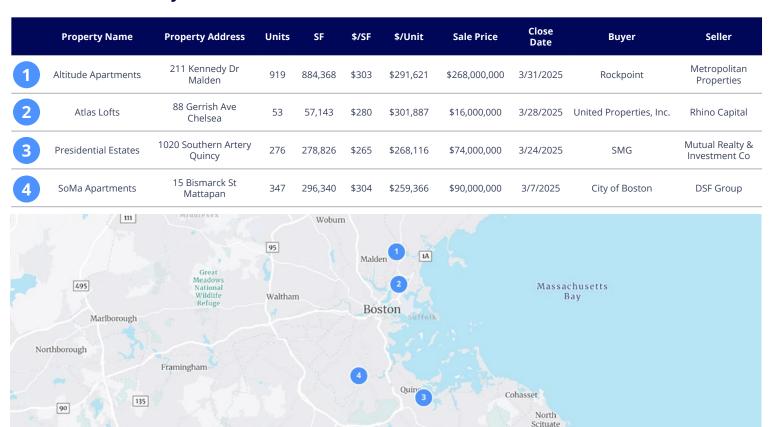
↓\$360 Sale Price/SF T-12

5March 2024
Transactions

\$3.27 Market Rent/SF

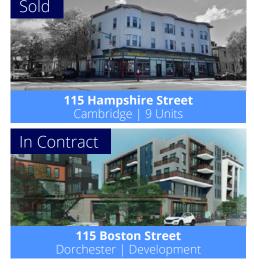
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When a clown moves into a palace, he doesn't become a king. The palace becomes a circus. - Unknown



