

Philadelphia's Housing Market:
Where Are We...and Where Are We Headed?

Presented by: Kevin C. Gillen Ph.D.

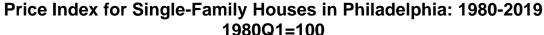


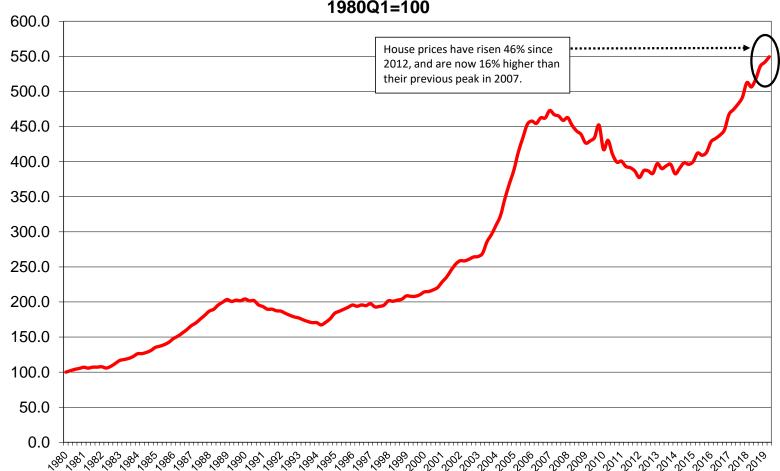
### **NUMBER ONE**

# Where is our housing market at?

#### CITY'S PRICES ARE AT ALL-TIME HIGHS

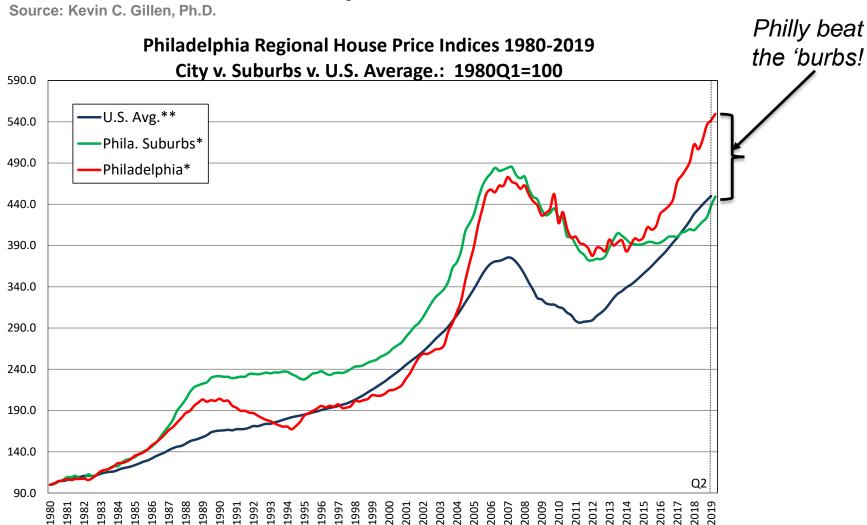
# **House Price Index for Philadelphia County**





#### THE CITY HAS OUTPERFORMED THE SUBURBS!

# House Price Indices: City v. Suburbs v. USA



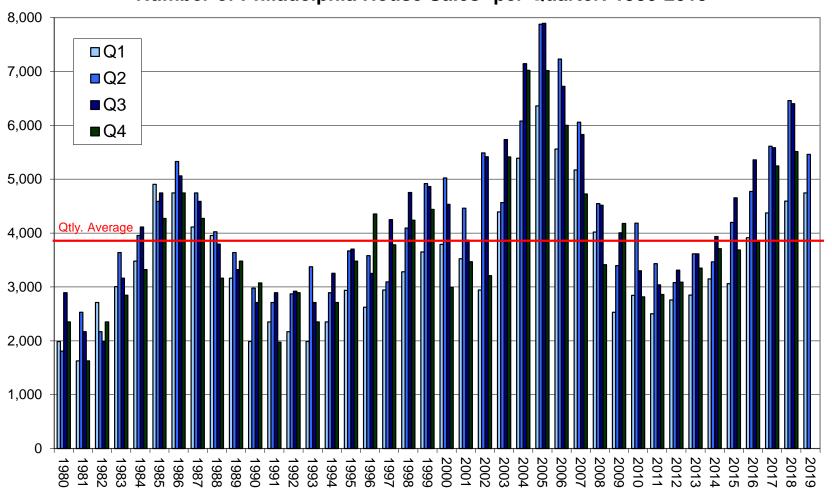
<sup>\*</sup>Empirically estimated by Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

#### SALES ARE AT POST-RECESSION HIGHS

# **House Sales for Philadelphia County**

Source: Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

#### Number of Philadelphia House Sales\* per Quarter: 1980-2019

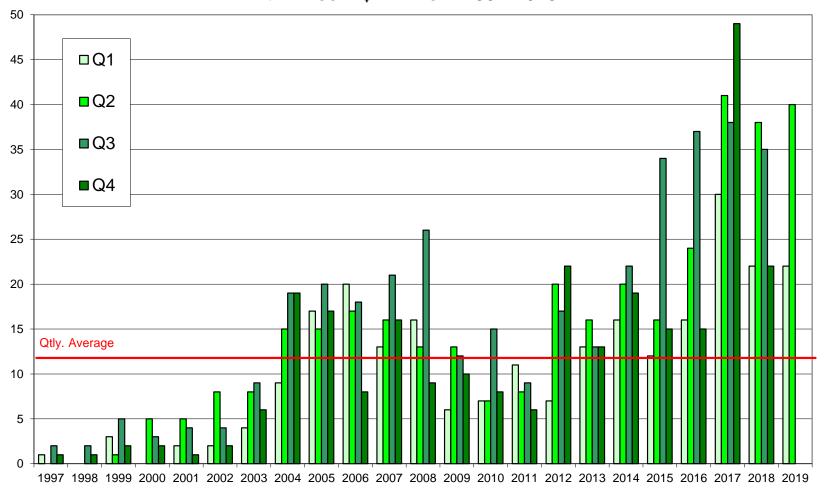


# +\$1M HOUSE SALES HAVE BEEN SETTING RECORD HIGHS

# +\$1m House Sales in Philadelphia

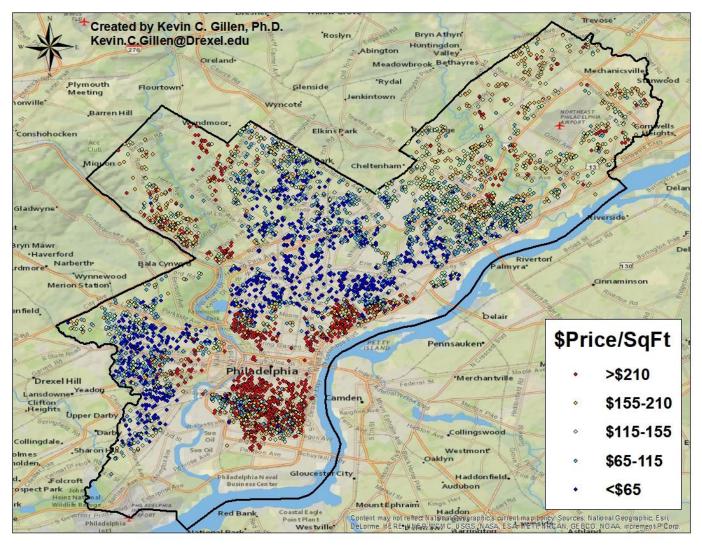
Source: Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

# Number of Philadelphia House Sales\* per Quarter with Price>=\$1 Million: 1997-2019



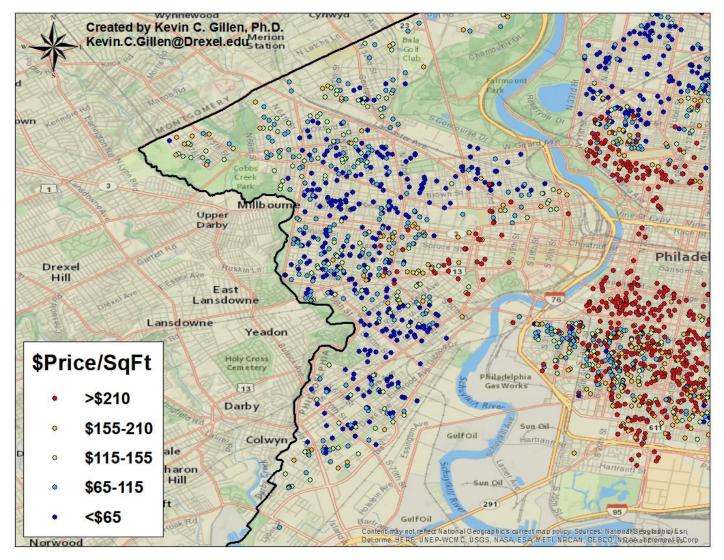
### STRONG SPATIAL VARIATION IN PRICES

# 2019 Q3 House Sales in Philadelphia County



### STRONG SPATIAL VARIATION IN PRICES

# 2019 Q3 House Sales in West Philadelphia

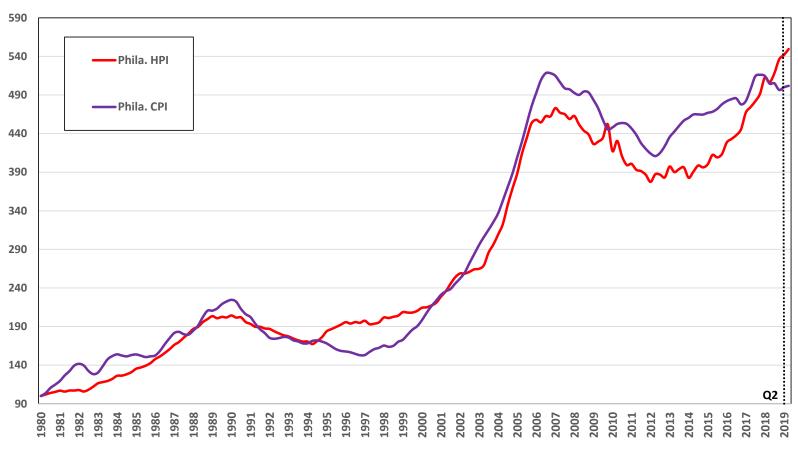


#### CONDOS ARE ALSO DOING REASONABLY WELL

# Condo v. House Price Indices for Philadelphia County

Source: Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

Philadelphia Condo Price Index v. House Price Indices: 1980-2019 1980Q1=100

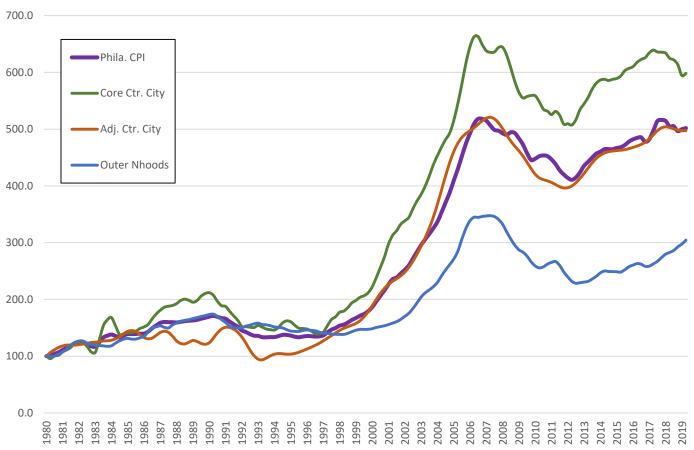


U.S. HPI courtesy of FHFA.gov. Philadelphia HPI and CPI by Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

# LOCATION IS CRITICAL FOR CONDOS, THOUGH

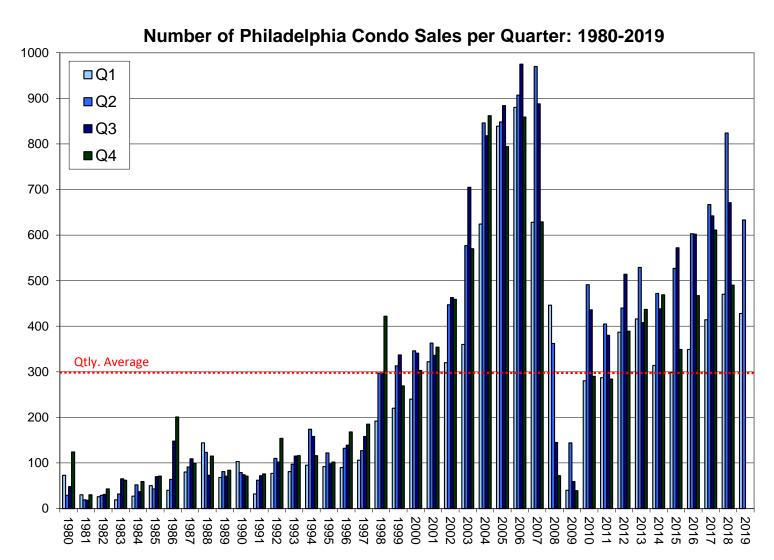
# **Condo Price Indices for Philadelphia County**





# CONDO SALES DOING BETTER THAN PRICES, THOUGH

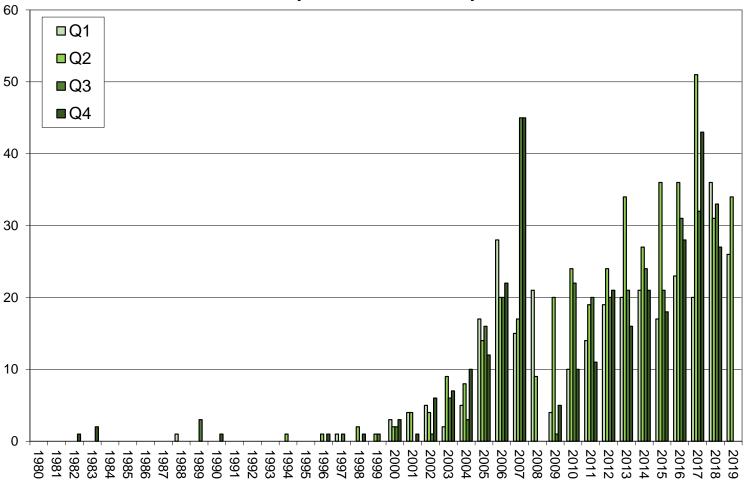
# **Condo Sales for Philadelphia County**



# AND +\$1M CONDO SALES ARE DOING BEST OF ALL

# +\$1m Condo Sales in Philadelphia





<sup>\*</sup>This chart plots the number of condo sales that occurred at prices of \$1 million dollars or more.

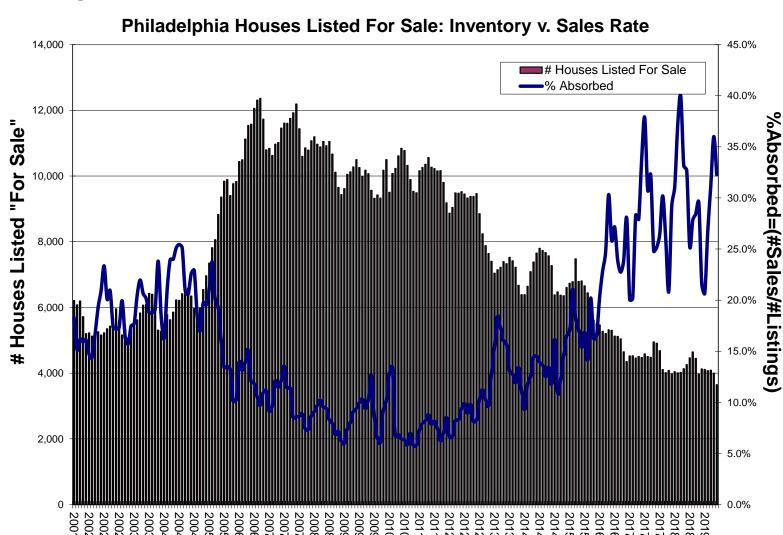
### **NUMBER TWO**

# Where is the housing market headed?

#### INVENTORIES ARE EXCEPTIONALLY LOW

# Houses Listed "For Sale" in Philadelphia County

Source: Bright MLS, Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

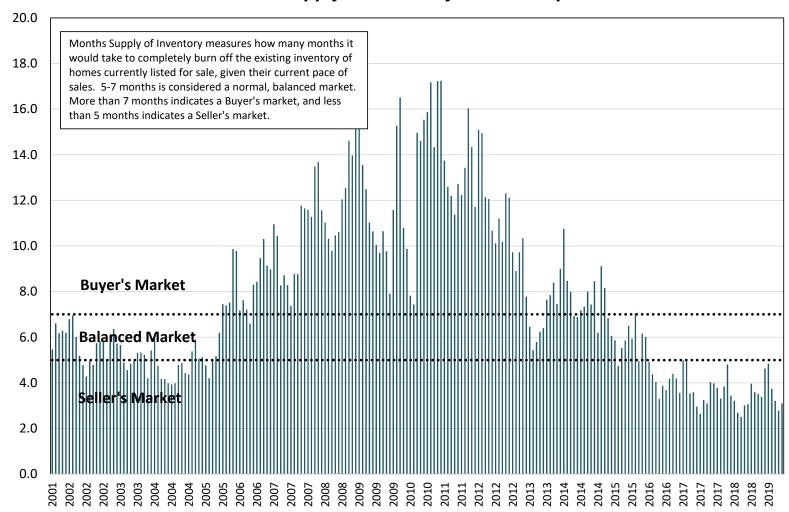


#### IS LOW SUPPLY DRIVING HOUSE PRICE APPRECIATION?

# Months' Supply of Inventory in Philadelphia County

Source: Bright MLS, Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

#### Months Supply of Inventory in Philadelphia

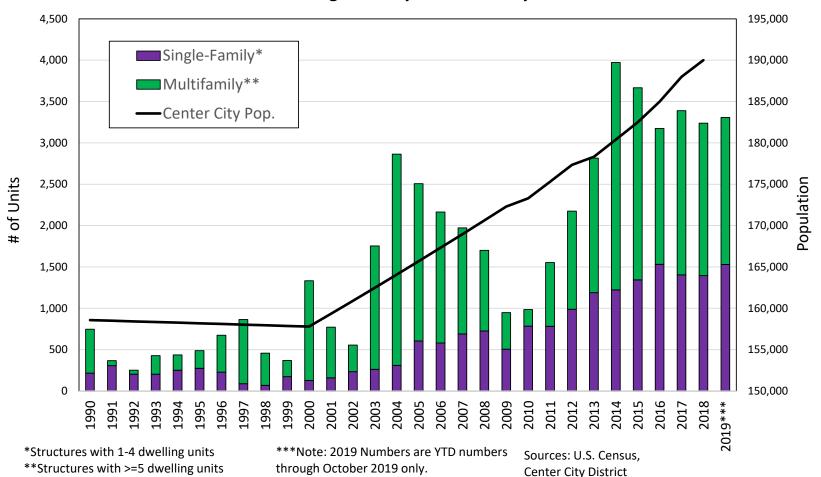


#### BUILDING PERMITS HAVE LEVELED OFF

# Residential Building Permits in Philadelphia County

Source: U.S. Census

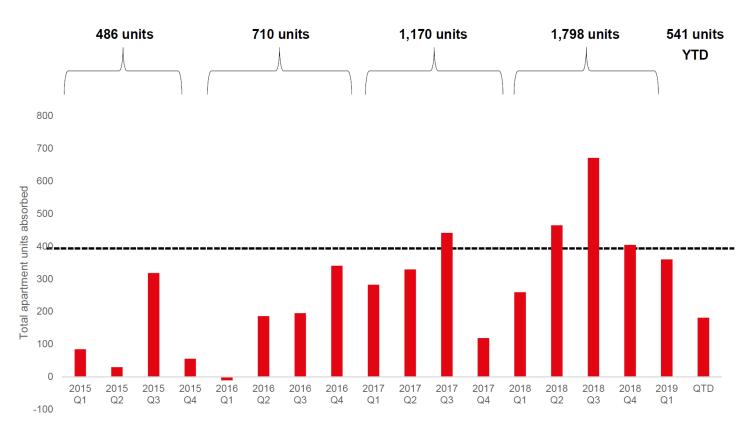
Building Permits Issued for Construction of Residential Units in Philadelphia 1990-2019: Single-Family v. Multifamily



#### APARTMENT COMPLETION APPEARS TO HAVE PEAKED

# Apartment absorption has been accelerating as more new product is delivered, fueling additional development to kick off

Survey includes buildings of 50 or more units with base asking rents of \$2.00 p.s.f.



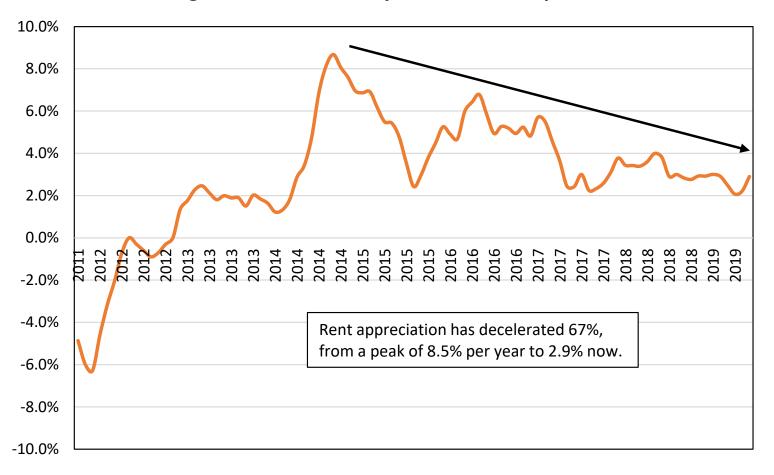
Source: JLL Research, CoStar

#### RENT APPRECIATION HAS BEEN STEADILY DECELERATING

# YoY Change in Median Monthly Rent in Philadelphia

Source: Zillow.com

#### YoY Change in Median Monthly Rent in Philadelphia 2010-2019

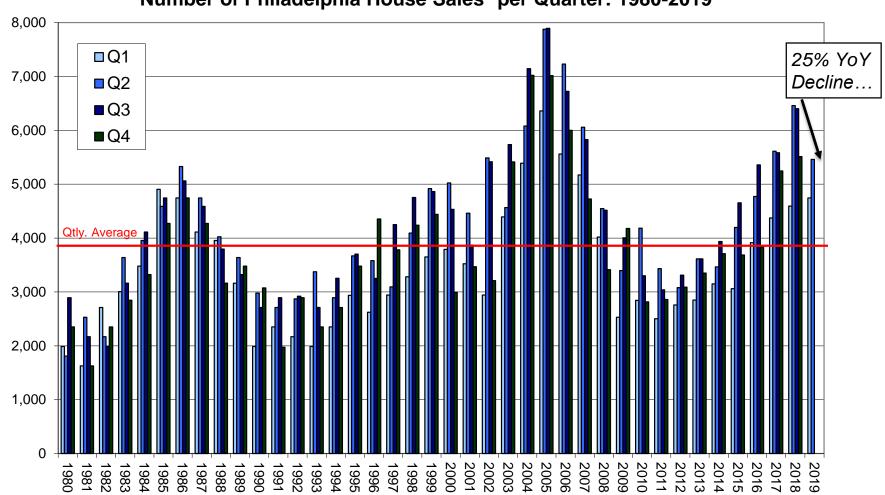


#### **HAVE SALES PEAKED?**

# **House Sales for Philadelphia County**

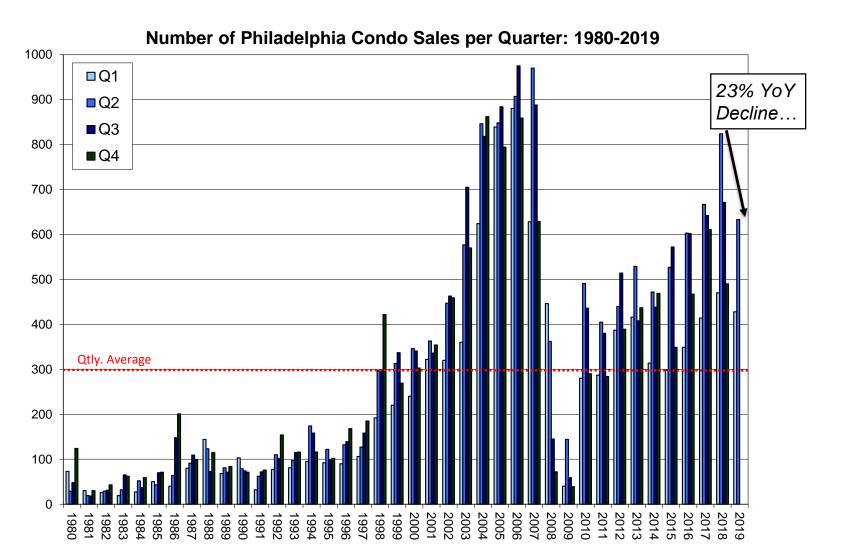
Source: Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D.

#### Number of Philadelphia House Sales\* per Quarter: 1980-2019



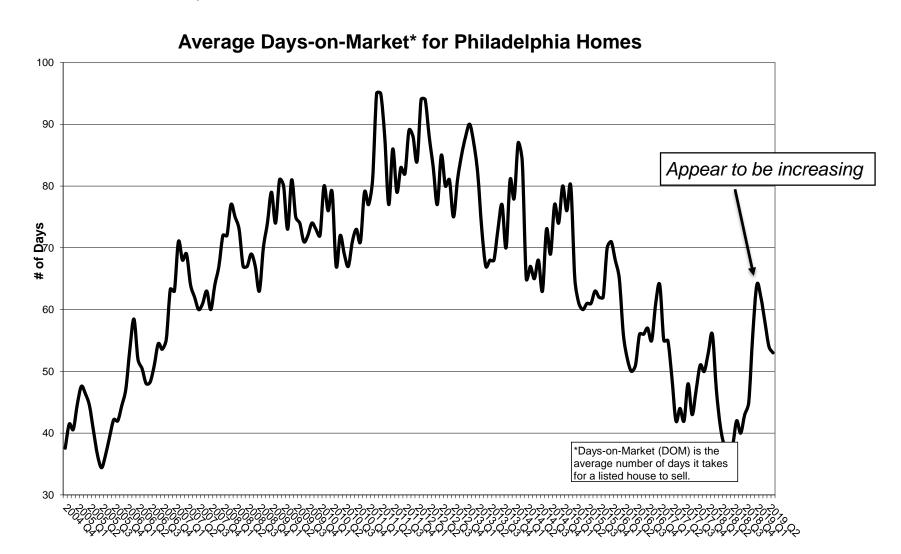
### SIMILAR PATTERN FOR CONDOS

# Condo Sales in Philadelphia



### IS THE PACE OF SALES SLOWING?

# **Average DOM in Philadelphia**



# THREE QUOTES FROM LOCAL REALTORS

"Why are inventories in the city so stubbornly low?

#### Three reasons:

First, baby boomers who would be willing to sell find themselves unable to afford to downsize. The homes that they would move into in an over 55 community cost more than they can get for their own home.

Secondly, our old and aging housing stock does not necessarily appeal to many millennial first-time buyers. Many homes would require a lot of updating in order to make the home salable and many older owners can not afford to do so. Therefore they remain in their home despite the fact that they'd like to move.

Lastly, there was a surge of both institutional and individual investors buying up single family homes for rentals following the bursting of the housing bubble. Since rents remain high, these rentals are producing strong positive cash flow and so they are not selling these. Normally this inventory would come into the market every 7 - 10 years and instead they are remaining as rentals."

-A SVP with a major local brokerage firm

# THREE QUOTES FROM LOCAL REALTORS

"I sell 50-60 homes per year, mostly listings, across all price ranges in Philadelphia County. Starting in about July, I've noticed a significant slowdown in the number of showings on my listings, an increase in the amount of time most of my listings are taking to sell, the need for price reductions – sometimes multiple reductions before procuring offers, and interested buyers often taking days and weeks to make decisions. I've also seen a rather dramatic increase in the number of withdrawn, expired, and cancelled listings on a daily basis."

-A realtor specializing in single-family homes

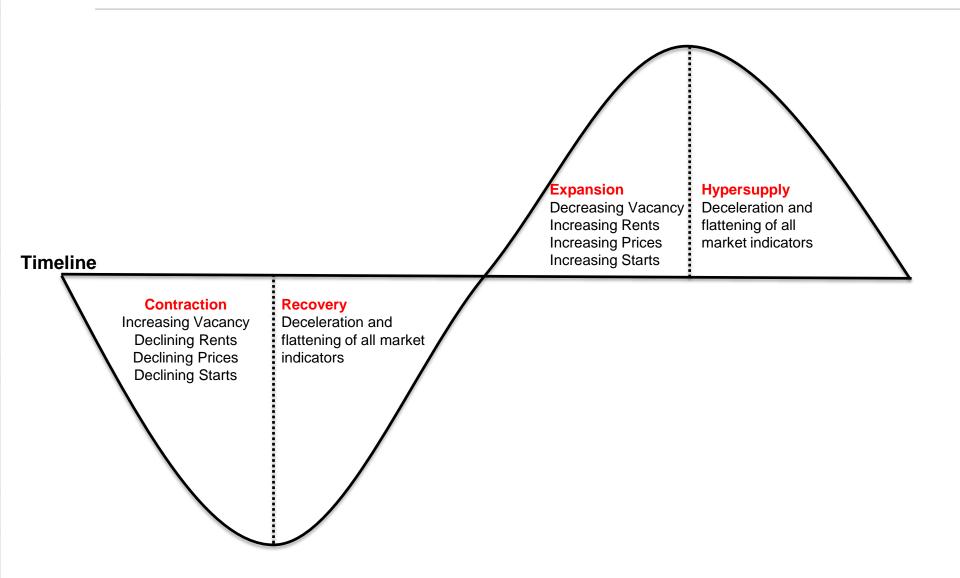
# THREE QUOTES FROM LOCAL REALTORS

"Days on Market are way up for existing, older condos right now because of both market and demographic forces. Most condo buyers right now are empty-nester boomers or first-time millennials buyers. The boomers want luxury product while the millennials want fully amenitized "lifestyle communities". Older product doesn't' fit either of those profiles.

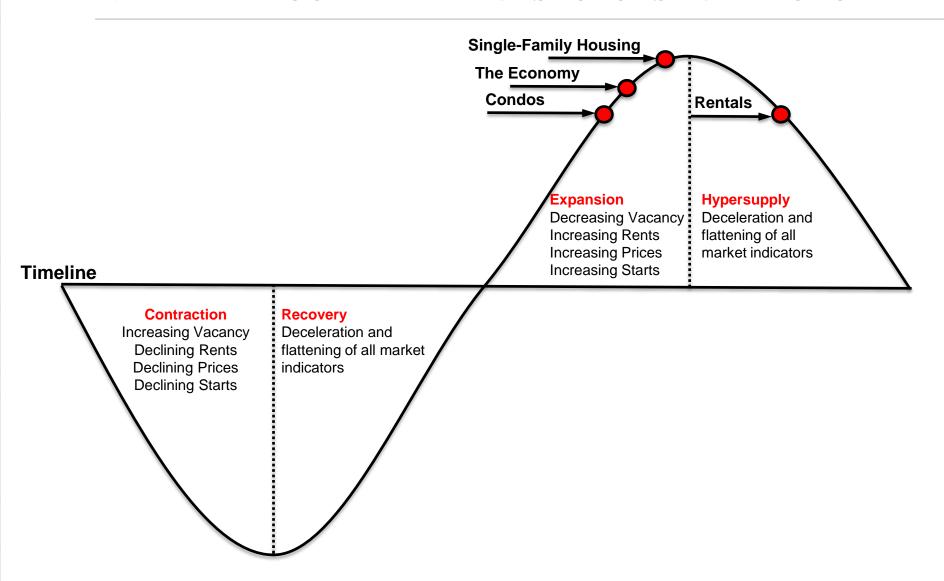
To me, these are tell-tale signs that we've rounded the corner from the pinnacle of the market and could be plateauing or headed down the other side."

-A realtor specializing in Center City condos

# WHERE ARE OUR DIFFERENT SECTORS IN THE CYCLE?



# WHERE ARE OUR DIFFERENT SECTORS IN THE CYCLE?



#### THE ABATEMENT



Major changes will take place to the 10-year Tax Abatement at the end of this year.

#### THE ABATEMENT

# The changes:

- 1) Will apply only to all-new ground-up residential construction.
- 2) Abated takes are reduced by 10% in each year the property is abated.
- 3) Estimates show this will reduce the market value of new housing by 8-9%.

#### **ANALYSIS**

Q: How to analyze the likely impact of the bill?

A: Since we don't have access to comprehensive citywide construction budgets and rent rolls, we found a case study.

Based upon a similar study we did 7 years ago for Westrum's Brewerytown Square.

Our case study this time: Kensington Courts

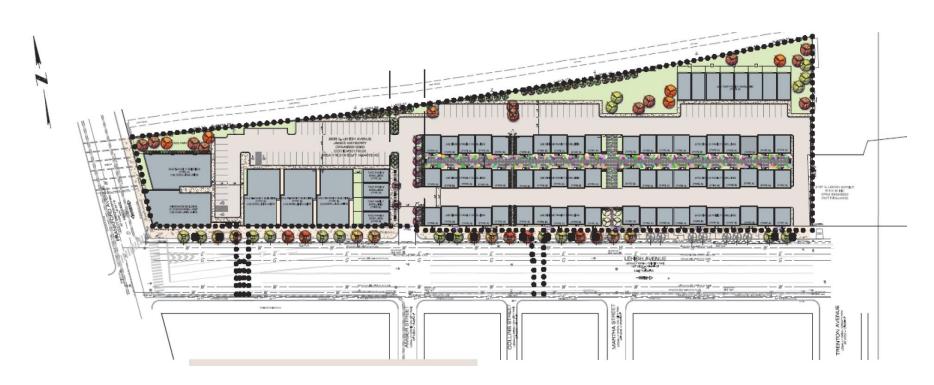


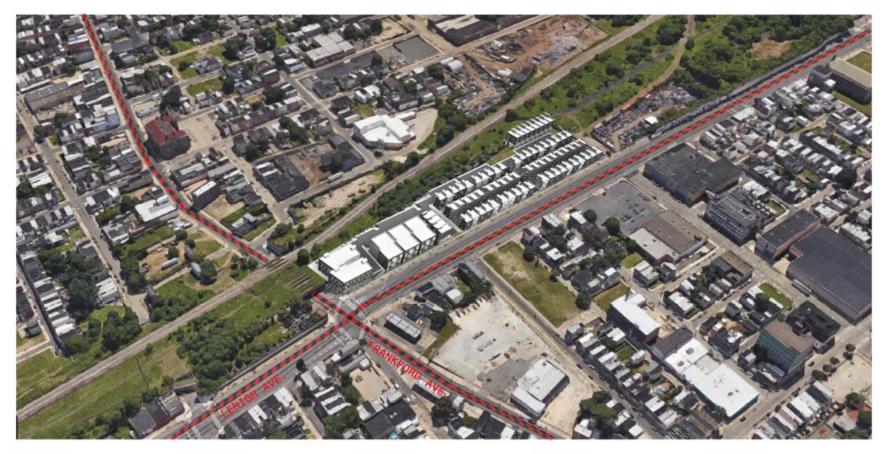


155 HOMES PLUS 7 COMMERCIAL

# SITE PLAN









CAFE / RETAIL



WALK / RUN PATH



BICYCLE PARKING



ELECTRIC VEHICLE STATIONS



DOG PARK









VEHICLE PARKING



TAXI / UBER STAND



FITNESS STATION









### **EMPIRICAL METHODOLOGY**

We assumed that eliminating/curtailing the abatement will affect a project's bottom line in 2 ways:

- Increase the developer's real estate tax bill during construction/operation.
- -Lower the sales price of finished units

  Both Controller Rhynhart and I found that fully abated units have market values ~18-20% higher than comparable abated units.

#### **BASE CASE SCENARIO**

Item	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total	
Single-Family Townhomes	\$0	\$13,650,000	\$9,750,000	\$0	\$23,400,000	
Two-Family Townhomes	\$0	\$4,200,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$7,200,000	
Multifamily Apartments Type A	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,000,000	
Multifamily Apartments Type B	\$0	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000	\$9,750,000	
Multifamily Apartments Type C	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,000,000	
Commercial Space	\$0	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$1,050,000	
Total Sales Revenue						
Transfer Tax	\$0	\$539,028	\$402,132	\$115,506	\$1,056,666	
Selling Costs	\$0	\$1,260,000	\$940,000	\$270,000	\$2,470,000	
Gross Property Tax	\$12,318	\$41,994	\$83,988	\$87,348	\$225,648	
Developer's Share of Property Tax	\$12,318	\$20,463	\$8,806	\$0	\$41,588	
Abated Property Tax	\$0	\$17,359	\$7,470	\$0	\$24,829	
Net Property Tax	\$12,318	\$3,104	\$1,336	\$0	\$16,758	
Net Sales Revenue						
Repayment of Development Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$39,553,188	
Financing Costs	\$350,600	\$350,600	\$350,600	\$0	\$1,051,800	
Net ATCF						
Net Present Value						
Year 4 Cash-on-Cash Return	\$1.13					
Year 4 %Cash-on-Cash Return	13%					
Sales Flow (# of Units)	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total	Check
Single-Family Townhomes	0	35	25	0	60	60
Two-Family Townhomes	0	14	10	0	24	24
Multifamily Apartments Type A	0	6	6	4	16	16
Multifamily Apartments Type B	0	13	13	13	39	39
Multifamily Apartments Type C	0	8	4	4	16	16
Commercial Space	0	4	2	1	7	7
Total SqFt Sold	0	119,961	89,483	24,532	233,976	233,976
Percent SqFt Sold	0%	51%	90%	100%	100%	100%

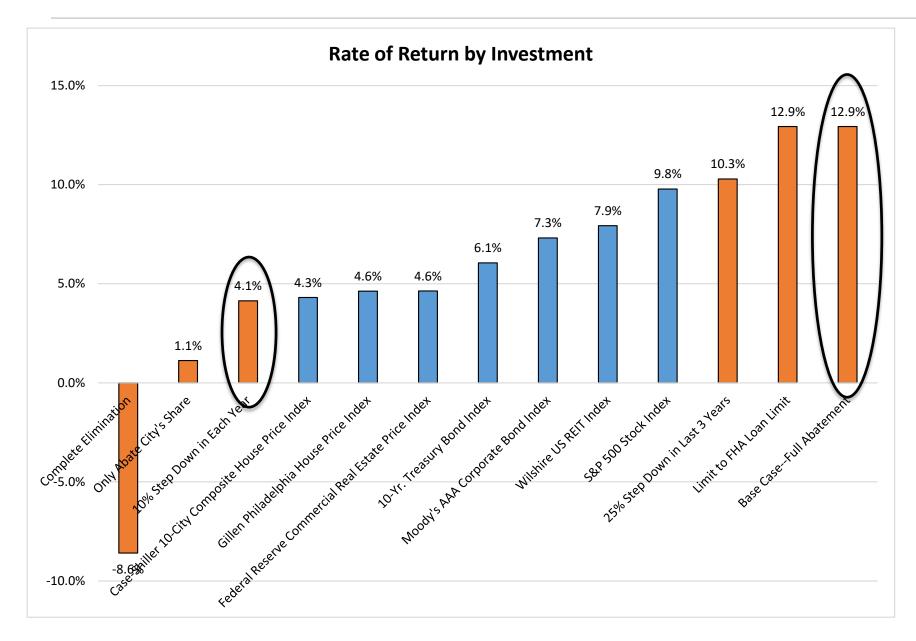
Under current market conditions and full abatement, the project's expected profit margin is 13%.

#### THE OTHER ABATEMENT SCENARIOS

We re-ran this analysis by applying each of the proposed modifications to the abatement.

Bottom line...here's what we found:

### **%IMPACT OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ABATEMENT**



#### IN CONCLUSION

Worst case scenario (complete elimination): -Reduce a project's rate of return by 21.5 percentage points (from +13% to -8.6%)

Best case scenario (25% step-down in last 3 years):

-Reduce a project's rate of return by 2.6 percentage points (from +13% to +10.3%)

# Thank you!!!

For any questions or further information, please contact:

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