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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 10-Q

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QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2004

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001-13106

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC.**

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Maryland

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

77-0369576

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

925 East Meadow Drive

Palo Alto, California 94303

(Address of Principal Executive Offices including Zip Code)

(650) 494-3700

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES  NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Yes  No

**APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:**

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of Common Stock, as of the latest practicable date:

**22,949,355 shares of Common Stock as of October 29, 2004**

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# ESSEX

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ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC.  
FORM 10-Q  
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## **Part I -- Financial Information**

### **Item 1: Financial Statements (Unaudited)**

"Essex" or the "Company" means Essex Property Trust, Inc., a real estate investment trust incorporated in the State of Maryland, or where the context otherwise requires, Essex Portfolio, L.P., a limited partnership (the "Operating Partnership") in which Essex Property Trust, Inc. is the sole general partner.

The information furnished in the accompanying consolidated unaudited balance sheets, statements of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows of the Company reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of the aforementioned consolidated financial statements for the interim periods.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to such consolidated financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations herein. Additionally, these unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003 (1)</b>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>		
Real estate:		
Rental properties:		
Land and land improvements	\$ 500,589	\$ 469,347
Buildings and improvements	1,720,517	1,514,775
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,221,106	1,984,122
Less accumulated depreciation	(317,299)	(265,763)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,903,807	1,718,359
Investments	88,357	79,567
Real estate under development	69,790	55,183
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,061,954	1,853,109
Cash and cash equivalents-unrestricted	16,224	14,768
Cash and cash equivalents-restricted	19,863	11,175
Notes and other receivables from related parties	5,256	5,738
Notes and other receivables	10,076	6,021
Prepaid expenses and other assets	24,574	17,426
Deferred charges, net	11,178	8,574
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,149,125	\$ 1,916,811
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b><u>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</u></b>		
Mortgage notes payable	\$ 1,094,209	\$ 891,798
Lines of credit	169,235	93,100
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	32,484	24,981
Dividends payable	22,596	22,379
Other liabilities	11,335	10,011
Deferred gain	5,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total liabilities	1,334,859	1,042,269
Minority interests	235,807	293,143
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$.0001 par value, 655,682,178 authorized, 22,943,655 and 22,825,942 issued and outstanding	2	2
Cumulative redeemable preferred stock; \$.0001 par value:		
No shares issued and outstanding:		
7.875% Series B 2,000,000 shares authorized	-	-
9.125% Series C 500,000 shares authorized	-	-
9.30% Series D 2,000,000 shares authorized	-	-
9.25% Series E 2,200,000 shares authorized	-	-
7.8125% Series F 1,000,000 shares authorized, 1,000,000 shares issued and outstanding, liquidation value	25,000	25,000
Excess stock, \$.0001 par value, 330,000,000 shares authorized and no shares issued and outstanding	-	-
Additional paid-in capital	648,328	642,643
Distributions in excess of accumulated earnings	(94,871)	(86,246)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total stockholders' equity	578,459	581,399
Commitments and contingencies		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,149,125	\$ 1,916,811
	<hr/>	<hr/>

(1) The December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet included in the Company's Form 10-K filed on March 15, 2004 has been restated for the retroactive adoption of the provisions of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARES**

Consolidated Statements of Operations  
(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2004	2003 (1)	2004	2003 (1)
Revenues:				
Rental	\$ 69,823	\$ 60,850	\$ 201,960	\$ 182,833
Other property	2,609	2,095	7,111	6,095
Total property revenues	<u>72,432</u>	<u>62,945</u>	<u>209,071</u>	<u>188,928</u>
Expenses:				
Property operating expenses:				
Maintenance and repairs	6,210	5,040	15,418	13,869
Real estate taxes	6,340	4,809	18,080	14,431
Utilities	3,188	3,440	9,703	9,431
Administrative	6,839	5,116	21,268	17,230
Advertising	1,444	1,115	3,250	3,115
Insurance	1,174	1,029	3,364	2,899
Depreciation and amortization	18,273	14,506	54,416	40,995
	<u>43,468</u>	<u>35,055</u>	<u>125,499</u>	<u>101,970</u>
Interest	16,394	12,949	45,785	39,070
Amortization of deferred financing costs	449	380	1,179	962
General and administrative	7,761	2,288	14,193	6,962
Total expenses	<u>68,072</u>	<u>50,672</u>	<u>186,656</u>	<u>148,964</u>
Gain on sale of real estate	7,909	-	7,909	-
Interest and other including from related parties (Note 4)	2,410	1,571	7,024	4,746
Equity income in co-investments	29,860	1,083	30,954	2,544
Minority interests	(9,565)	(6,173)	(20,719)	(19,517)
Income from continuing operations	<u>34,974</u>	<u>8,754</u>	<u>47,583</u>	<u>27,737</u>
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of				
minority interests	56	(19)	(403)	437
Net income	<u>35,030</u>	<u>8,735</u>	<u>47,180</u>	<u>28,174</u>
Dividends to preferred stockholders - Series F	(488)	-	(1,464)	-
Net income available to common stockholders	<u>\$ 34,542</u>	<u>\$ 8,735</u>	<u>\$ 45,716</u>	<u>\$ 28,174</u>
Per common share data:				
Basic:				
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	\$ 1.51	\$ 0.41	\$ 2.01	\$ 1.32
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(0.01)</u>	<u>0.02</u>
Net income available to common stockholders	<u>\$ 1.51</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ 2.00</u>	<u>\$ 1.34</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period	<u>22,940,419</u>	<u>21,126,229</u>	<u>22,897,161</u>	<u>21,053,215</u>
Diluted:				
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	\$ 1.49	\$ 0.41	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.31
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(0.02)</u>	<u>0.02</u>
Net income available to common stockholders	<u>\$ 1.49</u>	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ 1.97</u>	<u>\$ 1.33</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period	<u>23,205,958</u>	<u>21,377,735</u>	<u>23,130,148</u>	<u>21,265,073</u>
Dividend per common share	<u>\$ 0.79</u>	<u>\$ 0.78</u>	<u>\$ 2.37</u>	<u>\$ 2.34</u>

(1) The consolidated statements of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 included in the Company's Form 10-Q filed on November 14, 2003 has been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity  
for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and the  
year ended December 31, 2003

(Unaudited)

(Dollars and shares in thousands)

	Series F Preferred stock		Common stock		Additional paid-in capital	Distributions in excess of accumulated earnings	Total
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount			
Balances at December 31, 2002 (1)	-	\$ -	20,983	\$ 2	\$ 538,731	\$ (53,042)	\$ 485,691
Issuance of common stock under stock-based compensation plans (1)	-	-	207	-	7,501	-	7,501
Issuance of common stock	-	-	1,636	-	99,202	-	99,202
Issuance of preferred stock	1,000	25,000	-	-	(924)	-	24,076
Reallocation of minority interest	-	-	-	-	(2,203)	-	(2,203)
Write off of Series C preferred units offering costs, previously classified within minority interest	-	-	-	-	-	(625)	(625)
Amortization of discount on Series F Preferred stock	-	-	-	-	336	(336)	-
Net income (1)	-	-	-	-	-	35,090	35,090
Dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	(67,333)	(67,333)
Balances at December 31, 2003 (1)	<u>1,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>22,826</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>642,643</u>	<u>(86,246)</u>	<u>581,399</u>
Issuance of common stock under stock-based compensation plans	-	-	118	-	4,423	-	4,423
Reallocation of minority interest	-	-	-	-	1,262	-	1,262
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	47,180	47,180
Common and preferred stock dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	(55,805)	(55,805)
Balances at September 30, 2004	<u><u>1,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 25,000</u></u>	<u><u>22,944</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 648,328</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (94,871)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 578,459</u></u>

- (1) The stockholders' equity balances as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003 and certain balances as of December 31, 2002 included in the Company's Form 10-K filed on March 15, 2004 have been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003 (1)</b>
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003 (1)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 87,867	\$ 73,748
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Additions to real estate:		
Acquisitions	(119,621)	-
Improvements to recent acquisitions	(9,843)	(6,336)
Redevelopment	(3,944)	(1,508)
Revenue generating capital expenditures	(124)	(144)
Other capital expenditures	(7,489)	(5,102)
Dispositions of real estate and investments	91,735	-
Increase/(decrease) in restricted cash	(8,688)	(807)
Additions to notes receivable from related parties and other receivables	(5,234)	(8,337)
Repayment of notes receivable from related parties and other receivables	1,373	8,093
Additions to real estate under development	(11,696)	(20,119)
Net distributions from (contributions to) limited partnerships	17,356	(24,293)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(56,175)</u>	<u>(58,553)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from mortgage notes payable and lines of credit	321,702	89,851
Repayment of mortgage notes payable and lines of credit	(215,051)	(66,618)
Additions to deferred charges	(4,032)	(160)
Net proceeds from stock options exercised	4,022	5,020
Distributions to minority interest partners	(21,299)	(15,389)
Redemption of minority interest limited partnership units	(5,624)	(542)
Common and preferred stock dividends paid	(54,954)	(50,184)
Redemption of minority interest series E preferred units	(55,000)	-
Issuance of series F preferred stock	-	24,664
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(30,236)</u>	<u>(13,358)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	1,456	1,837
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	14,768	8,562
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 16,224</u>	<u>\$ 10,399</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest, net of \$1,896 and \$3,108 capitalized in 2004 and 2003, respectively	<u>\$ 44,352</u>	<u>\$ 39,166</u>
Assumption of mortgage loans payable in conjunction with the purchases of real estate	<u>\$ 167,635</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Common stock issued pursuant to phantom stock plan	<u>\$ 39</u>	<u>\$ 369</u>
Issuance of Operating Partnership Units in connection with the purchase of real estate	<u>\$ 6,479</u>	<u>\$ 5,768</u>
Real estate under development transferred to rental property	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 72,711</u>
Real estate investment transferred to rental property	<u>\$ 9,536</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

(1) The statement of cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 included in the Company's Form 10-Q filed on November 14, 2003 has been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

**ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**September 30, 2004 and 2003**  
**(Unaudited)**

**(1) Organization and Basis of Presentation**

The unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for interim financial information and in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q. In the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented have been included and are normal and recurring in nature. These unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in the consolidated financial statements. Certain prior year balances have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

The unaudited consolidated financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 include the accounts of the Company and Essex Portfolio, L.P. (the "Operating Partnership", which holds the operating assets of the Company). See "Accounting Changes" section below for a description of entities retroactively consolidated by the Operating Partnership for all periods presented pursuant to its adoption of FIN 46 Revised. The Company is the sole general partner in the Operating Partnership, with a 90.6%, 90.8% and 90.1% general partnership interest as of September 30, 2004, December 31, 2003 and September 30, 2003, respectively.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company has ownership interests in 118 multifamily properties (containing 25,020 units), five office buildings (with approximately 173,540 square feet), four recreational vehicle parks (comprising 698 spaces) and two manufactured housing communities (containing 607 sites), (collectively, the "Properties"). The Properties are located in Southern California (Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange and San Diego counties), Northern California (the San Francisco Bay Area), the Pacific Northwest (the Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon metropolitan areas) and other areas (Houston, Texas, Las Vegas, Nevada and Hemet, California).

Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. ("Fund I"), is an investment fund organized by the Company in 2001 to add value through rental growth and asset appreciation, utilizing the Company's development, redevelopment and asset management capabilities. An affiliate of the Company, Essex VFGP, L.P. ("VFGP"), is a 1% general partner and is a 20.4% limited partner. The Operating Partnership owns a 99% limited partnership interest in VFGP.

Since its formation, Fund I has acquired or developed ownership interests in 19 multifamily residential properties, representing 5,406 apartment units with an aggregate cost of approximately \$618.0 million. Fund I also owns the Kelvin Ave. land parcel in Irvine, California, which has been planned for development into a 132-unit apartment community.

Prior to July 1, 2004, Fund I had disposed of two multifamily residential properties, consisting of 530 apartments units for a aggregate contract sales price of approximately \$73.2 million.

*Sales of Fund I Properties*

During the quarter, Fund I entered into a purchase and sales agreements with respect to all of its properties except the Kelvin land parcel.

On August 26, 2004, Fund I sold Palermo Apartments, 230-unit multifamily community located in San Diego, California for a net sales price of \$58.2 million. Fund I recently completed the development of this property at an approximate cost of \$44.9 million.



During the quarter, Fund I announced that it had entered into a purchase and sale agreement with United Dominion Realty, L.P. ("UDR") for a sale of sixteen apartment communities, totaling 4,646 units owned by Fund I and with respect to Coronado at Newport North and South, both Fund I's and the Company's separate ownership interests, for a contract price of \$756.0 million. In connection with the transaction, UDR remitted a \$10 million earnest money deposit directly to Fund I, which is refundable only in limited circumstances. On September 30, 2004, under the UDR purchase and sale agreement, Fund I sold seven of the multifamily communities, aggregating 1,777 apartment units at a contract price of approximately \$264.0 million. Subsequent to September 30, 2004, an additional seven of the remaining nine properties were sold to UDR for a contract price of \$322.0 million, of which \$267.6 million is Fund I's allocated portion of the contract price based on its ownership interest. The remaining two multifamily properties under the UDR agreement that are anticipated to close in 2005 are Coronado at Newport - South, a 715-unit apartment community in Newport Beach, California currently undergoing redevelopment and River Terrace, a newly developed 250-unit apartment community in Santa Clara which is currently in lease up.

In connection with the Fund I dispositions which occurred during the third quarter of 2004, based on the Company's limited partnership interest in Fund I, the Company recognized equity income in investments of \$13.9 million representing the Company's share of the gain on the sale of real estate of \$14.1 million and a \$170,000 non-cash loss on the early extinguishment of debt related to the write-off of un-amortized loan fees on those property sales. The Company's general partnership interest provides for "promote distributions" upon attainment of certain financial return benchmarks. During the third quarter of 2004, the Company recognized \$14.5 million of additional equity income associated with its promote interest. In October 2004, the Company received promote distributions related to the third quarter sales of the Fund I properties in the amount of \$14.5 million. The Company has accrued \$4.0 million of related employee incentive compensation expense related to Fund I, which is general and administrative expense.

#### *Essex Apartment Value Fund II, L.P.*

On September 27, 2004 the Company announced the final closing of partner equity commitments for Essex Apartment Value Fund II ("Fund II"). Fund II has eight institutional investors including Essex with combined partner equity commitments of \$265.9 million. Essex has committed \$75.0 million to Fund II, which represents a 28.2% interest as general partner and limited partner. Fund II expects to utilize leverage equal to approximately 65% of the estimated value of the underlying real estate. Fund II will invest in multifamily properties in the Company's targeted West Coast markets with an emphasis on investment opportunities in Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area. Subject to certain exceptions, Fund II will be Essex's exclusive investment vehicle until October 31, 2006, or when Fund II's committed capital has been invested, whichever occurs first. Consistent with Fund I, Essex will be compensated for its asset management, property management, development and redevelopment services and may receive promote distributions if Fund II exceeds certain financial return benchmarks.

#### *Accounting Changes*

##### *(A) Variable Interest Entities*

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51." FIN 46 established new measurement techniques to evaluate whether entities should be consolidated in accordance with Accounting Research Bulletin (ARB) No. 51, "Consolidated Financial Statements." FIN 46 defined variable interest entities (VIEs), in which equity investors lack an essential characteristic of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity investment at risk to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support from other parties. In December 2003, the FASB completed deliberations of proposed modifications to FIN 46 (FIN 46 Revised) resulting in multiple effective dates based on the nature and the timing of formation of the VIE. FIN 46 Revised must be applied no later than the Company's first quarter of 2004. Special Purpose Entities (SPEs) created prior to February 1, 2003 may be accounted for under FIN 46 or FIN 46 Revised but no later than the Company's quarter ended December 31, 2003. The Company has not formed nor is it a party to any SPEs. FIN 46 Revised may be applied prospectively with a cumulative-effect adjustment as of the date on which it is first applied or by restating previously issued financial statements for one or more years with a cumulative-effect adjustment as of the beginning of the first

year restated.

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the provisions of FIN 46 Revised using the retroactive restatement approach, and amounts have been restated for all prior periods presented to reflect the adoption of FIN 46 Revised. The Company applied FIN 46 Revised to all of the Company's arrangements which were entered into prior to January 31, 2003 and evaluated whether such arrangements represent involvement with a VIE and whether the Company qualifies as the primary beneficiary and should therefore consolidate the VIE. Subsequent to January 31, 2003, and through September 30, 2004, the Company has not entered into any arrangements that are deemed VIEs except with regards to the entity that purchased The Essex at Lake Merritt property as discussed in note 2 (B) – Dispositions. We have concluded that the Company's participating loan to the entity does not indicate that the Company is the primary beneficiary of this VIE.

Based on our analysis upon adoption of FIN 46 Revised, the Company consolidated Essex Management Corporation (EMC), Essex Fidelity I Corporation (EFC), 17 Down REIT limited partnerships (comprising ten properties), an office building that is subject to loans made by the Company, and the multifamily improvements owned by a third party in which the Company owns the land underlying these improvements and from which the Company receives fees, including land lease, subordination and property management fees. The Company consolidated these entities because it is deemed the primary beneficiary under FIN 46 Revised. The Company's total assets and liabilities related to these VIEs, net of intercompany eliminations, were approximately \$188,000,000 and \$155,000,000, respectively, at September 30, 2004 and \$196,000,000 and \$156,000,000, respectively, at December 31, 2003.

The Down REIT entities that collectively own ten multifamily properties (1,831 units) were investments made under arrangements whereby Essex Management Corporation (EMC) became the general partner, the Operating Partnership became a special limited partner, and the other limited partners were granted rights of redemption for their interests. Such limited partners can request to be redeemed and the Company can elect to redeem their rights for cash or by issuing shares of its common stock on a one share per unit basis. Conversion values will be based on the market value of the Company's common stock at the time of redemption multiplied by the number of units stipulated under the above arrangements. The other limited partners receive distributions based on the Company's current dividend rate times the number of units held. At September 30, 2004, the maximum number of shares that could be issued to meet redemption of these Down REIT entities is 1,417,076. As of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, the carrying value of the other limited partners' interests is presented at their historical cost and is classified within minority interests in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Interest holders in VIEs consolidated by the Company are allocated a priority of net income equal to the cash payments made to those interest holders for services rendered or distributions from cash flow. The remaining results of operations are generally allocated to the Company.

Properties consolidated in accordance with FIN 46 Revised were encumbered by third party, non-recourse loans totaling \$151,692,000 and \$152,669,000 as of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, respectively.

As of September 30, 2004 the Company is involved with two VIE's in which the Company is not deemed to be the primary beneficiary. Total assets and liabilities of these entities as of September 30, 2004 were approximately \$117 million and \$108 million, respectively. The maximum exposure to loss of the Company relates to its participating loan of \$5 million to one of these entities as of September 30, 2004.

*(B) Stock-Based Compensation*

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the fair value method of accounting for its stock-based compensation plans using the retroactive restatement method as provided by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (SFAS 123), "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." Under the fair value method, stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is expensed over the vesting period. Stock-based compensation expense under the fair value method was \$169,000 and \$245,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 and \$496,000 and \$737,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. There were no stock options granted during the three months ended September 30, 2004 or 2003. The fair value of stock options granted was \$7.11 and \$3.85 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions used for grants:

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Stock price	\$62.34	\$51.01
Risk-free interest rates	3.94%	3.17%
Expected lives	5 years	6 years
Volatility	19.07%	17.91%
Dividend yield	5.07%	6.12%

*(C) Reconciliation to previously reported amounts*

The accounting effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 on net income previously reported for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 is as follows (dollars in thousands, except per share amounts):

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30, 2003</b>	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003</b>
Net income previously reported	\$ 9,260	\$ 30,141
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123	(242)	(354)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised	(283)	(1,613)
Net income as reported	<u>\$ 8,735</u>	<u>\$ 28,174</u>
Per common share data:		
Basic:		
Per share previously reported	\$ 0.44	\$ 1.43
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123	(0.01)	(0.02)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised	(0.02)	(0.07)
Per basic share as reported	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ 1.34</u>
Diluted:		
Per share previously reported	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.42
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123	(0.01)	(0.02)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised	(0.01)	(0.07)
Per diluted share as reported	<u>\$ 0.41</u>	<u>\$ 1.33</u>

The accounting effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 on stockholders' equity at January 1, 2003 for previously reported amounts is as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<b>Additional paid-in capital</b>	<b>Distribution in excess of accumulated earnings</b>
Statement of Stockholders' Equity:		
Balance at January 1, 2003, as previously reported	\$ 535,125	\$ (43,813)
Adjustments for cumulative effect on prior years of retroactively applying SFAS 123	3,606	(2,696)
Adjustments for cumulative effect on prior years of retroactively applying FIN 46 Revised	--	(6,533)
Balance at January 1, 2003, as adjusted	<u>\$ 538,731</u>	<u>\$ (53,042)</u>

*(D) Depreciation*

Beginning in 2003, the Company implemented an upgrade to its subsidiary ledger for accounting for fixed assets. The Company completed this system upgrade in the first quarter of 2004. In conjunction with this system upgrade, the Company has determined that cumulative depreciation expense generated by

consolidated or equity method rental properties was understated by approximately \$2.1 million through December 31, 2003 and this amount was recorded during the quarter ended March 31, 2004. Had the correction been made in 2003, depreciation expense would have increased by approximately \$640,000, \$1.3 million, and \$1.0 million in the first, second and third quarters of 2003, respectively. In the fourth quarter 2003, depreciation expense would have decreased by approximately \$1.4 million. The Company does not believe that the correction is material to any previously reported financial statements and is not material to any consolidated earnings trends.

*(E) Discontinued Operations*

In the normal course of business, the Company will receive offers for sale of its properties, either solicited or unsolicited. For those offers that are accepted, the prospective buyer will usually require a due diligence period before consummation of the transaction. It is not unusual for matters to arise that result in the withdrawal or rejection of the offer during this process. Essex classifies real estate as "held for sale" when all criteria under SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets" (SFAS 144) have been met.

At June 30, 2004, Golden Village Recreational Vehicle Park, a property located in Hemet, California and acquired as part of the John M. Sachs merger in December 2002, met the "held for sale" criteria under SFAS 144. In accordance with SFAS 144, assets and liabilities and the results of operations of the property were presented as discontinued operations in the consolidated financial statements for all periods presented. The property specific real estate classified as held for sale was stated at the lower of its carrying amount or estimated fair value less disposal costs. Depreciation was no longer recorded on assets upon classification as held for sale. Upon reclassification as held for sale at June 30, 2004, the Company presented Golden Village at its estimated fair value less disposal costs which resulted in an impairment charge of approximately \$756,000. Such fair value was determined using the contractual sales price pursuant to the contract with the buyer of the property. On July 18, 2004, the Company sold Golden Village for \$6.7 million. No gain or loss was recognized on the sale. The following is the breakdown of the property's results of operations, net of minority interests (dollars in thousands):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Rental revenues	\$ --	\$ 382	\$ --	\$ 1,755
Property operating expenses	(6)	(403)	(68)	(1,271)
Impairment charge	--	--	(756)	--
Interest and other income	67	--	380	--
Minority interests	<u>(5)</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>(47)</u>
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of minority interests	\$ <u>56</u>	\$ <u>(19)</u>	\$ <u>(403)</u>	\$ <u>437</u>

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, the results reflect an impairment charge of approximately \$756,000. Golden Village was one of seven non-core recreational vehicle/manufactured housing communities that were acquired in the 2002 John M. Sachs merger. In the fourth quarter of 2003, the Company entered into master lease and option agreements with unrelated entities on these seven non-core assets, for an aggregated option value in excess of the aggregate carrying value of these non-core assets. However, Golden Village's carrying value was more than the option value.

*(F) Reclassifications*

Interest and other income has been reclassified, for all periods presented, as a non-operating income item from the prior period's presentation as a component of revenue.

(2) **Significant Transactions for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2004**

*(A) Acquisitions*

On August 6, 2004, the Company acquired Vista Belvedere, a 76-unit apartment community located in the Marin County town of Tiburon, California. Essex acquired the multifamily community in a UPREIT structured transaction for an agreed upon value of approximately \$17.1 million. The Company issued 73,088 operating partnership units to the prior owner. In conjunction with this transaction, the Company originated a new loan totaling \$11.8 million with a 5.375% fixed interest rate that matures in August 2013 with an option to extend the maturity for one year thereafter at a floating rate of 2.5% over Freddie Mac's Reference Bill.

On September 29, 2004, the Company acquired its partner's interest in Park Hill, a 245-unit apartment community located in Issaquah, Washington for approximately \$1.3 million. In conjunction with the transaction, the Company assumed approximately a \$21.2 million loan with an interest rate of 6.9%, which matures in July 2009. The Company now consolidates this property that was previously accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

The Company has prepared preliminary purchase price allocations for these acquisitions, which will be finalized in the fourth quarter of 2004. As a result, associated estimates of the fair value of various tangible and intangible assets and related depreciation and amortization may be adjusted up in that quarter.

*(B) Dispositions*

On August 3, 2004, the Company sold The Essex at Lake Merritt, a 270-unit multifamily community located in Oakland, California for an approximate contract price of \$88.0 million. In conjunction with this transaction, a taxable REIT subsidiary of the Company originated a participating loan to the buyer in the amount of \$5.0 million, which allows the Company to participate in approximately one-third of the potential profits related to the condominium conversion of the property. The Company's gain on the sale of The Essex at Lake Merritt is approximately \$12.9 million, of which \$5.0 million of this gain is being deferred under provisions of FAS 66. The deferred gain will be recognized as a realized gain on sale as payments on the participating loan are received. The Company continues to provide property management services for the portion of the property not yet converted to condos.

Additionally, recognition of the Company's share of the profits, if any, associated with the condo conversions has been deferred until realized.

*(C) Development Communities*

The Company defines development communities as new apartment properties that are being constructed or are newly constructed, which are in a phase of lease-up and have not yet reached stabilized operations. As of September 30, 2004, the Company had ownership interests in two development communities (excluding development projects owned by the Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. described below), aggregating 444 multifamily units with an estimated total cost of \$75.2 million with \$5.4 million remaining to be expended.

*(D) Redevelopment Communities*

The Company defines redevelopment communities as existing properties owned or recently acquired, which have been targeted for investment by the Company with the expectation of increased financial returns through property improvement. Redevelopment communities typically have apartment units that are not available for rent and, as a result, may have less than stabilized operations. At September 30, 2004, the Company had ownership interests in five redevelopment communities (including redevelopment projects owned by the Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. described below), aggregating 2,066 multifamily units with estimated redevelopment costs of \$29.0 million, of which approximately \$22.9 million remains to be expended.

*(E) Equity*

On August 6, 2004, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.48828 per

share, which represents an annual distribution of \$1.9531 per share on its 7.8125% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares. Distributions were payable on September 1, 2004 to shareholders of record as of August 17, 2004.

On September 17, 2004, the Company's Board of Directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.79 per common share, which was payable on October 15, 2004 to shareholders of record as of September 30, 2004. On an annualized basis, the dividend represents a distribution of \$3.16 per common share.

On September 3, 2004, the Company redeemed all of its outstanding, \$55 million, 9.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units of the Operating Partnership. In connection with this redemption the Company incurred a non-cash charge of \$1.6 million related to the write-off of the issuance costs, which is classified as a component of minority interest in the accompanying statement of operations.

*(F) The Essex Apartment Value Fund ("Fund I")*

Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. ("Fund I"), is an investment fund organized by the Company in 2001 to add value through rental growth and asset appreciation, utilizing the Company's development, redevelopment and asset management capabilities. An affiliate of the Company, Essex VFGP, L.P. ("VFGP"), is a 1% general partner and is a 20.4% limited partner. The Operating Partnership owns a 99% limited partnership interest in VFGP.

Since its formation, Fund I has acquired or developed ownership interests in 19 multifamily residential properties, representing 5,406 apartment units with an aggregate cost of approximately \$618.0 million. Fund I also owns the Kelvin Ave. land parcel in Irvine, California, which has been planned for development into a 132-unit apartment community.

Prior to July 1, 2004, Fund I had disposed of two multifamily residential properties, consisting of 530 apartments units for a aggregate contract sales price of approximately \$73.2 million.

*Dispositions*

During the quarter, Fund I entered into a purchase and sales agreements with respect to all of its properties except the Kelvin land parcel.

On August 26, 2004, Fund I sold Palermo Apartments, 230-unit multifamily community located in San Diego, California for a net sales price of \$58.2 million. Fund I recently completed the development of this property at an approximate cost of \$44.9 million.

During the quarter, Fund I announced that it had entered into a purchase and sale agreement with United Dominion Realty, L.P. ("UDR") for a sale of sixteen apartment communities, totaling 4,646 units owned by Fund I and with respect to Coronado at Newport North and South, both Fund I's and the Company's separate ownership interests, for a contract price of \$756.0 million. In connection with the transaction, UDR remitted a \$10 million earnest money deposit directly to Fund I, which is refundable only in limited circumstances. On September 30, 2004, under the UDR purchase and sale agreement, Fund I sold seven of the multifamily communities, aggregating 1,777 apartment units at a contract price of approximately \$264.0 million. Subsequent to September 30, 2004, an additional seven of the remaining nine properties were sold to UDR for a contract price of \$322.0 million, of which \$267.6 million is Fund I's allocated portion of the contract price based on its ownership interest. The remaining two multifamily properties under the UDR agreement that are anticipated to close in 2005 are Coronado at Newport - South, a 715-unit apartment community in Newport Beach, California currently undergoing redevelopment and River Terrace, a newly developed 250-unit apartment community in Santa Clara which is currently in lease up.

In connection with the Fund I dispositions which occurred during the third quarter of 2004, based on the Company's limited partnership interest in Fund I, the Company recognized equity income in investments of \$13.9 million representing the Company's share of the gain on the sale of real estate of \$14.1 million and a \$170,000 non-cash loss on the early extinguishment of debt related to the write-off of un-amortized loan fees on those property sales. The Company's general partnership interest provides for "promote distributions" upon attainment of certain financial return benchmarks. During the third quarter of 2004, the Company recognized \$14.5 million of additional equity income associated with its promote interest. In October 2004,

the Company received promote distributions related to the third quarter sales of the Fund I properties in the amount of \$14.5 million. The Company has accrued \$4.0 million of related employee incentive compensation expense related to Fund I, which is general and administrative expense.

Development Communities

As of September 30, 2004 Fund I has two development communities currently under construction, totaling 382 multifamily units for an estimated total cost of \$63.9 million. For the communities under construction, approximately \$7.8 million remains to be expended.

Redevelopment Communities

During the third quarter, Fund I continued redevelopment on Coronado at Newport – South, a 715-unit apartment community located in Newport Beach, California. The estimated total cost of this redevelopment project is \$13.3 million of which \$11.3 million remains to be spent.

*(G) The Essex Apartment Value Fund II (“Fund II”)*

On September 27, 2004 the Company announced the final closing of the Essex Apartment Value Fund II. Fund II has eight institutional investors including Essex with combined equity commitments of \$265.9 million. Essex has committed \$75.0 million to Fund II, which represents a 28.2% interest as general partner and limited partner. Fund II expects to utilize leverage of approximately 65% of the estimated value of the underlying real estate. Fund II will invest in multifamily properties in the Company’s targeted West Coast markets with an emphasis on investment opportunities in Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area. Subject to certain exceptions, Fund II will be Essex’s exclusive investment vehicle for new investment until October 31, 2006 or when the Fund II’s committed capital has been invest or committed for investments, whichever occurs first. Consistent with Fund I, Essex will be compensated for its asset management, property management, development and redevelopment services and may receive incentive payments if Fund II exceeds certain financial return benchmarks.

**(3) Investments**

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the provisions of FIN 46 Revised using the retroactive restatement approach. Amounts have been restated for all prior periods presented. (See Note 1). Certain investments that were previously accounted for using the equity method are now consolidated.

The following table details the Company’s investments accounted for under the equity method of accounting (dollars in thousands):

	<u>September 30, 2004</u>	<u>December 31, 2003</u>
Investments in joint ventures:		
Direct and indirect LLC member interests of approximately 49.9% in Newport Beach North, LLC and Newport Beach South, LLC	\$ 16,656	\$ 13,020
Limited partnership interest of 20.4% and general partner interest of 1% in Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P	64,895	51,110
Limited partnership interest of 20% in AEW joint venture (1)	--	4,406
Class A member interest of 45% in Park Hill LLC (2)	--	5,731
Preferred limited partnership interests in Mountain Vista Apartments	6,806	5,276
Other investments	<u>--</u>	<u>24</u>
Total investments	<u>\$ 88,357</u>	<u>\$ 79,567</u>



- (1) The Company acquired the other partner's 80% interest in this joint venture during the quarter ended June 30, 2004 and now consolidates this investment.
- (2) The Company acquired the other partner's 55% interest in this joint venture during the quarter ended September 30, 2004 (see Note 2 (A)) and now consolidates this investment.

The combined summarized financial information of investments, which are accounted for under the equity method, are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>		
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>		
Balance sheets:				
Real estate and real estate under development	\$ 407,721	\$ 667,538		
Other assets	<u>128,091</u>	<u>11,277</u>		
Total assets	<u>\$ 535,812</u>	<u>\$ 678,815</u>		
Mortgage notes payable	\$ 243,609	\$ 442,419		
Other liabilities	29,333	13,943		
Partners' equity	<u>262,870</u>	<u>222,453</u>		
Total liabilities and partners' equity	<u>\$ 535,812</u>	<u>\$ 678,815</u>		
Company's share of equity	<u>\$ 88,357</u>	<u>\$ 79,567</u>		
	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>2003</b>
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Statements of operations:				
Total property revenues	\$ 15,502	\$ 16,873	\$ 48,856	\$ 44,456
Total gain on the sales of real estate	91,089	-	91,089	-
Total expenses	<u>13,203</u>	<u>16,398</u>	<u>46,119</u>	<u>42,186</u>
Total net income	<u>\$ 93,388</u>	<u>\$ 475</u>	<u>\$ 93,826</u>	<u>\$ 2,270</u>
Company's share of net income	<u>\$ 29,860</u>	<u>\$ 1,083</u>	<u>\$ 30,954</u>	<u>\$ 2,544</u>

For a further discussion regarding these investments, see the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 3, "Real Estate."

(4) **Related Party Transactions**

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the provisions of FIN 46 Revised using the retroactive restatement approach. Amounts have been restated for all prior periods presented. (see Note 1).

Other income includes management fee from the Company's investees of \$616,000 and \$816,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 and \$2,084,000 and \$2,284,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

During the quarter ended September 30, 2004, the Company paid a brokerage commission totaling \$350,000 to an affiliate of the Marcus and Millichap Company on the acquisition of real estate, which has been capitalized as a cost of acquisition.

Notes and other receivables from related parties as of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003 consist of the following (dollars in thousands):

	<b>September 30, 2004</b>	<b>December 31, 2003</b>
Note receivable to Highridge Apartments (Down REIT) from The Marcus & Millichap Company, secured, bearing interest at 12.75%, due October 1, 2004	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Receivable from Newport Beach North, LLC and Newport Beach South, LLC, unsecured, non interest bearing, due on demand	--	200
Loans to officers made prior to July 31, 2002, secured, bearing interest at 8%, due beginning April 2006	625	633
Other related party receivables, substantially due on demand	<u>1,631</u>	<u>1,905</u>
Total notes and other receivable from related parties	<u>\$ 5,256</u>	<u>\$ 5,738</u>

Other related party receivables consist primarily of accrued interest income on notes receivable from joint venture investees and loans to officers, and advances and accrued management fees from joint venture investees.

(5) **Segment Information**

The Company defines its reportable operating segments as the three geographical regions in which its properties are located: Southern California, Northern California and the Pacific Northwest. Excluded from segment revenues are properties outside of these regions and interest and other income. Non-segment revenues and net operating income included in the following schedule also consists of revenue generated from commercial properties, recreational vehicle parks, and manufactured housing communities. Other non-segment assets include investments, real estate under development, cash, notes receivable, other assets and deferred charges. The revenues, net operating income, and assets for each of the reportable operating segments are summarized as follows for the periods presented (dollars in thousands).

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003 (1)</b>
Revenues:		
Southern California	\$ 42,980	\$ 33,964
Northern California	15,802	15,634
Pacific Northwest	12,311	10,791
Other non-segment areas	1,339	2,556
Total property revenues	<u>\$ 72,432</u>	<u>\$ 62,945</u>
Net operating income:		
Southern California	\$ 28,663	\$ 23,384
Northern California	10,362	10,576
Pacific Northwest	7,812	7,288
Other non-segment areas	400	1,148
Total net operating income	<u>47,237</u>	<u>42,396</u>
Depreciation and amortization:		
Southern California	(9,687)	(6,823)
Northern California	(3,712)	(3,655)
Pacific Northwest	(3,193)	(2,852)
Other non-segment areas	(1,681)	(1,176)
	<u>(18,273)</u>	<u>(14,506)</u>
Interest expense:		
Southern California	(6,746)	(5,459)
Northern California	(3,749)	(3,102)
Pacific Northwest	(1,572)	(1,106)
Other non-segment areas	(4,327)	(3,282)
	<u>(16,394)</u>	<u>(12,949)</u>
Amortization of deferred financing costs	(449)	(380)
General and administrative	(7,761)	(2,288)
Gain on sale of real estate	7,909	-
Interest and other income	2,410	1,571
Equity income in co-investments	29,860	1,083
Minority interests	(9,565)	(6,173)
Income from continuing operations	<u>\$ 34,974</u>	<u>\$ 8,754</u>

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003 (1)</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Southern California	\$ 120,714	\$ 100,363
Northern California	47,782	47,928
Pacific Northwest	36,696	32,990
Other non-segment areas	3,879	7,647
Total property revenues	<u>\$ 209,071</u>	<u>\$ 188,928</u>
<b>Net operating income:</b>		
Southern California	\$ 80,949	\$ 69,628
Northern California	32,067	33,180
Pacific Northwest	23,492	21,671
Other non-segment areas	1,480	3,474
Total net operating income	<u>137,988</u>	<u>127,953</u>
<b>Depreciation and amortization:</b>		
Southern California	(29,350)	(19,754)
Northern California	(12,695)	(10,157)
Pacific Northwest	(7,560)	(8,710)
Other non-segment areas	(4,811)	(2,374)
	<u>(54,416)</u>	<u>(40,995)</u>
<b>Interest expense:</b>		
Southern California	(19,411)	(16,394)
Northern California	(10,143)	(9,282)
Pacific Northwest	(4,842)	(3,367)
Other non-segment areas	(11,389)	(10,027)
	<u>(45,785)</u>	<u>(39,070)</u>
Amortization of deferred financing costs	(1,179)	(962)
General and administrative	(14,193)	(6,962)
Gain on sale of real estate	7,909	-
Interest and other income	7,024	4,746
Equity income in co-investments	30,954	2,544
Minority interests	(20,719)	(19,517)
Income from continuing operations	<u>\$ 47,583</u>	<u>\$ 27,737</u>
	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003 (1)</b>
<b>Assets:</b>		
Net real estate assets:		
Southern California	\$ 1,090,995	\$ 886,980
Northern California	400,061	435,041
Pacific Northwest	338,695	312,628
Other non-segment areas	74,056	83,710
Total net real estate assets	<u>1,903,807</u>	<u>1,718,359</u>
Other non-segment assets	245,318	198,452
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,149,125</u>	<u>\$ 1,916,811</u>

(1) Amounts have been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.

(6) **Net Income Per Common Share**  
(Amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2004			Three Months Ended September 30, 2003		
	Income	Weighted Average Common Shares	Per Common Share Amount	Income (1)	Weighted Average Common Shares	Per Common Share Amount
Basic:						
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	\$ 34,486	22,940	\$ 1.51	\$ 8,754	21,126	\$ 0.41
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	56	22,940	--	(19)	21,126	--
	<u>34,542</u>		<u>\$ 1.51</u>	<u>8,735</u>		<u>\$ 0.41</u>
Effect of Dilutive Securities:						
Convertible limited partnership						
Units (2)	--	--		--	--	
Stock options	--	176		--	196	
Vested series Z incentive units	--	90		--	56	
	<u>-</u>	<u>266</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>252</u>	
Diluted:						
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	34,486	23,206	\$ 1.49	8,754	21,378	\$ 0.41
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	56	23,206	--	(19)	21,378	--
	<u>\$ 34,542</u>		<u>\$ 1.49</u>	<u>\$ 8,735</u>		<u>\$ 0.41</u>
	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003		
	Income	Weighted Average Common Shares	Per Common Share Amount	Income (1)	Weighted Average Common Shares	Per Common Share Amount
Basic:						
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	\$ 46,119	22,897	\$ 2.01	\$ 27,737	21,053	\$ 1.32
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(403)	22,897	(0.01)	437	21,053	0.02
	<u>45,716</u>		<u>\$ 2.00</u>	<u>28,174</u>		<u>\$ 1.34</u>
Effect of Dilutive Securities:						
Convertible limited partnership						
Units (2)	--	--		--	--	
Stock options	--	155		--	156	
Vested series Z incentive units	--	78		--	56	
	<u>-</u>	<u>233</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>212</u>	
Diluted:						
Income from continuing operations available to common stockholders	46,119	23,130	\$ 1.99	27,737	21,265	\$ 1.31
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(403)	23,130	(0.02)	437	21,265	0.02
	<u>\$ 45,716</u>		<u>\$ 1.97</u>	<u>\$ 28,174</u>		<u>\$ 1.33</u>

- (1) Three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 amounts have been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.
- (2) Weighed convertible limited partnership units of 2,361,494 and 2,269,490 for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, and 2,315,018 and 2,270,088 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, were not included in the determination of diluted EPS because they were anti-dilutive. The Down REIT partnership units have historically been redeemed for cash. The Company has never exercised its right to issue common stock to fund any redemption requests. As such, the company does not consider these to be common stock equivalents.

**(7) Subsequent Events**

Subsequent to September 30, 2004, the Company utilized a portion of the proceeds from the sale of its separate 49.9% ownership interest in Coronado North, a 732-unit apartment community located in Newport Beach, California, to acquire Fairwood Pond Apartments, a 194-unit apartment community located in Renton, Washington for a contract price of approximately \$21.1 million and The Esplanade Apartments, a 278-unit apartment community located in San Jose, California, for a contract price of approximately \$60.5 million. There was no debt issued in conjunction with these transactions.

Subsequent to September 30, 2004, Fund I sold seven additional properties as discussed in note 2(f).

Subsequent to September 30, 2004, Fund II acquired three apartment communities, aggregating 907 apartment homes for a contract price of \$130.0 million. The properties are Harbor Cove, a 400-unit apartment community located in Foster City, California, Carlmont Woods, 195-unit apartment community located in Belmont, California and Parcwood Apartments, a 312-unit apartment community located in Corona, California. In conjunction with this transaction, Fund II originated new loans totaling approximately \$76.6 million with a 4.89% fixed interest rate that matures in November 2013 with an option to extend the maturity for one year thereafter at a floating rate of 2.4 percent over 30-day LIBOR.

**Item 2: Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

The following discussion is based primarily on the consolidated unaudited financial statements of Essex Property Trust, Inc. ("Essex" or the "Company") for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003. This information should be read in conjunction with the accompanying consolidated unaudited financial statements and notes thereto. These consolidated financial statements include all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to reflect a fair statement of the results and all such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature.

Substantially all of the assets of the Company are held by, and substantially all operations are conducted through, Essex Portfolio, L.P. (the "Operating Partnership"). Effective January 1, 2004, the Operating Partnership consolidated the entities discussed below pursuant to its adoption of FIN 46 Revised. The Company is the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership and, as of September 30, 2004, December 31, 2003 and September 30, 2003, held a 90.6%, 90.8% and 90.1% general partnership interest in the Operating Partnership, respectively. The Company has elected to be treated as a real estate investment trust ("REIT") for federal income tax purposes.

**Accounting Changes**

*Variable Interest Entities*

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51." FIN 46 established new measurement techniques to evaluate whether entities should be consolidated in accordance with Accounting Research Bulletin (ARB) No. 51, "Consolidated Financial Statements." FIN 46 defined variable interest entities (VIEs), in which equity investors lack an essential characteristic of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity investment at risk to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support from other parties. In December 2003, the FASB completed deliberations of proposed modifications to FIN 46 (FIN 46 Revised) resulting in multiple effective dates based on the nature and the timing of formation of the VIE. FIN 46 Revised must be applied no later than the Company's first quarter of 2004. Special Purpose Entities (SPEs) created prior to February 1, 2003 may be accounted for under FIN 46 or FIN 46 Revised but no later than the Company's quarter ended December 31, 2003. The Company has not formed nor is it a party to any SPEs. FIN 46 Revised may be applied prospectively with a cumulative-effect adjustment as of the date on which it

is first applied or by restating previously issued financial statements for one or more years with a cumulative-effect adjustment as of the beginning of the first year restated.

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the provisions of FIN 46 Revised using the retroactive restatement approach, and amounts have been restated for all prior periods presented to reflect the adoption of FIN 46 Revised. The Company applied FIN 46 Revised to all of the Company's arrangements which were entered into prior to January 31, 2003, and evaluated whether such arrangements represent involvement with a VIE and whether the Company qualifies as the primary beneficiary and should therefore consolidate the VIE. Subsequent to January 31, 2003, and through September 30, 2004, the Company has not entered into any arrangements that are deemed VIEs, except with regards to the entity that purchased The Essex at Lake Merritt property as discussed in note 2 (B) – Dispositions. We have concluded that the Company's participating loan to the entity does not qualify as the primary beneficiary of this VIE.

Based on our analysis upon adoption of FIN 46 Revised, the Company consolidated Essex Management Corporation (EMC), Essex Fidelity I Corporation (EFC), 17 Down REIT limited partnerships (comprising ten properties), an office building that is subject to loans made by the Company, and the multifamily improvements owned by a third party in which the Company owns the land underlying these improvements and from which the Company receives fees, including land lease, subordination and property management fees. The Company consolidated these entities because it is deemed the primary beneficiary under FIN 46 Revised. The Company's total assets and liabilities related to these VIEs, net of intercompany eliminations, were approximately \$188,000,000 and \$155,000,000, respectively, at September 30, 2004 and \$196,000,000 and \$156,000,000, respectively at December 31, 2003.

The Down REIT entities that collectively own ten multifamily properties (1,831 units) were investments made under arrangements whereby Essex Management Corporation (EMC) became the general partner, the Operating Partnership became a special limited partner, and the other limited partners were granted rights of redemption for their interests. Such limited partners can request to be redeemed and the Company can elect to redeem their rights for cash or by issuing shares of its common stock on a one share per unit basis. Conversion values will be based on the market value of the Company's common stock at the time of redemption multiplied by the number of units stipulated under the above arrangements. The other limited partners receive distributions based on the Company's current dividend rate times the number of units held. At September 30, 2004, the maximum number of shares that could be issued to meet redemption of these Down REIT entities is 1,417,076. As of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, the carrying value of the other limited partners' interests is presented at their historical cost and is classified within minority interests in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Interest holders in VIEs consolidated by the Company are allocated a priority of net income equal to the cash payments made to those interest holders for services rendered or distributions from cash flow. The remaining results of operations are generally allocated to the Company.

Properties consolidated in accordance with FIN 46 Revised were encumbered by third party, non-recourse loans totaling \$151,692,000 and \$152,669,000 as of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, respectively.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company is involved with two VIE's in which the Company is not deemed to be the primary beneficiary. Total assets and liabilities of these entities as of September 30, 2004 were approximately \$117 million and \$108 million, respectively. The maximum exposure to loss of the Company relates to its participating loan of \$5 million to one of these entities as of September 30, 2004.

#### *Stock-Based Compensation*

As of January 1, 2004, the Company adopted the fair value method of accounting for its stock-based compensation plans using the retroactive restatement method as provided by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (SFAS 123), "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." Under the fair value method, stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is expensed over the vesting period. Stock-based compensation expense under the fair value method was \$169,000 and \$245,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 and \$496,000 and \$737,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. There were no stock options granted during the three months ended September 30, 2004 or 2003. The fair value of stock options granted was \$7.11 and \$3.85 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with

the following weighted average assumptions used for grants:

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Stock price	\$62.34	\$51.01
Risk-free interest rates	3.94%	3.17%
Expected lives	5 years	6 years
Volatility	19.07%	17.91%
Dividend yield	5.07%	6.12%

*Reconciliation to previously reported amounts*

The accounting effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 on net income previously reported for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 is as follows (dollars in thousands, except per share amounts):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2003</b>		<b>2003</b>	
Net income previously reported	\$	9,260	\$	30,141
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123		(242)		(354)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised		(283)		(1,613)
Net income as reported	\$	<u>8,735</u>	\$	<u>28,174</u>
Per common share data:				
Basic:				
Per share previously reported	\$	0.44	\$	1.43
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123		(0.01)		(0.02)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised		(0.02)		(0.07)
Per basic share as reported	\$	<u>0.41</u>	\$	<u>1.34</u>
Diluted:				
Per share previously reported	\$	0.43	\$	1.42
Adjustment for effect of adopting FAS 123		(0.01)		(0.02)
Adjustment for effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised		(0.01)		(0.07)
Per diluted share as reported	\$	<u>0.41</u>	\$	<u>1.33</u>



The accounting effect of adopting FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 on stockholders' equity at January 1, 2003 for previously reported amounts is as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<u>Additional paid-in capital</u>	<u>Distribution in excess of accumulated earnings</u>
Statement of Stockholders' Equity:		
Balance at January 1, 2003, as previously reported	\$ 535,125	\$ (43,813)
Adjustments for cumulative effect on prior years of retroactively applying SFAS 123	3,606	(2,696)
Adjustments for cumulative effect on prior years of retroactively applying FIN 46 Revised	<u>--</u>	<u>(6,533)</u>
Balance at January 1, 2003, as adjusted	<u>\$ 538,731</u>	<u>\$ (53,042)</u>

### *Depreciation*

Beginning in 2003, the Company implemented an upgrade to its subsidiary ledger for accounting for fixed assets. The Company completed this system upgrade in the first quarter of 2004. In conjunction with this system upgrade, the Company has determined that cumulative depreciation expense generated by consolidated or equity method rental properties was understated by approximately \$2.1 million through December 31, 2003 and this amount was recorded during the quarter ended March 31, 2004. Had the correction been made in 2003, depreciation expense would have increased by approximately \$640,000, \$1.3 million, and \$1.0 million in the first, second and third quarters of 2003, respectively. In the fourth quarter 2003, depreciation expense would have decreased by approximately \$1.4 million. The Company does not believe that the correction is material to any previously reported financial statements and is not material to any consolidated earnings trends.

### **Overview**

The Company believes that its operating results have largely been a result of its business strategy of investing in submarkets that provide the greatest potential for rental growth at the lowest relative risk. Essex believes that its market research process, which includes an analysis of both metropolitan statistical areas (MSA's) and submarkets, provides it with a distinct competitive advantage. Essex researches markets by reviewing data from private and government sources as well as information developed or verified by its field personnel. Essex then utilizes its proprietary research model to project market rent trends, allowing the Company to allocate capital to the markets with the best risk-adjusted return potential.

Essex's research process begins with a macro-economic analysis of various MSA's, followed by an evaluation of the submarkets within that MSA. The objective of the economic research department is to estimate the amount of new demand for housing, comparing it to the number of single family and multifamily homes being constructed within a submarket. Historically, markets with demand for multifamily housing that is greater than supply generate increasing occupancy levels and growth in rents.

Key components of Essex's analysis are as follows:

**Job Growth:** The Company believes that quality job growth will lead to demand for multifamily and for-sale housing. Based on a variety of considerations, the Company estimates how the total demand for housing will be allocated between rental and for-sale housing.

**Housing Supply:** Limited housing supply, both rental and for-sale, is a very important factor in

maintaining high occupancy levels, particularly in periods of recession or slow economic growth. The Company seeks to identify markets in which there is a low level of housing construction, measured as a percentage of existing housing stock.

**Cost of for-sale housing:** The Company prefers areas with relatively expensive for-sale housing, which is usually caused by an insufficient amount of single-family housing construction. The Company seeks to identify areas where the cost of rent is low relative to both median income levels and the cost of homeownership.

**Demographic trends:** The Company evaluates areas with long-term positive immigration and demographic trends, and areas that provide an attractive quality of life.

Based on its evaluation of multifamily housing supply and demand factors, the Company forecasts the occupancy and rent trends for its targeted submarkets, and actively seeks to expand its multifamily portfolio in the submarkets with the greatest risk-adjusted return.

By region, the Company's operating results and investment strategy are as follows:

**Southern California Region:** At the time of the Company's 1994 initial public offering (IPO), the Company had ownership interests in this region representing 17% of its multifamily units. Following the IPO, the Company, using its research process, determined that various markets in the Southern California region were attractive for multifamily property investment and, the Company accordingly increased its ownership in such markets. As of September 30, 2004, we have ownership interests in this region representing 58% of our multifamily units. During the three months ended September 30, 2004, the region continued to perform well, with same store property revenues increasing by 4.2% versus the comparable period in 2003. Same store property revenues increased by 2.6% versus the immediately preceding quarter. The Company expects this region to continue generating positive operating results in the near term.

**Northern California Region:** As of September 30, 2004, the Company had ownership interests in this region representing 18% of its multifamily units. Several years of job losses have resulted in declining rents. In the three months ended September 30, 2004, same store property revenues increased slightly by 0.2% versus the comparable period in 2003 and increased by 0.3% versus the immediately preceding quarter. The Company expects market rents to remain flat in fiscal year 2004, which would result in same store property revenues to decline. The Company expects positive multifamily fundamentals in this region after 2004. As a result, the Company will begin to increase its investment focus in this region.

**Pacific Northwest Region:** As of September 30, 2004, the Company had ownership interests in this region representing 20% of its multifamily units. This region also lost jobs in 2003, but at a lower rate compared to the Company's Northern California region. In the three months ended September 30, 2004, same store property revenues increased by 3.4% versus the comparable period in 2003 and increased by 1.1% versus the immediately preceding quarter. The Company expects job growth in this region in fiscal year 2004. The Company expects positive multifamily fundamentals in this region after 2004. As result, the Company will begin to increase its investment focus in this region.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

See Item 7 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003 for a discussion of the Company's critical accounting policies. As a result of the implementation of FIN 46 Revised, discussed in Note 1 to the condensed consolidated financial statements, the Company has identified an additional critical accounting policy regarding consolidation of VIEs.

The Company assesses each entity in which it has an investment or contractual relationship to determine if it may be deemed to be a VIE. If such an entity is a VIE, then the Company analyzes the expected losses and expected residual returns to determine who is the primary beneficiary. If the Company is the primary beneficiary, then the entity is consolidated. The analysis required to identify VIEs and primary beneficiaries is complex and judgmental, and the analysis must be applied to various types of entities and legal structures.

## General Background

The Company's property revenues are generated primarily from multifamily property operations, which accounted for 96% or more of its property revenues for each of the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003. The Company's properties ("the Properties") are located in Southern California (Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange and San Diego counties), Northern California (the San Francisco Bay Area), the Pacific Northwest (The Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon metropolitan areas), and other areas (Hemet, California, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Houston, Texas).

Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. ("Fund I"), is an investment fund organized by the Company in 2001 to add value through rental growth and asset appreciation, utilizing the Company's development, redevelopment and asset management capabilities. An affiliate of the Company, Essex VFGP, L.P. ("VFGP"), is a 1% general partner and is a 20.4% limited partner. The Operating Partnership owns a 99% limited partnership interest in VFGP.

Since its formation, Fund I has acquired or developed ownership interests in 19 multifamily residential properties, representing 5,406 apartment units with an aggregate cost of approximately \$618.0 million. Fund I also owns the Kelvin Ave. land parcel in Irvine, California, which has been planned for development into a 132-unit apartment community.

Prior to July 1, 2004, Fund I had disposed of two multifamily residential properties, consisting of 530 apartment units for a aggregate contract sales price of approximately \$73.2 million.

During the quarter, Fund I entered into a purchase and sales agreements with respect to all of its properties except the Kelvin land parcel.

On August 26, 2004, Fund I sold Palermo Apartments, 230-unit multifamily community located in San Diego, California for a net sales price of \$58.2 million. Fund I recently completed the development of this property at an approximate cost of \$44.9 million.

During the quarter, Fund I announced that it had entered into a purchase and sale agreement with United Dominion Realty, L.P. ("UDR") for a sale of sixteen apartment communities, totaling 4,646 units owned by Fund I and with respect to Coronado at Newport North and South, both Fund I's and the Company's separate ownership interests, for a contract price of \$756.0 million. In connection with the transaction, UDR remitted a \$10 million earnest money deposit directly to Fund I, which is refundable only in limited circumstances. On September 30, 2004, under the UDR purchase and sale agreement, Fund I sold seven of the multifamily communities, aggregating 1,777 apartment units at a contract price of approximately \$264.0 million. Subsequent to September 30, 2004, an additional seven of the remaining nine properties were sold to UDR for a contract price of \$322.0 million, of which \$267.6 million is Fund I's allocated portion of the contract price based on its ownership interest. The remaining two multifamily properties under the UDR agreement that are anticipated to close in 2005 are Coronado at Newport - South, a 715-unit apartment community in Newport Beach, California currently undergoing redevelopment and River Terrace, a newly developed 250-unit apartment community in Santa Clara which is currently in lease up.

In connection with the Fund I dispositions which occurred during the third quarter of 2004, based on the Company's limited partnership interest in Fund I, the Company recognized equity income in investments of \$13.9 million representing the Company's share of the gain on the sale of real estate of \$14.1 million and a \$170,000 non-cash loss on the early extinguishment of debt related to the write-off of un-amortized loan fees on those property sales. The Company's general partnership interest provides for "promote distributions" upon attainment of certain financial return benchmarks. During the third quarter of 2004, the Company recognized \$14.5 million of additional equity income associated with its promote interest. In October 2004, the Company received promote distributions related to the third quarter sales of the Fund I properties in the amount of \$14.5 million. The Company has accrued \$4.0 million of related employee incentive compensation expense related to Fund I, which is general and administrative expense.

Based on Fund I's sales of property subsequent to September 30, 2004 and the expected 2005 contracted sales values, the Company's estimate of additional promote distribution of \$3.5 million will be recognized in the fourth quarter of 2004 and \$4.2 million in 2005. The Company's pro-rata gain from sales are expected to be approximately \$28.0 million in the fourth quarter of 2004 and approximately \$14.0 million in 2005. A related non-cash loss for the write-off of unamortized loan fees is anticipated to be approximately \$350,000 in the fourth quarter of 2004 and approximately \$125,000 in 2005. These anticipated results exclude any potential sale of the Kelvin land parcel.

On September 27, 2004 the Company announced the final closing of the Essex Apartment Value Fund II ("Fund II"). Fund II has eight institutional investors including Essex with combined equity commitments of \$265.9 million. Essex has committed \$75.0 million to Fund II, which represents a 28.2% interest as general partner and limited partner. Fund II expects to utilize leverage of approximately 65% of the estimated value of the underlying real estate. Fund II will invest in multifamily properties in the Company's targeted West Coast markets with an emphasis on investment opportunities in Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area. Subject to certain exceptions, Fund II will be Essex's exclusive investment vehicle until October 31, 2006, or when Fund II's committed capital has been invested, whichever occurs first. Consistent with Fund I, Essex will be compensated for its asset management, property management, development and redevelopment services and may receive promote distributions if Fund II exceeds certain financial return benchmarks.

The Company has elected to be treated as a real estate investment trust ("REIT") for federal income tax purposes since 1994. The Company provides some of its fee based asset management and disposition services as well as third-party property management and leasing services through Essex Management Corporation ("EMC"), in order to maintain compliance with REIT tax rules. EMC was retroactively consolidated by the Company as of January 1, 2004 for all periods presented in accordance with the Company's adoption of FIN 46 Revised.

The Company (excluding Fund I's development communities) has ownership interests in and is developing two multifamily residential communities, with an aggregate of 444 multifamily units. In connection with these development projects, the Company has directly, or in some cases through its joint venture partners, entered into contractual construction related commitments with unrelated third parties and the total projected estimated cost for these projects is approximately \$75.1 million. As of September 30, 2004, the remaining commitment to fund these projects is approximately \$5.4 million.

## Results of Operations

### *Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2004 to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2003*

Average financial occupancy rates of the Company's multifamily Quarterly Same Store Properties (stabilized properties consolidated (excludes properties consolidated pursuant to FIN 46 Revised) by the Company for each of the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003) was 96.2% and 96.0%, for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. "Financial occupancy" is defined as the percentage resulting from dividing actual rental revenue by total possible rental revenue. Actual rental revenue represents contractual rental revenue pursuant to leases without considering delinquency and concessions. Total possible rental revenue represents the value of all apartment units, with occupied units valued at contractual rental rates pursuant to leases and vacant units valued at estimated market rents. We believe that financial occupancy is a meaningful measure of occupancy because it considers the value of each vacant unit at its estimated market rate. Financial occupancy rates disclosed by other REITs may not be comparable to our calculation of financial occupancy.

The regional breakdown of average financial occupancy for the multifamily Quarterly Same Store Properties for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 are as follows:

	<b>Three months ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Southern California	96.4%	96.7%
Northern California	96.3%	95.8%
Pacific Northwest	95.6%	94.8%

*Total Property Revenues* increased by \$9,487,000 or 15.1% to \$72,432,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$62,945,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The following table sets forth a breakdown of these revenue amounts, including the revenues attributable to the Quarterly Same Store Properties.

	Number of Properties	Three Months Ended September 30,		Dollar Change	Percentage Change
		2004	2003		
(Dollars in thousands)					
Revenues:					
Property revenues - quarterly					
Quarterly Same Store Properties					
Southern California	42	\$ 25,221	\$ 24,209	\$ 1,012	4.2 %
Northern California	17	12,704	12,682	22	0.2
Pacific Northwest	23	10,377	10,032	345	3.4
Total property revenues					
Same Store Properties	82	48,302	46,923	1,379	2.9
Property revenues - properties					
acquired or consolidated subsequent to					
June 30, 2003 (1)		24,130	16,022	8,108	50.6
Total property revenues		\$ 72,432	\$ 62,945	\$ 9,487	15.1 %

(1) Also includes five office buildings (one consolidated in accordance with FIN 46R), five recreational vehicle parks, two manufactured housing communities, redevelopment communities, development communities, and 12 multifamily properties consolidated as of January 1, 2004 in accordance with FIN 46 Revised.

As set forth in the above table, the \$9,487,000 net increase in total property revenues was primarily attributable to an increase of \$8,108,000 primarily due to acquisition of nine multifamily properties and achieved stabilized operations in one development community, two communities in redevelopment and the sale of one community (the "Quarterly Acquisition Properties") subsequent to June 30, 2003 and the increase in Quarterly Same Store Properties revenue of \$1,379,000.

*Property revenues* from the Quarterly Same Store Properties increased by \$1,379,000 or 2.9% to \$48,302,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$46,923,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase was primarily attributable to the results of the 42 Quarterly Same Store Properties located in Southern California and the 23 Quarterly Same Store Properties located in the Pacific Northwest. The 42 Quarterly Same Store Properties located in Southern California increased by \$1,012,000, or 4.2%, to \$25,221,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$24,209,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The \$1,012,000 increase is primarily attributable to an increase in rental rates and a decrease in property concessions. The property revenues of the Quarterly Same Store Properties in the Pacific Northwest increased by \$345,000 or 3.4% to \$10,377,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$10,032,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The \$345,000 increase is primarily attributable to an increase in occupancy and rental rates and a decrease in property concessions.

*Total Expenses* increased by \$17,400,000 or approximately 34.3% to \$68,072,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$50,672,000 in the third quarter of 2003. This increase was mainly due to an increase in property operating expenses of \$8,431,000 or 24.0% to \$43,468,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$35,055,000 in the third quarter of 2003. Such operating expense increase was attributable to an increase in depreciation and amortization of \$3,767,000, which was attributable to the Quarterly Acquisition Properties and a correction of depreciation expense, an increase of administrative costs of \$1,723,000, an increase of real estate taxes of \$1,531,000, and an increase in maintenance and repairs of \$1,170,000, which primarily attributable to the Quarterly Acquisition Properties. All other property operating expenses increased \$222,000. General and administrative expense increased by \$5,473,000 or 239.2% in the third quarter of 2004 to \$7,761,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$2,288,000 in the third quarter of 2003. This increase is attributable to a \$4,000,000 accrual in employee incentive compensation related to promote distributions from Fund I. Interest expense increased by \$3,445,000 or 26.68% to \$16,394,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$12,949,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase in interest expense was due to increases in the mortgage notes payable and line of credit balances, the majority of which relates to the Quarterly Acquisition Properties.

*Gain on sale of real estate* increased to \$7,909,000 from \$0 in the third quarter of 2004 compared to the third quarter of 2003 due to the sale of The Essex at Lake Merritt, 270-unit multifamily community located in Oakland, California, which was sold on August 3, 2004.

*Interest and other income* increased by \$839,000 or 53.4% to \$2,410,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$1,571,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase primarily relates to an increase in leasing income and miscellaneous income offset by the reduction in fee income.

*Equity income in co-investments* increased by \$28,777,000 or 2,657.1% to \$29,860,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$1,083,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase primarily relates to an increase in promote distributions from Fund I of \$14,495,000 and its share of the net gain on sales of real estate of \$14,069,000 from the Fund I sale.

*Minority interests* increased by \$3,392,000 or 55.0% to \$9,565,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from \$6,173,000 in the third quarter of 2003. This is primarily due to the increase in net income of the Operating Partnership, partially offset by the write-off of the Series E preferred unit offering costs of \$1,575,000 due to its redemption.

*Discontinued operations* increased by \$75,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from a loss of \$19,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase in discontinued operations was mainly due to the Company entering into a lease and purchase option agreement with an unrelated third party related for this recreational vehicle park during the fourth quarter of 2003.

*Net income* increased by \$26,295,000 or 301.0% to net income of \$35,030,000 in the third quarter of 2004 from net income of \$8,735,000 in the third quarter of 2003. The increase in net income was mainly attributable to the factors noted above.

*Comparison of the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004 to the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003*

Average financial occupancy rates of the Company's multifamily Same Store Properties (stabilized properties consolidated (excludes properties consolidated pursuant to FIN 46 Revised) by the Company for each of the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003) was 96.2% and 96.0%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

The regional breakdown of average financial occupancy for the multifamily Same Store Properties for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 are as follows:

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Southern California	96.4%	96.7%
Northern California	96.3%	95.8%
Pacific Northwest	95.6%	94.8%

Total Revenues increased by \$20,143,000 or 10.7% to \$209,071,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$188,928,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The following table sets forth a breakdown of these revenue amounts, including the revenues attributable to the Same Store Properties.

	Number of Properties	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Dollar Change	Percentage Change
		2004	2003 (1)		
(Dollars in thousands)					
Revenues:					
Property revenues					
Same Store Properties					
Southern California	42	\$ 74,408	\$ 71,542	\$ 2,866	4.0 %
Northern California	17	37,967	39,790	(1,823)	(4.6)
Pacific Northwest	23	30,952	30,567	385	1.3
Total property revenues					
Same Store Properties	82	143,327	141,899	1,428	1.0
Property revenues - properties acquired or consolidated subsequent to December 31, 2002 (1)		65,744	47,029	18,715	39.8
Total property revenues		\$ 209,071	\$ 188,928	\$ 20,143	10.7 %

(1) Also includes five office buildings (one consolidated in accordance with FIN 46R), five recreational vehicle parks, two manufactured housing communities, redevelopment communities, development communities, and 12 multifamily properties consolidated as of January 1, 2004 in accordance with FIN 46 Revised.

As set forth in the above table, the \$20,143,000 net increase in total revenues was primarily due to an increase of \$18,715,000 primarily attributable to multifamily properties acquired subsequent to December 31, 2002. Subsequent to December 31, 2002, the Company acquired interests in eight multifamily properties and achieved stabilized operations in two redevelopment communities and two development communities (the "Acquisition Properties").

Property revenues from the Same Store Properties increased by \$1,428,000 or 1.0% to \$143,327,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$141,899,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase was attributable to the 42 Same Store Properties located in Southern California and the 23 Same Store Properties located in Pacific Northwest which were offset by the 17 Same Store Properties located in Northern California. The 42 multifamily residential properties located in Southern California increased by \$2,866,000 or 4.0% to \$74,408,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$71,542,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The \$2,866,000 increase is primarily attributable to rental rate increases and is offset by a slight decrease in financial occupancy to 96.4% in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from 96.7% in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The 23 multifamily residential properties located in the Pacific Northwest increased by \$385,000 or 1.3% to \$30,952,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$30,567,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The \$385,000 increase is primarily attributable to rental rate increases and an increase in financial occupancy to 95.6% in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from 94.8% in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The property revenues of the Same Store Properties in Northern California decreased by \$1,823,000 or 4.6% to \$37,967,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$39,790,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The decrease in Northern California is primarily attributable to rental rate decreases which were offset by an increase in financial occupancy to 96.3% in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from 95.8% in the nine months ended September 30, 2003.

Total Expenses increased by \$37,692,000 or approximately 25.3% to \$186,656,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$148,964,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. This increase was mainly due to an increase in property operating expenses of \$23,529,000 or 23.1% to \$125,499,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$101,970,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. Such operating expense increase was attributable to an increase in depreciation and amortization of \$13,421,000, related to the

Acquisition Properties, and corrections to depreciation expense, an increase of administrative costs of \$4,038,000, and an increase of real estate taxes of \$3,649,000, both primarily attributable to the Acquisition Properties. All other property operating expenses increased \$2,421,000. General and Administrative (G&A) expenses increased by \$7,231,000 or 103.9% to \$14,193,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$6,962,000 in the nine months ended June 30, 2003. The increase in G&A was primarily attributable to a \$4.0 million accrual related to incentive compensation related to performance of Fund I, and increases in headcount and related compensation expenses. Interest expense increased by \$6,715,000 or 17.2% to \$45,785,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$39,070,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase in interest expense is due to increases in the mortgage notes payable and line of credit balances, the majority of which relates to the Acquisition Properties.

*Gain on sale of real estate* increased to \$7,909,000 from \$0 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2003 due to the sale of The Essex at Lake Merritt, 270-unit multifamily community located in Oakland, California, which was sold on August 3, 2004.

*Interest and other income* increased by \$2,899,000 or 70.3% to \$7,024,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$4,125,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase primarily relates to an increase in leasing income.

*Equity income in co-investments* increased by \$27,789,000 or 878.0% to \$30,954,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$3,165,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase primarily relates to an increase in promote distributions from Fund I of \$14,495,000 and the net gain on sale of co-investment of \$14,069,000 which represents the Company's pro-rata allocation of gain from the Fund I sale.

*Minority interests* increased by \$1,202,000 or 6.2% to \$20,719,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$19,517,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. This is primarily due to the increase in net income of the Operating Partnership, partially offset by the write-off of the Series E preferred unit offering costs of \$1,575,000 due to its redemption.

*Discontinued operations* decreased \$840,000 to a loss of \$403,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from income of \$437,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The decrease in discontinued operations was mainly due to an impairment charge of \$756,000 in 2004.

*Net income* increased by \$19,006,000 or 67.5% to \$47,180,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$28,174,000 in nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase in net income was mainly attributable to the factors noted above.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

On July 26, 2004, Standard and Poor's publicly announced its existing issuer credit ratings of BBB/Stable/-- for Essex Property Trust, Inc. and Essex Portfolio L.P., and issued a new rating of BBB- on its Senior Unsecured Debt for Essex Portfolio L.P.

At September 30, 2004, the Company had \$16,224,000 of unrestricted cash and cash equivalents. The Company expects to meet its short-term liquidity requirements by using its working capital, cash generated from operations, and on amounts available under lines of credit or other financings. The Company believes that its current net cash flows will be adequate to meet operating requirements and to provide for payment of dividends by the Company in accordance with REIT qualification requirements. The Company expects to meet its long-term liquidity requirements relating to property acquisitions and development (beyond the next 12 months) and balloon debt maturities by using a combination of some or all of the following sources: working capital, amounts available on lines of credit, net proceeds from public and private debt and equity issuances, refinancing of maturing loans, and proceeds from the disposition of properties that may be sold from time to time. There can, however, be no assurance that the Company will have access to the debt and equity markets in a timely fashion to meet such future funding requirements or that future working capital and borrowings under the lines of credit will be available, or if available, will be sufficient to meet the Company's requirements or that the Company will be able to dispose of properties in a timely manner and under terms and conditions that the Company deems acceptable.



Cash flow from operations increased by \$14,119,000 to \$87,867,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$73,748,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The increase was primarily a result of the operations of the Company.

Non-revenue generating capital expenditures are improvements and upgrades that extend the useful life of the property and are not related to preparing a multifamily property unit to be rented to a tenant. The Company expects to incur approximately \$390 to \$400 per weighted average occupancy unit in non-revenue generating capital expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2004. These expenditures do not include the improvements required as a condition to funding mortgage loans, expenditures for acquisition properties' renovations and improvements, which are expected to generate additional revenue, and renovation expenditures required pursuant to tax-exempt bond financings. The Company expects that cash from operations and/or its lines of credit will fund such expenditures. However, there can be no assurance that the actual expenditures incurred during 2004 and/or the funding thereof will not be significantly different than the Company's current expectations.

The Company is currently developing two multifamily residential projects, with an aggregate of 444 multifamily units. Such projects involve certain risks inherent in real estate development. See "Other Matters/ Risk Factors--Risks that Development Activities Will be Delayed or Not Completed and/or Fail to Achieve Expected Results" in Item 1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. In connection with these development projects, the Company has directly, or in some cases through its joint venture partners entered into contractual construction related commitments with unrelated third parties and the total projected estimated cost for these projects is approximately \$75,000,000. As of September 30, 2004, the remaining commitment to fund these development projects is approximately \$5,400,000. The Company expects to fund such commitments by using a combination of some or all of the following sources: its working capital, amounts available on its lines of credit, net proceeds from public and private equity and debt issuances, and proceeds from the disposition of properties, if any.

Although the Company does not anticipate starting any new development projects in 2004, it will continue to evaluate, as appropriate and with due consideration given to current market conditions, potential development projects of additional multifamily properties.

On September 27, 2004 the Company announced the final closing of the Essex Apartment Value Fund II ("Fund II"). Fund II has eight institutional investors including Essex with combined equity commitments of \$265.9 million. Essex has committed \$75.0 million to Fund II, which represents a 28.2% interest as general partner and limited partner. Fund II expects to utilize leverage of approximately 65% of the estimated value of the underlying real estate. Fund II will invest in multifamily properties in the Company's targeted West Coast markets with an emphasis on investment opportunities in Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area. Subject to certain exceptions, Fund II will be Essex's exclusive investment vehicle until October 31, 2006, or when Fund II's committed capital has been invested, whichever occurs first. Consistent with Fund I, Essex will be compensated for its asset management, property management, development and redevelopment services and may receive promote distributions if Fund II exceeds certain financial return benchmarks.

The Company has an outstanding unsecured line of credit for an aggregate amount of \$185,000,000. At September 30, 2004, the Company had \$74,000,000 outstanding on this line of credit. At September 30, 2004, this line of credit bore an interest rate of approximately 3.0%. This facility matures in April 2007, with an option to extend it for one year thereafter. The underlying interest rate on this line is based on a tiered rate structure tied to the Company's corporate ratings and is currently LIBOR plus 1.0%. In addition, the Company has a \$100 million credit facility from Freddie Mac secured by five of Essex's multifamily communities. At September 30, 2004, the Company had \$95.2 million outstanding under this line of credit. At September 30, 2004, this line of credit bore an interest rate of approximately 2.1%. This facility matures in December 2008. The underlying interest rate on this line is between 55 and 59 basis points over the Freddie Mac's Reference Rate.

In addition to the Company's lines of credit, the Company had \$1,094,209,000 mortgage notes payable at September 30, 2004. Such indebtedness consisted of \$907,379,000 in fixed rate debt with interest rates varying from 4.14% to 8.29% and maturity dates ranging from 2006 to 2032. The indebtedness also includes \$186,830,000 of tax-exempt variable rate demand bonds with interest rates, including credit enhancements and other fees, paid during the three months ended September 30, 2004 that average 2.6% and have maturity dates ranging from 2020 to 2034. The tax-exempt variable rate demand bonds are subject to interest rate caps.

The Company pays quarterly dividends from cash available for distribution. Until it is distributed, cash available for distribution is invested by the Company primarily in short-term investment grade securities or is used by the Company to reduce balances outstanding under its line of credit.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had the capacity pursuant to existing shelf registration statements to issue up to \$219,455,250 in equity securities and the Operating Partnership had the capacity pursuant to such registration statements to issue up to \$250,000,000 of debt securities.

Certain of the Company's properties are located in areas that are subject to earthquake activity. Essex has certain limited earthquake coverage on its properties. In the second quarter of 2004, the Company increased its coverage on these properties from \$40.0 million to \$80.0 million. Essex's self-insurance retention and deductible on its insurance coverage remained at \$15.0 million and 5%, respectively.

#### *Financing and Equity Issuances*

On July 30, 2003, in connection with the Company's acquisition, by merger, of John M. Sachs, Inc. ("Sachs") that was completed on December 17, 2002, and under the terms of the merger agreement, a final analysis was prepared, which indicated that the actual net liabilities of Sachs were less than the net liabilities of Sachs estimated to be outstanding as of the merger date. Based on the final analysis and as a post-closing adjustment payment pursuant to the merger agreement, the Company made a final payment of approximately \$1,766,000 in cash and issued an additional 35,860 shares of common stock to certain of the pre-merger shareholders of Sachs.

On September 23, 2003, the Company issued 1,000,000 shares of its Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock ("Series F Preferred Stock") at a fixed price of \$24.664 per share, a discount from the \$25.00 per share liquidation value of the shares. The shares did not begin to accrue a dividend until November 25, 2003, and, following that date, will pay quarterly distributions at an annualized rate of 7.8125% per year of the liquidation value and will be redeemable by the Company on or after September 23, 2008. The Company amortized the original discount in connection with the issuance of these shares in the fourth quarter of 2003, resulting in a charge of approximately \$336,000. The shares were issued pursuant to the Company's existing shelf registration statement. The Company used the net proceeds from this sale of Series F Preferred Stock to redeem all of the 9.125% Series C Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units (the "Series C Preferred Units") of Essex Portfolio, L.P., of which the Company is the general partner. In connection with this redemption the Company incurred a non-cash charge of \$625,000 related to the write-off of the issuance costs.

On October 6, 2003, the Company sold 1.6 million shares of common stock in a public offering and received offering proceeds (before expenses) of \$60.67 per share, representing a 3.25% discount to the common stock's closing price on September 30, 2003, the date of the underwriting agreement between the Company and the underwriter, pursuant to which the shares were sold. The shares were issued pursuant to the Company's existing shelf registration statement. The proceeds of the offering were approximately \$97,072,000. Subsequent to the offering, the net proceeds generated from the offering were used to acquire multifamily communities located in the Company's targeted West Coast markets.

In January 2004, the Company restructured its previously issued \$50 million, 9.30% Series D Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units ("Series D Units"), and its previously issued \$80 million, 7.875% Series B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units ("Series B Units"). The existing distribution rate of 9.30% of the Series D Units continued until July 27, 2004 – the end of the non-call period. Effective July 28, 2004, the distribution rate on the Series D Units was reduced to 7.875%. The date that the Series D Units can first be redeemed at the Company's option was extended by six years to July 28, 2010. The date that the Series B Units can first be redeemed at the Company's option was extended from February 6, 2003 to December 31, 2009.

On June 14, 2000 the Company purchased Waterford Place, a 238-unit apartment community located in San Jose, California for a contract price of \$35.0 million and an additional contingent payment. The amount of the contingent payment was disputed and submitted to binding arbitration. As a result of the arbitration, the Company was directed to issue an additional 109,874 units of limited partnership interest ("Units") in the Operating Partnership to the sellers of Waterford Place. On March 31, 2004, the Company completed the issuance of these Units to the sellers. In connection with this issuance, on March 31, 2004, the Company also redeemed for cash 55,564 Units

from these sellers, which included Units from the 109,874 issued to them that day as well as Units previously acquired by them.

On September 3, 2004, the Company redeemed all of its outstanding, \$55 million, 9.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units of the Operating Partnership. In connection with this redemption the Company incurred a non-cash charge of \$1.6 million related to the write-off of the issuance costs, which is classified as a component of minority interest in the accompanying statement of operations.

#### *Company Investments; Off-Balance Sheet Financing*

The Company invests in joint ventures, which are accounted for under the equity or consolidation methods of accounting based on the provisions of FIN 46 Revised or the voting control it exercises through its ownership interests in these affiliates. Under the equity method of accounting, the investment is carried at the cost of assets contributed or distributed, plus the Company's equity in undistributed earnings or losses since its initial investment. The individual assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the joint venture are not recorded in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company is involved with two VIE's in which the Company is not deemed to be the primary beneficiary. Total assets and liabilities of these entities as of September 30, 2004 were approximately \$117 million and \$108 million, respectively. The maximum exposure to loss of the Company relates to its participating loan of \$5 million to one of these entities as of September 30, 2004.

At September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, the Company did not have any other relationship with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes. As such, the Company is not materially exposed to any financing, liquidity, market or credit risk that could arise if the Company had engaged in such relationships.

#### **Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments**

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations and other commitments at September 30, 2004, and the effect such obligations could have on our liquidity and cash flow in future periods:

<b>(In thousands)</b>	<b>Less Than 1 Year</b>	<b>2-3 Years</b>	<b>4-5 Years</b>	<b>Over 5 Years</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mortgage notes payable	\$ 2,852	\$ 68,994	\$ 279,330	\$ 743,033	\$ 1,094,209
Lines of credit	-	-	74,000	95,235	169,235
Development commitments (1)	8,200	-	-	-	8,200
Redevelopment commitments(2)	18,300	-	-	-	18,300
Essex Apartment Value Fund II, L.P. capital commitment (3)	37,500	37,500	-	-	75,000
	<u>\$ 66,852</u>	<u>\$ 106,494</u>	<u>\$ 353,330</u>	<u>\$ 838,268</u>	<u>\$ 1,364,944</u>

(1) \$11,209 of these commitments relate to actual contracts as of September 30, 2004.

(2) \$6,732 of these commitments relate to actual contracts as of September 30, 2004.

(3) The Company has a total commitment of \$75,000 as of September 30, 2004. The amounts provided by year is management's best estimate of the timing of the funding of such commitments. These estimates could change if the timing of Fund II's acquisition of real estate changes.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

Certain statements in this "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and elsewhere in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q which are not historical facts may be considered forward looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including statements regarding the Company's expectations, hopes, intentions, beliefs and strategies regarding the future. Forward looking statements include statements regarding the Company's expectations as to the timing of completion of current development and redevelopment projects and the stabilization dates of such projects, expectation as to the total projected costs and rental rates of acquisition and development projects, beliefs as to the adequacy of future cash flows to meet operating requirements and to provide for dividend payments in accordance with REIT requirements, expectations as to the amount of capital expenditures, expectations as to the amount of non-revenue generating capital expenditures, future acquisitions, developments, and redevelopment, the Company's anticipated development projects in 2004, the anticipated sale of the remaining properties of the Essex Apartment Value Fund, L.P. ("Fund I"), and estimate of the resulting incentive and promote interest, the anticipated performance of the second Essex Apartment Value Fund ("Fund II"), the anticipated performance of existing properties, anticipated results from various geographic regions and the Company's investment focus in such regions, statements regarding the Company's financing activities and the use of proceeds from such activities.

Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors including, but not limited to, that the Company will fail to achieve its business objectives, that the actual completion of development projects will be subject to delays, that the stabilization dates of such projects will be delayed, that the total projected costs of current development projects will exceed expectations, that the Company's 2004 development strategy will change, that such development projects will not be completed, that development projects and acquisitions will fail to meet expectations, that estimates of future income from an acquired property may prove to be inaccurate, that future cash flows will be inadequate to meet operating requirements and/or will be insufficient to provide for dividend payments in accordance with REIT requirements, that the actual non-revenue generating capital expenditures will exceed the Company's current expectations, that the sale of the remaining properties of Fund I will not occur or will generate proceeds that are less than anticipated, that the Company's partners in Fund II fail to fund capital commitments as contractually required, that there may be a downturn in the markets in which the Company's properties are located, that the terms of any refinancing may not be as favorable as the terms of existing indebtedness, as well as those risks, special considerations, and other factors discussed under the caption "Potential Factors Affecting Future Operating Results" below and those discussed under the caption "Other Matters/Risk Factors" in Item 1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, and those other risk factors and special considerations set forth in the Company's other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are made as of today, and the Company assumes no obligation to update this information.

## **Potential Factors Affecting Future Operating Results**

Many factors affect the Company's actual financial performance and may cause the Company's future results to be different from past performance or trends. These factors include those factors discussed under the caption "Other Matters/Risk Factors" in Item 1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003 and the following:

### *Economic Environment and Impact on Operating Results*

Both the national economy and the economies of the western states in which the Company owns, manages and develops properties, some of which are concentrated in high-tech sectors, have been and may be in an economic downturn. The impacts of such downturn on operating results can include, and are not limited to, reduction in rental rates, occupancy levels, property valuations and increases in operating costs such as advertising, turnover and repair and maintenance expense.

The Company's property type and diverse geographic locations provide some degree of risk moderation but are not immune to a prolonged down cycle in the real estate markets in which the Company operates. Although the

Company believes it is well positioned to meet the challenges ahead, it is possible that reductions in occupancy and market rental rates will result in reduction of rental revenues, operating income, cash flows, and market value of the Company's shares. Prolonged recession could also affect the Company's ability to obtain financing at acceptable rates of interest and to access funds from the refinance or disposition of properties at acceptable prices.

#### *Development and Redevelopment Activities*

The Company pursues multifamily residential properties and development and redevelopment projects from time to time. Development projects generally require various government and other approvals, the receipt of which cannot be assured. The Company's development and redevelopment activities generally entail certain risks, including the following:

- funds may be expended and management's time devoted to projects that may not be completed;
- construction costs of a project may exceed original estimates possibly making the project economically unfeasible;
- projects may be delayed due to, among other things, adverse weather conditions;
- occupancy rates and rents at a completed project may be less than anticipated; and
- expenses at a completed development project may be higher than anticipated.

These risks may reduce the funds available for distribution to the Company's stockholders. Further, the development and redevelopment of properties is also subject to the general risks associated with real estate investments.

#### **Interest Rate Fluctuations**

The Company monitors changes in interest rates and believes that it is well positioned from both a liquidity and interest rate risk perspective. However, current interest rates are at historic lows and potentially could increase rapidly to levels more in line with recent levels. The immediate effect of significant and rapid interest rate increases would result in higher interest expense on the Company's variable interest rate debt. The effect of prolonged interest rate increases could negatively impact the Company's ability to make acquisitions and develop properties at economic returns on investment and the Company's ability to refinance existing borrowings at acceptable rates.

#### **Inflation /Deflation**

Substantial inflationary or deflationary pressures could have a negative effect on rental rates and property operating expenses. The Company believes it effectively manages its property and other expenses but understands that substantial annual rates of inflation or deflation could adversely impact operating results.

## Funds from Operations

Funds from operations is a financial measure that is commonly used in the REIT industry. Essex presents funds from operations as a supplemental performance measure. Funds from operations is not used by Essex as, nor should it be considered to be, an alternative to net earnings computed under GAAP as an indicator of Essex's operating performance or as an alternative to cash from operating activities computed under GAAP as an indicator of Essex's ability to fund its cash needs.

Funds from operations is not meant to represent a comprehensive system of financial reporting and does not present, nor does Essex intend it to present, a complete picture of its financial condition and operating performance. Essex believes that net earnings computed under GAAP remains the primary measure of performance and that funds from operations is only meaningful when it is used in conjunction with net earnings. Further, Essex believes that its consolidated financial statements, prepared in accordance with GAAP, provide the most meaningful picture of its financial condition and its operating performance.

In calculating funds from operations, Essex follows the definition for this measure published by the National Association of REITs ("NAREIT"), which is a REIT trade association. Essex believes that, under the NAREIT funds from operation definition, the two most significant adjustments made to net income are (i) the exclusion of historical cost depreciation and (ii) the exclusion of gains from the sale of previously depreciated properties. Essex agrees that these two NAREIT adjustments are useful to investors for the following reasons:

(a) historical cost accounting for real estate assets in accordance with GAAP assumes, through depreciation charges, that the value of real estate assets diminishes predictably over time. NAREIT stated in its White Paper on Funds from Operations "since real estate asset values have historically risen or fallen with market conditions, many industry investors have considered presentations of operating results for real estate companies that use historical cost accounting to be insufficient by themselves." Consequently, NAREIT's definition of funds from operations reflects the fact that real estate, as an asset class, generally appreciates over time and depreciation charges required by GAAP do not reflect the underlying economic realities.

(b) REITs were created as a legal form of organization in order to encourage public ownership of real estate as an asset class through investment in firms that were in the business of long-term ownership and management of real estate. The exclusion, in NAREIT's definition of funds from operations, of gains from the sales of previously depreciated operating real estate assets allows investors and analysts to readily identify the operating results of the long-term assets that form the core of a REIT's activity and assists in comparing those operating results between periods.

Other REITs in calculating funds from operations may vary from the NAREIT definition for this measure, and thus their disclosure of funds from operations may not be comparable to Essex's calculation of it.

The following table sets forth the Company's calculation of Funds from Operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003.

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003 (1)</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003 (1)</u>
Net income	\$ 35,030,000	\$ 8,735,000	\$ 47,180,000	\$ 28,174,000
Adjustments:				
Depreciation and amortization	18,273,000	14,506,000	54,416,000	40,995,000
Depreciation and amortization -- unconsolidated co-investments	12,000	535,000	1,816,000	1,764,000
Gain on sale of real estate	(7,909,000)	--	(7,909,000)	--
Gain on sale of co-investment activities, net (2)	(14,069,000)	--	(14,069,000)	--
Minority interests	3,615,000	987,000	4,961,000	3,227,000
Depreciation - discontinued operations	6,000	33,000	68,000	105,000
Dividends to preferred stockholders - Series F	(488,000)	--	(1,464,000)	--
Funds From Operations	<u>\$ 34,470,000</u>	<u>\$ 24,796,000</u>	<u>\$ 84,999,000</u>	<u>\$ 74,265,000</u>
Weighted average number shares outstanding diluted (3)	<u>25,567,451</u>	<u>23,647,225</u>	<u>25,445,165</u>	<u>23,535,160</u>

- (1) Three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 amounts have been restated for the retroactive adoption of FIN 46 Revised and SFAS 123 as discussed in Note 1.
- (2) Management has included the \$14.5 million of equity income associated with the Company's general partner interest in Fund I which was recognized during the third quarter of 2004. Management believes that this a component of funds from operations since it relates to the incentive promote distribution for exceeding certain financial benchmarks.
- (3) Assumes conversion of all outstanding operating partnership interests in the Operating Partnership. Minority interests have been adjusted to reflect such conversion.

### Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Company is exposed to interest rate changes primarily as a result of its line of credit and long-term debt used to maintain liquidity and fund capital expenditures and expansion of the Company's real estate investment portfolio and operations. The Company's interest rate risk management objective is to limit the impact of interest rate changes on earnings and cash flows and to lower its overall borrowing costs. To achieve its objectives the Company borrows primarily at fixed rates and may enter into derivative financial instruments such as interest rate swaps, caps and treasury locks in order to mitigate its interest rate risk on a related financial instrument. The Company does not enter into derivative or interest rate transactions for speculative purposes.

The Company's interest rate risk is monitored using a variety of techniques. The table below presents the principal amounts and weighted average interest rates by year of expected maturity to evaluate the expected cash flows and sensitivity to interest rate changes.

For the Years Ended	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Thereafter	Total	Estimated Fair value
Fixed rate debt (In thousands)								
Amount	\$ 2,852	\$ 44,311	\$ 24,683	\$ 124,846	\$ 154,484	\$ 556,203	\$ 907,379	\$ 940,646
Average interest rate	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%		
Variable rate debt (In thousands)								
Amount	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 74,000	\$ --	\$ 282,065	\$ 356,065	\$ 356,065
Average interest	--	--	--	2.4%	--	2.3%		

The table incorporates only those exposures that exist as of September 30, 2004; it does not consider exposures or positions that could arise after that date. As a result, our ultimate realized gain or loss, with respect to interest rate fluctuations, would depend on the exposures that arise during the period, our hedging strategies at the time, and interest rates.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company owns interest rate cap agreements, which expire at various dates through 2009 which allows the Company to be reimbursed in the event the interest rate on \$186.8 million of its variable rate debt exceeds approximately 7.0%. Currently, the interest rate in effect on this debt is approximately 2.6%. The Company does not believe these interest rate cap agreements have any value because we believe there is a less than remote likelihood that interest rates will exceed 7.0% prior to the expiration of these contracts.

### Item 4: Controls and Procedures

As of September 30, 2004, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rules 13a-15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in timely alerting management to material information relating to the Company that is required to be included in our periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting, that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2004, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.



## **Part II -- Other Information**

### **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and use of Proceeds**

#### Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities

On August 6, 2004, the Company acquired Vista Belvedere, a 76-unit apartment community located in Tiburon, California. As part of the consideration for this acquisition, the Company issued to the seller 73,088 units of limited partnership interest in Essex Portfolio, L.P., a limited partnership in which the Company is the general partner. The holder of these units can exchange them, on a one-for-one basis, into shares of the Company's common stock. The holder of these units also has the right to redeem these units upon certain conditions. This private placement of 73,088 units was completed pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

## Item 6: Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

### A. Exhibits

- 2.1 Agreement of Purchase and Sale dated as of August 13, 2004, by and between United Dominion Realty, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, as Buyer, and Essex The Crest, L.P., a California limited partnership, Essex El Encanto Apartments, L.P., a California limited partnership, Essex Hunt Club Apartments, L.P., a California limited partnership, and the other signatories named as Sellers therein, which is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to our Form 8-K, filed on October 5, 2004 (1)
- 31.1 Certification of Keith R. Guericke, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Michael J. Schall, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Keith R. Guericke, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Michael J. Schall, Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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- (1) The listing of this agreement shall not deem it to be considered a “material” agreement for purposes of the Form 8-K regulations.

### B. Reports on Form 8-K

On July 29, 2004, the Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a press release to announce second quarter 2004 results.

On September 1, 2004, The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a press release announcing that the Essex Apartment Value Fund (“Fund I”) sold Palermo Apartments (*Chesapeake*).

On September 7, 2004, The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a press release announcing the redemption of its 9.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Units.

On September 7, 2004, The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a press release announcing that the Essex Apartment Value Fund (“Fund I”) had entered into a purchase and sale agreement with United Dominion Realty, L.P., an operating partner ship of United Dominion Realty Trust, Inc.

On September 29, 2004, The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a press release announcing the final closing on the formation of The Essex Apartment Value Fund (“Fund II”)

On September 30, 2004, The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K to file a slide presentation disseminated at a property tour in Seattle, Washington.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC.  
*(Registrant)*

Date: November 9, 2004

By: /S/ MARK J. MIKL  
Mark J. Mikl  
*First Vice President, Treasurer and Controller*  
*(Authorized Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)*