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Research and Action Community Development Direct Service - This is What We Do

Please sponsor UNHP in our work to create and preserve affordable housing and bring resources to our Bronx community.

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- Affordable Housing \$2,600
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Building Indicator Project (BIP) Meeting

University Neighborhood Housing Program July 28, 2020

Agenda

Introduction -

Jim Buckley, Executive Director, UNHP Catherine Clarke, Deputy Director for Development, UNHP

Trends in Multifamily Finance -

Jacob Udell, Research & Data, UNHP

Discussion: the Role of Banks in Multifamily Housing -

Rajiv Jaswa, Staff Lawyer, TakeRoot Justice

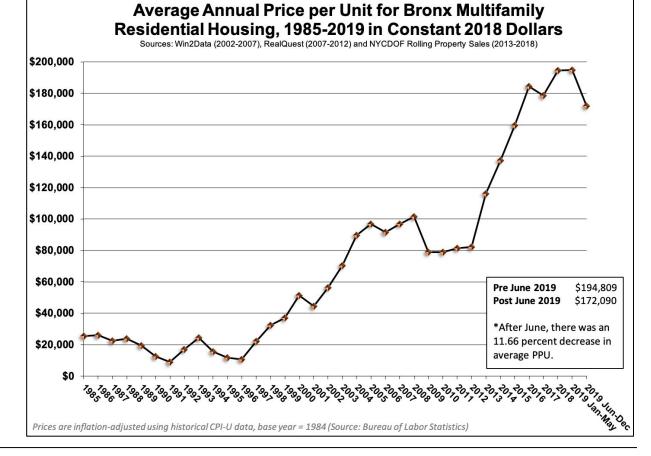
Christopher Beck, Director of CRE Lending Administration, New York Community Bank

Questions



NYC Multifamily Real Estate Market - the long view

- BIP's beginning → divergence between sales price and net income.
- What has the role of multifamily lenders been over this 30+ year history?
- What responsibilities do multifamily lenders currently have (both to housing stock & to the tenants who live there)?



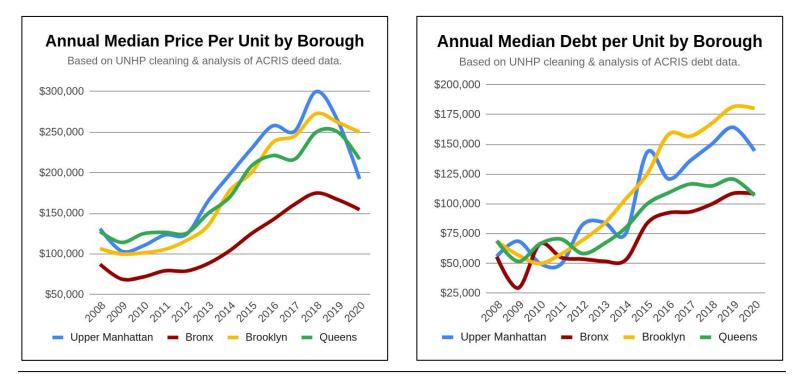


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NYC Multifamily Real Estate Market - the last decade

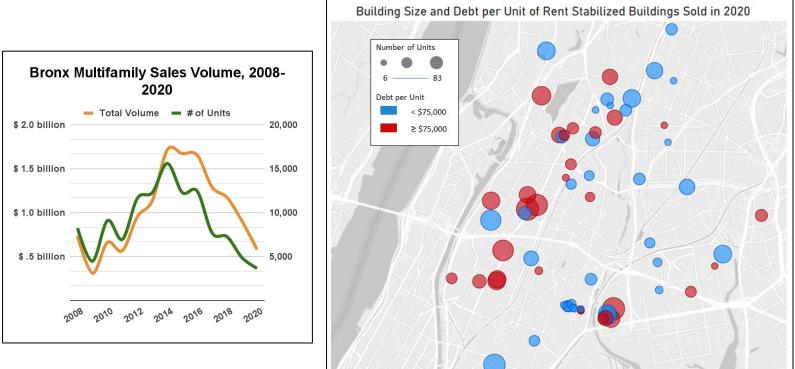
- Rise in values since 2008 paralleled by rise in debt levels.
- Significant shift in 2018: (i) End of the real estate cycle, (ii) HSTPA, (iii) COVID.
- However, while values have dropped significantly, debt levels seem to have just levelled off.





Bronx Multifamily Pricing Analysis - 2020

- Sales occurred mostly among properties with low debt levels.
- Of 4,000 likely rent-stabilized Bronx properties with an active loan, 38% have a debt per unit level of over \$114k.



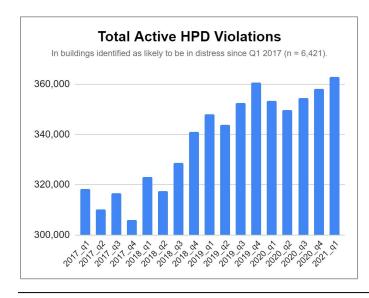


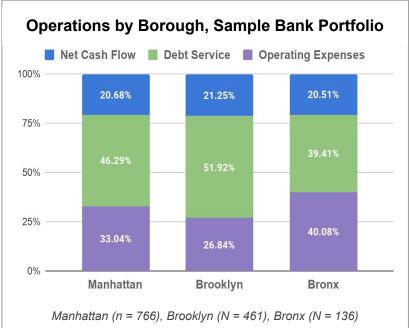
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Multifamily Housing Post-Covid: Deferred Maintenance & Expense Levels

- High debt levels → more rental income going to debt service, which translates into expense levels that almost guarantee some level of deferred maintenance.
- Expense to income ratio in UNHPs portfolio is between .7 to .8 what happens when the industry standard is to underwrite to only half of that?
- Particularly concerning for chronically distressed properties — early warning signs are already showing up.

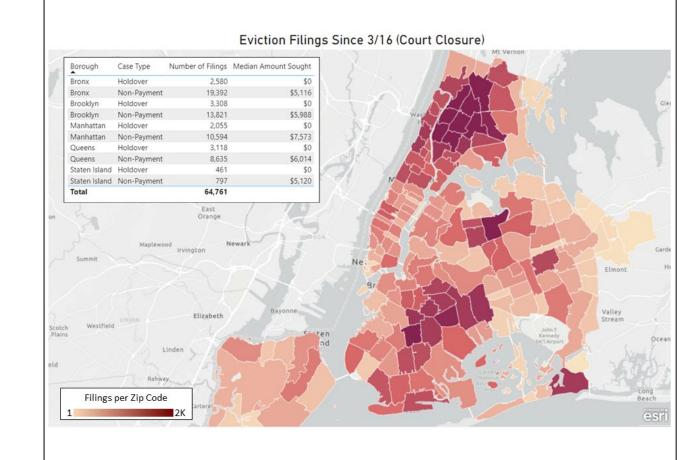






Multifamily Housing Post-Covid: Evictions

- The Bronx is again an epicenter of eviction filings.
- Median back rent owed has basically doubled from before the pandemic.
- Housing court data is a new resource, and crucial to outcomes in NYC multifamily housing in the coming years.





The Role of Banks in Multifamily Housing

• **CRA** & Multifamily Lending — moving beyond the current paradigm.

Is an acquisition loan or refinance in an LMI district enough to be considered community development?

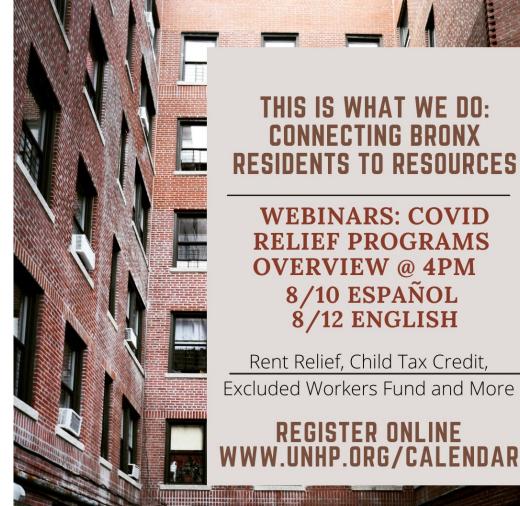
How can lenders <u>promote</u> good outcomes through lending on properties for which they receive CRA credit for?

- Across the portfolio: Equitable Reinvestment Coalition's Multifamily Best Practices
 - Minimum DSCRs
 - Realistic expense levels
 - Building inspections
 - Monitoring of landlord lists (BIP and otherwise)
 - Resolution of issues

How do we ensure more proactive implementation of the best practices?

- What else is needed?
 - CRA reform, work with regulators
 - More robust regulation, specifically around code enforcement
 - Continuing to build lines of communication between lenders and advocates, organizers, and tenants





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