

## Multi-Family Forecast for Southern Maine 2022 MEREDA Real Estate Forecast Conference

# Presented by Brit Vitalius

🕑 Vitalius Real Estate Group

306 Congress Street, Suite 3

Portland, ME 04101





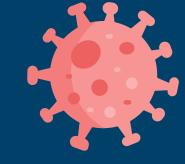
## Top 3 Takeaways

**Educational Notes** 

Marked with a









Dramatic Increase in Sale Prices & Rental Rates COVID Driven Market Rent Control in Portland



## Market Trends



COVID Refugees Sellers are Selling

New Multi-Family Development



## Market Notables





Numerous exchanges into investments / retirement property in Florida



#### Tenant Purchases

Tenants buying from their landlord in both apartments and even some houses



## Rental Market

- Strong Demand
- State Rental Assistance
- Portland: Rent Control
- Other Cities

#### **Strong Demand**

• COVID refugees

State Rental Assistance

- Rent Payments
- Incentives
- "Staved Off Eviction wave"
  - BDN, Sept 7, 2021

#### **Portland: Rent Control**

- No rent increases allowed in 2021
- Owner Occupants Exempt

Other Cities: Westbrook, Biddeford, Gorham, Windham, Brunswick, Lewiston

- 25%+ rent increases over last couple years
- New 'high end' market
- Displacement of current tenants?
- New construction



### **Regional Rental Market Snapshot**

#### Some Rental Notes from Around the Area

Think you Can't Get \$2k to \$3k for Apartments in Auburn? THINK AGAIN! - Recent Headline from the City of Auburn

> **Biddeford Mills** 1bd \$1,400 - \$2,100

**Brunswick** 1bd \$1,100 – \$1,400

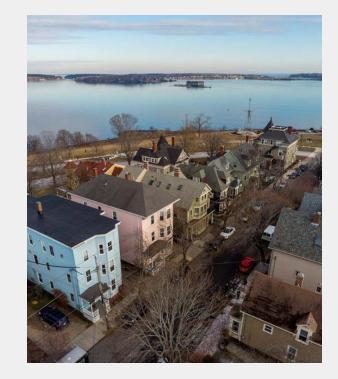




## Regional Sales Overview

- Owner Occupant Demand
- Investors Active Outside of Portland
- Non-Portland towns look like
  Portland of last 20 years



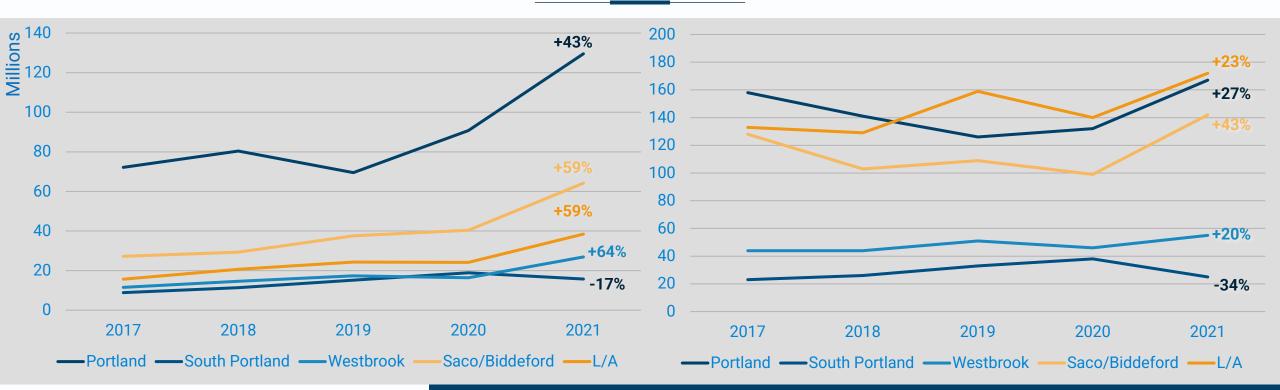




Residential multi-family sales were strong in all Southern Maine communities



### Sales Volume & Sales by Region



### Highlight

Huge increase in activity after an already strong year in 2020

	Portland	SoPo	Westbrook	Saco/ Biddeford	L/A
Sales	167	25	55	142	172
Volume (\$mm)	\$130m	\$16m	\$27m	\$64m	\$38m
Volume Δ 2020 > 2021	+43%	-17%	+64%	+59%	+59%



### Median Sale Price by Region





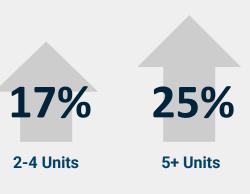
## Portland

- Rent Control
- Property Tax Increase
- Fewer Buyers
- High Price Point

#### **Rent Control**

- Strictest in country
- No increases in 2021 except 5% for new tenant
- 2022 allows a CPI increase of 4.3% plus the tax increase

#### **Property Tax Increase**



#### **High Price Point**

<b>167</b> Sold in 2021						
<b>21</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>			
<\$500k	\$500k - \$750k	\$750k - \$1m	⊳\$1m			



### Portland Median Price 2-4 Units



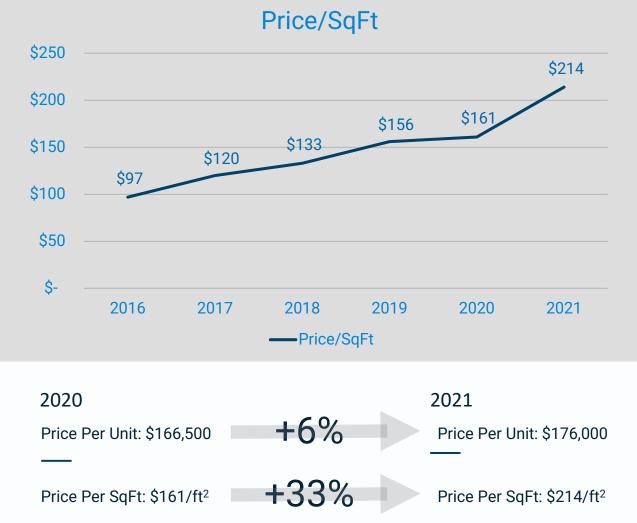


### Portland Commercial (5+) Price Per Unit & SqFt



### Highlights

- Rent Control **reduced** the value of many multi-family properties by ellimating prior value-add opportunities
- Cap Rate: 6-6.5% Average Price/Unit \$176,000





### A Taste of Portland Sales





#### 2-units

Listed by James Lindvall, JT Leahy Real Estate; Sold by Rachel Davey, Vitalius Real Estate Group



#### 25 Granite St \$2,680,000

#### 12-units

Sold by Steve Morrison, Morrison Real Estate



#### 3-units

Listed by Colleen Bedard, RE/MAX Shoreline; Sold by Kathleen Browne, Better Homes & Gardens



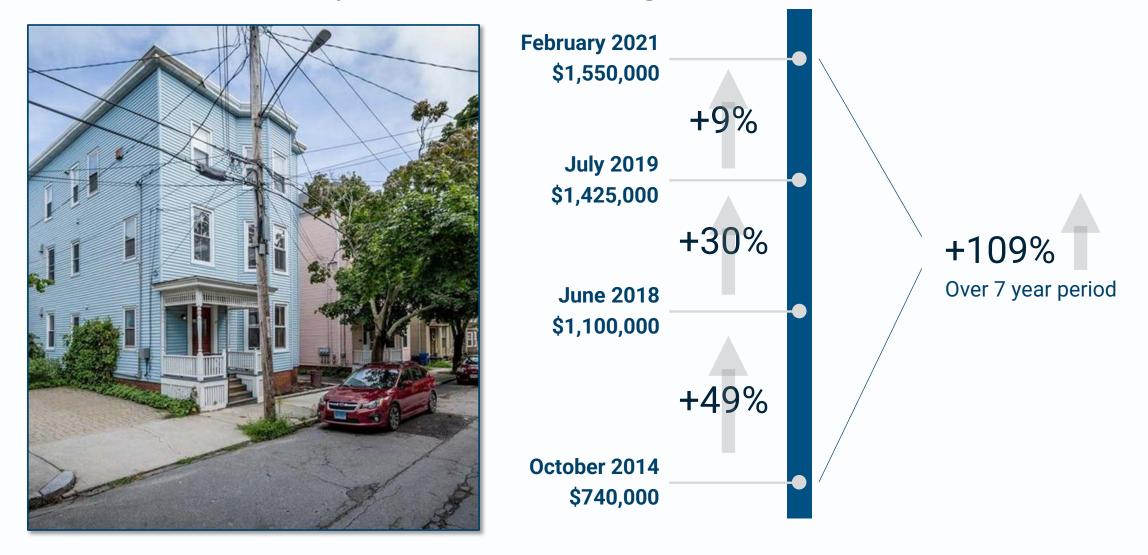
#### 75 Sherman St \$1,175,000

#### 9-units

Listed by Chris Sullivan, Vitalius Real Estate Group; Sold by Tom Gadbois, F.O. Bailey Real Estate



#### The Many Sales of 27 Morning St Over 7 Years





#### **Portland Notable Sales**



645 Congress Street \$12,965,000

60-units, 56-apartments, 88 car parking lot 2.7% cap rate

Sold by Joe Porta of Porta & Co.



#### Eastern Prom & Morning Street Portfolio \$7,600,000

40-units in 2 buildings, 45 car parking lot 3.1% cap rate

Sold by Brit Vitalius of Vitalius Real Estate Group & John Graham of John Graham Real Estate



## Saco & Biddeford

- Value-add Opportunities
- Active Sales & Prices Increases
- More Accessible Price Point for Buyers





### Saco & Biddeford Median Prices 2-4 Units





### Saco & Biddeford Commercial





### A Few Biddeford Sales



#### 287 Elm St \$699,000

#### 4-units

Listed by Jes Wallimann, Vitalius Real Estate Group; Sold by David Lyon, The Real Estate Store



#### 27 Fall St \$594,525

#### 3-units

Listed by Mandy Wheeler, U&R Real Estate; Sold by AmyBeth Brochu-Krikken, Rockstar Real Estate



#### **Pepperell Mill Campus**

#### 152 Residential units

Sold by owner Doug Sanford to the Presidium Group and local partners, Chris Rhoades and Drew Preston



## Other Towns

- Lewiston & Auburn
- Brunswick
- Gorham
- Windham

#### Lewiston / Auburn

Courting significant investment

#### **Brunswick**

• Attracting Portland tenants and investors

#### Gorham

• Becoming an even more attractive destination

#### Windham

New development and growth



## Forecast for 2022

#### Portland

- Remains attractive to owner occupants
- Investors look elsewhere
- Rent control starts a rental rate chasm between controlled units and not controlled units
- STR's may be eliminated by political winds

#### Westbrook

- Owner occupants and renters become even more content (nay, excited!) to live in Westbrook
- Pricing starts to close the gap with Portland

#### Saco & Biddeford

- Continued high level activity
- Investors pause price increases as the rental market catches up



## Forecast for 2022

#### **Other Towns**

• All will continue to grow and adapt to the pressure and opportunity created by new Maine residents

#### **Spoilers to Watch**

- Rising interest rates
- Higher utility costs
- Political intervention

Hopefully, 2022 will have less COVID, less division, and much more in-person everything!

# **Brit Vitalius**

**Brit Vitalius** has made a career selling multi-family properties in Greater Portland since he got into real estate in 2004. He founded Vitalius Real Estate Group in 2011 so that he could continue to focus on the multi-family market while assembling a group of specialized agents to provide a full complement of brokerage services to clients. Brit is serving his 2<sup>nd</sup> decade as President of the Southern Maine Landlord Association. He was a founding member of the Quality Housing Coalition, which focuses on opening-up market rate apartments to challenged tenant populations. Brit is also currently serving as President of the Portland Community Chamber of Commerce. He personally owns and manages multi-unit investments in Portland and Yarmouth.

Brit grew up in Yarmouth, Maine before he graduated from Harvard University in 1995. He worked in technology as a programmer and team manager at BBN, the company that developed the forerunner of the internet. Brit currently lives in Yarmouth with his wife, Yasmin, 13-year-old son, Coltrane and 10-year-old-daughter, Allegra. In his copious spare time, Brit enjoys mountain biking, skiing, and single malt scotch.

**Vitalius Real Estate Group** is a boutique real estate brokerage based in downtown Portland. We believe that our clients benefit from working with a diverse team of intelligent professionals who are dedicated to effectively negotiating the myriad needs of a real estate transaction.

Our group is comprised of associates who have complementary areas of market specializations - multi-family, commercial, condos and residential. Instead of one broker attempting to be all things to all people, we put together a team, which brings the needed area of expertise to a given client and situation. And we have a lot of fun along the way.

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