Prime US REIT

Healthier leasing demand

SINGAPORE | REAL ESTATE | 1Q22 UPDATE

- 1Q22 distributable income (+19% YoY) was in line, forming 25% of our FY22e estimate. It
 was lifted by the acquisition of Sorrento Towers and One Town Center in Jul 2 and higher
 carpark income.
- Leases signed jumped 80% QoQ; 172k sq ft was signed at +3.4% reversions. Backfilling at Crosspoint (+5.4ppts) and 222 Main (+3.7ppts) was offset by non-renewals resulting in 0.4ppt decline in portfolio occupancy to 89.9%
- Upgrade from ACCUMULATE to BUY, DDM-TP (COE 9.6%) raised from US\$0.94 to US\$1.00
 as we roll forward our forecast. Our COE nudged up from 9.5% to 9.6% on higher risk-free
 rate assumption. Prime is our top pick in the sector for greater tenant exposure to
 STEM/TAMI sectors. Catalysts include improved leasing and a greater return to office.

Results at a glance

(US\$ mn)	1Q22	1Q21	YoY	Comments
Gross revenue	40.8	35.9	13.6%	Higher due to contributions from Sorrento Towers and One Town
				Center, acquired in Jul21. Carpark revenue up 30% YoY
Net property income	25.4	23.0	10.4%	NPI margins impacted by lower occupancy on
				existing portfolio as compared to 1Q21
Distributable Income	20.9	17.6	19.0%	Higher due to termination fee from WeWork at Tower I at
				Emeryville and another teneant at One Washingtonian Centre

Source: Company, PSR

The Positive

+ Jump in leasing volumes. Prime signed 172k sq ft or 3.9% of portfolio NLA in 1Q22. This was 80% higher QoQ; 32% of which were new leases. 1Q22 reversions came in at +3.4% compared to +9.8% in 4Q21. Some new leases were signed on space that had been vacant for more than 12 months, and hence are excluded from reversion calculations. The management said that leasing demand was stronger across its market and observed deeper tenant interest lists. Prime signed 46k sq ft of leases post quarter, bringing YTD reversion to c.6%.

The Negative

- Non-renewals chipping away at occupancy. Portfolio occupancy dipped QoQ from 90.3% to 89.9% despite backfilling at Crosspoint (+5.4ppts) and 222 Main (+3.7ppts). Portfolio occupancy was dragged down by a significant non-renewal at Tower I at Emeryville, bringing occupancy down from 70.4% to 58.9%. Five out of 14 assets have committed occupancies below 90% and require backfilling. Prime will continue to recognise pre-termination income for WeWork's space at Tower I at Emeryville until early-4Q22 and for another pre-termination at One Washingtonian Centre until 3Q22. This could result in potential upside for Prime should it be able to lease out the space before the pre-termination fee runs out. Prime has also started marketing the space for a known non-renewal at Reston Square. The tenant, Whitney, Bradley & Brown, occupies c.50% of space in the asset and will be vacating its lease when it comes due in Jul22.

Outlook

Leasing activity picked up in 1Q22 with a broader tenant list and interest coming from small, medium and large space users across more industries. With expiring rents c.6% below asking rents, Prime's portfolio is primed for more positive rental reversions.

Upgrade from ACCUMULATE to BUY, and DDM TP raised from US\$0.94 to US\$1.00.

DDM-TP increases as we roll forward our forecast. Our COE increased from 9.5% to 9.6% on higher risk-free rate assumption. Current share price implies FY22e/FY23e DPU yield of 7.6%/8.8%. Prime is our top pick in the sector for greater tenant exposure to STEM/TAMI sectors. Catalysts include improved leasing and a greater return to office.



BULL AND BEAR" S

StocksBnB.com

23 May 2022

BUY (Upgraded)	_
LAST CLOSE PRICE	USD 0.720
FORECAST DIV	USD 0.071
TARGET PRICE	USD 1.00
TOTAL RETURN	49.3%

COMPANY DATA

BLOOMBERG CODE:	PRIME SP
O/S SHARES (MN) :	1,173
MARKET CAP (USD mn / SGD mn) :	845 / 845
52 - WK HI/LO (SGD) :	0.89/0.68
3M Average Daily T/O (mn) :	0.92

MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS (%)	
KBS PROPERTIES REIT III	19.4%
AT INVESTMENTS LTD	6.0%
SINGAPORE PRESS HOLDINGS	5.8%

PRICE PERFORMANCE (%)

	1MTH	3MTH	YTD
COMPANY	(5.3)	(8.5)	(10.1)
STI RETURN	(1.5)	(3.8)	5.8





KEY FINANCIALS

Y/E Dec (US\$m	FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22e			
Gross Revenue	143.6	156.7	172.3	178.7			
NPI	95.0	100.7	110.7	114.8			
Dist. Inc.	72.1	75.6	82.8	85.6			
P/NAV (x)	0.84	0.85	0.85	0.85			
DPU (US cents)	6.94	6.78	7.06	7.27			
Dist. Yield (%)	9.64	9.42	9.81	10.10			
*19 July-31 Dec 2019							
Source: Compan	y, PSR						

VALUATION METHOD

DDM (Cost of Equity: 9.6%; Terminal g: 2.0%)

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Financials

Income statement					
Y/E Dec, (US\$'000)	FY19*	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e
Gross revenue	60,656	143,557	156,741	172,296	178,720
Property expenses	(20,487)	(48,568)	(56,043)	(61,636)	(63,934)
Net property income	40,169	94,989	100,698	110,659	114,785
Net Finance (Expense)/Inc.	(7,038)	(14,868)	(16,982)	(21,161)	(21,298)
Manager's fees	(3,010)	(7,977)	(7,714)	(8,561)	(9,664)
Other items	(1,051)	(1,614)	(2,053)	(2,239)	(2,317)
FV change, derivatives & ppties	11,900	(45,291)	(1,052)	-	-
Net income before tax	40,970	25,239	72,897	78,699	81,506
Taxation	(7,268)	(2,030)	(4,709)	(5,115)	(5,298)
Net income after Tax	33,702	23,209	68,188	73,583	76,208
Distribution adjustments	(4,532)	48,869	7,413	9,230	9,402
Income available for distribution	29,170	72,078	75,601	82,813	85,610

Per unit data					
Y/E Dec	FY19*	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e
NAV (US\$)	0.89	0.86	0.85	0.84	0.85
DPU (US cents)	3.15	6.94	6.78	7.06	7.27

Cash Flow					
Y/E Dec, (US\$'000)	FY19*	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e
CFO					
Net income before tax	40,971	25,239	72,897	78,699	81,506
Adjustments	(5,290)	60,899	21,103	22,821	22,803
WC changes	8,743	3,754	1,724	1,445	(31)
Cash generated from ops	44,424	89,892	95,724	102,965	104,279
Others	-	406	345	4,993	5,171
Cashflow from ops	44,424	90,298	96,069	107,957	109,450
CFI					
Acquisition of investment prope	(1,219,260)	(164,190)	(244,267)	-	-
Capex, net	(3,646)	(11,737)	(16,097)	(16,530)	(16,695)
Others	40	3	4	4	4
Cashflow from investments	(1,222,866)	(175,924)	(260,360)	(16,526)	(16,691)
CFF					
Proceeds from issuance of units	813,000	120,000	80,000	-	-
Loans, net of repayments	426,988	32,829	132,044	15,366	(21,624)
Distributions	-	(65,004)	(69,439)	(82,813)	(85,610)
Others	(23,703)	(2,250)	(1,464)	(19)	(19)
Cashflow from financing	1,216,285	85,575	141,141	(67,466)	(107,254)
Net change in cash	37,843	(51)	(23,150)	23,966	(14,495)
Cash at the start of the period	37,843 1	37,862	37,442	13,873	37,842
FX changes	18	73	(38)	13,075	57,042
Ending cash	37,862	37,884	(30) 14,254	37,839	23,347
Enumg cash	57,002	57,004	14,254	57,059	23,34/

Balance Sheet					
Y/E Dec, (US\$'000)	FY19*	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e
ASSETS					
Investment properties	1,254,700	1,405,200	1,653,000	1,669,530	1,686,225
Others	-	-	1,580	6,972	13,561
Total non-current assets	1,254,700	1,405,200	1,654,580	1,676,502	1,699,786
Trade receivables	2,411	1,623	1,825	2,003	1,968
Cash	37,862	37,442	13,873	37,842	23,350
Others	2,200	2,584	2,654	3,109	2,869
Total current assets	42,473	41,649	18,352	42,954	28,187
Total Assets	1,297,173	1,446,849	1,672,932	1,719,456	1,727,973
LIABILITIES					
Loans and borrowings	-			243,000	315,000
Trade payables	16,646	14,540	15,903	17,561	17,151
Rent received in advance	5,061	6,493	9,329	9,329	9,329
Others	752	860	1,253	1,517	1,536
Total current liabilities	22,459	21,893	26,485	271,407	343,016
Loans and borrowings	432,824	480,352	628,973	422,489	350,151
Others	16,582	36,812	26,390	31,600	36,920
Total non-current liabilities	449,406	517,164	655,363	454,089	387,070
Total Liabilities	471,865	539,057	681,848	725,496	730,086
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Net assets	825,308	907,792	991,084	993,960	997,887
Represented by:					
Unitholders' funds	825,308	907,792	991,084	993,960	997,887

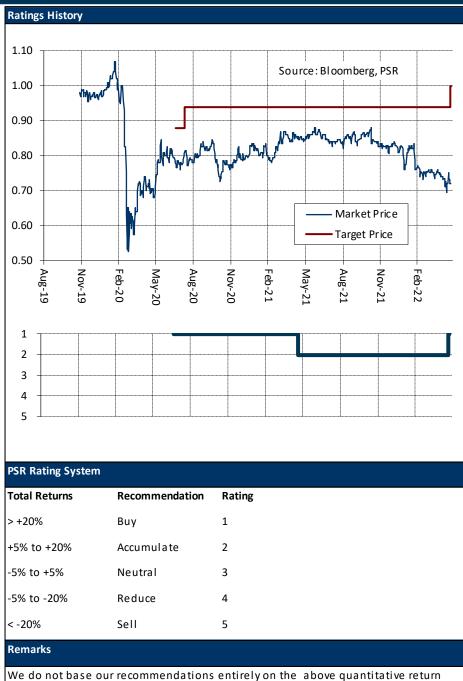
PRIME US REIT UPDATE

Valuation Ratios					
Y/E Dec	FY19*	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e
P/NAV (x)	0.81	0.84	0.85	0.85	0.85
Distribution Yield (%)	4.4	9.6	9.4	9.8	10.1
NPI yield (%)	3.2	7.1	6.6	6.7	6.8
Growth & Margins					
Growth					
Revenue	nm	136.7%	9.2%	9.9%	3.7%
Net property income (NPI)	nm	136.5%	6.0%	9.9%	3.7%
Distributable income	-	nm	4.9%	9.5%	3.4%
DPU	-	nm	-2.3%	4.2%	3.0%
Margins					
NPI margin	66.2%	66.2%	64.2%	64.2%	64.2%
Key Ratios					
Net Debt or (Net Cash)	394,962	442,910	615,100	384,647	326,801
Gearing	34.5%	34.2%	38.1%	25.3%	20.8%

*19 July-31 Dec 2019

Source: Company, Phillip Securities Research (Singapore) Estimates





We do not base our recommendations entirely on the above quantitative return bands. We consider qualitative factors like (but not limited to) a stock's risk reward profile, market sentiment, recent rate of share price appreciation, presence or absence of stock price catalysts, and speculative undertones surrounding the stock, before making our final recommendation

PRIME US REIT UPDATE

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