Singapore Company Update

City Developments

Bloomberg: CIT SP | Reuters: CTDM.SI

Refer to important disclosures at the end of this report

DBS Group Research . Equity

29 Feb 2024

BUY

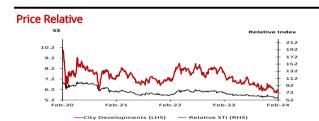
Last Traded Price (28 Feb 2024): S\$5.78 (STI: 3,138.93) Price Target 12-mth: S\$10.50 (82% upside)

Analysts

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What's New

- FY23 Core profits almost quadrupled y-o-y to S\$189m; in line
- Key positives: i) Strong contribution from property development; ii) recovery in other segments; offset by higher interest costs
- Data to watch: i) Potential asset recycling; ii) share buyback
- Maintain BUY; TP S\$10.50. 12 Scts FY23 dividend declared



2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F
3,293	4,941	4,792	5,347
637	1,006	1,177	1,278
1,857	473	465	508
1,272	305	331	361
(417)	196	331	361
(377.8)	nm	69.3	8.9
140	33.6	36.5	39.8
(46.0)	21.6	36.5	39.8
(378)	nm	69	9
134	32.0	34.8	37.9
28.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
980	979	1,003	1,031
4.1	17.2	15.8	14.5
nm	26.8	15.8	14.5
nm	5.5	1.9	4.8
20.8	15.7	11.5	10.2
4.8	2.1	2.1	2.1
0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
0.8	1.1	0.8	0.8
15.0	3.4	3.7	3.9
		(14)	-
		41.0	47.0
	B: 7	S: 4	H: 3
	637 1,857 1,272 (417) (377.8) 140 (46.0) (378) 134 28.0 980 4.1 nm nm 20.8 4.8 0.6 0.8	3,293 4,941 637 1,006 1,857 473 1,272 305 (417) 196 (377.8) nm 140 33.6 (46.0) 21.6 (378) nm 134 32.0 28.0 12.0 980 979 4.1 17.2 nm 26.8 nm 5.5 20.8 15.7 4.8 2.1 0.6 0.6 0.8 1.1 15.0 3.4	3,293 4,941 4,792 637 1,006 1,177 1,857 473 465 1,272 305 331 (417) 196 331 (377.8) nm 69.3 140 33.6 36.5 (46.0) 21.6 36.5 (378) nm 69 134 32.0 34.8 28.0 12.0 12.0 980 979 1,003 4.1 17.2 15.8 nm 26.8 15.8 nm 26.8 15.8 nm 5.5 1.9 20.8 15.7 11.5 4.8 2.1 2.1 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.8 1.1 0.8 15.0 3.4 3.7

Source of all data on this page: Company, DBS Bank Ltd, Bloomberg Finance L.P.

Reactivate asset recycling mode

Investment Thesis:

Realising hidden value. City Developments Limited (City Dev) is a pioneer in Singapore's property sector, investing across all asset classes. With recent successful asset divestments having generated handsome gains, we believe further unlocking of its deep, hidden value of "legacy assets" via asset recycling or redevelopment presents a significant potential upside for NAV, which has yet to be priced in.

Riding on hospitality tailwinds. City Dev will continue to ride on Singapore's strong hospitality tailwinds as it continues to push past pre-COVID levels, the world now having put COVID behind. We believe that the hospitality segment will continue to grow (albeit with some moderation in growth rates) as Singapore continues to benefit from international concerts and MICE events.

Trading at "distressed valuations". City Dev is trading at an attractive valuation at 0.6x P/NAV (book value at cost), below the low seen during the global financial crisis (GFC). We believe City Dev is a good long term buy due to its plans of proactive efforts to unlock more values, a measure the market has yet to appreciate, in our view. Moreover, potential activation of share buyback will limit any downside risks.

Maintain BUY; TP of S\$10.50. Our TP of S\$10.50 is based on a 35% discount-to-RNAV which implies a 1x P/NAV, slightly above -0.5SD of its historical range. Our TP upsides are mainly from a potential rerating from the realization of its RNAV with the completion of development assets and potential asset recycling.

Key Risks

Slower-than-expected economic recovery and rising unemployment. A longer drag in the economic recovery post COVID-19 will raise earnings risks.

Property measures impacting the Singapore residential market.

Additional property measures that impact Singapore's residential market more than expected may see prices and demand soften, thus impacting unsold stocks.

At A Glance

Issued Capital (m shrs)	907
Mkt. Cap (S\$m/US\$m)	5,242 / 3,900
Major Shareholders (%)	
Hong Leong Investmen Holdings pte Ltd	18.6
Davos Investment Holding Pvt ltd	16.4
Hong Realty Pvt Ltd	7.2
Free Float (%)	52.6
3m Avg. Daily Val (US\$m)	10.8
GIC Industry: Real Estate / Real Estate Management &	(
Development	





WHAT'S NEW

Reactivate asset recycling mode

FY23 Core profits almost quadrupled y-o-y following completion of Piermont Grand EC; other segments improved but were offset by higher financing costs; 12 Scts FY23 dividend declared

- After delivering record-high FY22 results mainly from divestment gains – City Developments (City Dev)'s FY23 headline PATMI fell 75% y-o-y to \$\$317m (in line with our estimates) largely due to the absence of substantial divestment gains coupled with higher interest cost (+73% y-o-y; +\$\$207m).
- Excluding divestment gains and impairment losses, FY23
 PATMI almost quadrupled y-o-y to \$\$189m (vs. \$\$47m in
 FY22). EBITDA and PBT saw 53% and 90% y-o-y growths.
- Property Development contributed more than 90% of the group's PBT and saw the largest increase (+110% y-o-y to \$\$340m) mainly from the completion of Piermont Grand EC in 1H23 (\$\$121m in PBT), sale of land at Shirokane in Jul '23 (\$\$155m in PBT) and higher contributions from Amber Park, Irwell Hill Residences, and Hong Leong Tech Park Shenzhen.
- PBT contribution from the other segments were largely impacted by higher interest costs.
- The hospitality segment delivered strong growth in revenue, EBTIDA, and PBT (ex-divestment gains) of 9% y-o-y, +62% y-o-y, and +77% y-o-y, respectively.
- Gearing (on fair value of properties) increased to 61% (vs. 57% in 1H23 and 51% in FY22).
- Debt ratio ((D+P) / A) increased marginally to 0.5x (vs. 0.4x in FY22). Debt-to-EBITDA fell to 12.8x vs. 17.7x in FY22.
- EBIT ICR ratio improved y-o-y to 1.3x from 0.8x in FY22, following improvement in operating income from hospitality and investment properties, coupled with higher recognition from property development.
- Average cost of debt almost doubled to 4.3% from 2.4% in FY22 (4.1% in 1H23). Management expects borrowing costs to peak at this level and hopefully moderate marginally by year-end with the potential interest rates cut.
- City Dev declared a final dividend of 8 Scts, same y-o-y. FY23 dividend was 12 Scts vs. 28 Scts dividend in FY22 when City Dev shared its huge divestment gains with shareholders.

Outlook / Our View

S\$1b divestments targeted in FY24; next launch – United Square Residences in 2H24; ready to execute share buyback if needed.

- After deploying S\$2.4b in acquisitions / investments in FY23, management plans to switch to asset recycling mode, targeting S\$1b of divestments in FY24, partly to further optimize its portfolio and keep gearing at comfortable levels.
- As per past track record, management will review sharing divestment gains with shareholders, if financial conditions permit.

- Over the past few years, City Dev has successfully built two key portfolios i) UK office with AUM of c. S\$2b; and ii) global living sector portfolio with a GDV of S\$2.6b, with 4.8k units of private rented sector (PRS) and 2.4k beds of purposebuilt student accommodation (PBSA). When market conditions are conducive, City Dev has plans to list a UK commercial REIT with options to inject its global living sector into a private fund or recycled into its sister REIT, CDLHT.
- On Singapore residential, City Dev's first launch of the year, Lumina Grand EC achieved a 55% sales take-up. Most of its existing projects are more than 50% sold.
- City Dev has a launch pipeline of 1.8k units, with two projects targeted to be launched in 2H24 and the remaining project to be launched in 1H25. Union Square Residences (Central mall and Central Square redevelopment) is slated to be the next launch in 2H24, with 366 units.
- The Newport Residences project will be held back depending on market conditions. The project does not have an ABSD deadline.
- Management will continue to landbank and has keen eyes on the Jurong Lake District development.
- Management remains optimistic on hospitality segment as Singapore continues to benefit from the slew of concerts and MICE events. In addition, Chinese travellers have yet to return in a major way.
- On share buyback, management is ready to execute its share buyback programme but has held back waiting for a better entry point.

Maintain BUY; TP of S\$10.50. We maintain our BUY rating and TP of S\$10.50. FY24F-FY25F estimates were trimmed by 14% to 16% to factor in slightly higher interest costs.

We believe City Dev remains a good buy for the longer term given that the stock is still trading at a historical low level of 0.6x P/NAV (book value at cost) which does not reflect the hidden value of City Dev's books. Aside from its stellar residential sales track record, City Dev continues to carry prime located assets at costs in its books, which could see substantial divestment gains as it goes into asset recycling mode, a rerating catalyst in our view. In addition, successful divestments could potentially drive higher dividends should City Dev share capital gains with shareholders, as per in the past.

Company Background

City Developments Limited (City Dev) is one of the pioneers in Singapore's property sector. It is a property and hotel conglomerate involved in real estate development and investment, hotel ownership and management, and facility management.



Sumr	marv	of r	esu	lts
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Summary of results	2H2023	2H2022	% y-o-y	1H2023	% h-o-h	FY2023	FY2022	96 y o y
Revenue	2,237.4	1,820.9	% y-o-y 23%	2,703.7	<u>% n-o-n</u> -17%	4,941.1	3,293.4	% y-o-y 50%
Adjusted EBITDA	656.0	571.0	15%	459.7	43%	1,115.7	2,326.0	-52%
PBT	293.1	278.8	5%	179.5	63%	472.6	1,856.8	-75%
PATMI	250.8	165.8	51%	66.5	277%	317.3	1,285.3	-75%
		103.0	3170	00.5	27770	317.3	1,203.5	, 3, 0
Ex divestment gains and impailosses	irment							
Adjusted EBITDA	522.4	331.6	58%	477.6	9%	1,000.0	655.0	53%
PBT	135.7	32.4	319%	217.3	-38%	353.0	186.0	90%
PATMI	84.3	(63.3)	-233%	104.3	-19%	188.6	47.0	301%
PBT by segments								
Property Development	145.0	57.0	154%	195.0	-26%	340.0	161.0	111%
Hotel Operations	62.0	17.0	265%	(7.0)	-986%	55.0	32.0	72%
Investment Properties	(37.0)	(29.8)	24%	10.0	-470%	(27.0)	(20.0)	35%
Others	(34.0)	(11.8)	188%	19.0	-279%	(15.0)	13.0	-215%
Total PBT	136.0	32.4	320%	217.0	-37%	353.0	186.0	90%
Capital Management Gearing (%) ICR Av cost of debt	103.0% 2.8 4.3%	84.0% 9.8 2.4%	19 ppt (7.0) 1.9 ppt	94.0% 2.8 4.1%	9 ppt - 0.2 ppt			
Operational Updates Singapore								
Residential sales (units)	222	775	-71%	508	-56%	730	1,487	-51%
Office occupancy (%)	97.1%	95.2%	1.9 ppt	95.3%	1.8 ppt			
Office lease expiries in FY24	24.7%	26.7%	-2 ppt	29.8%	-5.1 ppt			
Office lease expiries in FY25	28.7%	25.1%	3.6 ppt	29.6%	-0.9 ppt			
Retail occupancy (%)	97.6%	96.1%	1.5 ppt	97.8%	-0.2 ppt			
Retail lease expiries in FY24	31.5%	40.4%	-8.9 ppt	38.0%	-6.5 ppt			
Retail lease expiries in FY25	25.7%	24.5%	1.2 ppt	27.4%	-1.7 ppt			
Hospitality								
- Occupancy (%)	76.3%	70.7%	5.6 ppt	69.9%	6.4 ppt	73.1%	64.4%	8.7 ppt
- Av Room Rate (S\$)	243.1	233.5	4%	216.8	12%	230.7	214.1	8%
- RevPAR (S\$)	185.6	165.1	12%	151.5	23%	168.7	137.9	22%

Source: Company, DBS Bank Ltd

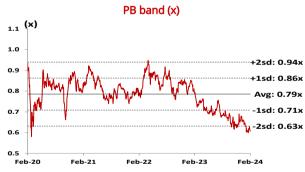


Interim Income Statement (S\$m)

FY Dec	2H2022	1H2023	2H2023	% chg y-o-y	% chg h-o-h
Revenue	1,821	2,704	2,237	22.9	(17.2)
Cost of Goods Sold	(1,157)	(1,917)	(1,375)	18.8	(28.3)
Gross Profit	663	787	862	29.9	9.6
Other Oper. (Exp)/Inc	(194)	(206)	(153)	(21.3)	(25.7)
Operating Profit	160	288	421	163.2	46.3
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	(14)	26	(31)	(124.7)	nm
Associates & JV Inc	77	40	7	(90.4)	(81.6)
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(141)	(174)	(215)	(53.3)	(24.1)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	196	(1)	111	(43.3)	nm
Pre-tax Profit	279	180	293	5.1	63.2
Tax	(110)	(62)	(62)	(43.7)	(0.3)
Minority Interest	(3)	(51)	20	nm	nm
Net Profit	93	30	178	91.1	489.6
Net profit bef Except.	(102)	31	67	nm	114.2
EBITDA	362	487	519	43.2	6.4
Margins (%)					
Gross Margins	36.4	29.1	38.5		
Opg Profit Margins	8.8	10.6	18.8		
Net Profit Margins	5.1	1.1	8.0		

Source of all data: Company, DBS Bank Ltd

Historical PB band



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., DBS Bank Ltd estimates



Segmenta	l Brea	kdown
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FY Dec	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F
Revenues (S\$m)					
Property devt	1,254	1,382	2,793	2,218	2,641
Rental income	873	341	449	389	462
Hotel operations	341	1,381	1,499	1,984	2,043
Others	157	189	201	201	201
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	2,626	3,293	4,941	4,792	5,347
Pre-tax Profit (S\$m)					
Property devt	251	223	261	390	470
Rental income	5.37	(42.5)	(13.0)	104	129
Hotel operations	(6.1)	90.7	186	293	302
Others	102	150	35.9	(323)	(393)
Total	353	421	470	465	508
Pre-tax Profit Margins					
Property devt	20.0	16.2	9.3	17.6	17.8
Rental income	0.6	(12.4)	(2.9)	26.8	27.9
Hotel operations	(1.8)	6.6	12.4	14.8	14.8
Others	65.2	79.1	17.9	(160.9)	(195.9)
Total _	13.4	12.8	9.5	9.7	9.5

Income Statement (S\$m)

FY Dec	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F
Revenue	2,626	3,293	4,941	4,792	5,347
Cost of Goods Sold	(1,648)	(2,046)	(3,293)	(2,718)	(2,969)
Gross Profit	978	1,247	1,649	2,074	2,377
Other Opng (Exp)/Inc	(822)	(976)	(939)	(1,197)	(1,389)
Operating Profit	156	271	709	877	988
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	(25.1)	(80.7)	(4.5)	0.0	0.0
Associates & JV Inc	107	170	47.7	46.4	36.0
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(183)	(193)	(389)	(458)	(516)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	159	1,690	109	0.0	0.0
Pre-tax Profit	215	1,857	473	465	508
Tax	(87.9)	(543)	(124)	(83.7)	(94.5)
Minority Interest	(42.2)	(28.9)	(31.5)	(38.1)	(41.4)
Preference Dividend	(12.9)	(12.9)	(12.3)	(11.6)	(11.6)
Net Profit	71.8	1,272	305	331	361
Net Profit before Except.	(87.3)	(417)	196	331	361
EBITDA	523	637	1,006	1,177	1,278
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	24.5	25.4	50.0	(3.0)	11.6
EBITDA Gth (%)	nm	21.7	58.1	17.0	8.6
Opg Profit Gth (%)	250.7	73.7	161.9	23.6	12.7
Net Profit Gth (Pre-ex) (%)	91.6	(377.8)	nm	69.3	8.9
Margins & Ratio					
Gross Margins (%)	37.2	37.9	33.4	43.3	44.5
Opg Profit Margin (%)	5.9	8.2	14.4	18.3	18.5
Net Profit Margin (%)	2.7	38.6	6.2	6.9	6.7
ROAE (%)	0.9	15.0	3.4	3.7	3.9
ROA (%)	0.3	5.4	1.3	1.4	1.5
ROCE (%)	0.4	0.9	2.4	3.2	3.5
Div Payout Ratio (%)	151.6	20.0	35.7	32.8	30.2
Net Interest Cover (x)	0.9	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.9

Source: Company, DBS Bank Ltd



FY Dec	2H2021	1H2022	2H2022	1H2023	2H2023
-	4 42 4	4 470	4.024	2.704	2 227
Revenue	1,434	1,473	1,821	2,704	2,237
Cost of Goods Sold	(873)	(889)	(1,157)	(1,917)	(1,375)
Gross Profit	561	583	663	787	862
Other Oper. (Exp)/Inc	(173)	(188)	(194)	(206)	(153)
Operating Profit	136	118	160	288	421
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	(8.7)	22.6	(13.8)	26.5	(30.9)
Associates & JV Inc	55.8	92.7	77.5	40.2	7.42
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(74.6)	(61.4)	(141)	(174)	(215)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	110	1,413	196	(1.2)	111
Pre-tax Profit	218	1,585	279	180	293
Tax	(59.5)	(433)	(110)	(62.0)	(61.8)
Minority Interest	(28.8)	(25.8)	(3.1)	(51.1)	19.6
Net Profit	130	1,018	93.3	30.2	178
Net profit bef Except.	19.9	(396)	(102)	31.4	67.3
EBITDA	324	371	362	487	519
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	20.3	2.7	23.7	48.5	(17.2)
EBITDA Gth (%)	152.8	14.6	(2.4)	34.6	6.4
Opg Profit Gth (%)	77.7	(13.2)	35.9	79.9	46.3
Net Profit Gth (%)	(504.4)	684.3	(90.8)	(67.6)	489.6
Margins					
Gross Margins (%)	39.1	39.6	36.4	29.1	38.5
Opg Profit Margins (%)	9.5	8.0	8.8	10.6	18.8
Net Profit Margins (%)	9.0	69.1	5.1	1.1	8.0
Opg Profit Margins (%)	9.5	8.0	8.8	10.6	18.8

Balance Sheet (S\$m) FY Dec

Balance Sheet (S\$III)	20244	20224	20224	202.45	20255
FY Dec	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F
Net Fixed Assets	5,362	4,061	4,213	4,359	4,505
Invts in Associates & IVs	1,854	2,347	2,475	2,540	2,594
Other LT Assets	5,908	5,994	7,450	7,450	7,450
Cash	2,101	2,363	2,400	4,666	5,223
ST Invtestment	26.9	7.10	5.77	5.77	5.77
Inventory	477	532	961	15.6	17.1
Debtors	1,914	1,626	1,810	1,084	1,210
Net Intangibles Assets	1.88	1.71	1.61	1.61	1.61
Other Current Assets	6,239	6,052	4,919	4,431	3,992
Total Assets	23,882	22,981	24,234	24,552	24,997
ST Debt	5,207	2,354	3,935	3,935	3,935
Creditor	1,470	1,466	1,324	1,523	1,664
Other Current Liab	1,221	1,097	448	306	317
LT Debt	6,198	7,315	8,362	8,362	8,362
Other LT Liabilities	465	1,183	626	626	626
Shareholder's Equity	8,401	9,216	9,180	9,403	9,655
Minority Interests	918	348	359	397	438
Total Cap. & Liab.	23,880	22,981	24,234	24,552	24,997
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Non-Cash Wkg. Capital	5,940	5,646	5,918	3,702	3,238
Net Cash/(Debt)	(9,277)	(7,298)	(9,890)	(7,624)	(7,067)
Debtors Turn (avg days)	249.9	196.2	126.9	110.2	78.3
Creditors Turn (avg days)	377.3	302.7	167.6	210.8	214.2
Inventory Turn (avg days)	65.3	104.1	89.7	72.4	2.2
Asset Turnover (x)	0.1	0.1 2.2	0.2 1.8	0.2 1.8	0.2 1.8
Current Ratio (x)	1.4		0.7		
Quick Ratio (x)	0.5 1.1	0.8 0.8	1.1	1.0 0.8	1.1 0.8
Net Debt/Equity (X) Net Debt/Equity ex MI (X)	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.8
Capex to Debt (%)	0.7	(7.5)	6.3	3.3	3.3
Capex to Debt (70)	0.7	(7.5)	0.5	د.د	٥.٥

Source: Company, DBS Bank Ltd

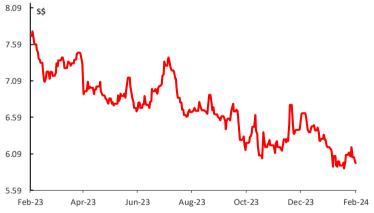


Cash Flow Statement (S\$m)

FY Dec	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F
Dro Tay Drofit	1.40	1 21 /	240	16 5	E00
Pre-Tax Profit	140	1,314	349	465	508
Dep. & Amort.	278	276	254	254	254
Tax Paid	(100.0)	(338)	(226)	(226)	(83.7)
Assoc. & JV Inc/(loss)	(107)	(170)	(47.7)	(46.4)	(36.0)
Chg in Wkg.Cap.	814	(177)	242	2,358	453
Other Operating CF	111	(1,032)	379	0.0	0.0
Net Operating CF	1,134	(126)	950	2,805	1,096
Capital Exp.(net)	(77.9)	723	(776)	(400)	(400)
Other Invts.(net)	(684)	(116)	(851)	0.0	0.0
Invts in Assoc. & JV	(143)	(124)	(355)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Div from Assoc & JV	20.7	95.5	81.5	81.5	81.5
Other Investing CF	20.9	201	40.5	0.0	0.0
Net Investing CF	(863)	780	(1,860)	(418)	(418)
Div Paid	(174)	(222)	(206)	(120)	(120)
Chg in Gross Debt	(931)	82.2	1,611	0.0	0.0
Capital Issues	0.0	0.0	(25.8)	0.0	0.0
Other Financing CF	(173)	(150)	(653)	0.0	0.0
Net Financing CF	(1,277)	(290)	726	(120)	(120)
Currency Adjustments	(19.6)	(102)	221	0.0	0.0
Chg in Cash	(1,026)	263	37.2	2,266	557
Opg CFPS (S cts)	35.3	5.65	78.1	49.2	70.9
Free CFPS (S cts)	116	65.9	19.2	265	76.7

Source: Company, DBS Bank Ltd

Target Price & Ratings 12-mth History





Note: Share price and Target price are adjusted for corporate actions.

Source: DBS Bank Ltd Analyst: Rachel TAN Derek TAN

Date of Report

NIL



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STRONG BUY (>20% total return over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

BUY (>15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, >10% for large caps)

HOLD (-10% to +15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, -10% to +10% for large caps)

FULLY VALUED (negative total return, i.e., > -10% over the next 12 months)

SELL (negative total return of > -20% over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

*Share price appreciation + dividends

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