



COMPANY UPDATE / ESTIMATE CHANGES

MAA - NYSE (as of 4/27/2017)	\$98.00
Price Target	NA
52-Week Range	\$85.04 - \$110.01
Shares & Units Outstanding (mm)	118
Market Cap. (\$mm)	\$11,564
3-Mo. Average Daily Volume (000)	725.9
Institutional Ownership	94%
Debt/Total Market Capital (3/17)	28%
Est 3 - Year Dividend Growth Rate	4% - 6%
Annual Dividend	\$3.48
Dividend Yield	3.6%
Total Adjusted EBITDA to Fixed Charges (3/17)	4.36x

FFO Per Common Share & Unit FY 12/31

	2016	Prior 2017E	Curr. 2017E	Prior 2018E	Curr. 2018E
1Q	\$1.50		\$1.46	A	\$1.54
2Q	\$1.54	\$1.41	\$1.41		\$1.56
3Q	\$1.47	\$1.48	\$1.50		\$1.59
4Q	\$1.13	\$1.61	\$1.50		\$1.57
Year	\$5.59	\$5.85	\$5.86		\$6.26
P/FFO	17.5x		16.7x		15.7x

*Previous numbers have not been restated.

Quarterly numbers may not add up to full year amounts due to additional shares issued to complete a merger or rounding.

Property Revenue (\$mm)

	2016	Prior 2017E	Curr. 2017E	Prior 2018E	Curr. 2018E
1Q	\$269		\$379	A	\$395
2Q	\$272	\$376	\$379		\$401
3Q	\$277	\$384	\$388		\$411
4Q	\$307	\$408	\$395		\$416
Year	\$1,125	\$1,536	\$1,541		\$1,623

*Quarterly amounts may not add up to full year amounts due to rounding and the timing of dispositions.

Company Description: *Mid-America Apartment Communities, headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, is a REIT that owns apartment communities throughout the Southeast and Southwest region of the United States.*

Mid-America Apartment Communities

MAA -- NYSE -- Neutral -- 3

First Quarter Results

- **First quarter FFO were \$1.46 per share compared to \$1.50 per share in the year ago period.** Results came in above ours and the consensus estimate.
- **Same-store average physical occupancy ended the quarter at 96.0%.** We are impressed MAA has been able to maintain strong occupancy rates in the current economic and low interest rate environment. On the same basis, same-store effective rent increased 2.9%.
- **Merger Update.** The integration surrounding the merger (completed December 2016) of MAA and Post Properties platforms is going well.
- **Guidance.** Management raised 2017 FFO per share guidance by two cents on both ends to a range of \$5.74 to \$5.94. Our 2017 FFO per share estimate is \$5.86.
- **We continue to rate MAA Neutral.** Given a pullback in price and no change in fundamentals, we would look to raise our rating on the shares.

Note Important Disclosures on Pages 6 - 7.
Note Analyst Certification on Page 6.

Additional Discussion

Property revenues were \$378.9 million versus \$269.0 million in 2016's first quarter, a 40.8% increase (please see income statement on page 3). (1Q16 results do not include the properties MAA acquired in the merger with Post Properties. 1Q17 results do include those properties.) Same-store physical occupancy, which excludes communities being renovated or leased-up, was 96.0% at quarter end. Occupancy continues to benefit from low resident turnover.

Net income available to common shareholders was \$41.0 million versus \$43.4 million in the prior year's first quarter. EPS were \$0.36 versus \$0.58. Funds from operations, which exclude real estate gains, were \$171.7 million versus \$119.4 million, a 43.8% increase. FFO per share were \$1.46 versus \$1.50 on a 48.0% increase in shares and units outstanding.

Same-Store Performance					
	% Change				
	Revenue	Expense	NOI	Avg. Effective Rent	Period End Phy. Occupancy
Large Markets	2.9%	0.3%	4.5%	2.9%	95.9%
Secondary Markets	2.4%	4.4%	1.3%	2.9%	96.2%
Same Store	2.8%	1.3%	3.6%	2.9%	96.0%
Note: 1Q17 over 1Q16			Source: Company reports as of March 31, 2017		

Markets - Mid-America categorizes its properties by large and secondary markets. Large markets are markets with a population of one million or more and at least 1% of the total public multifamily REIT units. Secondary markets are markets with either a population of less than one million or less than 1% of the total public multifamily REIT units, or both. Mid-America typically has less competition in secondary markets, which tend to be more stable in an economic downturn than large markets. We believe the combination of properties in large and secondary markets offers MAA a good form of diversification in the apartment sector, although a profit or protection against losses cannot be assured. In Q1, secondary markets underperformed large markets based on same-store NOI growth.

Leasing Environment - MAA's twelve month rolling turnover was 50.5%, which is low on a historical basis. Move outs to buy or rent a home remain low. MAA is seeing new supply in some of its markets, putting pressure on leasing.

Acquisitions & Dispositions - During 1Q, MAA purchased one new community located in the Nashville Tennessee market for \$62.5 million. MAA did not complete any dispositions in 1Q.

Development - The company has a total of seven projects under development. Total development spend for these projects is expected to be \$505.4 million, with \$128.7 million remaining to be funded.

Redevelopment - During 1Q17, MAA renovated 1,521 units at an average cost of \$4,164 per unit.

Financials & Debt Maturities - We believe MAA's balance sheet is in good shape. Debt to total market capitalization at quarter-end was 27.5%. The company had \$263.8 million of debt maturing in 2017 and \$468.9 million maturing in 2018.

2017 Guidance and Outlook - Management raised 2017 FFO guidance by two cents on both ends to a range of \$5.74 to \$5.94 per share. Acquisitions are expected to be \$300 million to \$400 million and dispositions are expected to be \$125 million to \$175 million. Management expects to invest \$150 million to \$250 million in developments. MAA anticipates \$16.0 to \$20.0 million of merger and integration expenses 2017. Our 2017 FFO per share estimate is \$5.86.

Quarterly Income Statement

(in thousands, except per share amount)	1Q17	1Q16	% Change
Rental Revenue	\$351,177	\$245,665	42.9%
Other Property Revenue	\$27,731	\$23,351	18.8%
Total Property Revenue	\$378,908	\$269,016	40.8%
Property Operating Expenses	(141,273)	(100,881)	
Property Management Expenses	(10,981)	(9,004)	
Property NOI	226,654	159,131	42.4%
Depreciation	(129,997)	(75,127)	
General and Administrative	(12,840)	(6,582)	
Merger Related Expenses	(2,871)		
Acquisition Expenses		(713)	
Integration Related Expenses	(3,290)		
Income from Continuing Operations Before Non-Operating Items	77,656	76,709	1.2%
Interest and Other Non-Property Income	2,679	32	
Interest Expense	(36,584)	(32,211)	
Gain (Loss) on Debt Extinguishment / Debt Refinancing	123	3	
Amortization of Deferred Financing Costs			
Net Casualty (Loss) Gains and Other Settlement Proceeds	(91)	(947)	
Gain on Sale of Depreciable Real Estate Assets	(73)	755	
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Non-depreciable Assets		1,627	
Gain on Properties Contributed to Joint Ventures			
Asset Impairment			
Gain (Loss) from Real Estate Joint Ventures	357	128	
Income Tax Expense	(651)	(288)	
Income From Continuing Operations	43,416	45,808	-5.2%
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations			
Asset Impairment of Discontinued Operations			
Net Loss on Insurance and Other Settlement Proceeds of Discontinued Operations			
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Discontinued Operations			
Income Before Gain on Sale of Depreciable Assets	43,416	45,808	-5.2%
Gain on Sale of Depreciable Assets			
Gain on Sale of Non-Depreciable Assets			
Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest	(1,511)	(2,395)	
Net Income Attributable to Mid-America Apartment Communities	41,905	43,413	-3.5%
Preferred Dividend Distribution	(922)		
Premiums and Original Issuance Costs Associated with the Redemption of Preferred Stock			
Net Income Available for Common Shareholders	\$40,983	\$43,413	-5.6%
EPS	\$0.36	\$0.58	-37.9%

Funds From Operations	1Q17	1Q16	% Change
Net Income Available for Common Shareholders	\$40,983	\$43,413	-5.6%
Depreciation of Real Estate Assets	128,968	74,322	73.5%
Asset Impairment			
Net (Gain) on Insurance and Other Settlement Proceeds			
Gain on Properties Contributed to Joint Ventures			
Net Casualty Loss and Other Settlement Proceeds of Discontinued Operations			
Gain on Dispositions Within Real Estate Joint Ventures			
Depreciation of Real Estate Assets of Discontinued Operations			
Gain on Sale of Discontinued Operations			
Gain on Sale of Depreciable Assets	73	(755)	
Depreciation of Real Estate Assets of Real Estate Joint Ventures	152	6	
Net Income Attributed to Noncontrolling Interest	1,511	2,395	
Funds From Operations	\$171,687	\$119,381	43.8%
FFO Per Share	\$1.46	\$1.50	-2.7%
Shares & Units for FFO Calculation	117,802	79,614	48.0%

Source: Company reports

Condensed Balance Sheet

(in thousands)	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	3/31/2017
Land	\$926,532	\$1,816,008	\$1,825,223
Buildings and Improvements	6,939,288	10,523,762	10,636,260
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	228,157	298,204	307,463
Capital Improvement in Progress	44,355	231,224	242,286
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(1,482,368)	(1,656,071)	(1,768,527)
	6,655,964	11,213,127	11,242,705
Land Held for Future Development	51,779	71,464	71,464
Commercial Properties, net	8,812	12,778	12,350
Assets Held for Sale			
Investments in Real Estate Joint Ventures	1,811	44,493	44,629
Real Estate Assets, net	6,718,366	11,341,862	11,371,148
Assets Held for Sale			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	37,559	33,536	33,959
Restricted Cash	26,082	88,264	24,540
Deferred Financing Costs, net	5,232	5,065	4,679
Goodwill, net	1,607	1,239	1,239
Other Assets	58,935	134,525	124,134
Total Assets	\$6,847,781	\$11,604,491	\$11,559,699
Debt- Notes Payable	\$1,286,236	\$1,319,088	\$1,296,498
Unsecured Notes Payable	2,141,332	3,180,624	3,260,686
Accounts Payable	9,142	11,970	13,346
Accrued Expenses & Fair Market Value of Interest Rate Swaps	233,375	421,806	373,786
Security Deposits	11,623	18,829	19,419
Liabilities Associated with Assets Held for Sale			
Total Liabilities	\$3,681,708	\$4,952,317	\$4,963,735
Minority Interest			
Redeemable Stock	8,250	10,073	9,132
Total Shareholders' Equity	\$2,992,097	\$6,403,819	\$6,351,062
Noncontrolling Interest	165,726	238,282	235,770
Total Equity	\$3,157,823	\$6,642,101	\$6,586,832
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$6,847,781	\$11,604,491	\$11,559,699

Balance Sheet Ratio Analysis	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	3/31/2017
Total R/E Investments / Total Debt	196.0%	252.1%	249.5%
Debt to Total Shareholder's Equity	114.6%	70.3%	71.8%
Debt as % of Total Assets	50.1%	38.8%	39.4%
Shareholders' Equity as % of Total Assets	43.7%	55.2%	54.9%

Previous numbers have not been restated.

Source: Company reports

Valuation

At 15.7x our 2018 FFO per share estimate of \$6.26, MAA's stock is trading at a discount to a select peer group of other apartment REITs we track, but a slight premium to its five year historic forward P/FFO multiple. We believe MAA is one of the stronger apartment REITs in the group based on its balance sheet strength, ability to weather a difficult employment environment (as seen over the past few years), ability to complete acquisitions, and low near-term liquidity risk. We continue to rate MAA Neutral as we believe the shares are fairly valued at this time.

Apartment REITS	Symbol	Price	Current	Yield	Payout Ratio	FFO Per Share			2-Year Exp.	18/17E	Price / FFO	
		4/27/2017	Dividend			FY 2016	FY 2017E	FY 2018E	Avg. Growth	Growth	FY 2017E	FY 2018E
Equity Residential Property	EQR	\$64.53	\$2.02	3.1%	65.0%	\$3.09	\$3.10	\$3.26	2.8%	5.2%	20.8x	19.8x
Essex Property Trust	ESS	\$241.44	\$5.76	2.4%	49.2%	\$11.00	\$11.71	\$12.32	6.0%	5.2%	20.6x	19.6x
Camden Property Trust	CPT	\$82.71	\$3.00	3.6%	65.6%	\$4.63	\$4.57	\$4.76	1.4%	4.2%	18.1x	17.4x
Apartment Investment Management	AIV	\$44.45	\$1.44	3.2%	59.0%	\$2.30	\$2.44	\$2.56	5.7%	4.9%	18.2x	17.4x
Peer Average		\$108.28	\$3.05	3.1%	\$0.60	\$5.26	\$5.46	\$5.73	4.5%	4.9%	19.9x	18.9x
S&P 500	SPX	2,388.77	\$48.08	2.0%	36.8%	\$117.75	\$130.61	\$140.06	9.5%	7.2%	18.3x	17.1x
Mid-America Apartment Communities	MAA	\$98.00	\$3.48	3.6%	59.4%	\$5.59	\$5.86	\$6.26	6.0%	6.8%	16.7x	15.7x

SPX figures are EPS, not FFO per share.

Source: NAREIT, Baseline, and Hilliard Lyons' estimates

Dividend - On December 8, 2016, MAA announced a 6% increase in the quarterly dividend to \$0.87 per share or \$3.48 annually.

Suitability

We assign shares of Mid-America Apartment Communities a suitability rating of 3 on our scale of 1 - 4 (1=most conservative, 4=most aggressive). Our rating is based on the company's lack of property type diversification offset by what we see as a strong balance sheet.

Risks and Considerations

Interest Rate Risk - Like all REITs, Mid-America is interest rate sensitive. With debt to total capitalization of 27.5% and with 18.2% of total outstanding debt not being fixed or hedged at the end of the first quarter, MAA could experience an increase in interest expense in a rising interest rate environment.

Other External Risks - If unemployment rates rise, MAA could begin to see more renters moving out to a cheaper alternative place of living (moving back home with parents, moving in with a roommate, etc.). MAA could have to offer more leasing concessions to attract new tenants. Higher cost of operations and property taxes could decrease margins. If lending standards loosen, MAA could see more renters move out to buy a house.

Internal Risks - If the company pays too much for acquisitions or invests in redevelopment projects that do not provide a sufficient return, the company's net income and FFO could be lower, inhibiting the stock price.

Additional information is available upon request.

Analyst Certification

I, Carol L. Kemple, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject company(ies) and its (their) securities. I also certify that I have not been, am not, and will not be receiving direct or indirect compensation in exchange for expressing the specific recommendation(s) in this report.

Important Disclosures

Hilliard Lyons' analysts receive bonus compensation based on Hilliard Lyons' profitability. They do not receive direct payments from investment banking activity.

Investment Ratings

Buy - We believe the stock has significant total return potential in the coming 12 months.

Long-term Buy - We believe the stock is an above average holding in its sector, and expect solid total returns to be realized over a longer time frame than our Buy rated issues, typically 2-3 years.

Neutral - We believe the stock is an average holding in its sector, is currently fully valued, and may be used as a source of funds if better opportunities arise.

Underperform - We believe the stock is vulnerable to a price set back in the next 12 months.

Suitability Ratings

1 - A large cap, core holding with a solid history

2 - A historically secure company which could be cyclical, has a shorter history than a "1" or is subject to event driven setbacks

3 - An above average risk/reward ratio could be due to small size, lack of product diversity, sporadic earnings or high leverage

4 - Speculative, due to small size, inconsistent profitability, erratic revenue, volatility, low trading volume or a narrow customer or product base



Rating	Hilliard Lyons Recommended Issues		Investment Banking Provided in Past 12 Mo.	
	# of Stocks Covered	% of Stocks Covered	Banking	No Banking
Buy	36	30%	14%	86%
Hold/Neutral	71	58%	6%	94%
Sell	15	12%	7%	93%

As of 5 April 2017

Other Disclosures

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