

January 10, 2012



US Lodging Industry Snapshot: Winter 2011/2012

By Daniel Lesser

An interesting dynamic has been evolving within the US hotel business as, against a backdrop of sagging consumer confidence, economic turmoil and a restricted debt market, sector operating metrics have been improving. The strong rebound of demand for transient lodging accommodations that started in 2010 has endured throughout this past year. Barring any sudden economic or geopolitical shocks, US lodging fundamentals are expected to continue to improve due to the phenomenon of rising demand coupled with limited new hotel supply. In addition to the recovery of corporate and group meeting demand, inbound international travel has particularly benefited hotels situated in gateway US cities. With this said, the US economy overall is suffering from tepid growth and high unemployment, issues that will challenge the economy and therefore the lodging business, including the hotel transaction market, during the foreseeable future.

Broader economies and markets experience cyclical behavior. It is not a question that our economy will vigorously expand again; the question is when. Similar to past market nadirs, this is the best time to deploy capital into hotel value enhancement opportunities. With the world awash with liquidity, many types of investors have raised capital and are actively seeking US hotel investments. Examples include: high net worth individuals and family offices, private equity groups, pension and hedge funds, insurance companies and public hotel ownership entities. Investment in and/or acquisition of US real estate, including lodging assets, is appealing to foreign investors throughout the world including: France, Germany, Spain, Israel, Russia and China. Superior risk-adjusted returns, diversification, inflation hedge, capital appreciation and perceived relative security and stability are among the alluring attributes that attract overseas investment in American commercial property, including hotels. While both US coasts continue to be of heightened interest, secondary and particularly tertiary markets, with the exception of portfolio transactions, have struggled to gain attention despite compelling opportunities in many such areas.

We continuously monitor the major US hotel sale transaction market. The LWHA 2011 Major US Hotel Sales Survey illustrated below includes 130 single-asset sale transactions over \$10 million each that are not part of a portfolio allocation. These transactions totaled roughly \$8.9 billion and include roughly 41,000 hotel rooms with an average sale price per room of approximately \$217,000. By comparison, our 2010 survey identified 84 transactions totaling more than \$5 billion including 24,000 hotel rooms with an average sale price per room of \$200,000. US hotel transaction activity has clearly gained traction since 2009 during which 36 hotels that included 18,600 rooms traded for a total of only \$2.3 billion or an average sale price per room of \$193,000.

					Select Major 2011 U.S. Hotel Sales Survey	
		1	ESTIMATED SALES			
PROPERTY	LOCATION	NO. OF ROOMS		PRICE/ROOM \$ 350.769	BUYER Host Hotels & Resorts	SELLER Manchester Financial Group
Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego New York Palace Hotel	San Diego, CA New York, NY	899		\$ 350,769	Northwood Investors LLC	Brunei Investment Agency
Radisson Lexington Hotel	New York, NY	712			DiamondRock Hospitality	JV Blackstone Group/ Goldman Sachs/Highgate Holdings/
Doubletree Metropolitan Hotel	New York, NY	755	335,000,000	\$ 443,709	RLJ Development LLC	JV Highgate Holdings/Whitehall Goldman Sachs/Rockwood Capital LLC/
YOTEL New York	New York, NY	669	,,		JV IFA Hotels and Resorts, Kuwait Real Estate Co. & United Investments Portugal	Related Company
New York Helmsley Hotel	New York, NY	775	313,300,000	\$ 404,258	Host Hotels & Resorts	Helmsley Enterprises, Inc.
IP Casino Resort Spa Paramount Hotel	Biloxi, MS New York, NY	1088 S	278,000,000 275,000,000	\$ 255,515 \$ 460,637	Boyd Gaming Corp. RER Holding	JV Imperial Palace of Mississippi LLC & Key Largo Holdings LLC JV Walton Street Capital & Highgate Holdings
Jumer's Casino & Hotel	Rock Island, IL	205			Delaware North Companies	Jumer Family
Mondrian Los Angeles	West Hollywood, CA	237	137.000.000	\$ 578.059	Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	Morgans Hotel Group Co
San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino	San Juan, Puerto Rico				Rockwood Capital	American International Group
Royal Palm Hotel	Miami Beach, FL	409	130,000,000	\$ 317,848	KSL Capital Partners	Sunstone Hotel Investors
W Chicago - City Center	Chicago, IL	368		\$ 350,000	Chesapeake Lodging Trust	Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center	Alexandria, VA	496	121,000,000	\$ 243,952	Crow Holdings Realty Partners V LP	Amstar
Fairmont Orchid Denver Marriott City Center	Kohala Coast, HI	539 S	120,800,000	\$ 224,119 \$ 194,127	JV Woodridge Capital Partners and Oaktree Capital Management	Barclays Capital Real Estate Inc WTCC City Center Investors V, L.L.C
Intercontinental Montelucia Resort & Spa	Denver, CO Scottsdale, AZ	293			Chesapeake Lodging Trust KSL Capital Partners	Eurohypo AG
Four Points by Sheraton Midtown Times Square	New York, NY	244	112.000,000	\$ 459,016	Gehr Group	N/A
Westin Gaslamp Quarter	San Diego, CA	450		\$ 244,444	Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	Starwood CMBSI LLC
Bacara Resort & Spa	Santa Barbara, CA	360	104,000,000	\$ 288,889	JV Ohana Real Estate Investors & Rockpoint Group, LLC	ADCO
Cheeca Lodge & Spa	Islamorada, FL	214	102,000,000	\$ 476,636	Northwood Investors	N/A
St. Regis Washington DC	Washington DC	182	100,000,000	\$ 549,451	Westbrook Partners	Barclays Capital
JW Marriott San Francisco Union Square	San Francisco, CA	337	,,		Thayer Lodging Group	Ashford Hospitality Trust
Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol	Austin, TX	365	95,000,000	\$ 260,274	Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors	HEI Hotels & Resorts
Courtyard Miami Beach Oceanfront Elysian Hotel	Miami Beach, FL Chicago, IL	263 S	95,000,000 95,000,000	\$ 361,217 \$ 505,319	Hersha Hospitality Trust Equity International.	N/A Flysian Development
JW Marriott New Orleans	New Orleans, LA	494	,,	,	Sunstone Hotel Investors	JV Clearview Hotel Capital/Starr International USA Investments LLC
Westin Pasadena	Pasadena, CA	350	92.000,000	\$ 262.857	HEI Hotels & Resorts	MPG Office Trust, Inc.
Sheraton Universal Hotel	Universal City, CA	451	90,000,000	\$ 199,557	Shenzhen New World Group	Lowe Enterprises
Cooper Square Hotel	New York, NY	145	90,000,000	\$ 620,690	JV Ironstate Development Company & Andre Balazs	Westport Capital Partners LLC
W Boston Hotel	Boston, MA	235			Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	Sawyer Enterprises
Courtyard Waikiki Beach	Honolulu, HI	401	85,000,000	\$ 211,970	JV Lodging Capital Partners & Rockpoint Group	N/A
Argonaut Hotel	San Francisco, CA	252	84,000,000	\$ 333,333 \$ 471,264	Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	N/A
Algonquin Hotel Viceroy Santa Monica	New York, NY Santa Monica, CA	174 S 162 S	82,000,000		Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors LaSalle Hotel Properties	HEI Hotels & Resorts Kor Group
Viceroy Santa Monica Hotel Chelses	New York, NY	250	80,100,000	\$ 494,444	Chetrit Group	Kor Group N/Δ
Boston Marriott Burlington	Burlington, MA	415	73,350,000		Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors LLC	Finard Properties LLC
JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek	Denver, CO	196	72,600,000	\$ 370,408	DiamondRock Hospitality	Sage Hospitality Resources
Napa Valley Marriott Hotel and Spa	Napa, CA	275	72,000,000	\$ 261,818	Inland American Lodging Group, Inc	Lighthouse Lodging Group
San Diego Marriott La Jolla	La Jolla, CA	360	71,000,000	\$ 197,222	HEI Hotels & Resorts	Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors
Red Lion Hotel On Fifth Avenue	Seattle, WA	297 5			Lowe Enterprises	Red Lion Hotels Corp.
Fairmont Dallas	Dallas, TX	545	69,000,000	\$ 126,606	Inland American Lodging Group Inc	Pacific Coast Capital
Courtyard Washington Capitol Hill/Navy Yard Villa Florence	Washington DC San Francisco , CA	204 5	68,000,000	\$ 333,333	Chesapeake Lodging Trust	N/A Larkspur Hotels & Restaurants
San Francisco Mandarin Oriental	San Francisco, CA	158	01,200,000	\$ 398,734	GEM Realty Partners	Mass Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Continental Oceanfront South Beach Hotel	Miami Beach, FI	251	61,000,000	\$ 243.028	JV Cube Capital & InSite Group	N/A
Hilton Garden Inn Courthouse Plaza	Arlington, VA	189	60,000,000	\$ 317,460	CP-IPERS Arlington Hotel LLC	Courthouse Hotel Properties
Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown	Denver, CO	221	58,500,000	\$ 264,706	Apple REIT Ten	Stonebridge Companies
Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay	Tampa, FL	445		\$ 131,461	investor account advised by UBS Global Asset Management	N/A
W San Diego	San Diego, CA	258	56,000,000	\$ 217,054	Rockpoint Group	TOP 24-W Hotel San Diego SPE LLC
Hotel Indigo San Diego	San Diego, CA	210			Chesapeake Lodging Trust HEI Hotels and Resorts	InterContinental Hotels Group
Sheraton National Hotel The Huntington Hotel	Arlington, VA San Francisco , CA	417 S	54,200,000 54,000,000	\$ 129,976 \$ 397,059	Grace International	National Hospitality Corporation Nob Hill Properties
Homewood Suites Seattle Convention Center	Seattle, WA	195	53,000,000	\$ 271,795	Chesapeake Lodging Trust	N/A
Best Western Tuscan Inn at Fishman's Wharf	San Francisco, CA	221			Walnut Hill Group	Abacus Lodging Investors LLC
Holiday Inn New York City Midtown	New York, NY	122	52,200,000	\$ 427,869	Chesapeake Lodging Trust	N/A
Hotel Monaco Seattle	Seattle, WA	189 5			Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	JV AEW Capital Management & Stonebridge Companies
Se San Diego	San Diego, CA	161 \$	49,000,000	\$ 304,348	Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants	5th Avenue Partners
Capitol Hill Suites	Washington DC	152 S 260 S	47,500,000 47,500,000	\$ 312,500 \$ 182,692	Hersha Hospitality Trust Hersha Hospitality	AEW Capital Management Force-Oakleaf LP
Courtyard Los Angeles West Side Courtyard Denver Downtown	Culver City, CA Denver, CO	177			DiamondRock Hospitality	Sage Hospitality Resources
Renaissance Hotel Downtown	Pittsburgh, PA	291	45.400.000	\$ 156.014	RLJ Development LLC	Sage Hospitality Resources
Holiday Inn Express Fifth Avenue	New York, NY	125	43,870,000	4 100,011	Walnut Hill Group	Magna Hospitality Group
Grand Sierra Resort and Casino	Reno, NV	1496	42,450,000	\$ 28,376	Meruelo Group	Credit Markets Real Estate Corp (JPMorgan Chase & Co.)
Hotel Adagio	San Francisco, CA	171		\$ 247,076	Chesapeake Lodging Trust	Joie De Vivre Hospitality
Courtyard by Marriott Charleston Historic District	Charleston, SC	176	42,000,000	\$ 238,636	RLJ Lodging Trust	Noble Investment Group
Estancia La Hotel & Spa	La Jolla, CA	210	41,700,000	\$ 198,571 \$ 366,071	Pacific Hospitality Group Pacifica Companies	Lowe Enterprises Collins Companies
Residence Inn Los Angeles LAX/Manhattan Beach	Manhattan Beach, CA	112 176			Investcorp Real Estate	Collins Companies N/A
Hilton Dallas/Park Cities	Dallas, TX	224	40.000,000	\$ 178.571	Apple Nine Hospitality Ownership Inc	RM Crowe
Trump Marina Casino & Hotel	Atlantic City, NJ	728	38,000,000		Landry's Inc.	Trump Entertainment Resorts Inc.
Holiday Inn Express Hotel New York City - Wall Street	New York, NY	112	36,700,000	\$ 327,679	Hersha Hospitality	Metro Six LLC (McSam Hotel Group)
Ocean House Hotel	Westerly, RI	49			Ocean House Hotel Partners LLC	Bluff Ave LLC
Viceroy Miami	Miami , FL	148	36,500,000	\$ 246,622	Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	N/A
Ritz-Carlton Cleveland	Cleveland, OH	205			Rock Gaming LLC and Caesars Entertainment Corp	Forest City Enterprises, Inc.
Hilton Rye Town	Rye Brook, NY	447	35,500,000		Lodging Capital Partners LLC	Ashford Hospitality Trust
	M 1 DC					
The Georgetown Inn	Washington DC	96			Georgetown Washington DC Inn LLC	Blackstone Group
	Washington DC Scottsdale, AZ Baltimore, MD	96 \$ 431 \$ 202 \$	34,000,000	\$ 78,886	Sunstone U.S. Opportunity (No. 3) Realty Trust Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants	Blackstone Group N/A Baltimore & Charles Associates

LW Hospitality Advisors: Select Major 2011 U.S. Hotel Sales Survey									
ESTIMATED SALES ESTIMATED									
PROPERTY	LOCATION	NO. OF ROOMS		PRICE		CE/ROOM	BUYER	SELLER	
Huntington Hilton	Huntington, NY	304	\$	32,000,000	\$	105,263	JV Dow Hotel Co. & Prudential Insurance Company	MassMutual	
Courtyard San Diego Oceanside	Oceanside, CA	142	\$	30,500,000	\$	214,789	Apple REIT Ten	R.D. Olson	
Courtyard by Marriott Atlanta Downtown	Atlanta, GA	150	\$	28,650,000	\$	191,000	Summit Hotel Properties, Inc.	Capstone Partners LLC	
Sheraton Framingham	Framingham, MA	375	\$	27.200.000	\$	72.533	JV AREA Property Partners & Waterton Commercial Properties	Westbrook Partners	
Hyatt Westlake Plaza	Thousand Oaks, CA	262	\$	27,000,000	\$	103,053	Wheelock Street Capital	Mass Mutual Life	
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Anaheim	Anaheim, CA	255	\$	26,250,000	\$	102,941	Urban Commons Anaheim	Anaheim Resort Hotel	
Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa	Kailua-Kona, HI	521	\$	26,200,000	\$	50.288	Kona Surf Partners LLC (Avenue Capital Management II L.P.)	JV Arlen Capital LLC & Brickman Associates	
Charleston Marriott Town Center	Charleston, WV	352	S	25,500,000	S	72.443	Inland American Lodging Group, Inc	Forest City Enterprises Inc.	
Residence Inn Midtown Atlanta	Atlanta, GA	160	\$	25,250,000		157.813	Noble Investment Group	Windsor Capital Group Inc.	
Grand Bay Hotel ¹	Miami, FL	177	S	24.000.000		135,593	Terra Grove Communities	Novacaixagalicia	
Wyndham Hotel Pittsburgh-University Place	Pittsburgh, PA	198	\$	20.750.000		104,798	RLJ Development LLC	Archon Group	
Hampton Inn Houston - Near The Galleria	Houston, TX	176	¢	20.300.000		115.341	RLJ Lodging Trust	Ashford Hospitality Trust	
Renaissance Concourse Hotel Atlanta Airport	Atlanta, GA	387	\$	20,300,000		52,455	Clearview Hotel Capital	N/A	
Sheraton Bloomington Hotel	Minneapolis, MN	564	S	20,000,000		35,461	Platinum Equity	LaSalle Hotel Properties	
Hyatt on Capital Square	Columbus, OH	400	\$	19.500.000		48.750	Driftwood Hospitality Management	Hertz Columbus Two	
Hilton Knoxville	Knoxville, TN	317	S	19,500,000		61,199	Fairwood Capital	Heriz Columbus Two Herzog & Sons	
Hyatt Place Hotel	Birmingham, IL	150	\$	19,400,000		128,333	Ascent Hospitality	Capmark Financial	
Embassy Suites Phoenix-Tempe	Tempe, AZ	224		19,250,000		84.821	JV O'Neill Hotels & Resorts Ltd & Sunstone Realty Advisors	FelCor Lodging Trust	
Lotus at Diamond Head	Honolulu, HI	51	\$	18,500,000		362,745	N2885 LLC (JV Nobuka USA Inc. & Katsuhiro Kinoshita)	Unity House Inc.	
			\$						
Embassy Suites Chicago-North Shore/Deerfield	Deerfield, IL	237	Ψ	18,000,000		75,949	JV Montclair Hotel Investors & Oaktree Capital Management	C-III Asset Management LLC	
Mona Lisa Suite Hotel	Orlando, FL	240	\$	17,800,000		74,167	Melia Hotels International	Beal Bank	
Fairfield Inn & Suites	South Bend, IN	119	\$	17,500,000		147,059	Apple REIT Ten	KRG/White LS Hotel	
Holiday Inn San Diego-Downtown	San Diego, CA	220	\$	17,470,000		79,409	Pinnacle Hotels, USA Inc	Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors	
Valley River Inn	Eugene, OR	257	\$	16,400,000		63,813	JV Blue Vista Capital Management, LLC & Singerman Real Estate, LLC	Sunstone Hotel Investors	
Hotel Theodore	Scottsdale, AZ	189	\$	16,250,000		85,979	Sydell Scottsdale LLC (Yucaipa Companies, LLC)	Wells Fargo Bank NA	
Golden Key Hotel2	Glendale, CA	55	\$	16,250,000		295,455	Caruso Affiliated	Patel Family Trust	
Golden Gate Inn3	Brooklyn, NY	150	\$	15,500,000		103,333	Brooklyn Amity School	Krishna Management	
La Playa Hotel in Carmel-by-the-Sea	Carmel, CA	75	\$	15,011,000		200,147	Grossman Company Properties	Nob Hill Properties	
Delaware Park Hotel & Suites4	New Castle, DE	191	\$	15,000,000	\$	78,534	Hersha Hospitality Trust	N/A	
Sheraton Gateway Suites Chicago O'Hare	Rosemont, IL	296	\$	14,600,000	\$	49,324	EBF & Associates LP	FelCor Lodging Trust	
Hampton Inn Lake Buena Vista	Lake Buena Vista, FL	147	\$	14,550,000	\$	98,980	Steeprock Capital LLC	Buena Vista Hospitality Group	
Home2 Suites	Charleston, SC	122	\$	13,908,000	\$	114,000	Apple Ten Hospitality Ownership, Inc.	The Generation Companies LLC	
Continental Bayside Hotel	Miami, FL	243	\$	13,500,000	\$	55,556	JV Insite Group & Carlyle Group	RFR Holding Corporation	
Former Grand Hotel (Originally Statler Hilton)5	Dallas, TX	710	\$	13,100,000	\$	18,451	Ricchi Group	Bruce Yesmeh	
Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Hotel and Conference Center	Princeton, NJ	364	\$	13,000,000	\$	35,714	InnZen Hospitality	US Bank	
Hotel New Orleans	New Orleans, LA	170	\$	12.475.000	\$	73.382	HRI Properties and Interwest Capital Corporation	Hotel New Orleans Partnership in Commendam	
Courtyard by Marriott	El Paso, TX	87	\$	12.400.000	\$	142,529	Summit Hotel Properties, LLC	N/A	
DoubleTree by Hilton	Wilmington, DE	217	\$	12.000.000	\$	55,300	JV Driftwood Hospitality Management LLC & AGRE U.S. Real Estate Fund, LP	Credit Union Liquidity Services	
TownePlace Suites New Orleans Metairie	Harahan, LA	125	\$	12.000.000	\$	96,000	Lightstone Value Plus REIT II Inc	Citrus Suites LLC	
Hyatt Place Ft. Lauderdale Airport North	Fort Lauderdale, FL	126	S	12.000.000		95.238	Kolter Commercial	Ashanti Holdings LLC	
SpringHill Suites	Lincolnshire, IL	161	S	11,600,000		72.050	Robert Finyarb Companies	LNR Property Corporation OBO LB-UBS 2006-C6	
Park Manor Suites	San Diego, CA	82	S	11,500,000		140.244	Inn at the Park, LLC	Gentry Associates, LLC	
Sheraton Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC	168	\$	11,250,000		66,964	JV Richfield Hospitality & Shelbourne Falcon Investors	Soleil Group	
Crowne Plaza Detroit Metro Airport	Romulus, MI	359	S	10,700,000		29.805	EBF & Associates	CW Capital Asset Management OBO Wachovia 2006-C23	
Pelican Inn & Suites	Cambria, CA	48	\$	10,250,000		213.542	Pacifica Hotel Company/Invest West	Moonstone Hotel Properties	
Holiday Inn Resort Palm Springs	Palm Springs, CA	249	S	10,200,000		40.964	Sydell Group Ltd.	N/A	
Crowne Plaza Tampa East	Tampa, FL	265	\$	10,150,000		38.302	JV Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Waramaug Hospitality LLC, Värde Partners	Hospitality Receiver LLC on behalf of Columbia Sussex	
Crowne Plaza Boston North Shore & CoCo Key Water Resort		366	S	10,100,000		27.596	Lightstone Value Plus REIT II Inc	JV Sage Hospitality Resources/Wave Development/Hexagon Investments	
Crowne Plaza Hotel Cleveland City Centre	Cleveland, OH	470	\$	10.000.000		21,277	JV Sage Hospitality Inc. & Optima Management Co.	Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.	
Hampton Inn Jacksonville I-95 Central	Jacksonville, FL	118	S	10,000,000		84.746	Blueshore Investments & Management LLC	Ashford Hospitality Trust	
				,,		,		,	

Notes:

1 Hotel Closed At Time Of Sale

Hotel Purchased For Demolition (Site For Department Store)
 Hotel Purchased For Demolition (Site For Department Store)
 Hotel Purchased For Conversion To A School
 Hotel Was Never Opened
 Hotel Closed At Time Of Sale

Daniel H. Lesser President & CEO LW Hospitality Advisors LLC 570 Seventh Avenue Suite 805 New York, NY 10018 United States of America T 212.300.6684 daniel.lesser@lwhadvisors.com www.lwhospitalityadvisors.com



Trade activity of US lodging assets declined dramatically during the last two quarters of 2011 as illustrated on the following table:

LW Hospitality Advisors: Select Major 2011 U.S. Hotel Sales Survey										
Quarter	Total Trades	Total Rooms	Average Size Property	Total \$ Volume	Average Size Deal	\$ Volume Per Room				
Q1	36	14,368	399	\$ 2,767,520,000	\$76,875,556	\$ 192,617				
Q2	42	12,828	305	\$3,649,400,000	\$86,890,476	\$ 284,487				
Q3	21	4,538	216	\$ 812,175,000	\$38,675,000	\$ 178,972				
Q4	31	9,072	293	\$ 1,632,439,000	\$52,659,323	\$ 179,943				
Totals	130	40,806	314	\$ 8,861,534,000	\$68,165,646	\$ 217,163				

It is interesting to note that during Q3 and Q4 2011, a dramatic decline occurred in: the total number of trades, the total dollar volume of major sales, and the average price per room sold. Furthermore, the average deal size was approximately 45% below prior quarters of this year.

Notable observations from our 2011 survey include:

- A total of 65 transactions, or 50% of the national total, included assets located in California, Florida and the New York and Washington DC metropolitan areas;
- 29 major trades occurred in California;
- 7 sales occurred in both the San Francisco and San Diego markets;
- 17 transactions occurred in the New York metropolitan area;
- 13 major trades occurred in Manhattan;
- 12 major trades occurred in the State of Florida;
- 7 transactions occurred in the Washington DC metropolitan area.
- Of the top 10 2011 major U.S. hotel sales by total price, six trades, or 60%, occurred in New York
- Chesapeake Lodging Trust was the dominant acquirer of major US hotels with seven for the 2011 year totaling roughly 1,900 rooms and aggregate purchases of over \$500 million. Pebblebrook Hotel Trust followed with 6 acquisitions totaling over 1500 rooms for an aggregate amount of just over \$500 million.
- With the exception of the Denver Marriott City Center and the Holiday Inn New York City Midtown sales which both closed during Q4 2011, the remaining combined 11 acquisitions of both Chesapeake and Pebblebrook occurred during the first half of the year. During the second half of the 2011, as their stock prices dipped reflecting investor bearishness on the U.S. economy and its impact on the lodging sector, publicly traded REIT's ceased their acquisitive positions.
- Other significant acquirers (both public and private entities) of major US hotels during the year included: Hersha Hospitality Trust, the Apple REIT series and RLJ Development/RLJ Lodging Trust (all at five); and Inland American Lodging Group Inc., HEI Hotels and Resorts, DiamondRock Hospitality and Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors (all at three).
- At least 15 dispositions of major US hotels were of lender-controlled assets.
- Significant sellers of major US hotels included: Ashford Hospitality Trust and Sage Hospitality Resources (both at four).
- Although below replacement cost, the trade of the Elysian Hotel at over \$500,000 per room represents a new per room high water mark for Chicago.

- The June 2011 announcement of LaSalle Hotel Properties' proposed \$405.5 million acquisition of the Park Central in New York closed in this first week of the New Year at a price of \$396.2 million, or a reduction of approximately 2.3%.
- Several previously announced noteworthy 2011 US hotel sale transactions were terminated prior to closing including:
- Host Hotels & Resorts \$442 million acquisition of the Grand Hyatt in Washington DC;
- Host Hotels & Resorts contract to acquire the St. Regis Monarch Beach in Dana Point, CA;
- Chatham Lodging Trust's \$24.9 million acquisition of the Residence Inn Pittsburgh University Medical Center.

During the next 12 to 24 months, billions of dollars of hotel loans originated during the last market peak of several years ago will mature. The decline of asset values and tighter underwriting criteria will make it nearly impossible for hotel owners who have held on during the recent downturn to effectuate traditional refinancings. Opportunistic rescue capital prospects will abound as many hotel loans will need to be restructured and/or recapitalized with additional debt and/or equity. Furthermore, fresh capital will be required for scores of US lodging assets that are in need of significant capital upgrades as hotel companies will no longer allow a moratorium on conforming to brand standards and deferral of these expenditures.

Despite economic uncertainty and volatility, and against the backdrop of funding-gap issues during the near term, US hotel operating metrics are anticipated to continue to improve. While many loans have already been restructured or recapitalized, many lenders have pushed the problem into the future aka "kicking the can down the street." While hotel foreclosures are anticipated to rise, many lenders thus far have been reluctant to pursue such remedies and will likely not be eager to take control of financially troubled hotel assets. Superior risk adjusted return opportunities will attract all types of investors, as lenders and special servicers with exposure to the US hotel sector will either sell assets they control or facilitate workout solutions that will appropriately compensate their positions and those of freshly injected capital.

Daniel H. Lesser is president and CEO of LW Hospitality Advisors LLC in New York City. He may be reached at Daniel.lesser@lwhadvisors.com. Views expressed here are the author's own.