# 2017: A Solid Year for the Metro Denver Office Sector

# MARKET OVERVIEW

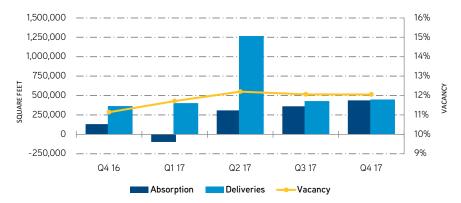
Denver's office market finished 2017 with strong positive absorption during the fourth quarter with more than 437,000 square feet absorbed, predominately from Class A space in the Downtown and Southeast submarkets. Office investment activity spiked during the fourth quarter with the sale of two recently constructed Class A buildings in both the Downtown and Southeast submarkets. Granite Place at Village Center delivered to the market in April 2017 and sold for approximately \$127 million in December. 1401 Lawrence, which was completed in the fourth quarter of 2016, sold for \$225 million, or \$723/sf. This set a record for the highest price per square foot of an office building in the Denver market, breaking a record previously set by the sale of the Triangle Building when it transacted at \$678/sf in May 2017. With more than 4 million square feet of new deliveries on the horizon, average asking rental rates continue to increase as the threshold for what well-positioned occupiers are willing to pay for new space expands.

# MARKET INDICATORS\* Projected Q4 2017 Q1 2018 VACANCY **NET ABSORPTION DELIVERIES RENTAL RATE**

# SUMMARY STATISTICS

	Q4 2016	Q4 2017
VACANCY RATE	11.1%	12.1%
ABSORPTION YTD	776,696	1,009,111
DELIVERIES YTD	873,929	2,547,440
UNDER CONSTRUCTION	3,164,395	4,037,038
ASKING RENTS/SF	\$26.22	\$27.29

# Denver Office Market Q4 2016-Q4 2017



Source: CoStar. Colliers Research

Local Unemployment Rates

As of November 2017, the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated the estimated unemployment rate for the Metro Denver area at 2.8 percent. The National unemployment rate is 4.1 percent.

### Local Employment Growth

Metro Denver total employment

increased 2.0 percent, or an additional 56,000 jobs between November 2016 and November 2017.

from Q4 2016.

**Investment Sales** 

Fourth quarter investment activity totaled more than \$811 million throughout Metro Denver. Up 40%

<sup>\*</sup>Arrows compare current quarter to the previous quarter's historically adjusted figures.

# Metro absorption totaled more than 1 million square feet during 2017.

# **ABSORPTION**

Metro office absorption totaled more than 437,000 square feet during the fourth quarter as seven of ten submarkets reported positive absorption. Once again the Downtown and Southeast submarkets recorded strong positive absorption numbers with 317,000 and 327,000 square feet, respectively. Charter Communications took occupancy of their 257,000-square-foot space at Granite Place in December, boosting absorption in the Southeast submarket. Larger corporate users will likely continue to keep their sights on new, Class A construction in Denver's popular submarkets.

# **VACANCY**

Metro vacancy remained unchanged compared to the previous quarter as the fourth quarter recorded a 12.1 percent vacancy rate. Overall office vacancy has held steady near 12 percent for the entirety of 2017, ranging from 12 to 12.4 percent during the year. Continued variation in vacancy is anticipated as several new construction projects are slated for delivery in 2018.

# **DELIVERIES & CONSTRUCTION**

Fourth quarter metro deliveries were relatively similar compared to the previous quarter totaling just over 448,000 square feet; third quarter deliveries totaled 428,000 square feet. The metro Denver office market added more than 2.5 million square feet of inventory during 2017 - significantly more than the previous year total of 873,000 square feet. Current construction activity totals more than 4 million square feet. The Central Business District is set for the delivery of the largest office project since the 1980's, as the 662,000-square-foot 1144 Fifteenth building nears completion.

# **RENTAL RATES**

The overall fourth quarter asking rental rate for office space in Metro Denver was \$27.29 per square foot – a 4.1 percent increase year-over-year. Five of ten submarkets experienced increases in asking rental rates quarter-over-quarter, and asking rate growth increased approximately 4 percent year-over-year. Asking rates continue to grow as demand for newer space remains and new deliveries hit the market setting the pace for incremental increases.

# **Absorption**



Source: CoStar, Colliers Research

# Vacancy



Source: CoStar, Colliers Research

# **Rental Rates**



Source: CoStar, Colliers Research

# **Submarket Statistics**

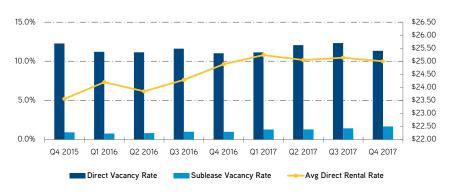
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Sul	Bill		STING PROP	ERTIES	80 70 Ci	12,60	ACTIVITY	ABSC CI	PRPTION	\ \Q_{E_{1}} Q_{2}	CONSTRUCT	ION ZEO CAL	F <sup>2</sup> <sup>20</sup> ¢ <sup>2</sup>
DOWNTOW	/N									<u>'</u>			
	_	DISTRICT/LODO/		_		47.70	0///05	(50.004	744.047	040.040	557.0//	0.007.000	+05 /4
А В	61 135	23,576,776 11,554,250	13.2% 11.6%	2.0%	15.2% 13.0%	16.4% 11.8%	364,605 196,382	452,881 (146,477)	711,816 (264,746)	210,313	557,966 53,478	2,097,003 172,000	\$35.61 \$30.57
0	20	1,295,077	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	2.5%	170,502	10,738	23,793	-	-	-	\$21.59
Total	216	36,426,103	12.2%	1.8%	14.0%	14.4%	560,987	317,142	470,863	210,313	611,444	2,269,003	\$34.22
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3	7 51	1,110,758 3,482,253	5.2% 3.7%	0.0%	5.2% 3.7%	7.2% 4.7%	64,762	21,722 35,991	(51,934) 259,944	-	300,000	65,805	\$29.35 \$24.85
;	38	1,559,177	3.5%	0.0%	3.5%	3.9%	10,303	4,955	(49,234)	-	-	_	\$20.63
otal	96	6,152,188	3.9%	0.0%	3.9%	4.9%	75,065	62,668	158,776	-	300,000	65,805	\$25.16
SUBURBAN	N												
AURORA													
3	14	2,158,414	9.1%	0.0%	9.1%	9.3%	0 070	5,868	(94,919)	-	-	-	\$24.30
3	77 17	5,229,758 595,381	9.2% 5.4%	0.2%	9.3% 5.4%	9.3% 5.4%	39,070 5,450	(2,600)	(20,362) 27,040	-	-	-	\$17.50 \$12.44
- Fotal	108	7,983,553	8.9%	0.0%	9.0%	9.0%	44,520	3,008	(88,241)	-	-	-	\$19.72
BROOMFIE													
Д	20	3,171,782	6.7%	1.1%	7.8%	8.5%	39,226	22,319	88,440	-	-	255,588	\$28.85
3	31	2,808,151	8.7%	0.0%	8.7%	10.1%	32,285	37,374	68,473	-	-	-	\$25.03
Total	51 0 POULEVAL	5,979,933	7.7%	0.6%	8.3%	9.2%	71,511	59,693	156,913	-	-	255,588	\$26.89
4	25	4,108,444	16.5%	1.4%	17.9%	17.4%	65,872	(22,565)	(3,697)		229,670	153,510	\$32.84
3	93	6,662,469	9.1%	0.5%	9.6%	8.4%	66,638	(82,238)	(24,594)	-	-	-	\$25.42
2	26	1,051,947	14.1%	0.0%	14.1%	5.6%	16,990	(89,924)	(69,995)	-	-	-	\$17.85
Total	144	11,822,860	12.1%	0.8%	12.9%	11.3%	149,500	(194,727)	(98,286)	-	229,670	153,510	\$28.28
	DRTHEAST	4.040.400	0.404	0.00/	0.404	0.004	10.000	(70.000)	(50,000)				+05.77
A 3	11 73	1,263,489 4,946,090	9.6% 9.8%	0.0%	9.6% 9.9%	3.3% 9.3%	13,900 23,264	(78,990) (25,360)	(59,282) (69,816)	-	55,000	43,586	\$25.76 \$21.93
2	17	974,069	2.5%	0.1%	2.5%	1.7%	5,636	(7,437)	(11,602)		-	43,300	\$14.91
Total	101	7,183,648	8.7%	0.1%	8.8%	7.3%	42,800	(111,787)	(140,700)	-	55,000	43,586	\$22.83
NORTHWE													
Α	23	2,313,305	12.4%	3.3%	15.7%	16.7%	187,980	24,209	(164,384)	-	-	200,000	\$26.56
B C	87 17	3,934,900 525,749	10.4%	0.6%	11.0% 5.6%	7.9% 3.1%	88,704 2,657	(68,670)	17,800	57,700	57,700	63,476	\$23.06 \$20.79
Total	127	6,773,954	10.7%	1.5%	12.2%	10.6%	2,037 279,341	(13,427) ( <b>57,888</b> )	28,010 (118,574)	57,700	57,700	263,476	\$20.19 \$24.67
SOUTHEAS													
4	150	23,869,463	11.2%	2.4%	13.6%	14.1%	585,492	210,778	159,145	115,859	1,208,626	785,070	\$27.25
3	300	18,934,014	11.8%	0.9%	12.6%	13.3%	312,187	124,138	406,827	-	20,000	-	\$22.72
Catal	34 <b>484</b>	1,176,145 <b>43,979,622</b>	7.2% <b>11.4%</b>	0.1% <b>1.7%</b>	7.3% <b>13.0%</b>	6.6% <b>13.6%</b>	5,763	(7,906)	(34,788)	115,859	1 220 424	785,070	\$16.22 <b>\$25.00</b>
Total SOUTHWE		43,919,622	11.4%	1.7%	13.0%	13.6%	903,442	327,010	531,184	115,659	1,228,626	785,070	\$25.00
4 4	5	1,241,467	7.6%	0.0%	7.6%	4.8%	-	(34,832)	(26,575)	-	-	-	\$26.15
3	101	5,017,825	11.3%	0.6%	11.9%	13.1%	49,315	64,694	135,401	-	-	-	\$18.94
2	20	692,152	4.9%	0.0%	4.9%	4.2%	1,489	(5,155)	(3,312)	-	-	-	\$13.85
Total	126	6,951,444	10.0%	0.4%	10.4%	10.8%	50,804	24,707	105,514	-	-	-	\$19.46
VEST	20	2,524,997	8.8%	1.5%	10.3%	9.2%	14,320	30,823	4,230	45,000	65,000	175,000	\$27.23
3	133	8,412,235	13.8%	0.1%	13.9%	13.7%	14,320 82,557	(16,604)	4,230	65,000	65,000	26,000	\$27.23
:	27	752,199	5.4%	0.1%	5.9%	5.0%	13,824	(6,612)	(20,805)	-	-	-	\$14.72
Total	180	11,689,431	12.2%	0.5%	12.6%	12.2%	110,701	7,607	31,662	65,000	65,000	201,000	\$22.59
SUBURBAI													
Α	268	40,651,361	11.1%	1.9%	13.0%	13.0%	906,790	157,610	(97,042)	180,859	1,503,296	1,569,168	\$27.83
3	895 158	55,945,442 5,767,642	11.0%	0.5%	11.5%	11.5% 4.6%	694,020 51,809	30,734 (130,721)	561,966 (85,452)	57,700	132,700	133,062	\$22.29 \$16.54
otal	1,321	102,364,445	10.8%	1.0%	11.8%	11.7%	1,652,619	57,623	379,472	238,559	1,635,996	1,702,230	\$10.54 \$24.53
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Ą	336	65,338,895	11.7%	1.9%	13.6%	14.1%	1,271,395	632,213	562,840	391,172	2,061,262	3,731,976	\$31.04
,	1,081	70,981,945	10.8%	0.6%	11.4%	11.2%	955,164	(79,752)	557,164	57,700	486,178	305,062	\$23.59
	216	8,621,896	5.5%	0.0%	5.5%	4.2%	62,112	(115,028)	(110,893)	440.070	2 5 477 7 7 7 2	- 4 027 020	\$17.41
3	1 (00	144,942,736	10.9%	1.2%	12.1%	12.1%	2,288,671	437,433	1,009,111	448,872	2,547,440	4,037,038	\$27.29
Cotal	1,633												
Cotal QUARTERI	LY COMPARI	ISON	10.9%	1.2%	12.1%	12.1%	2,288.671	437.433	1.009.111	448.872	2,547.440	4,037.038	\$27.29
C <b>Total</b> QUARTERL Q4 17			10.9% 11.0%	1.2% 1.1%	12.1% 12.1%	12.1% 12.2%	2,288,671 2,299,338	437,433 361,258	1,009,111 571,678	448,872 428,675	2,547,440 2,032,178	4,037,038 4,327,922	\$27.29 \$26.78
C Total QUARTERI Q4 17 Q3 17	LY COMPARI 1,633	ISON 144,942,736											
B C Total QUARTERI Q4 17 Q3 17 Q2 17 Q1 17	1,633 1,632	144,942,736 144,771,054	11.0%	1.1%	12.1%	12.2%	2,299,338	361,258	571,678	428,675	2,032,178	4,327,922	\$26.78

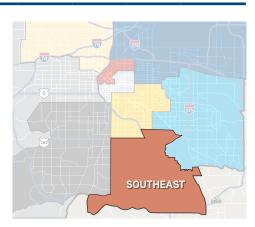
# Southeast & Downtown Statistics

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EXISTING PROPERTIES	VACANCY	ACTIVITY	ABSORP.	CONSTR.	RENTS

EXIS	STING PROF	PERTIES				VACANCY			ACTIVITY	ABSORP.	CONSTR.	RENTS
DENVER-SOUTHEAST OFFICE MARKET OVERVIEW												
Q4 2017	484	43,979,622	4,992,392	11.4%	740,188	1.7%	5,732,580	13.0%	903,442	327,010	115,859	\$25.00
Q3 2017	484	43,979,622	5,426,354	12.3%	633,236	1.4%	6,059,590	13.8%	1,131,850	5,619	211,675	\$25.14
Q2 2017	484	43,767,947	5,281,740	12.1%	571,794	1.3%	5,853,534	13.4%	839,198	381,811	901,092	\$25.05
Q1 2017	478	42,866,855	4,779,263	11.1%	554,990	1.3%	5,334,253	12.4%	1,064,424	(183,256)	0	\$25.24
Q4 2016	478	42,866,855	4,729,027	11.0%	421,970	1.0%	5,150,997	12.0%	707,190	161,161	0	\$24.89
Q3 2016	479	42,979,339	4,994,903	11.6%	429,739	1.0%	5,424,642	12.6%	1,575,738	(275,220)	0	\$24.29
Q2 2016	479	42,979,339	4,796,522	11.2%	352,900	0.8%	5,149,422	12.0%	1,147,174	25,499	20,282	\$23.85
Q1 2016	478	42,959,057	4,818,654	11.2%	335,985	0.8%	5,154,639	12.0%	945,503	519,869	0	\$24.20
Q4 2015	478	42,959,057	5,275,487	12.3%	399,021	0.9%	5,674,508	13.2%	1,268,466	100,936	582,792	\$23.56
DENVER-SO	DENVER-SOUTHEAST OFFICE SUBMARKET BREAKOUT BY CLASS											
Α	150	23,869,463	2,682,108	11.2%	570,876	2.4%	3,252,984	13.6%	585,492	210,778	115,859	\$27.25
В	300	18,934,014	2,225,302	11.8%	168,662	0.9%	2,393,964	12.6%	312,187	124,138	0	\$22.72
С	34	1,176,145	84,982	7.2%	650	0.1%	85,632	7.3%	5,763	(7,906)	0	\$16.22
Total	484	43,979,622	4,992,392	11.4%	740,188	1.7%	5,732,580	13.0%	903,442	327,010	115,859	\$25.00
DENVER-	OOWNTOV	VN OFFICE SU	BMARKET (	OVERVIEW								
Q4 2017	216	36,426,103	4,459,761	12.2%	647,142	1.8%	5,106,903	14.0%	560,987	317,142	210,313	\$34.22
Q3 2017	216	36,316,103	4,376,967	12.1%	657,191	1.8%	5,034,158	13.9%	479,971	258,998	0	\$33.70
Q2 2017	216	36,316,103	4,653,828	12.8%	667,306	1.8%	5,321,134	14.7%	820,412	22,326	53,478	\$33.53
Q1 2017	215	36,262,625	4,565,008	12.6%	717,867	2.0%	5,282,875	14.6%	1,100,249	(127,593)	347,653	\$33.22
Q4 2016	213	35,914,972	4,068,186	11.3%	660,379	1.8%	4,728,565	13.2%	1,493,420	(9,039)	311,015	\$33.46
Q3 2016	212	35,603,957	3,804,156	10.7%	604,355	1.7%	4,408,511	12.4%	904,015	(166,543)	0	\$33.51
Q2 2016	212	35,603,957	3,782,102	10.6%	459,866	1.3%	4,241,968	11.9%	1,414,593	(240,602)	66,000	\$34.00
Q1 2016	211	35,537,957	3,499,736	9.8%	435,630	1.2%	3,935,366	11.1%	511,516	(28,758)	0	\$34.11
Q4 2015	211	35,537,957	3,475,077	9.8%	431,531	1.2%	3,906,608	11.0%	1,273,884	452,726	198,000	\$33.75
DENVER-DO	DENVER-DOWNTOWN OFFICE SUBMARKET BREAKOUT BY CLASS											
Α	61	23,576,776	3,100,849	13.2%	478,464	2.0%	3,579,313	15.2%	364,605	452,881	210,313	\$35.61
В	135	11,554,250	1,337,263	11.6%	168,678	1.5%	1,505,941	13.0%	196,382	(146,477)	0	\$30.57
С	20	1,295,077	21,649	1.7%	0	0.0%	21,649	1.7%	0	10,738	0	\$21.59
Total	216	36,426,103	4,459,761	12.2%	647,142	1.8%	5,106,903	14.0%	560,987	317,142	210,313	\$34.22

# Denver I Southeast Office Market Q4 2017

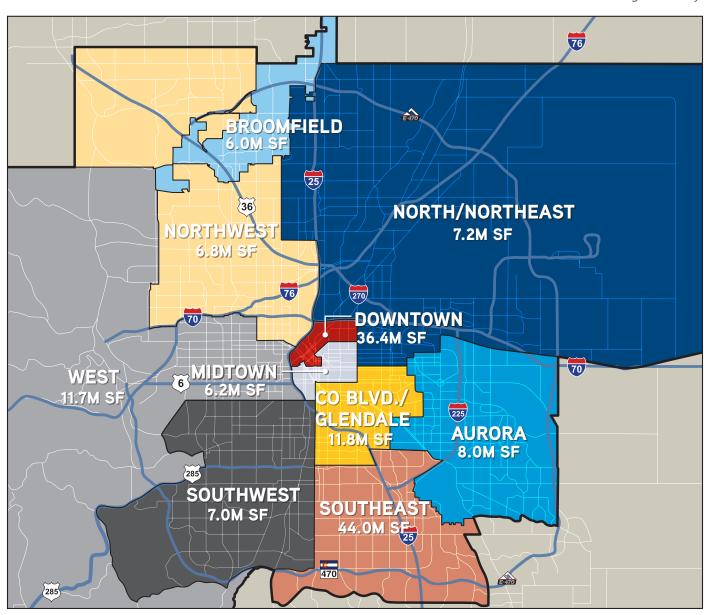




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# Denver I Downtown Office Market Q4 2017





SIGNIFICANT RECENT TRANSACTIONS										
SALES ACTIVITY										
PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	SALE PRICE	SIZE SF	BUYER	SELLER					
1401 Lawrence 1401 Lawrence St.	CBD	\$225,000,000	311,015	Heitman	First Gulf Corporation					
Granite Place @ Village Center 6165 S. Willow Dr.	Southeast	\$126,950,000	299,568	Crestone Partners	Granite Properties, Inc					
Arrow Building 9151 E. Panorama Cir.	Southeast	\$87,000,000	227,000	Bentall Kennedy	Miller Global Properties					
LEASING ACTIVITY										
PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	BLDG. CLASS	LEASED SF	COMPANY						
1144 Fifteenth 1144 15th St.	CBD	А	126,000	Chipotle						
7979 E. Tufts Ave.	Southeast	А	85,000	Western Union						
Corporex Center 188 Inverness Dr. W	Southeast	А	66,809	Performance Food Group						

# 396 offices in68 countries on6 continents

United States: 153

Canada: 29

Latin America: **24** Asia Pacific: **79** 

EMEA: **111** 

\$2.6

billion in annual revenue

2.0

billion square feet under management

15,000

professionals and staff

# **About Colliers International**

Colliers International Group Inc. (NASDAQ: CIGI; ISX: CIG) is a global leader in commercial real estate services with more than 15,000 professionals operating from 396 offices in 68 countries. With an enterprising culture and significant insider ownership, Colliers professionals provide a full range of services to real estate occupiers, owners and investors worldwide. Services include brokerage, global corporate solutions, investment sales and capital markets, project management and workplace solutions, property and asset management, consulting, valuation and appraisal services, and customized research and thought leadership. Colliers International has been ranked among the top 100 outsourcing firms by the International Association of Outsourcing Professionals' Global Outsourcing for 10 consecutive years, more than any other real estate services firm.

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