

ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORP  
Form 10-Q  
May 05, 2009

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

**Form 10-Q**

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2009**

**OR**

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Commission File Number 1-12486**

**Associated Estates Realty Corporation**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**OHIO**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**34-1747603**

*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)*

**1 AEC Parkway, Richmond Hts., Ohio 44143-1467**

*(Address of principal executive offices)*

**(216) 261-5000**

*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (subsection 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The number of shares outstanding as of April 28, 2009 was 16,698,510 shares



ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORPORATION

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**PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**  
**ITEM 1. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

(In thousands, except share amounts)

<b>ASSETS</b>	March 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Real estate assets		
Land	\$ 110,220	\$ 110,220
Buildings and improvements	813,283	812,443
Furniture and fixtures	29,625	29,315
	953,128	951,978
Less: accumulated depreciation	(288,928)	(280,541)
	664,200	671,437
Construction in progress	883	745
Real estate associated with property held for sale, net	-	1,666
Real estate, net	665,083	673,848
Cash and cash equivalents	3,508	3,551
Restricted cash	6,953	6,873
Accounts and notes receivable, net		
Rents	1,010	1,320
Affiliates	197	606
Other	1,250	1,842
Goodwill	1,725	1,725
Other assets, net	9,848	10,131
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 689,574</b>	<b>\$ 699,896</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Mortgage notes payable	\$ 489,868	\$ 510,201
Unsecured revolving credit facility	38,300	21,500
Unsecured debt	25,780	25,780
Total debt	553,948	557,481
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	22,350	26,217
Dividends payable	2,961	2,920
Resident security deposits	3,383	3,360
Accrued interest	2,289	2,468
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>584,931</b>	<b>592,446</b>
Noncontrolling redeemable interest	1,829	1,829
Shareholders' equity		
Preferred shares, without par value; 9,000,000 shares authorized; 8.70% Class B Series II cumulative redeemable, \$250 per share liquidation preference, 232,000 issued and 193,050 outstanding at March 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, respectively	48,263	48,263
Common shares, without par value, \$.10 stated value; 41,000,000 authorized; 22,995,763 issued and 16,698,563 and 16,556,221 outstanding at March 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, respectively	2,300	2,300
Paid-in capital	282,254	282,501
Accumulated distributions in excess of accumulated net income	(163,401)	(159,595)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,209)	(2,899)
Less: Treasury shares, at cost, 6,297,200 and 6,439,542 shares at March 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, respectively	(64,393)	(64,949)
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>102,814</b>	<b>105,621</b>
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 689,574</b>	<b>\$ 699,896</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2008
<i>(In thousands, except per share amounts)</i>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
Property revenue	\$ 32,894	\$ 31,235
Management and service company revenue:		
Fees, reimbursements and other	468	553
Painting services	96	137
Total revenue	33,458	31,925
<b>Expenses</b>		
Property operating and maintenance	14,200	13,107
Depreciation and amortization	9,466	8,505
Direct property management and service company expense	359	396
Painting services	213	243
General and administrative	3,140	3,528
Total expenses	27,378	25,779
Operating income	6,080	6,146
Interest income	15	16
Interest expense	(8,213)	(9,083)
(Loss) income before equity in net loss of joint ventures and income from discontinued operations	(2,118)	(2,921)
Equity in net loss of joint ventures	-	(22)
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(2,118)	(2,943)
Income from discontinued operations:		
Operating (loss) income	(33)	(1,308)
Gain on disposition of properties	2,278	42,910
Income from discontinued operations	2,245	41,602
<b>Net income</b>	127	38,659
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling redeemable interest	(14)	(14)
<b>Net income attributable to AERC</b>	113	38,645
Preferred share dividends	(1,049)	(1,200)
Allocation to participating securities	-	(688)
<b>Net (loss) income attributable to AERC applicable to common shares</b>	\$ (936)	\$ 36,757
<b>Earnings per common share - basic and diluted:</b>		
(Loss) income from continuing operations attributable to AERC applicable to common shares	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.26)
Income from discontinued operations	0.13	2.53
Net (loss) income attributable to AERC applicable to common shares	\$ (0.06)	\$ 2.27
<b>Dividends declared per common share</b>	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.17
<b>Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic and diluted</b>	16,434	16,167

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2008
<b>Cash flow from operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 127	\$ 38,659
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization (including discontinued operations)	9,466	9,302
Loss on fixed asset replacements write-off	13	19
Gain on disposition of properties	(2,278)	(42,910)
Amortization of deferred financing costs and other	322	357
Share-based compensation	604	542
Equity in net loss of joint ventures	-	22
Net change in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts and notes receivable	1,310	1,132
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(2,469)	(4,259)
Other operating assets and liabilities	(314)	(1,246)
Restricted cash	(80)	1,001
Total adjustments	6,574	(36,040)
Net cash flow provided by operations	6,701	2,619
<b>Cash flow from investing activities:</b>		
Recurring fixed asset additions	(2,193)	(1,362)
Revenue enhancing/non-recurring fixed asset additions	(69)	(86)
Acquisition fixed asset additions	(58)	(5,630)
Net proceeds from disposition of operating properties	3,836	84,791
Deposit of sale proceeds to escrow account	-	(23,581)
Net cash flow provided by investing activities	1,516	54,132
<b>Cash flow from financing activities:</b>		
Principal payments on mortgage notes payable	(72,784)	(43,594)
Payment of debt procurement costs	(686)	(601)
Proceeds from mortgage notes obtained	52,450	-
Revolver borrowings	78,500	66,750
Revolver repayments	(61,700)	(73,750)
Common share dividends paid	(2,801)	(2,765)
Preferred share dividends paid	(1,049)	(1,200)
Operating partnership distributions paid	(14)	(14)
Purchase of preferred and/or treasury shares	(176)	(215)
Net cash flow used for financing activities	(8,260)	(55,389)
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(43)	1,362
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	3,551	1,549
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>	<b>\$ 3,508</b>	<b>\$ 2,911</b>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Dividends declared but not paid	\$ 2,961	\$ 2,847
Cash paid for interest	8,070	11,441
Net change in accounts payable related to fixed asset additions	(780)	(257)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**ASSOCIATED ESTATES REALTY CORPORATION  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
UNAUDITED**

**1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*Except as the context otherwise requires, all references to "we," "our," "us," "AERC" and the "Company" in this report collectively refer to Associated Estates Realty Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries.*

**Business**

We are a self-administered and self-managed equity real estate investment trust ("REIT") specializing in multifamily property management, advisory, development, acquisition, disposition, operation and ownership activities. Our main source of income is rental revenue. Additional income is derived primarily from property and asset management fees.

As of March 31, 2009, our property portfolio consisted of: (i) 49 apartment communities containing 12,576 units in eight states that are wholly owned, either directly or indirectly through subsidiaries; (ii) three apartment communities that we manage for third party owners consisting of 616 units; and (iii) a 186-unit apartment community and a commercial property containing approximately 145,000 square feet that we asset manage for a government sponsored pension fund.

**Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") for interim financial information and applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal and recurring adjustments considered necessary for a fair statement, have been included. The reported results of operations are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and accompanying notes in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008.

**Noncontrolling Redeemable Interest**

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement No. 160, "Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements - an Amendment of ARB No. 51" ("SFAS 160"), which establishes and expands accounting and reporting standards for minority interests in a subsidiary and the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. SFAS 160 also requires minority interests to be recharacterized as noncontrolling interests. SFAS 160 was effective for us January 1, 2009, and as such, the operating partnership minority interest reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, has been recharacterized as noncontrolling redeemable interest for all periods presented.

**Share-Based Compensation**

During the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2008, we recognized total share-based compensation cost of \$606,000 and \$471,000, respectively, in "General and administrative expense" in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

*Stock Options.* During the three months ended March 31, 2009, there were 8,000 options awarded and no options exercised. There were no stock options awarded or exercised during the three months ended March 31, 2008. We use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the fair value of share-based awards. The weighted average Black-Scholes assumptions and fair value for options awarded during the three months ended March 31, 2009, were as follows:

Expected volatility		36.5 %
Risk-free interest rate		2.0 %
Expected life of options (in years)		7.2
Dividend yield		12.2 %
Grant-date fair value	\$	0.44

The expected volatility was based upon the historical volatility of our weekly share closing prices over a period equal to the expected life of the options granted. The risk-free interest rate used was the yield from U.S. Treasury bonds on the date of grant with a maturity approximating the expected life of the options. The expected life of the options was derived using our historical experience for similar awards. The dividend yield was derived using our annual dividend rate as a percentage of the price of our shares on the date of grant.

*Restricted Shares.* The following table represents restricted share activity for the three months ended March 31, 2009:

	Number of Shares		Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Nonvested at beginning of period	189,867	\$	11.33
Granted	176,108	\$	5.33
Vested	101,005	\$	5.47
Forfeited	625	\$	11.47
Nonvested at end of period	264,345	\$	8.24

At March 31, 2009, there was \$2.8 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested restricted share awards that we expect to recognize over a weighted average period of 2.5 years. Pursuant to the terms of the Company's Elective Deferred Compensation Program, certain of our officers elected to defer the receipt of all or a portion of the restricted shares granted them during the three months ended March 31, 2009.



**Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities**

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133" ("SFAS 161"), amends and expands the disclosure requirements of FASB Statement No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities" ("SFAS 133") with the intent to provide users of financial statements with an enhanced understanding of: (a) how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, (b) how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS 133 and its related interpretations, and (c) how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about the fair value of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative instruments. SFAS 133, as amended and interpreted, establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts, and for hedging activities. As required by SFAS 133, we record all derivatives on the balance sheet at fair value. The accounting for changes in the fair value of derivatives depends on the intended use of the derivative and the resulting designation. Derivatives used to hedge the exposure to changes in the fair value of an asset, liability, or firm commitment attributable to a particular risk, such as interest rate risk, are considered fair value hedges. Derivatives used to hedge the exposure to variability in expected future cash flows, or other types of forecasted transactions, are considered cash flow hedges.

For derivatives designated as fair value hedges, changes in the fair value of the derivative and the hedged item related to the hedged risk are recognized in earnings. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of changes in the fair value of the derivative is initially reported in other comprehensive income (outside of earnings) and subsequently reclassified to earnings when the hedged transaction affects earnings, and the ineffective portion of changes in the fair value of the derivative is recognized directly in earnings. Hedge ineffectiveness is measured by comparing the changes in fair value or cash flows of the derivative hedging instrument with the changes in fair value or cash flows of the designated hedged item or transaction. For derivatives not designated as hedges, changes in fair value are recognized in earnings.

We do not use derivatives for trading or speculative purposes. Further, we have a policy of only entering into contracts with major financial institutions based upon their credit ratings and other factors. When viewed in conjunction with the underlying and offsetting exposure that the derivatives are designed to hedge, we have not sustained a material loss from these hedges.

We have utilized interest rate swaps and caps to add stability to interest expense and to manage our exposure to interest rate movements. Interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable-rate amounts in exchange for fixed-rate payments over the life of the agreements without exchange of the underlying principal amount. Interest rate caps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable-rate amounts if interest rates rise above a certain level in exchange for an up front premium.

Interest Rate Hedge Activity: During 2007, we executed two interest rate swaps to hedge the cash flows of existing variable rate debt. No hedge ineffectiveness on these cash flow hedges was recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2009. Amounts reported in accumulated other comprehensive loss related to derivatives will be reclassified to interest expense as interest payments are made on our variable-rate debt. During the next twelve months, we estimate that approximately \$2.1 million will be reclassified from "Accumulated other comprehensive loss" as an increase to "Interest expense." The following table presents the notional amounts of the swaps as of March 31, 2009:

<i>(Dollar amount in thousands)</i>	Number of	Notional
Interest Rate Derivative	Instruments	Amounts
Interest rate swaps	2	\$ 63,000

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The following table presents the fair value of our derivative financial instruments as well as their classification on the Consolidated Balance Sheets (see Note 7 for additional information regarding the fair value of these derivative instruments):

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Fair Value of Derivative Instruments			
	As of March 31, 2009		As of December 31, 2008	
	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments under SFAS 133:				
Interest rate swaps	Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$ 2,209	Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$ 2,899

The following table presents the effect of our derivative financial instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Income (see Note 5 for additional information regarding the effect of these derivative instruments on total comprehensive income):

The Effect of Derivative Instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Operations			
<i>(In thousands)</i>	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in OCI on Derivative (Effective Portion) Three Months Ended March 31, 2009	Location of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion) Three Months Ended March 31, 2009
Derivatives in SFAS 133 Cash Flow Hedging Relationships			
Interest rate swaps	\$ (272)	Interest expense	\$ (418)

We have agreements with each of our derivative counterparties that contain a provision where if we either default or are capable of being declared in default on any of our indebtedness, then we could also be declared in default on our derivative obligations.

We have an agreement with a derivative counterparty that incorporates the loan covenant provisions of our indebtedness with a lender affiliate of the derivative counterparty. Failure to comply with the loan covenant provisions would result in our being in default on any derivative instrument obligations covered by the agreement.

As of March 31, 2009, the fair value of derivatives in a net liability position, which includes accrued interest but excludes any adjustment for nonperformance risk, related to these agreements was \$2.9 million. As of March 31, 2009, we have not posted any collateral related to these agreements. If we had breached any of these provisions at March 31, 2009, we would have been required to settle our obligations under the agreements at their termination value of \$2.9 million.

### Classification of Fixed Asset Additions

We define recurring fixed asset additions to a property to be capital expenditures made to replace worn out assets to maintain the property's value. Revenue enhancing/non-recurring fixed asset additions are defined as capital expenditures that increase the value of the property and/or enable us to increase rents. Acquisition fixed asset additions are defined as capital expenditures for the purchase or construction of new properties to be added to our portfolio, or fixed asset additions identified at the time of purchase that are not made until subsequent periods.

**Reclassifications**

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2008 financial statements to conform to the 2009 presentation.

**2. DISPOSITION ACTIVITY**

We report the results of operations and gain/loss related to the sale of real estate assets as discontinued operations in accordance with SFAS 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets" ("SFAS 144"). Real estate assets that are classified as held for sale are also reported as discontinued operations. We classify properties as held for sale when all significant contingencies surrounding the closing have been resolved. In most transactions, these contingencies are not satisfied until the actual closing of the transaction. Interest expense included in discontinued operations is limited to interest on mortgage debt specifically associated with properties sold or classified as held for sale.

On January 9, 2009, we completed the sale of a 96-unit property located in Northeast Ohio. The sales price was \$4.1 million and we recorded a gain of \$2.3 million.

"Income from discontinued operations" in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2008, includes the operating results for the properties sold in 2009 and prior years, as well as the gains recognized on properties sold during each reporting period. The following table summarizes "Income from discontinued operations:"

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2008
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Property revenue	\$ 27	\$ 4,210
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Property operating and maintenance	60	2,353
Depreciation and amortization	-	796
Total expenses	60	3,149
Operating income	(33)	1,061
Interest income	-	3
Interest expense (1)	-	(2,372)
Gain on disposition of properties	2,278	42,910
<b>Income from discontinued operations</b>	<b>\$ 2,245</b>	<b>\$ 41,602</b>

(1)	Interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2008 includes \$2.0 million of defeasance and other prepayment costs.
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**3. DEBT**

The following table identifies our total debt outstanding and weighted average interest rates:

<i>(Dollar amounts in thousands)</i>	March 31, 2009		December 31, 2008	
	Balance Outstanding	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding	Weighted Average Interest Rate
<b>FIXED RATE DEBT</b>				
Mortgages payable - CMBS	\$ 116,991	7.7%	\$ 154,685	7.7%
Mortgages payable - other <sup>(1)</sup>	337,646	5.8%	320,516	5.8%
Unsecured borrowings	25,780	7.9%	25,780	7.9%
<b>Total fixed rate debt</b>	<b>480,417</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>500,981</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
<b>VARIABLE RATE DEBT</b>				
Mortgages payable	35,231	4.9%	35,000	1.6%
Unsecured revolving credit facility	38,300	2.4%	21,500	3.7%
<b>Total variable rate debt</b>	<b>73,531</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>56,500</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>	<b>\$ 553,948</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>\$ 557,481</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

(1) Includes \$63.0 million of variable rate debt swapped to fixed as of March 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008.

**Mortgage Notes Payable**

The following table provides information on loans repaid at par as well as loans obtained during 2009:

<i>(Dollar amounts in thousands)</i>	Loans Repaid			Loans Obtained		
	Property	Amount	Rate	Amount	Rate	Maturity
Saw Mill Village	\$ 11,119	7.5%	\$ 17,220	6.0%	April 2016	
Georgetown Park	16,000	1.6% (a)	-	N/A	N/A	
Chestnut Ridge	19,000	1.4% (a)	-	N/A	N/A	
Oaks at Hampton	25,977	7.5%	-	N/A	N/A	
Steeplechase at Shiloh	-	N/A	13,790	4.9% (a)	March 2016	
Courtney Chase	-	N/A	21,440	4.9% (a)	March 2016	
	\$ 72,096	4.6% (b)	\$ 52,450	5.2% (b)		

(a) Denotes variable rate loans. Variable rates on loans obtained are as of March 31, 2009.

(b) Represents weighted average interest rate for the loans listed.

During 2008, 2007 and 2006, we defeased 21 loans. These loans were defeased in accordance with the loan documents. Also, in accordance with SFAS 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishment of Liabilities," we removed those financial assets and the mortgage loans from our financial records. All risk of loss associated with these defeasances have been transferred from us to the successor borrower and any ongoing relationship between the successor borrower and us was deemed inconsequential at the time of completion of the initial transfer. However, we subsequently learned that certain defeasance transactions, completed prior to June 2007, could enable us to receive a refund of a portion of the costs incurred in connection with the transaction. During the first quarter of 2009, we received a refund of \$563,000, which is included as a reduction to interest expense. It is possible that we may receive additional refunds in the future, however such amounts cannot be estimated due to the uncertainty of future payments and we believe that any amounts we may receive would not be material to our consolidated financial position, cash flow or results of operations.

#### **4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

##### **Goodwill**

In June 1998, we recorded goodwill in connection with the MIG Realty Advisors, Inc. merger.

We have a policy of completing our annual review of goodwill during the first quarter of each year and more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. The review that was completed during the three months ended March 31, 2009 determined that goodwill was not impaired and as such there were no changes to the carrying value of goodwill as of March 31, 2009. In performing this analysis, we use a multiple of revenues to the range of potential alternatives and assign a probability of the various alternatives under consideration by management. Should the estimates used to determine alternatives or the probabilities of the occurrence thereof change, impairment may result which could materially impact our results of operations for the period in which it is recorded.

##### **Intangible Assets**

In accordance with SFAS 141(R), "Business Combinations," we allocate a portion of the total purchase price of a property acquisition to any intangible assets identified, such as existing leases and tenant relationships. The intangible assets are amortized over the remaining lease terms or estimated life of the tenant relationship, which is approximately 12 to 16 months. Due to the short term nature of residential leases, we believe that existing lease rates approximate market rates; therefore, no allocation is made for above/below market leases.

**5. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

The following table provides a reconciliation of activity in Shareholders' equity accounts:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended March 31, 2009	Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2008
<b>Noncontrolling redeemable interest</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	\$ 1,829	\$ 1,829
Balance outstanding at end of period	\$ 1,829	\$ 1,829
<b>Preferred shares</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	\$ 48,263	\$ 55,213
Purchase and retirement of Class B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares	-	(6,950)
Balance outstanding at end of period	48,263	48,263
<b>Common shares (at \$.10 stated value)</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning and end of period	2,300	2,300
<b>Paid-in capital</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	282,501	281,152
Share based compensation	(247)	1,294
Shares issued from treasury for stock option exercises	-	(88)
Purchase and retirement of Class B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares	-	143
Balance outstanding at end of period	282,254	282,501
<b>Accumulated distributions in excess of accumulated net income</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	(159,595)	(180,436)
Net income	127	34,680
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling redeemable interest	(14)	(53)
Share based compensation	1	8
Purchase and retirement of Class B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares	-	2,146
Common share dividends declared	(2,871)	(11,285)
Preferred share dividends declared	(1,049)	(4,655)
Balance outstanding at end of period	(163,401)	(159,595)
<b>Accumulated other comprehensive loss</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	(2,899)	(1,050)
Change in fair value of hedge instruments	690	(1,849)
Balance outstanding at end of period	(2,209)	(2,899)
<b>Treasury shares (at cost)</b>		
Balance outstanding at beginning of period	(64,949)	(67,393)
Purchase of common shares	(177)	(221)
Share based compensation	733	734
Shares issued from treasury for stock option exercises	-	1,931
Balance outstanding at end of period	(64,393)	(64,949)
<b>Total Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 102,814</b>	<b>\$ 105,621</b>

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The following table identifies total comprehensive income:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2008
Comprehensive income:		
Net income attributable to AERC	\$ 113	\$ 38,645
Other comprehensive income (loss):		
Change in fair value of hedge instruments	690	(1,693)
Total comprehensive income	\$ 803	\$ 36,952

### 6. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Earnings per share ("EPS") have been computed pursuant to the provisions of SFAS 128, "Earnings per Share." In June 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Staff Position FSP EITF 03-6-1, "Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions Are Participating Securities," which was effective for us January 1, 2009. This FSP clarifies that nonvested awards containing nonforfeitable dividend rights are participating securities and are therefore required to be included in the computations of basic and diluted earnings per share. This FSP requires retrospective application to all periods presented.

There were 1.4 million and 1.6 million options to purchase common shares outstanding at March 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The dilutive effect of these options were not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share for the periods presented as their inclusion would be antidilutive to the net loss applicable to common shares from continuing operations.

The exchange of operating partnership noncontrolling interests into common shares was also not included in the computation of diluted EPS because we intend to settle these OP units in cash.

### 7. FAIR VALUE

Fair value determined in accordance with GAAP should be based on the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing certain assets or liabilities. Inputs used in determining fair value should be from the highest level available in the following hierarchy:

Level 1 inputs utilize quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that we have the ability to access;

Level 2 inputs may include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, as well as interest rates and yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals; and

Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability that are typically based on an entity's own assumptions as there is little, if any, related market activity.

In instances where the determination of the fair value measurement is based on inputs from different levels of the fair value hierarchy, the fair value measurement will fall within the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

The following table presents the financial liabilities that we measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2009:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Interest rate swaps	\$ -	\$ 2,209	\$ -	\$ 2,209

We incorporate credit valuation adjustments to appropriately reflect both our own nonperformance risk and that of the respective counterparty in the fair value measurements. The credit valuation adjustments utilize Level 3 inputs, such as estimates of current credit spreads, to evaluate the likelihood of default by either the respective counterparty or us. However, we determined that as of March 31, 2009, the impact of the credit valuation adjustments were not significant to the overall valuation of the swaps. See "Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities" in Note 1 for additional information regarding the swaps.

## 8. INTERIM SEGMENT REPORTING

We have three reportable segments: (1) Acquisition/Disposition Multifamily Properties; (2) Same Community Multifamily Properties; and (3) Management and Service Operations. We have identified our reportable segments based upon how management makes decisions regarding resource allocation and performance assessment. The Acquisition/Disposition properties represent acquired or developed properties which have not yet reached stabilization (we consider a property stabilized when its occupancy rate reaches 93.0% and we have owned the property for one year), and properties that have been sold or are classified as held for sale in accordance with SFAS 144. The Same Community properties are multifamily residential apartments that have been owned during the entirety of the comparison periods. The Management and Service Operations provide management and advisory services to the Acquisition/Disposition and Same Community properties that we own, as well as to third party clients and properties, both affiliate and non-affiliates, and charge a market rate fee based upon such services. All of our segments are located in the United States.

The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described in the "Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008. We evaluate the performance of our reportable segments based on Net Operating Income ("NOI"). NOI is determined by deducting property operating and maintenance expenses from property revenue for the Acquisition/Disposition (excluding amounts classified as discontinued operations) and Same Community segments and deducting direct property management and service company expenses and painting service expenses from Management and Service Company revenue for the Management and Service Operations segment. We consider NOI to be an appropriate supplemental measure of our performance because it reflects the operating performance of our real estate portfolio and management and service companies at the property and management and service company level and is used to assess regional property level performance. NOI should not be considered (i) as an alternative to net income (determined in accordance with GAAP), (ii) as an indicator of financial performance, (iii) as cash flow from operating activities (determined in accordance with GAAP) or (iv) as a measure of liquidity; nor is it necessarily indicative of sufficient cash flow to fund all of our needs. Other real estate companies may define NOI in a different manner.

Segment information for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2008 is as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2009			
	Acquisition/ Disposition	Same Community	Management and Service Operations	Total Consolidated
<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Total segment revenue	\$ 1,701	\$ 31,194	\$ 1,967	\$ 34,862
Elimination of intersegment revenue	(1)	-	(1,403)	(1,404)
Consolidated revenue	1,700	31,194	564	33,458
Operating loss from discontinued operations	(33)	-	-	(33)
*NOI	1,117	17,577	(8)	18,686

\*Intersegment revenue and expenses have been eliminated in the computation of NOI for each of the segments.



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Three Months Ended March 31, 2008

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Acquisition/ Disposition	Same Community	Management and Service Operations	Total Consolidated
Total segment revenue	\$ -	\$ 31,235	\$ 2,332	\$ 33,567
Elimination of intersegment revenue	-	-	(1,642)	(1,642)
Consolidated revenue	-	31,235	690	31,925
Operating loss from discontinued operations	(1,308)	-	-	(1,308)
*NOI	-	18,128	51	18,179

\*Intersegment revenue and expenses have been eliminated in the computation of NOI for each of the segments.

Total assets for each of the reportable segments are summarized as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	March 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Acquisition/disposition	\$ 72,082	\$ 75,012
Same community	603,991	610,975
Management and service operations	13,501	13,909
Total assets	\$ 689,574	\$ 699,896

A reconciliation of NOI to total consolidated net income attributable to AERC is as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2009	2008
Property NOI	\$ 18,694	\$ 18,128
Management and service operations NOI	(8)	51
Depreciation and amortization	(9,466)	(8,505)
General and administrative expense	(3,140)	(3,528)
Interest income	15	16
Interest expense	(8,213)	(9,083)
Equity in net loss of joint ventures	-	(22)
Income from discontinued operations:		
Operating (loss) income	(33)	(1,308)
Gain on disposition of properties	2,278	42,910
Income from discontinued operations	2,245	41,602
Net income	127	38,659
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interest	(14)	(14)
Consolidated net income attributable to AERC	\$ 113	\$ 38,645

## 9. CONTINGENCIES

### Legal Proceedings

We are subject to legal proceedings, lawsuits and other claims, including proceedings by government authorities (collectively "Litigation"). Litigation is subject to uncertainties and outcomes are difficult to predict. Consequently, we are unable to estimate ultimate aggregate monetary liability or financial impact with respect to the Litigation matter described in the following paragraph as of March 31, 2009, and no accrual has been made for this matter. We believe that other Litigation will not have a material adverse impact on us after final disposition. However, because of the uncertainties of Litigation, one or more lawsuits could ultimately result in a material obligation.

### Pending Lawsuits

On or about April 14, 2002, Melanie and Kyle Kopp commenced an action against us in the Franklin County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas seeking undetermined damages, injunctive relief and class action certification. This case arose out of our Suredeposit program. This program allowed cash short prospective residents to purchase a bond in lieu of paying a security deposit. The bond serves as a fund to pay those resident obligations that would otherwise have been funded by the security deposit. Plaintiffs allege that the nonrefundable premium paid for the bond is a disguised form of security deposit, which is otherwise required to be refundable in accordance with Ohio's Landlord-Tenant Act. Plaintiffs further allege that certain pet deposits and other nonrefundable deposits required by us are similarly security deposits that must be refundable in accordance with Ohio's Landlord-Tenant Act. On or about January 15, 2004, the Plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification. We subsequently filed a motion for summary judgment. On or about September 3, 2008, the court granted our motion for summary judgment thereby dismissing all Plaintiff claims against us. However, Plaintiff subsequently appealed the court's ruling and the matter is now on appeal before the Ohio Court of Appeals for the 10<sup>th</sup> District.

## 10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

### Dividends.

On May 1, 2009, we paid a dividend of \$0.17 per common share to shareholders of record on April 15, 2009, which had been declared on March 17, 2009.

**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in Part I, Item 1 of this report on Form 10-Q. This discussion may contain forward-looking statements based on current judgments and current knowledge of management, which are subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual results to vary from those projected, including but not limited to, expectations regarding our 2009 performance, which are based on certain assumptions. Accordingly, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements which speak only as of the dates of the document. These forward-looking statements are intended to be covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The words "expects," "projects," "believes," "plans," "anticipates" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Investors are cautioned that these forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainty that could cause actual results to differ from estimates or projections contained in these forward-looking statements, including without limitation the following:

- changes in the economic climate in the markets in which we own and manage properties, including interest rates, our ability to consummate the sale of properties pursuant to our current plan, the overall level of economic activity, the availability of consumer credit and mortgage financing, unemployment rates and other factors;
- our ability to refinance debt on favorable terms at maturity;
- our ability to defease or prepay debt pursuant to our current plan;
- risks of a lessening of demand for the multifamily units that we own or manage;
- competition from other available multifamily units and changes in market rental rates;
- increases in property and liability insurance costs;
- unanticipated increases in real estate taxes and other operating expenses;
- weather conditions that adversely affect operating expenses;
- expenditures that cannot be anticipated such as utility rate and usage increases, unanticipated repairs and real estate tax valuation reassessments or millage rate increases;
- our inability to control operating expenses or achieve increases in revenue;
- the results of litigation filed or to be filed against us;
- changes in tax legislation;
- risks of personal injury claims and property damage related to mold claims because of diminished insurance coverage;
- catastrophic property damage losses that are not covered by our insurance;
- our ability to acquire properties at prices consistent with our investment criteria;
- risks associated with property acquisitions such as environmental liabilities, among others;
- changes in or termination of contracts relating to third party management and advisory business; and
- risks related to the perception of residents and prospective residents as to the attractiveness, convenience and safety of our properties or the neighborhoods in which they are located.

**Overview.**

We are engaged primarily in the ownership and operation of multifamily residential units. We also provide asset and property management services to third party owners of multifamily residential units. Our primary source of cash and revenue from operations is rents from the leasing of owned apartment units, which represented 98.3% of our consolidated revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2009.

The operating performance of our properties is affected by general economic trends including but not limited to factors such as household formation, job growth, unemployment rates, population growth, immigration, the supply of new multifamily rental communities and in certain markets the supply of other housing alternatives, such as condominiums, single and multifamily rental homes and owner occupied single and multifamily homes. Additionally, our performance may be affected by access to and the cost of capital.

Rental revenue collections are a combination of rental rates, occupancy levels and rent concessions. We attempt to adjust these factors to adapt to changing market conditions, thus allowing us to maximize rental income. Indicators that we use in measuring these factors include physical occupancy and net rents. These indicators are more fully described in the Results of Operations comparison. Additionally, we consider property NOI to be an important indicator of our overall performance. Property NOI (property operating revenue less property operating and maintenance expenses) is a measure of the profitability of our properties and has the largest impact on our financial condition and operating results. See Note 8 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements presented in Part I, Item 1 of this report on Form 10-Q for additional information regarding property NOI and total NOI, in addition to a reconciliation of NOI to consolidated net income in accordance with GAAP.

We have three reportable segments: (1) Acquisition/Disposition Multifamily Properties; (2) Same Community Multifamily Properties; and (3) Management and Service Operations. Our Same Community portfolio consists of 47 properties containing 12,040 units and accounted for 94.8% of total property revenue and 94.0% of our property NOI during the three months ended March 31, 2009. NOI for the Same Community portfolio decreased \$551,000 or 3.0% during the three months ended March 31, 2009 when compared to the three months ended March 31, 2008. This decrease was primarily attributable to an \$806,000 or 15.6% reduction in NOI at our Florida and Georgia properties, while NOI at our Midwest portfolio increased \$342,000 or 3.2%.

**Updated 2009 Expectations.**

**Portfolio performance** - We expect Same Community property NOI to decrease in the range of -3.1% to -0.6% in 2009.

**Property acquisitions and sales** We plan to acquire approximately \$80.0 million of properties, while disposing of approximately \$80.0 million of properties. We also plan to develop 60 units on the land parcel adjacent to one of our properties in the Richmond, Virginia metropolitan area, at an approximate cost of \$7.0 million.

**Debt repayment** We expect net defeasance/prepayment costs to be approximately \$1.2 million to defease/prepay debt during 2009. Defeasance/prepayment costs are expected to be incurred in conjunction with the sales of certain properties that are secured by mortgages that are subject to defeasance/prepayment penalties if the debt is repaid prior to their respective prepayment dates.

**Forecast Qualification.** The uncertainties caused by the current economic turndown and the unprecedented financial crisis complicate our ability to forecast future performance and disposition/acquisition activity. We believe that the apartment industry is better situated to weather the recession and financial crisis than other real estate sectors, because people will normally choose shelter over discretionary spending such as going to the mall or hotel stays and because government sponsored agencies such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac continue to provide needed financing and refinancing credit facilities, which are otherwise unavailable to other commercial real estate sectors. However, our 2009 expectations may be adversely impacted if recessionary forces accelerate or Congress curtails Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac financing support to the apartment industry.

**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

Cash Flows and Liquidity. Significant sources and uses of cash during the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2008 are summarized as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended	
	2009	March 31, 2008
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 6,701	\$ 2,619
Fixed assets:		
Property/land acquisitions, net	(58)	(5,630)
Net property disposition proceeds	3,836	61,210
Recurring, revenue enhancing and non-recurring capital expenditures	(2,262)	(1,448)
Debt:		
Decrease in mortgage notes	(20,334)	(43,594)
Increase (decrease) in revolver borrowings	16,800	(7,000)
Cash dividends and operating partnership distributions paid	(3,864)	(3,979)

Our primary sources of liquidity are cash flow provided by operations, short-term borrowings on the revolver and proceeds from property sales. We believe that we are well positioned to weather the recent turmoil in the financial markets. Four mortgage loans totaling approximately \$72.2 million were to mature in 2009. During the three months ended March 31, 2009, we repaid \$52.5 million of the maturing debt with funds from new mortgage loans that mature in 2016 and we utilized short term funding from our revolver for the remaining \$19.7 million. As of March 31, 2009, our revolver had \$111.7 million available for borrowing and matures on March 11, 2011.

While we expect the slowing of rental revenue growth rates to continue, we anticipate that cash flow provided by operations for the remainder of the year will remain nearly consistent with current levels and will be adequate to fund our cash needs, other than the \$7.0 million required to develop a 60-unit expansion of a Richmond, Virginia property, which we intend to fund with borrowings on our revolver.

Cash flow provided by operations increased during 2009 compared to 2008 primarily due to an increase in cash flow from property operations of \$2.3 million and changes in accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$1.7 million. The changes in accounts payable and accrued expenses are primarily a result of the payment of capital improvement projects completed in 2008 but paid for during the first quarter of 2009 and differences in the timing of the payment of insurance premiums.

We anticipate funding approximately \$9.1 million for recurring, revenue enhancing and nonrecurring capital expenditures for the remainder of 2009. These expenditures are expected to be funded largely from cash flow provided by operating activities.

Any future multifamily property acquisitions or developments would be financed with the most appropriate sources of capital, which may include secured or unsecured debt financings, borrowings on the revolver, the assumption of mortgage indebtedness, bank and other institutional borrowings, the exchange of properties and undistributed earnings.

We anticipate that we will meet our 2009 liquidity requirements through cash flow provided by operations. We believe that this and other sources, such as the revolver, should be sufficient to meet operating requirements, capital additions, mortgage amortization payments and the payment of dividends in accordance with REIT requirements. We anticipate that we will continue paying quarterly regular dividends in cash.

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Comparison of the three months ended March 31, 2009 to the three months ended March 31, 2008.*

In the following discussion, Same Community properties represent 47 properties that we have owned during the entirety of the comparison periods. Acquired properties represent two properties acquired in April 2008.

The net loss from continuing operations decreased \$825,000 during 2009 compared to 2008 primarily due to total property NOI increases and reductions in interest expense during 2009. Property NOI for the acquisition properties increased approximately \$1.1 million in the first quarter. Property NOI for the Same Community properties decreased approximately \$551,000 during 2009, primarily as a result of increased property operating expenses coupled with flat property revenue during the first quarter. These reductions to net loss from continuing operations were partially offset by increases in depreciation and amortization during the first quarter.

The following chart reflects the amount and percentage change in line items that are relevant to the changes in overall operating performance:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Increase (decrease) when comparing the three months ended March 31, 2009 to March 31, 2008
Property revenue	\$ 1,659