



2023

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# *Annual* REPORT

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## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

**5.9%**

FFO, as adjusted per share growth<sup>1</sup>

**4.1%**

Dividend increase<sup>2</sup>

**3.5%**

Same-store revenue growth

**4.2%**

Same-store NOI<sup>1</sup> growth



**\$22.0 M**

Acquisitions

**4.1x**

Net Debt/EBITDA

**167**

New management contracts



(1) FFO and NOI are non-GAAP financial measures. See Item 7 in our Form 10-K for a discussion of non-GAAP financial measures and reconciliations to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures.

(2) Increase to quarterly dividend announced December 7, 2023 for the period ending December 31, 2023 and payable January 16, 2024.

## ***LETTER FROM THE CEO***

Our 2023 results showcased another successful year for the CubeSmart platform. We successfully grew cash flows as the business continued to normalize off the exceptional highs from the post-pandemic period. Our portfolio strategy, with its concentration in top-40 MSAs and focus on high-quality assets with strong demographics, experienced steadier performance as the lower-beta nature of these assets helped to mitigate the impact of the tightest housing market in almost 30 years. Our largest market, New York City, was a leader for our portfolio, as strong demand patterns drove steady, outsized growth. Overall, urban markets, which rely less on housing-related demand, outperformed the more volatile Sun Belt markets throughout the year.





## *Quality Platform*

Our investments in systems, processes, and people continue to bear fruit as we position ourselves to maximize cash flows through any macro environment. We continue to evolve our operating model as we focus on meeting our customers in the manner they're most comfortable interacting. We made further refinements to our digital platforms to ensure we're providing seamless interactions with our customers, while enhancing the overall experience. Our operational focus in 2023 was on simplicity, as we improved efficiency for our teammates to allow them to focus on providing our industry-leading customer service.



The focus on simplicity also applied to our efforts to control expenses. We found opportunities to streamline processes to add further efficiencies to our in-store operating model. Our investments in solar helped to mitigate pressure on utility expenses while we also had a successful year appealing property tax assessments. Another year of below-inflationary expense growth helped to expand same-store operating margins by 50 basis points.





## *Quality Portfolio*

We remain disciplined with our capital allocation strategy. Volatility in the capital markets created dislocation in the transaction market and limited the opportunity to find investments with attractive risk-adjusted returns that fit into our portfolio strategy. We acquired one store during the year for \$22.0 million and had an additional two stores under contract at year end for \$20.2 million. Our joint venture development program is another key value creator to enhance our portfolio with infill locations in core markets. We ended the year with four projects in the pipeline with a total anticipated capital contribution of \$94.2 million.



## *Quality Balance Sheet*

Our balance sheet is well-positioned to provide financial stability while also providing substantial capacity to fund future growth. At year end, leverage was at 4.1x net debt/EBITDA, well below the range for our BBB/Baa2 investment grade credit rating, providing us with significant capacity to fund future growth. We remain protected from interest rate volatility, with less than 1% of our debt floating rate and just \$31.4 million of debt set to mature in 2024. Our well-staggered maturity schedule has a weighted-average maturity of 5.4 years. In December, we announced our 15th consecutive annual increase to our dividend as we continue to share our cash flow growth with our shareholders.

**4.1x**

Net Debt to  
EBITDA

**99.4%**

% of Debt at  
Fixed Rate

**38.2%**

Debt to Gross  
Assets

**21.8%**

Debt to  
Enterprise Value

Metrics as of December 31, 2023







## *Corporate Responsibility*

We remain focused on growing in a sustainable manner for the benefit of all our stakeholders. We believe achieving our ESG (environmental, social, and governance) objectives complements our business and leads to long-term value creation for our shareholders. Our annual sustainability report provides detail on our ESG program and highlights our various initiatives and performance against our stated sustainability targets.







## *Long-Term Growth*

Our strategic focus on quality positions us to produce above-average risk-adjusted returns throughout economic cycles. Our high-quality platform, with its innovative culture and proprietary technological systems, is designed to maximize cash flows across all macro environments. Our high-quality portfolio, with industry-leading demographics in core markets, is designed to produce more stable cash flows and smooth out some of the volatility in the market. Our high-quality balance sheet, with its conservative leverage levels and well-staggered fixed rate maturities, is positioned to efficiently fund future growth. We head into 2024 well-positioned to continue creating long-term value for all of our stakeholders.

*Christopher P. Marr*

Christopher P. Marr  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
April 5, 2024





**PORTFOLIO  
OVERVIEW**

**611**

Owned Stores

**44.1 M**

Square Feet

**451 K**

Units

**1,406**

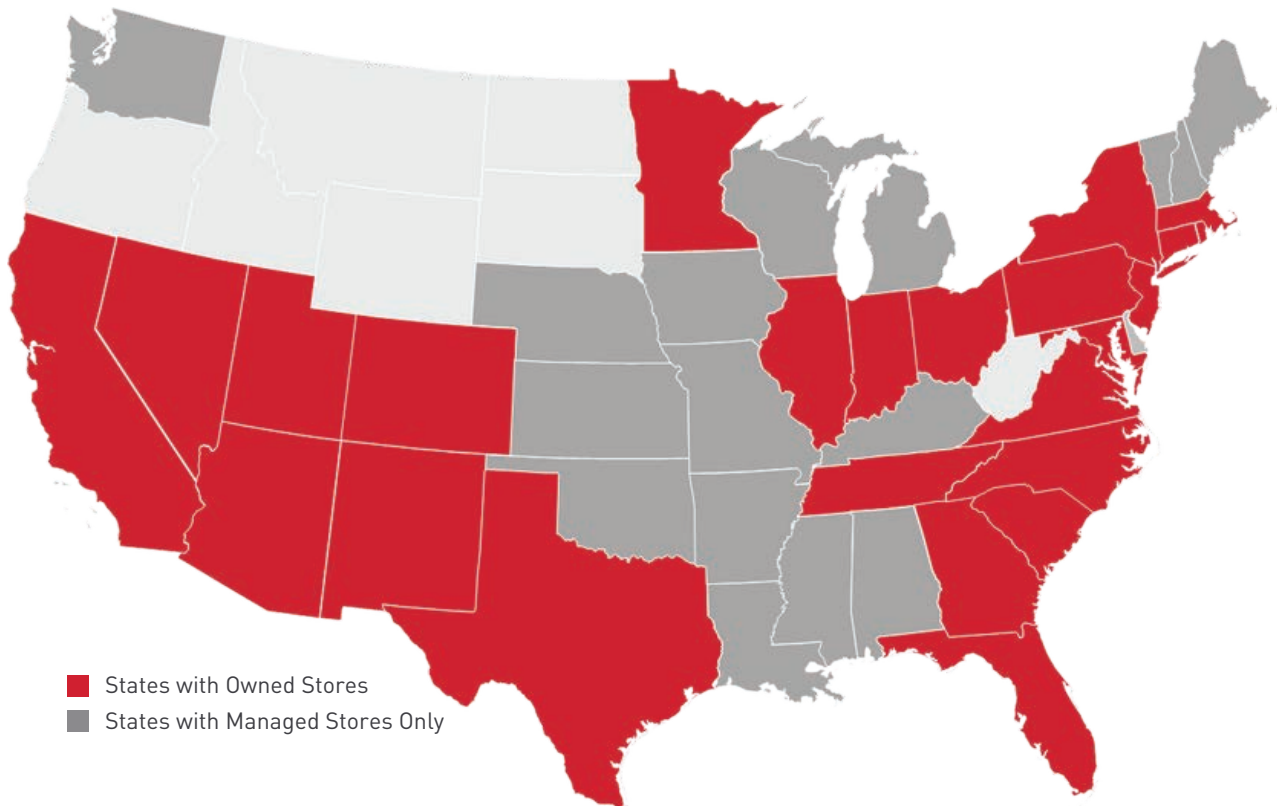
Total Stores

**96.0 M**

Square Feet

**932K**

Units



Data as of December 31, 2023

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, DC 20549

**FORM 10-K**

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023

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 001-32324 (CubeSmart)  
Commission file number 000-54462 (CubeSmart, L.P.)

**CUBESMART  
CUBESMART, L.P.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Maryland (CubeSmart)  
Delaware (CubeSmart, L.P.)  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, Pennsylvania  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

20-1024732 (CubeSmart)  
34-1837021 (CubeSmart, L.P.)  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

19355  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (610) 535-5000

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

Title of Each Class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share, of CubeSmart	CUBE	New York Stock Exchange

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:** Units of General Partnership Interest of CubeSmart, L.P.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

CubeSmart Yes  No   
CubeSmart, L.P. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

CubeSmart Yes  No   
CubeSmart, L.P. Yes  No

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.

CubeSmart Yes  No   
CubeSmart, L.P. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files).

CubeSmart Yes  No   
CubeSmart, L.P. Yes  No

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

CubeSmart:	Large accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>	Emerging growth company <input type="checkbox"/>
CubeSmart, L.P.:	Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>	Emerging growth company <input type="checkbox"/>

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

CubeSmart   
CubeSmart, L.P.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

CubeSmart   
CubeSmart, L.P.

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements.

CubeSmart   
CubeSmart, L.P.

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant's executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to § 240.10D-1(b).

CubeSmart   
CubeSmart, L.P.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

CubeSmart Yes  No   
CubeSmart, L.P. Yes  No

As of June 30, 2023, the last business day of CubeSmart's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of common shares held by non-affiliates of CubeSmart was \$10,005,900,746. As of February 27, 2024, the number of common shares of CubeSmart outstanding was 224,954,599.

As of June 30, 2023, the last business day of CubeSmart, L.P.'s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the 1,418,549 units of limited partnership (the "OP Units") held by non-affiliates of CubeSmart, L.P. was \$63,352,398 based upon the last reported sale price of \$44.66 per share on the New York Stock Exchange on June 30, 2023 of the common shares of CubeSmart, the sole general partner of CubeSmart, L.P. (For this computation, the market value of all OP Units beneficially owned by CubeSmart has been excluded.)

Documents incorporated by reference: Portions of the Proxy Statement for the 2024 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of CubeSmart to be filed subsequently with the SEC are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report.



## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This report combines the annual reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023 of CubeSmart (the “Parent Company” or “CubeSmart”) and CubeSmart, L.P. (the “Operating Partnership”). The Parent Company is a Maryland real estate investment trust (“REIT”), that owns its assets and conducts its operations through the Operating Partnership, a Delaware limited partnership, and subsidiaries of the Operating Partnership. The Parent Company, the Operating Partnership and their consolidated subsidiaries are collectively referred to in this report as the “Company”. In addition, terms such as “we”, “us”, or “our” used in this report may refer to the Company, the Parent Company and/or the Operating Partnership.

The Parent Company is the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership and, as of December 31, 2023, owned a 99.4% interest in the Operating Partnership. The remaining 0.6% interest consists of OP Units issued by the Operating Partnership to third parties in exchange for contributions of properties to the Operating Partnership. As the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership, the Parent Company has full and complete authority over the Operating Partnership’s day-to-day operations and management.

Management operates the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership as one enterprise. The management teams of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership are identical, and their constituents are officers of both the Parent Company and of the Operating Partnership.

There are a few differences between the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership, which are reflected in the note disclosures in this report. The Company believes it is important to understand the differences between the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership in the context of how these entities operate as a consolidated enterprise. The Parent Company is a REIT, whose only material asset is its ownership of the partnership interests of the Operating Partnership. As a result, the Parent Company does not conduct business itself, other than acting as the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership, issuing public equity from time to time and guaranteeing the debt obligations of the Operating Partnership. The Operating Partnership holds substantially all of the assets of the Company and, directly or indirectly, holds the ownership interests in the Company’s real estate ventures. The Operating Partnership conducts the operations of the Company’s business and is structured as a partnership with no publicly traded equity. Except for net proceeds from equity issuances by the Parent Company, which are contributed to the Operating Partnership in exchange for partnership units, the Operating Partnership generates the capital required by the Company’s business through the Operating Partnership’s operations, by the Operating Partnership’s direct or indirect incurrence of indebtedness or through the issuance of partnership units of the Operating Partnership or equity interests in subsidiaries of the Operating Partnership.

The substantive difference between the Parent Company’s and the Operating Partnership’s filings is the fact that the Parent Company is a REIT with public equity, while the Operating Partnership is a partnership with no publicly traded equity. In the financial statements, this difference is primarily reflected in the equity (or capital for the Operating Partnership) section of the consolidated balance sheets and in the consolidated statements of equity (or capital). Apart from the different equity treatment, the consolidated financial statements of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership are nearly identical.

The Company believes that combining the annual reports on Form 10-K of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership into a single report will:

- facilitate a better understanding by the investors of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership by enabling them to view the business as a whole in the same manner as management views and operates the business;
- remove duplicative disclosures and provide a more straightforward presentation in light of the fact that a substantial portion of the disclosure applies to both the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership; and
- create time and cost efficiencies through the preparation of one combined report instead of two separate reports.

In order to highlight the differences between the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership, the separate sections in this report for the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership specifically refer to the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership. In the sections that combine disclosures of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership, this report refers to such disclosures as those of the Company. Although the Operating Partnership is generally the entity that directly or indirectly enters into contracts and real estate ventures and holds assets and debt, reference to the Company is appropriate because the business is one enterprise and the Parent Company operates the business through the Operating Partnership.

As general partner with control of the Operating Partnership, the Parent Company consolidates the Operating Partnership for financial reporting purposes, and the Parent Company does not have significant assets other than its investment in the Operating Partnership. Therefore, the assets and liabilities of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership are the same on their respective financial statements. The separate discussions of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership in this report should be read in conjunction

with each other to understand the results of the Company's operations on a consolidated basis and how management operates the Company.

This report also includes separate Item 9A - Controls and Procedures sections, signature pages and Exhibits 31 and 32 certifications for each of the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership, in order to establish that the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of the Parent Company and the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of the Operating Partnership have made the requisite certifications and that the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership are compliant with Rule 13a-15 or Rule 15d-15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") and 18 U.S.C. §1350.



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## PART I

### Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K, or this Report, together with other statements and information publicly disseminated by the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership, contain certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning the Company's plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, future revenues or performance, capital expenditures, financing needs, plans or intentions relating to acquisitions and other information that is not historical information. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as "believes", "expects", "estimates", "may", "will", "should", "anticipates" or "intends" or the negative of such terms or other comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy. Such statements are based on assumptions and expectations that may not be realized and are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which cannot be predicted with accuracy and some of which might not even be anticipated. Although we believe the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, future events and actual results, performance, transactions or achievements, financial and otherwise, may differ materially from the results, performance, transactions or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. As a result, you should not rely on or construe any forward-looking statements in this Report, or which management or persons acting on their behalf may make orally or in writing from time to time, as predictions of future events or as guarantees of future performance. We caution you not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this Report or as of the dates otherwise indicated in such forward-looking statements. All of our forward-looking statements, including those in this Report, are qualified in their entirety by this statement.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in or contemplated by this Report. Any forward-looking statements should be considered in light of the risks and uncertainties referred to in Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in this Report and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). These risks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- adverse changes in economic conditions in the real estate industry and in the markets in which we own and operate self-storage properties;
- the effect of competition from existing and new self-storage properties and operators on our ability to maintain or raise occupancy and rental rates;
- the failure to execute our business plan;
- adverse impacts from pandemics, quarantines and stay at home orders, including the impact on our ability to operate our self-storage properties, the demand for self-storage, rental rates and fees and rent collection levels;
- reduced availability and increased costs of external sources of capital;
- increases in interest rates and operating costs;
- financing risks, including the risk of over-leverage and the corresponding risk of default on our mortgage and other debt and potential inability to refinance existing or future debt;
- counterparty non-performance related to the use of derivative financial instruments;
- risks related to our ability to maintain our Parent Company's qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes;
- the failure of acquisitions and developments to close on expected terms, or at all, or to perform as expected;
- increases in taxes, fees and assessments from state and local jurisdictions;
- the failure of our joint venture partners to fulfill their obligations to us or their pursuit of actions that are inconsistent with our objectives;
- reductions in asset valuations and related impairment charges;

- cybersecurity breaches, cyber or ransomware attacks or a failure of our networks, systems or technology, which could adversely impact our business, customer and employee relationships or result in fraudulent payments;
- changes in real estate, zoning, use and occupancy laws or regulations;
- risks related to or consequences of earthquakes, hurricanes, windstorms, floods, other natural disasters or acts of violence, pandemics, active shooters, terrorism, insurrection or war that impact the markets in which we operate;
- potential environmental and other material liabilities;
- governmental, administrative and executive orders, regulations and laws, which could adversely impact our business operations and customer and employee relationships;
- uninsured or uninsurable losses and the ability to obtain insurance coverage, indemnity or recovery from insurance against risks and losses;
- our ability to attract and retain talent in the current labor market;
- other factors affecting the real estate industry generally or the self-storage industry in particular; and
- other risks identified in this Report and, from time to time, in other reports that we file with the SEC or in other documents that we publicly disseminate.

Given these uncertainties and the other risks identified elsewhere in this Report, we caution readers not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise except as may be required by securities laws. Because of the factors referred to above, the future events discussed in or incorporated by reference in this Report may not occur and actual results, performance or achievement could differ materially from that anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

## **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

### **Overview**

We are a self-administered and self-managed real estate company focused primarily on the ownership, operation, management, acquisition and development of self-storage properties in the United States.

As of December 31, 2023, we owned (or partially owned and consolidated) 611 self-storage properties located in 24 states and in the District of Columbia containing an aggregate of approximately 44.1 million rentable square feet. As of December 31, 2023, approximately 89.8% of the rentable square footage at our owned stores was leased to approximately 379,000 customers, and no single customer represented a significant concentration of our revenues. As of December 31, 2023, we owned stores in the District of Columbia and the following 24 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia. In addition, as of December 31, 2023, we managed 795 stores for third parties (including 77 stores containing an aggregate of approximately 5.6 million net rentable square feet as part of six separate unconsolidated real estate ventures) bringing the total number of stores we owned and/or managed to 1,406. As of December 31, 2023, we managed stores for third parties in the District of Columbia and the following 40 states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

Our self-storage properties are designed to offer affordable and easily-accessible storage space for our residential and commercial customers. Our customers rent storage cubes for their exclusive use, typically on a month-to-month basis. Additionally, some of our stores offer outside storage areas for vehicles and boats. Our stores are designed to accommodate both residential and commercial customers, with features such as wide aisles and load-bearing capabilities for large truck access. All of our stores have a storage associate or automated kiosk available to assist our customers during business hours, and 336, or approximately 55.0%, of our owned stores have a manager who resides in an apartment at the store. Our customers can access their storage cubes during business hours, and some of our stores provide customers with 24-hour access through computer-controlled access systems. Our goal is to provide customers with the



highest standard of physical attributes and service in the industry. To that end, 510, or approximately 83.5%, of our owned stores include climate-controlled cubes.

The Parent Company was formed in July 2004 as a Maryland REIT. The Parent Company owns its assets and conducts its business through the Operating Partnership, and its subsidiaries. The Parent Company controls the Operating Partnership as its sole general partner and, as of December 31, 2023, owned a 99.4% interest in the Operating Partnership. The Operating Partnership was formed in July 2004 as a Delaware limited partnership and has been engaged in virtually all aspects of the self-storage business, including the development, acquisition, management, ownership and operation of self-storage properties.

## Acquisition and Disposition Activity

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, we owned 611 stores that contained an aggregate of 44.1 million rentable square feet with occupancy levels of 89.8% and 90.3%, respectively. Additional information about our stores is included in Item 2 of this Report. The following is a summary of our 2023, 2022 and 2021 acquisition and disposition activity:

Asset/Portfolio	Metropolitan Statistical Area	Transaction Date	Number of Stores	Transaction Price (in thousands)
<i>2023 Acquisition:</i>				
New Jersey Asset	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	December 2023	1	\$ 22,000
			<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 22,000</u>
<i>2023 Disposition:</i>				
Illinois Asset <sup>(1)</sup>	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	December 2023	1	\$ 8,000
			<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
<i>2022 Acquisitions:</i>				
Maryland Asset	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	February 2022	1	\$ 32,000
Texas Asset	San Antonio, TX	June 2022	1	23,000
Georgia Asset	Atlanta, GA	July 2022	1	20,700
			<u>3</u>	<u>\$ 75,700</u>
<i>2021 Acquisitions:</i>				
Minnesota Asset <sup>(2)</sup>	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	April 2021	1	\$ 12,000
Maryland Asset	Baltimore-Towson, MD	June 2021	1	22,075
New Jersey/Pennsylvania Assets	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	July 2021	2	33,000
Florida Asset	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	November 2021	1	14,750
Georgia Asset	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	November 2021	1	15,200
Pennsylvania Asset	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	November 2021	1	24,500
Nevada Asset	Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	December 2021	1	21,000
Storage West Assets	Various (see note 4 to our consolidated financial statements)	December 2021	57	1,648,426 <sup>(3)</sup>
Illinois Asset	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	December 2021	1	10,300
			<u>66</u>	<u>\$ 1,801,251</u>
<i>2021 Dispositions:</i>				
Colorado/Nevada Assets	Denver-Aurora, CO / Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	September 2021	2	\$ 16,900
North Carolina Assets	Burlington, NC	September 2021	2	21,700
Texas Asset	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	November 2021	1	5,200
			<u>5</u>	<u>\$ 43,800</u>

- (1) This store was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois.
- (2) This store was acquired by a consolidated joint venture in which we hold a 50% interest.
- (3) Purchase price represents the acquisition of all 167,557 outstanding partnership units of LAACO, Ltd. ("LAACO") for \$9,838 per unit. At the time of the acquisition, LAACO owned 57 storage properties (the "Storage West Assets") and 50% ownership interests in two separate joint ventures. Through this acquisition, the Company also acquired LAACO's wholly-owned subsidiaries, the Los Angeles Athletic Club and the California Yacht Club (the "Club Operations"). The Los Angeles Athletic Club was sold by the Company during the year ended December 31, 2022. The California Yacht Club was sold by the Company during the year ended December 31, 2023. See note 4 to our consolidated financial statements.

The comparability of our results of operations is affected by the timing of acquisition and disposition activities during the periods reported. As of December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, we owned (or partially owned and consolidated) 611, 611 and 607 self-storage

properties and related assets, respectively. The following table summarizes the change in number of owned stores from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance - January 1	611	607	543
Stores acquired	—	1	—
Stores developed	—	—	1
Stores combined <sup>(1)</sup>	—	—	(1)
Balance - March 31	611	608	543
Stores acquired <sup>(2)</sup>	—	1	2
Stores developed	—	1	2
Stores combined <sup>(1)</sup>	—	(1)	—
Balance - June 30	611	609	547
Stores acquired	—	1	2
Stores developed	—	1	—
Stores sold	—	—	(4)
Balance - September 30	611	611	545
Stores acquired	1	—	62
Stores developed	—	—	1
Stores sold <sup>(3)</sup>	(1)	—	(1)
Balance - December 31	<u>611</u>	<u>611</u>	<u>607</u>

- (1) On June 21, 2022 and March 3, 2021, we completed development of new stores located in Vienna, VA and Arlington, VA for approximately \$21.8 million and \$26.4 million, respectively. In each case, the developed store is located adjacent to an existing consolidated joint venture store. Given this proximity, each developed store has been combined with the adjacent existing store in our store count upon opening, as well as for operational and reporting purposes.
- (2) For the quarter ended June 30, 2021, includes one store acquired by a consolidated joint venture in which we hold a 50% interest.
- (3) For the quarter ended December 31, 2023, relates to one store that was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois.

## Financing and Investing Activities

The following summarizes certain financing and investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2023:

- *Acquisition Activity.* We acquired one wholly-owned store located in New Jersey for a purchase price of \$22.0 million.
- *Development Activity.* As of December 31, 2023, we had four joint venture development properties under construction, located in New Jersey (1) and New York (3), which are expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2025. As of December 31, 2023, we had invested \$51.2 million of an expected \$94.2 million related to these four projects.
- *Mortgage Loan Activity.* We repaid two mortgage loans with an aggregate outstanding principal balance of \$30.5 million.

## Business Strategy

Our business strategy consists of several elements:

- **Maximize cash flow from our stores** — We utilize our operating systems and experienced personnel to manage the balance between rental rates, discounts and physical occupancy with an objective of maximizing our rental revenue.
- **Acquire stores within targeted markets** — During 2024, we intend to pursue selective acquisitions in markets that we believe have high barriers to entry, strong demographic and market fundamentals and demand for storage in excess of storage capacity. We believe the self-storage industry will continue to afford us opportunities for growth through acquisitions due to the highly fragmented composition of the industry. In the past, we have formed joint ventures with unaffiliated third parties, and in the future we may form additional joint ventures, to facilitate the funding of future developments or acquisitions.



- **Dispose of stores** — During 2024, we intend to continue to evaluate opportunities to dispose of assets that have unattractive risk-adjusted returns. We intend to use proceeds from these transactions to fund acquisitions within targeted markets and for general corporate purposes.
- **Grow our third-party management business** — We intend to pursue additional third-party management opportunities and leverage our current platform to take advantage of consolidation in the industry. We plan to utilize our relationships with third-party owners to help source future acquisitions and other investment opportunities.

## Investment and Market Selection Process

We maintain a disciplined and focused process in the acquisition and development of self-storage properties. Our investment committee is comprised of four executive officers who oversee our investment process. Our investment process involves six stages — identification, initial due diligence, economic assessment, investment committee approval (and when required, the approval of our Board of Trustees (the “Board”)), final due diligence and documentation. Through our investment committee, we intend to focus on the following criteria:

- **Targeted markets** — Our targeted markets include areas where we currently maintain management that can be extended to additional stores, or where we believe that we can acquire a significant number of stores over time. We evaluate both the broader market and the immediate trade area, typically three miles around the store, for its ability to support above-average demographic growth. We seek to increase our presence primarily in areas with strong demographics and growth, including, but not exclusively limited to, major metropolitan regions within the United States.
- **Quality of store** — We focus on self-storage properties that have good visibility, ease of access, quality construction, and are located near retail centers, which typically provide high traffic corridors and are generally located near residential communities and commercial customers.
- **Growth potential** — We target acquisitions that offer growth potential through increased operating efficiencies and, in some cases, through additional leasing efforts, renovations or expansions. In addition to acquiring single stores, we seek to invest in portfolio acquisitions, including those offering significant potential for increased operating efficiency and economies of scale.

## Segment

We have one reportable segment: we own, operate, develop, manage and acquire self-storage properties.

## Concentration

Our self-storage properties are located in major metropolitan areas as well as suburban areas and have numerous customers per store. No single customer represented a significant concentration of our 2023 revenues. Our stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas provided approximately 17%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2023. Our stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas provided approximately 16%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2022. Our stores in New York, Florida, Texas and California provided approximately 19%, 15%, 9% and 8%, respectively, of our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021.

## Seasonality

We typically experience seasonal fluctuations in occupancy levels at our stores, which are generally slightly higher during the summer months due to increased moving activity.

## Financing Strategy

We maintain a capital structure that we believe is reasonable and prudent and that will enable us to have ample cash flow to cover debt service and make distributions to our shareholders. As of December 31, 2023, our debt to total market capitalization ratio (determined by dividing the carrying value of our total indebtedness by the sum of (a) the market value of the Parent Company’s outstanding common shares and units of the Operating Partnership held by third parties and (b) the carrying value of our total indebtedness) was approximately 21.8% compared to approximately 24.8% as of December 31, 2022. Our ratio of debt to the undepreciated cost of our total assets as of December 31, 2023 was approximately 38.2% compared to approximately 39.6% as of December 31, 2022. We expect to finance additional investments in self-storage properties through the most attractive sources of capital available at the time of the transaction, in a

manner consistent with maintaining a strong financial position and future financial flexibility, subject to limitations on incurrence of indebtedness under our unsecured credit facilities and the indenture that governs our unsecured notes. These capital sources may include existing cash, borrowings under our revolving credit facility, additional secured or unsecured financings, sales of common or preferred shares of the Parent Company in public offerings or private placements, additional issuances of debt securities, issuances of common or preferred units in our Operating Partnership in exchange for contributed properties and formations of joint ventures. We also may sell stores that have unattractive risk-adjusted returns and use the sales proceeds to fund other acquisitions.

## **Competition**

Self-storage properties compete based on a number of factors, including location, rental rates, occupancy, security, suitability of the store's design to prospective customers' needs and the manner in which the store is maintained, operated and marketed. In particular, the number of competing self-storage properties in a market could have a material effect on our occupancy levels, rental rates and on the overall operating performance of our stores. We believe that the primary competition for potential customers of any of our self-storage properties comes from other self-storage providers within a three-mile radius of that store. We emphasize customer service, convenience, security, professionalism, and cleanliness and, therefore, we believe our stores are well-positioned within their respective markets.

Our key competitors include local and regional operators as well as the other public self-storage REITs, including, but not limited to, Public Storage, Extra Space Storage Inc., and National Storage Affiliates Trust. These companies, some of which operate significantly more stores than we do and have greater resources than we have, and other entities may be able to accept more risk than we determine is prudent for us, including risks with respect to the geographic proximity of investments and the payment of higher acquisition prices. This competition may reduce the number of suitable acquisition opportunities available to us, increase the price required to acquire stores and reduce the demand for self-storage space at our stores. Nevertheless, we believe that our experience in operating, managing, acquiring, developing and obtaining financing for self-storage properties should enable us to compete effectively.

## **Government Regulation**

We are subject to various laws, ordinances and regulations, including regulations relating to lien sale rights and procedures, consumer protection measures and various federal, state and local regulations that apply generally to the ownership of real property and the operation of self-storage properties.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and applicable state accessibility act laws (collectively, the "ADA"), all places of public accommodation are required to meet federal requirements related to physical access and use by disabled persons. A number of other federal, state and local laws may also impose access and other similar requirements at our stores. A failure to comply with the ADA or similar state or local requirements could result in the governmental imposition of fines or the award of damages to private litigants affected by the noncompliance. Although we believe that our stores comply in all material respects with these requirements (or would be eligible for applicable exemptions from material requirements because of adaptive assistance provided), a determination that one or more of our stores or websites is not in compliance with the ADA or similar state or local requirements would result in the incurrence of additional costs associated with bringing them into compliance.

Under various federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations, an owner or operator of real property may become liable for the costs of removal or remediation of hazardous substances released on or in its property. These laws often impose liability without regard to whether the owner or operator knew of, or was responsible for, the release of such hazardous substances. The presence of hazardous substances, or the failure to properly remediate such substances, when released, may adversely affect the property owner's ability to sell the real estate or to borrow using the real estate as collateral, and may cause the property owner to incur substantial remediation costs. In addition to claims for cleanup costs, the presence of hazardous substances on a property could result in a claim by a private party for personal injury or a claim by an adjacent property owner or user for property damage. We may also become liable for the costs of removal or remediation of hazardous substances stored at our properties by a customer even though storage of hazardous substances would be without our knowledge or approval and in violation of the customer's storage lease agreement with us.

Our practice is to conduct or obtain environmental assessments in connection with the acquisition or development of properties. Whenever the environmental assessment for one of our stores indicates that a store is impacted by soil or groundwater contamination from prior owners/operators or other sources, we work with our environmental consultants and, where appropriate, state governmental agencies, to ensure that the store is either cleaned up, that no cleanup is necessary because the low level of contamination poses no significant risk to public health or the environment, or that the responsibility for cleanup rests with a third party. In certain cases, we have purchased environmental liability insurance coverage to indemnify us against claims for existing or suspected contamination or other adverse environmental conditions that may affect a property.

We are not aware of any environmental cleanup liability that we believe will have a material adverse effect on us. We cannot provide assurance, however, that these environmental assessments and investigations have revealed or will reveal all potential environmental liabilities, that no prior owner created any material environmental condition not known to us or the independent consultant or that future events or changes in environmental laws will not result in the imposition of environmental liability on us.

We have not received notice from any governmental authority of any material noncompliance, claim or liability in connection with any of our stores, nor have we been notified of a claim for personal injury or property damage by a private party in connection with any of our stores relating to environmental conditions.

We are not aware of any environmental condition with respect to any of our stores that could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations, and we do not expect that the cost of compliance with environmental regulations will have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations. We cannot provide assurance, however, that this will continue to be the case.

## **Insurance**

We carry comprehensive liability, fire, casualty, extended coverage and rental loss insurance covering all of the properties in our portfolio. We also carry environmental insurance coverage on certain stores in our portfolio. We believe the policy specifications and insured limits are appropriate and adequate given the relative risk of loss, the cost of the coverage and industry practice. We do not carry insurance for losses such as loss from civil unrest, riots, war or acts of God, pandemics, and, in some cases, flood and environmental hazards, because such coverage is either not available or not available at commercially reasonable rates. Some of our policies, such as those covering losses due to terrorism, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and windstorms, are insured subject to limitations involving large deductibles or co-payments and policy limits that may not be sufficient to cover losses. Additionally, we use a combination of insurance products, some of which include deductibles and self-insured retention amounts, to provide risk mitigation for potential liabilities associated with automobiles, workers' compensation, employment practices, general contractors, cyber risks, crime, directors and officers, employee health-care benefits, fiduciary obligations, managerial errors and omissions and personal injuries that might be sustained at our stores.

## **Offices**

Our principal executive offices are located at 5 Old Lancaster Road, Malvern, PA 19355. Our telephone number is (610) 535-5000.

## **Human Capital**

At CubeSmart, we refer to our employees as teammates, because collaboration towards shared goals defines our workplace. We care deeply about the experience our teammates have working with us. The CubeSmart work experience takes a holistic approach to our teammates' total wellbeing. Our teammate value proposition includes promoting a sense of belonging to a team; providing opportunities to make a meaningful difference at work and in their communities; supporting our teammates' ongoing personal and professional development; and offering competitive pay and rewards.

As of December 31, 2023, we employed 3,040 teammates, all within the United States. Of the total employees, approximately 89% were hourly and approximately 11% were salaried. We have no union presence or collective bargaining agreements. Our average teammate tenure as of December 31, 2023 was 3.5 years.

### *Company Culture and Teammate Experience*

We measure our teammates' experience each year through our Teammate Engagement Survey. In 2023, our annual engagement survey participation rate was 92%. Results are communicated within individual teams to share what we learned and discuss both the positive aspects about working at CubeSmart and where we have opportunities to improve. Leaders with team engagement below a certain threshold are provided with coaching and set goals for improvement. In addition to the survey and our focused support for teams who need it, we have ongoing conversations and commit to continuous improvement. Every CubeSmart teammate plays a role in building our company culture and making the experience working here the best it can be.

### *Teammate Development and Wellbeing*

As part of our culture, we seek to help teammates grow with us and leverage their development both at CubeSmart and beyond. We believe in providing all teammates with training and development opportunities to succeed in their role. We plan, design and deliver



training programs for all levels of the organization, from orientation and general job skills to enhancing leadership capabilities through skills trainings and mentoring. In 2023, we provided an average of 18 hours of training per teammate.

When recruiting new teammates, our talent acquisition team engages with our store management teams and corporate leaders to identify a pool of potential candidates to serve our customers and deliver best-in-class customer service. We recruited, hired and trained 1,651 teammates during the year ended December 31, 2023. Teammate referrals were a significant source for the candidates we hired, accounting for 18% of our new teammates. Additionally, 350 teammates were promoted into new roles and/or transitioned into new positions to further their career development.

We believe that career growth and personal development is an important part of our teammates' personal and professional success. To further support our teammates' success, we offer a number of benefits aimed at supporting the wellbeing of our teammates and their families. Those benefits include: medical, dental, vision, disability and life insurance coverage. We also offer a variety of programs designed to provide teammates with the ability to rest, rejuvenate and take care of their families such as paid holidays, vacation and sick time, and parental leave. Our Employee Assistance Program is available to all teammates, providing extra support as they and their families experience life changes and challenges.

Another important part of our teammates' wellbeing is their connection to a larger sense of purpose. We empower our teammates to find this with us and provide programs and opportunities for them. Our Idea Center provides a forum where teammates can submit ideas to enhance the workplace, streamline systems and processes and identify solutions and best practices. We encourage our teammates to participate in community service and philanthropy, and provide paid time off for teammates who participate in these activities. Also, through our matching gifts program, we match qualified charitable contributions made by teammates up to \$100 per teammate each year.

### *Diversity and Inclusion*

In February 2023, we adopted a Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Policy in addition to our existing Philosophy Regarding Respect in the Workplace. Our policy can be found in the Corporate Responsibility section of our internet website ([www.cubessmart.com](http://www.cubessmart.com)) and details our commitments to support and promote diversity, equality, and inclusion. Nothing on our website, including our Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Policy or sections thereof, shall be deemed incorporated by reference into this Annual Report.

As of December 31, 2023, of our total teammate population, 56% were female and 44% were male. Approximately 45% have self-identified as Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian, American Indian, or of two or more races. The average teammate age was 42; 35% of our teammates were 34 and younger, while 40% of our teammates were 45 or older.

### **Sustainability**

We are focused on building our company for the long term to generate sustainable growth. To that end, we have established a cross-functional ESG (Environmental, Social, & Governance) committee responsible for establishing our sustainability priorities and objectives. Management regularly evaluates sustainability risks faced by our portfolio and believe the low obsolescence, geographic diversification, and low emissions of our portfolio help to mitigate those risks. Our senior management team reports annually to the Board on the status of our ESG program, our progress against the goals we've set, and provides updates on the various initiatives we've undertaken to improve our sustainability. Our efforts to enact change are highlighted by our sustainability targets which look to track improvements across key ESG metrics and are aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

A key area of focus from a sustainability perspective is minimizing the impact we make on the environment. Self-storage remains a low-environmental impact business as it consumes less energy and water while emitting fewer greenhouse gases than other real estate property types. We continue to look for ways to further reduce our low impact through a variety of initiatives including solar panel installations, HVAC upgrades, high-efficiency lighting retrofits, green roofs, energy management systems, and paper reduction through our electronic rental platform.

We encourage you to review our Sustainability Report, which can be found in the Corporate Responsibility section of our website, for more detailed information regarding our sustainability programs and initiatives. Nothing on our website, including our Sustainability Report or sections thereof, shall be deemed incorporated by reference into this Annual Report.

### **Available Information**

We file registration statements, proxy statements, annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports with the SEC. You may obtain copies of these documents by accessing the SEC's website at

www.sec.gov. Our website address is [www.cubesmart.com](http://www.cubesmart.com). You also can obtain on our website, free of charge, copies of our annual reports on Form 10-K, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, our current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports, after we electronically file such reports or amendments with, or furnish them to, the SEC. Our website and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not intended to be incorporated by reference into this Report.

Also available on our website, free of charge, are copies of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, our Corporate Governance Guidelines and the charters for each of the committees of our Board — the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and the Compensation Committee. Copies of each of these documents are also available in print free of charge, upon request by any shareholder. You can obtain copies of these documents by contacting Investor Relations at 5 Old Lancaster Road, Malvern, PA 19355 or by telephoning 610-535-5000.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

### Overview

An investment in our securities involves various risks. Investors should carefully consider the risks set forth below together with other information contained in this Report. These risks are not the only ones that we may face. Additional risks not presently known to us, or that we currently consider immaterial, may also impair our business, financial condition, operating results and ability to make distributions to our shareholders.

### Risks Related to our Business and Operations

*Adverse macroeconomic and business conditions may significantly and negatively affect our rental rates, occupancy levels and therefore our results of operations.*

We are susceptible to the effects of adverse macro-economic events that can result in higher unemployment, shrinking demand for products, large-scale business failures and tight credit markets. Our results of operations are sensitive to changes in overall economic conditions that impact consumer spending, including discretionary spending, as well as to increased bad debts due to recessionary pressures. Adverse economic conditions affecting disposable consumer income, such as employment levels, business conditions, inflation, deflation, interest rates, tax rates and fuel and energy costs, could reduce consumer spending or cause consumers to shift their spending to other products and services. A general reduction in the level of discretionary spending or shifts in consumer discretionary spending could adversely affect our growth and profitability.

It is difficult to determine the breadth and duration of economic and financial market disruptions (including those in international markets) and the many ways in which they may affect our customers and our business in general. Nonetheless, financial and macroeconomic disruptions could have a significant adverse effect on our sales, profitability and results of operations.

*Our financial performance is dependent upon economic and other conditions of the markets in which our stores are located.*

We are susceptible to adverse developments in the markets in which we operate, such as business layoffs or downsizing, industry slowdowns, relocations of businesses, changing demographics and other factors. Our stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas accounted for approximately 17%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of our total 2023 revenues. As a result of this geographic concentration of our stores, we are particularly susceptible to adverse market conditions in these areas. Any adverse economic or real estate developments in these markets, or in any of the other markets in which we operate, or any decrease in demand for self-storage space resulting from the local business climate, could adversely affect our rental revenues, which could impair our ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and pay distributions to our shareholders.

*We face risks associated with property acquisitions.*

We intend to continue to acquire individual and portfolios of self-storage properties. The purchase agreements that we enter into in connection with acquisitions typically contain closing conditions that need to be satisfied before the acquisitions can be consummated. The satisfaction of many of these conditions is outside of our control, and we therefore cannot assure that any of our pending or future acquisitions will be consummated. These conditions include, among other things, satisfactory examination of the title, zoning and entitlements to the properties, the ability to obtain title insurance and customary closing deliverables and conditions. Moreover, in the event we are unable to complete pending or future acquisitions, we may have incurred significant legal, accounting, due diligence and other transaction costs in connection with such acquisitions without realizing the expected benefits.

Those acquisitions that we do consummate would increase our size and may potentially alter our capital structure. Although we believe that future acquisitions that we complete will enhance our financial performance, the success of acquisitions is subject to the risks that:

- acquisitions may fail to perform as expected;
- the actual costs of repositioning or redeveloping acquired properties may be higher than our estimates;
- we may be unable to obtain acquisition financing on favorable terms;
- acquisitions may be located in new markets where we may have limited knowledge and understanding of the local economy, an absence of business relationships in the area or an unfamiliarity with local governmental and permitting procedures; and



- there is only limited recourse, or no recourse, to the former owners of newly acquired properties for unknown or undisclosed liabilities such as the clean-up of undisclosed environmental contamination; claims by customers, vendors or other persons arising on account of actions or omissions of the former owners of the properties; and claims by local governments, adjoining property owners, property owner associations and easement holders for fees, assessments or taxes on other property-related changes. As a result, if a liability were asserted against us based upon ownership of an acquired property, we might be required to pay significant sums to settle it, which could adversely affect our financial results and cash flow.

In addition, we often do not obtain third-party appraisals of acquired properties and instead rely on internal value determinations.

***We will incur costs and will face integration challenges when we acquire or develop additional stores.***

As we acquire or develop additional self-storage properties and bring additional self-storage properties onto our third-party management platform, we will be subject to risks associated with integrating and managing new stores, including customer retention and mortgage default risks. In the case of a large portfolio purchase, we could experience strains in our existing systems and management capacities. In addition, acquisitions or developments may cause disruptions in our operations and divert management's attention away from day-to-day operations. Furthermore, our net income may decline because we will be required to depreciate/amortize in future periods costs for acquired real property and intangible assets. Our failure to successfully integrate any future acquisitions into our portfolio could have an adverse effect on our operating costs and our ability to make distributions to our shareholders.

***The acquisition of new stores that lack operating history with us will make it more difficult to predict financial performance.***

We intend to continue to acquire individual and portfolios of self-storage properties. These acquisitions could fail to perform in accordance with expectations. If we fail to accurately estimate occupancy levels, rental rates, operating costs or costs of improvements to bring an acquired store up to the standards established for our intended market position, the performance of the store may be below expectations. Acquired stores may have characteristics or deficiencies affecting their valuation or revenue potential that we have not yet discovered. We cannot assure that the performance of stores acquired by us will increase or be maintained under our management.

***Our development activities may be more costly or difficult to complete than we anticipate.***

We intend to continue to develop self-storage properties where market conditions warrant such investment. Once made, these investments may not produce results in accordance with our expectations. Risks associated with development and construction activities include:

- the unavailability of favorable financing sources in the debt and equity markets;
- construction cost overruns, including on account of rising interest rates, diminished availability of materials and labor, and increases in the costs of materials and labor;
- construction delays and failure to achieve target occupancy levels and rental rates, resulting in a lower than projected return on our investment;
- complications (including building moratoriums and anti-growth legislation) in obtaining necessary zoning, occupancy and other governmental permits; and
- unexpected, competitive development that is proposed or announced after our development activities have begun.

***We depend on external sources of capital that are outside of our control; the unavailability of capital from external sources could adversely affect our ability to acquire or develop stores, satisfy our debt obligations and/or make distributions to shareholders.***

We depend on external sources of capital to fund acquisitions and development, to satisfy our debt obligations and to make distributions to our shareholders required to maintain our status as a REIT, and these sources of capital may not be available on favorable terms, if at all. Our access to external sources of capital depends on a number of factors, including general market conditions, the market's perception of our growth potential, our current and potential future earnings, our cash flow and our ability to continue to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. If we are unable to obtain external sources of capital, we may not be able to acquire or develop properties when strategic opportunities exist, satisfy our debt obligations, make distributions to shareholders that would permit us to qualify as a REIT or avoid paying tax on our REIT taxable income.

***If we are unable to promptly re-lease our cubes or if the rates upon such re-letting are significantly lower than expected, our business and results of operations would be adversely affected.***

We derive revenues principally from rents received from customers who rent cubes at our self-storage properties under month-to-month leases. Any delay in re-leasing cubes as vacancies arise would reduce our revenues and harm our operating results. In addition, lower than expected rental rates upon re-leasing could adversely affect our revenues and impede our growth.

***Store ownership through joint ventures may limit our ability to act exclusively in our interest.***

We co-invest with, and we may continue to co-invest with, third parties through joint ventures. In any such joint venture, we may not be in a position to exercise sole decision-making authority regarding the stores owned through joint ventures. Investments in joint ventures may, under certain circumstances, involve risks not present when a third party is not involved, including the possibility that joint venture partners might become bankrupt or fail to fund their share of required capital contributions. Joint venture partners may have business interests or goals that are inconsistent with our business interests or goals and may be in a position to take actions contrary to our policies or objectives. Such investments also have the potential risk of impasse on strategic decisions, such as a sale, in cases where neither we nor the joint venture partner would have full control over the joint venture. In other circumstances, joint venture partners may have the ability without our agreement to make certain major decisions, including decisions about sales, capital expenditures, and/or financing. Any disputes that may arise between us and our joint venture partners could result in litigation or arbitration that could increase our expenses and distract our officers and/or Trustees from focusing their time and effort on our business. In addition, we might in certain circumstances be liable for the actions of our joint venture partners, and the activities of a joint venture could adversely affect our ability to qualify as a REIT, even though we do not control the joint venture.

***We face significant competition for customers and acquisition and development opportunities.***

Actions by our competitors may decrease or prevent increases of the occupancy and rental rates of our stores. We compete with numerous developers, owners and operators of self-storage properties, including other REITs, as well as on-demand storage providers, some of which own or may in the future own stores similar to ours in the same submarkets in which our stores are located and some of which may have greater capital resources. In addition, due to the relatively low cost of each individual self-storage property, other developers, owners and operators have the capability to build additional stores that may compete with our stores.

If our competitors build new stores that compete with our stores or offer space at rental rates near or below the rental rates we currently charge our customers, we may lose potential customers, and we may be pressured to reduce our rental rates below those we currently charge in order to retain customers when our customers' leases expire. As a result, our financial condition, cash flow, cash available for distribution, market price of our shares and ability to satisfy our debt service obligations could be materially adversely affected. In addition, increased competition for customers may require us to make capital improvements to our stores that we would not have otherwise made. Any unbudgeted capital improvements we undertake may reduce cash available for distributions to our shareholders or for satisfaction of our debt service obligations.

We also face significant competition for acquisitions and development opportunities. Some of our competitors have greater financial resources than we do and a greater ability to borrow funds to acquire stores. These competitors may also be willing to accept more risk than we can prudently manage, including risks with respect to the geographic proximity of investments and the payment of higher acquisition prices. This competition for investments may reduce the number of suitable investment opportunities available to us, may increase acquisition costs and may reduce demand for self-storage space in certain areas where our stores are located and, as a result, adversely affect our operating results.

***Potential losses may not be covered by insurance.***

We carry comprehensive liability, fire, casualty, extended coverage and rental loss insurance covering all of the properties in our portfolio. We also carry environmental insurance coverage on certain stores in our portfolio. We believe the policy specifications and insured limits are appropriate and adequate given the relative risk of loss, the cost of the coverage and industry practice. We do not carry insurance for losses such as loss from civil unrest, riots, war or acts of God, pandemics, and, in some cases, flood and environmental hazards, because such coverage is either not available or not available at commercially reasonable rates. Some of our policies, such as those covering losses due to terrorism, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and windstorms, are insured subject to limitations involving large deductibles or co-payments and policy limits that may not be sufficient to cover losses. In particular, certain of our stores are located in areas that are prone to or at risk of flooding, including coastal flooding, and some of our stores have been previously damaged or otherwise impacted by hurricanes and other flooding events. If we experience a loss at a store that is uninsured or that exceeds policy limits, we could lose the capital invested in that store as well as the anticipated future cash flows from that store. Inflation, changes in building codes

and ordinances, environmental considerations and other factors also might make it impractical or undesirable to use insurance proceeds to replace a store after it has been damaged or destroyed. In addition, if the damaged stores are subject to recourse indebtedness, we would continue to be liable for the indebtedness, even if these stores were irreparably damaged.

Additionally, we use a combination of insurance products, some of which include deductibles and self-insured retention amounts, to provide risk mitigation for potential liabilities associated with automobiles, workers' compensation, employment practices, general contractors, cyber risks, crime, directors and officers, employee health-care benefits, fiduciary obligations, managerial errors and omissions, and personal injuries that might be sustained at our stores. Liabilities associated with the risks that are retained by us are estimated, in part, by considering historical claims experience and actuarial assumptions. Our results of operations could be materially impacted by claims and other expenses related to such insurance plans if future occurrences and claims differ from these assumptions and historical trends.

***Our insurance coverage may not comply with certain loan requirements.***

Certain of our stores serve as collateral for our mortgage-backed debt, some of which we assumed in connection with our acquisition of stores and requires us to maintain insurance, deductibles, retentions and other policy terms at levels that may not be commercially reasonable in the current insurance environment. We may be unable to obtain required insurance coverage if the cost and/or availability make it impractical or impossible to comply with debt covenants. If we cannot comply with a lender's requirements, the lender could declare a default, which could affect our ability to obtain future financing and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows and our ability to obtain future financing. In addition, we may be required to self-insure against certain losses or our insurance costs may increase.

***We are subject to risks from the consequences of climate change, including severe weather events, as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy and other steps taken to prevent or mitigate climate change.***

Our self-storage properties are located in areas that may be subject to the direct impacts of climate change, such as increased destructive weather events like floods, sea level rise, fires, and drought, which could result in significant damage to our stores, increased capital expenditures, increased expenses, reduced revenues, or reduced demand for our self-storage space. Indirect impacts of climate change could also adversely impact our business, including through increased costs, such as insurance costs or regulatory compliance costs. Potential governmental, political and social pressure related to climate change and actions to mitigate climate change could in the future result in (i) costly changes to newly developed stores or retrofits of our existing stores to reduce carbon emissions through multiple avenues, including changes to insulation, space configuration, lighting, heating, and air conditioning, (ii) increased energy costs as a result of transitioning to less carbon-intensive, but more expensive, sources of energy to operate our stores, and (iii) consumers reducing their individual carbon footprints by owning fewer durable material consumer goods, collectibles, and other such items requiring storage, resulting in a reduced demand for our self-storage space. In addition, our reputation and investor relationships could be damaged as a result of our involvement with activities perceived to be causing or exacerbating climate change, as well as any decisions we make to continue to conduct or change our activities in response to considerations relating to climate change.

***Potential liability for environmental contamination could result in substantial costs.***

We are subject to federal, state and local environmental laws, ordinances and regulations that apply generally to the ownership of real property and the operation of self-storage properties. If we fail to comply with those laws, ordinances and regulations, we could be subject to significant fines or other governmental sanctions.

Under various federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations, an owner or operator of real estate may be required to investigate and clean up hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum product releases at a property and may be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage and for investigation and clean-up costs incurred by such parties in connection with contamination. Such liability may be imposed whether or not the owner or operator knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of these hazardous or toxic substances. The cost of investigation, remediation or removal of such substances may be substantial, and the presence of such substances, or the failure to properly remediate such substances, may adversely affect our ability to sell or rent such property or to borrow using such property as collateral. In addition, in connection with the ownership, operation and management of properties, we are potentially liable for property damage or injuries to persons and property.

Our practice is to conduct or obtain environmental assessments in connection with the acquisition or development of additional stores. We carry environmental insurance coverage on certain stores in our portfolio. We obtain or examine environmental assessments from qualified and reputable environmental consulting firms (and intend to conduct such assessments prior to the acquisition or development of additional stores). The environmental assessments received to date have not revealed, nor do we have actual knowledge of, any



environmental liability that we believe will have a material adverse effect on us. However, we cannot assure that our environmental assessments have identified or will identify all material environmental conditions, that any prior owner of any property did not create a material environmental condition not actually known to or discoverable by us, that environmental conditions on neighboring properties will not have an impact on any of our properties, or that a material environmental condition does not otherwise exist with respect to any of our properties.

***Americans with Disabilities Act and applicable state accessibility act compliance may require unanticipated expenditures.***

Under the ADA, all places of public accommodation are required to meet federal requirements related to access and use by disabled persons. A number of other federal, state and local laws may also impose access and other similar requirements at our properties or websites. A failure to comply with the ADA or similar state or local requirements could result in the governmental imposition of fines or the award of damages to private litigants affected by the noncompliance. Although we believe that our properties and websites comply in all material respects with these requirements (or would be eligible for applicable exemptions from material requirements because of adaptive assistance provided), a determination that one or more of our properties or websites is not in compliance with the ADA or similar state or local requirements would result in the incurrence of additional costs associated with bringing the properties or websites into compliance. If we are required to make substantial modifications to comply with the ADA or similar state or local requirements, we may be required to incur significant unanticipated expenditures, which could have an adverse effect on our operating costs and our ability to make distributions to our shareholders.

***We face system security risks as we depend upon automated processes and the internet, and breaches of, or failures in the performance of, our information technology systems could damage our reputation, cause us to incur substantial additional costs and subject us to litigation.***

We are increasingly dependent upon automated information technology processes, including artificial intelligence, and internet commerce, and many of our new customers come from the telephone or over the internet. Moreover, the nature of our business involves the receipt and retention of personal information about our customers. We also rely extensively on third-party vendors to retain data, host software, process transactions and provide other systems and services. These systems, and our systems, are subject to damage or interruption from power outages, computer and telecommunications failures, computer viruses, malware, ransomware and other destructive or disruptive security breaches and catastrophic events, such as a natural disaster or a terrorist event or cyber-attack. In addition, experienced computer programmers and hackers may be able to penetrate our security systems and misappropriate or make unavailable to us our confidential information, create system disruptions or cause shutdowns, whether due to malfeasance or human error. Such data security breaches as well as system disruptions and shutdowns could result in additional costs to repair or replace such networks or information systems and possible legal liability, including government enforcement actions and private litigation. In addition, our customers could lose confidence in our ability to protect their personal information, which could cause them to discontinue leasing at our stores.

We currently incorporate artificial intelligence solutions into our business, and applications of artificial intelligence may become important in our operations over time. Our competitors or other third parties may incorporate artificial intelligence into their businesses more quickly or more successfully than us, which could impair our ability to compete effectively and adversely affect our results of operations. Additionally, if the types of information that artificial intelligence applications assist in producing are or are alleged to be deficient, inaccurate, or biased, our business, financial condition, and results of operations may be adversely affected.

If we are unable to attract and retain team members or contract with third parties having the specialized skills or technologies needed to support our systems, implement improvements to our customer-facing technology in a timely manner, allow accurate visibility to product availability when customers are ready to rent, quickly and efficiently fulfill our customers rental and payment methods they demand or provide a convenient and consistent experience for our customers regardless of the ultimate sales channel, our ability to compete and our results of operations could be adversely affected.

**Risks Related to the Real Estate Industry**

***Our performance and the value of our self-storage properties are subject to risks associated with our properties and with the real estate industry.***

Our rental revenues, operating costs and the value of our real estate assets, and consequently the value of our securities, are subject to the risk that if our stores do not generate revenues sufficient to meet our operating expenses, including debt service and capital expenditures, our cash flow and ability to pay distributions to our shareholders will be adversely affected. Events or conditions beyond our control that may adversely affect our operations or the value of our properties include but are not limited to:

- downturns in the national, regional and local economic climate;
- local or regional oversupply, increased competition or reduction in demand for self-storage space;
- vacancies or changes in market rents for self-storage space;
- inability to collect or delay in collecting rent from customers;
- increased operating costs, including maintenance, personnel, insurance premiums, customer acquisition costs and real estate taxes;
- changes in interest rates and availability of financing;
- hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters, civil disturbances, terrorist acts or acts of war that may result in uninsured or underinsured losses;
- significant expenditures associated with acquisitions and development projects, such as debt service payments, real estate taxes, insurance and maintenance costs which are generally not reduced when circumstances cause a reduction in revenues from a property;
- costs of complying with changes in laws and governmental regulations, including those governing usage, zoning, the environment and taxes; and
- the relative illiquidity of real estate investments.

In addition, prolonged periods of economic slowdown or recession, rising interest rates, declining demand for self-storage, geopolitical tensions, military conflicts, pandemics or the fear or public perception that any of these events may occur, could result in a general decline in rental revenues, which could impair our ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and to make distributions to our shareholders.

***Rental revenues are significantly influenced by demand for self-storage space generally, and a decrease in such demand would likely have a greater adverse effect on our rental revenues than if we owned a more diversified real estate portfolio.***

Because our real estate portfolio consists primarily of self-storage properties, we are subject to risks inherent in investments in a single industry. A decrease in the demand for self-storage space would have a greater adverse effect on our rental revenues than if we owned a more diversified real estate portfolio. Demand for self-storage space could be adversely affected by weakness in the national, regional and local economies, changes in supply of, or demand for, similar or competing self-storage properties in an area and the excess amount of self-storage space in a particular market. To the extent that any of these conditions occur, they are likely to affect market rents for self-storage space, which could cause a decrease in our rental and management fee revenue. Any such decrease could impair our ability to satisfy debt service obligations and make distributions to our shareholders.

***Because real estate is illiquid, we may not be able to sell properties when appropriate.***

Real estate property investments generally cannot be sold quickly. Also, the tax laws applicable to REITs require that we hold our properties for investment, rather than for sale in the ordinary course of business, which may cause us to forgo or defer sales of properties that may otherwise be in our best interest. Therefore, we may not be able to dispose of properties promptly, or on favorable terms, in response to economic or other market conditions, which may adversely affect our financial position.

#### **Risks Related to our Qualification and Operation as a REIT**

***Failure to qualify as a REIT would subject us to U.S. federal income tax which would reduce the cash available for distribution to our shareholders.***

We operate our business to qualify to be taxed as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested and do not plan to request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) that we qualify as a REIT, and the statements in this Report are not binding on the IRS or any court. As a REIT, we generally will not be subject to federal income tax on the income that we distribute currently to our shareholders. Many of the REIT requirements, however, are highly technical and complex. The determination that we are a REIT requires an analysis of various factual matters and circumstances that may not be totally within our control. For example, to qualify as a REIT, at least 95% of our gross income must come from specific passive sources, such as rent, that are itemized in the REIT tax laws. In addition, to qualify as a REIT, we cannot own specified amounts of debt and equity securities of some issuers. We also are required to distribute to our shareholders with respect to each year at least 90% of our REIT taxable income, excluding net capital gains. The fact that we hold

substantially all of our assets through the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries and joint ventures further complicates the application of the REIT requirements for us. Even a technical or inadvertent mistake could jeopardize our REIT status, and, given the highly complex nature of the rules governing REITs and the ongoing importance of factual determinations, we cannot provide any assurance that we will continue to qualify as a REIT. Congress and the IRS may make changes to the tax laws and regulations, and the courts might issue new rulings that make it more difficult, or impossible, for us to remain qualified as a REIT. If we fail to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes and are able to avail ourselves of one or more of the statutory savings provisions in order to maintain our REIT status, we would nevertheless be required to pay penalty taxes of \$50,000 or more for each such failure.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, and are unable to avail ourselves of certain savings provisions set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), we would be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates on all of our income. As a taxable corporation, we would not be allowed to take a deduction for distributions to shareholders in computing our taxable income or pass through long-term capital gains to individual shareholders at favorable rates. We also could be subject to increased state and local taxes. We would not be able to elect to be taxed as a REIT until the fifth taxable year that begins after the taxable year we first failed to qualify unless the IRS were to grant us relief under certain statutory provisions. Further, for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, we may also be subject to certain taxes enacted by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 that are applicable to non-REIT corporations, including a corporate alternative minimum tax and a nondeductible one percent excise tax on certain stock repurchases. If we failed to qualify as a REIT, we would have to pay significant income taxes, which would reduce our net earnings available for investment or distribution to our shareholders. This likely would have a significant adverse effect on our earnings and likely would adversely affect the value of our securities. In addition, we would no longer be required to pay any distributions to shareholders.

Furthermore, we owned a subsidiary REIT (“PSI”) that was liquidated on December 31, 2018. Prior to liquidation, PSI was independently subject to, and was required to comply with, the same REIT requirements that we must satisfy in order to qualify as a REIT, together with all other rules applicable to REITs. If PSI failed to qualify as a REIT during our period of ownership, and certain statutory relief provisions do not apply, as a result of a protective election made jointly by PSI and CubeSmart, PSI should be taxed as a taxable REIT subsidiary. See the section entitled “Taxation of CubeSmart—Requirements for Qualification—Taxable REIT Subsidiaries” in Exhibit 99.1 for more information regarding taxable REIT subsidiaries.

LAACO was a publicly traded partnership immediately prior to our acquisition of it on December 9, 2021. Failure of 90% or more of a publicly traded partnership’s gross income to be “qualifying income” under Section 7704 of the Code in each of its tax years could result in such entity being taxed as a corporation rather than a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If LAACO failed to qualify as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes immediately prior to our acquisition of it, and certain relief provisions do not apply, it might adversely affect our ability to satisfy the income and asset tests for REIT qualification. In addition, LAACO’s classification as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes would mean that it has corporate income tax liabilities for all tax years during which it is classified as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

***Failure of the Operating Partnership (or a subsidiary partnership or joint venture) to be treated as a partnership would have serious adverse consequences to our shareholders.***

If the IRS were to successfully challenge the tax status of the Operating Partnership or any of its subsidiary partnerships or joint ventures for federal income tax purposes, the Operating Partnership or the affected subsidiary partnership or joint venture would be taxable as a corporation. In such event, we likely would cease to qualify as a REIT and the imposition of a corporate tax on the Operating Partnership, a subsidiary partnership or joint venture would reduce the amount of cash available for distribution from the Operating Partnership to us and ultimately to our shareholders.

***To maintain our REIT status, we may be forced to borrow funds on a short-term basis during unfavorable market conditions.***

As a REIT, we are subject to certain distribution requirements, including the requirement to distribute 90% of our REIT taxable income, excluding net capital gains, which may result in our having to make distributions at a disadvantageous time or to borrow funds at unfavorable rates. Compliance with this requirement may hinder our ability to operate solely on the basis of maximizing profits.

***We will pay some taxes even if we qualify as a REIT, which will reduce the cash available for distribution to our shareholders.***

Even if we qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, we will be required to pay certain federal, state and local taxes on our income and property. For example, we will be subject to income tax to the extent we distribute less than 100% of our REIT taxable income, including capital gains. Additionally, we will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the amount, if any, by which dividends paid by us in any calendar year are less than the sum of 85% of our ordinary income, 95% of our capital gain net income and 100% of our undistributed income from prior years. Moreover, if we have net income from “prohibited transactions,” that income will be



subject to a 100% penalty tax. In general, prohibited transactions are sales or other dispositions of property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. The determination as to whether a particular sale is a prohibited transaction depends on the facts and circumstances related to that sale. We cannot guarantee that sales of our properties would not be prohibited transactions unless we comply with certain statutory safe-harbor provisions.

In addition, any net taxable income earned directly by our taxable REIT subsidiaries, or through entities that are disregarded for federal income tax purposes as entities separate from our taxable REIT subsidiaries, will be subject to federal and possibly state corporate income tax. We have elected to treat some of our subsidiaries as taxable REIT subsidiaries, and we may elect to treat other subsidiaries as taxable REIT subsidiaries in the future. In this regard, several provisions of the laws applicable to REITs and their subsidiaries ensure that a taxable REIT subsidiary will be subject to an appropriate level of federal income taxation. For example, a taxable REIT subsidiary is limited in its ability to deduct certain interest payments made to an affiliated REIT. In addition, the REIT has to pay a 100% penalty tax on some payments that it receives or on some deductions taken by a taxable REIT subsidiary if the economic arrangements between the REIT, the REIT's customers, and the taxable REIT subsidiary are not comparable to similar arrangements between unrelated parties. Finally, some state and local jurisdictions may tax some of our income even though as a REIT we are not subject to federal income tax on that income because not all states and localities follow the federal income tax treatment of REITs. To the extent that we and our affiliates are required to pay federal, state and local taxes, we will have less cash available for distributions to our shareholders.

***We face possible federal, state and local tax audits.***

Because we are organized and qualify as a REIT, we are generally not subject to federal income taxes, but are subject to certain state and local taxes. Certain entities through which we own real estate either have undergone, or are currently undergoing, tax audits. Although we believe that we have substantial arguments in favor of our positions in these audits, in some instances there may be no controlling precedent or interpretive guidance on the specific point at issue. Collectively, tax deficiency notices received to date from the jurisdictions conducting the ongoing audits have not been material. However, there can be no assurance that future audits will not occur with increased frequency or that the ultimate result of such audits will not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

***Legislative or regulatory tax changes related to REITs could materially and adversely affect our business.***

At any time, the federal income tax laws or regulations governing REITs or the administrative interpretations of those laws or regulations may be changed, possibly with retroactive effect. We cannot predict if or when any new federal income tax law, regulation or administrative interpretation, or any amendment to any existing federal income tax law, regulation or administrative interpretation, will be adopted, promulgated or become effective or whether any such law, regulation or interpretation may take effect retroactively. We and our shareholders could be adversely affected by any such change in, or any new, federal income tax law, regulation or administrative interpretation.

Shareholders are urged to consult with their tax advisors with respect to the status of any regulatory or administrative developments and proposals and their potential effect on investment in our equity securities.

***Dividends paid by REITs do not qualify for the reduced tax rates provided under current law.***

Dividends paid by REITs are generally not eligible for the reduced 15% maximum tax rate for dividends paid to individuals (20% for those with taxable income above certain thresholds that are adjusted annually under current law). The more favorable tax rates applicable to regular corporate dividends could cause shareholders who are individuals to perceive investments in REITs to be relatively less attractive than investments in the stock of non-REIT corporations that pay dividends to which more favorable tax rates apply, which could reduce the value of REIT stocks.

***Partnership tax audit rules could have a material adverse effect on us.***

Under the rules applicable to U.S. federal income tax audits of partnerships, subject to certain exceptions, any audit adjustment to items of income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit of a partnership (and any partner's distributive share thereof) is determined, and taxes, interest, or penalties attributable thereto could be assessed and collected, at the partnership level. Absent available elections, it is possible that the Operating Partnership, and any other partnership in which we directly or indirectly invest, could be required to pay additional taxes, interest and penalties as a result of an audit adjustment, and we, as a direct or indirect partner of a partnership, could be required to bear the economic burden of those taxes, interest, and penalties even though we may not otherwise have been required to pay additional taxes had we owned the assets of these partnerships directly. There can be no assurance that these rules will not have a material adverse effect on us.

## **Risks Related to our Debt Financings**

### ***We face risks related to current debt maturities, including refinancing risk.***

Certain of our mortgages, bank loans and unsecured debt (including our senior notes) will have significant outstanding balances on their maturity dates, commonly known as “balloon payments.” We may not have the cash resources available to repay those amounts, and we may have to raise funds for such repayment either through the issuance of equity or debt securities, additional bank borrowings (which may include extension of maturity dates), joint ventures or asset sales. Furthermore, we are restricted from incurring certain additional indebtedness and making certain other changes to our capital and debt structure under the terms of the Credit Facility (defined below) and senior notes and the indentures governing the Credit Facility and senior notes.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to refinance our debt on favorable terms or at all. To the extent we cannot refinance debt on favorable terms or at all, we may be forced to dispose of properties on disadvantageous terms or pay higher interest rates, either of which would have an adverse impact on our financial performance and ability to pay dividends to our shareholders.

### ***As a result of our interest rate hedges, swap agreements and other, similar arrangements, we face counterparty risks.***

We may be exposed to the potential risk of counterparty default or non-payment with respect to interest rate hedges, swap agreements, floors, caps and other interest rate hedging contracts that we may enter into from time to time, in which event we could suffer a material loss on the value of those agreements. Although these agreements may lessen the impact of rising interest rates on us, they also expose us to the risk that other parties to the agreements will not perform or that we cannot enforce the agreements. There is no assurance that our potential counterparties on these agreements will perform their obligations under such agreements.

### ***Financing our future growth plan or refinancing existing debt maturities could be impacted by negative capital market conditions.***

From time to time, domestic financial markets experience volatility and uncertainty. At times in recent years liquidity has tightened in the domestic financial markets, including the investment grade debt and equity capital markets from which we historically sought financing. Consequently, there is greater uncertainty regarding our ability to access the credit markets in order to attract financing on reasonable terms, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to continue to issue common or preferred equity securities at a reasonable price. Our ability to finance new acquisitions and development and refinance future debt maturities could be adversely impacted by our inability to secure financing on reasonable terms, if at all.

### ***The terms and covenants relating to our indebtedness could adversely impact our financial performance.***

Like other real estate companies that incur debt, we are subject to risks associated with debt financing, such as the insufficiency of cash flow to meet required debt service payment obligations and the inability to refinance outstanding indebtedness at maturity. If our debt cannot be paid, refinanced or extended at maturity, we may not be able to make distributions to shareholders at expected levels or at all and may not be able to acquire or develop new stores. Failure to make distributions to our shareholders could result in our failure to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. Furthermore, an increase in our interest expense could adversely affect our cash flow and ability to make distributions to shareholders. If we do not meet our debt service obligations, any stores securing such indebtedness could be foreclosed on, which would have a material adverse effect on our cash flow and ability to make distributions and, depending on the number of stores foreclosed on, could threaten our continued viability.

Our Credit Facility (defined below) contains (and any new or amended facility we may enter into from time to time will likely contain) customary affirmative and negative covenants, including financial covenants that, among other things, require us to comply with certain liquidity and other tests. Our ability to borrow under the Credit Facility is (and any new or amended facility we may enter into from time to time will be) subject to compliance with such financial and other covenants. In the event that we fail to satisfy these covenants, we would be in default under the Credit Facility and may be required to repay such debt with capital from other sources. Under such circumstances, other sources of debt or equity capital may not be available to us, or may be available only on unattractive terms. Moreover, the presence of such covenants in our credit agreements could cause us to operate our business with a view toward compliance with such covenants, which might not produce optimal returns for shareholders. Similarly, the indenture under which we have issued unsecured senior notes contains customary financial covenants, including limitations on incurrence of additional indebtedness.

Increases in interest rates on variable-rate indebtedness would increase our interest expense, which could adversely affect our cash flow and ability to make distributions to shareholders. Rising interest rates could also restrict our ability to refinance existing debt when it matures. In addition, an increase in interest rates could decrease the amounts that third parties are willing to pay for our assets, thereby limiting our ability to alter our portfolio promptly in relation to economic or other conditions.

***Our organizational documents contain no limitation on the amount of debt we may incur. As a result, we may become highly leveraged in the future.***

Our organizational documents do not limit the amount of indebtedness that we may incur. We could alter the balance between our total outstanding indebtedness and the value of our assets at any time. If we become more highly leveraged, then the resulting increase in debt service could adversely affect our ability to make payments on our outstanding indebtedness and to pay our anticipated distributions and/or the distributions required to maintain our REIT status, and could harm our financial condition.

### **Risks Related to our Organization and Structure**

***We are dependent upon our senior management team whose continued service is not guaranteed.***

Our executive team, including our named executive officers, has extensive self-storage, real estate and public company experience. Our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Legal Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer are parties to the Company's executive severance plan, however, we cannot provide assurance that any of them will remain in our employment. The loss of services of one or more members of our senior management team could adversely affect our operations and our future growth.

***The loss of key personnel, including our on-site personnel, or difficulties we encounter in hiring, training and retaining personnel, including skilled field personnel, may adversely affect our rental revenues.***

Our performance depends on our ability to recruit and retain high-quality employees in our stores, in our sales center and in our corporate headquarters. Our ability to attract and retain corporate, sales, store and other personnel is also acutely impacted in markets where the competition for a relatively small number of qualified employees is intense. Furthermore, we have experienced, and could continue to experience, a shortage of labor for certain positions due to certain market trends and conditions which could further decrease the pool of available talent for key functions.

As of December 31, 2023, we had 2,553 property-level personnel involved in the management and operation of our stores. The customer service, marketing skills and knowledge of local market demand and competitive dynamics of our store managers are contributing factors to our ability to maximize our rental income and to achieve the highest sustainable rent levels at each of our stores.

Competitive pressures and the impact of inflation may require that we enhance our pay and benefits package to compete effectively for such personnel. If there is an increase in these costs or if we fail to attract and retain qualified and skilled personnel, our business and operating results could be adversely affected.

***Certain provisions of Maryland law could inhibit changes in control, which may discourage third parties from conducting a tender offer or seeking other change of control transactions that could involve a premium price for our shares or otherwise benefit our shareholders.***

Certain provisions of Maryland law may have the effect of inhibiting a third party from making a proposal to acquire us or of impeding a change of control under circumstances that otherwise could provide the holders of our common shares with the opportunity to realize a premium over the then-prevailing market price of those shares, including:

- “business combination moratorium/fair price” provisions that, subject to limitations, prohibit certain business combinations between us and an “interested shareholder” (defined generally as any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of our shares or an affiliate thereof) for five years after the most recent date on which the shareholder becomes an interested shareholder, and thereafter imposes stringent fair price and super-majority shareholder voting requirements on these combinations; and
- “control share” provisions that provide that “control shares” of our company (defined as shares which, when aggregated with other shares controlled by the shareholder, entitle the shareholder to exercise one of three increasing ranges of voting power in electing Trustees) acquired in a “control share acquisition” (defined as the direct or indirect acquisition of ownership or control of “control shares” from a party other than the issuer) have no voting rights except to the extent approved by our shareholders by the affirmative vote of at least two thirds of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding all interested shares, and are subject to redemption in certain circumstances.

We have opted out of these provisions of Maryland law. However, our Board may opt to make these provisions applicable to us at any time without shareholder notice or approval.

Our Trustees also have the discretion, granted in our bylaws and Maryland law, without shareholder approval to, among other things (1) create a staggered Board, (2) amend our bylaws or repeal individual bylaws in a manner that provides the Board with greater authority, and (3) issue additional equity securities. Any such action could inhibit or impede a third party from making a proposal to acquire us at a price that could be beneficial to our shareholders.

***Our shareholders have limited control to prevent us from making any changes to our investment and financing policies.***

Our Board has adopted policies with respect to certain activities. These policies may be amended or revised from time to time at the discretion of our Board without a vote of our shareholders. This means that our shareholders have limited control over changes in our policies. Such changes in our policies intended to improve, expand or diversify our business may not have the anticipated effects and consequently may adversely affect our business and prospects, results of operations and share price.

***Our rights and the rights of our shareholders to take action against our Trustees and officers are limited.***

Maryland law provides that a trustee or officer has no liability in that capacity if he or she performs his or her duties in good faith, in a manner he or she reasonably believes to be in our best interests and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances. Our declaration of trust and bylaws require us to indemnify our Trustees and officers for actions taken by them in those capacities on our behalf, to the extent permitted by Maryland law. Accordingly, in the event that actions taken in good faith by any Trustee or officer impede our performance, our shareholders' ability to recover damages from that Trustee or officer will be limited.

***Our declaration of trust permits our Board to issue preferred shares with terms that may discourage third parties from conducting a tender offer or seeking other change of control transactions that could involve a premium price for our shares or otherwise benefit our shareholders.***

Our declaration of trust permits our Board to issue up to 40,000,000 preferred shares, having those preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to distributions, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption as determined by our Board. In addition, our Board may reclassify any unissued common shares into one or more classes or series of preferred shares. Thus, our Board could authorize, without shareholder approval, the issuance of preferred shares with terms and conditions that could have the effect of discouraging a takeover or other transaction in which holders of some or a majority of our shares might receive a premium for their shares over the then-prevailing market price of our shares. We currently do not expect that the Board would require shareholder approval prior to such a preferred issuance. In addition, any preferred shares that we issue would rank senior to our common shares with respect to the payment of distributions, in which case we could not pay any distributions on our common shares until full distributions have been paid with respect to such preferred shares.

## **Risks Related to our Securities**

***Additional issuances of equity securities may be dilutive to shareholders.***

The interests of our shareholders could be diluted if we issue additional equity securities to finance future acquisitions or developments or to repay indebtedness. Our Board may authorize the issuance of additional equity securities, including preferred shares, without shareholder approval. Our ability to execute our business strategy depends upon our access to an appropriate blend of debt financing, including unsecured lines of credit and other forms of secured and unsecured debt, and equity financing, including common and preferred equity.

***Many factors could have an adverse effect on the market value of our securities.***

A number of factors might adversely affect the price of our securities, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- increases in market interest rates, relative to the dividend yield on our shares. If market interest rates go up, prospective purchasers of our securities may require a higher yield. Higher market interest rates would not, however, result in more funds for us to distribute and, to the contrary, would likely increase our borrowing costs and potentially decrease funds available for distribution. Thus, higher market interest rates could cause the market price of our equity securities to go down;

- anticipated benefit of an investment in our securities as compared to investment in securities of companies in other industries (including benefits associated with tax treatment of dividends and distributions);
- perception by market professionals of REITs generally and REITs comparable to us in particular;
- level of institutional investor interest in our securities;
- trading volumes in securities of REITs;
- our results of operations and financial condition;
- investor confidence in the stock market generally; and
- additions and departures of key personnel.

The market value of our equity securities is based primarily upon the market's perception of our growth potential and our current and potential future earnings and cash distributions. Consequently, our equity securities may trade at prices that are higher or lower than our net asset value per equity security. If our future earnings or cash distributions are less than expected, it is likely that the market price of our equity securities will diminish.

***The market price of our common shares has been, and may continue to be, particularly volatile, and our shareholders may be unable to resell their shares at a profit.***

The market price of our common shares has been subject to fluctuation and may continue to fluctuate or decline. Between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2023, the closing price per share of our common shares has ranged from a high of \$57.02 (on December 30, 2021) to a low of \$31.87 (on January 5, 2021). In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been brought against that company. If our share price is volatile, we may become the target of securities litigation, which could result in substantial costs and divert our management's attention and resources from our business.

## **General Risk Factors**

***Many states and local jurisdictions are facing severe budgetary problems which may have an adverse impact on our business and financial results.***

Many states and jurisdictions are facing severe budgetary problems. Action that may be taken in response to these problems, such as increases in property taxes on commercial properties, changes to sales taxes or other governmental efforts, including mandating medical insurance, paid time off and severance payments for employees, could adversely impact our business and results of operations.

***We may incur impairment charges.***

We evaluate on a quarterly basis our real estate portfolio for indicators of impairment. Impairment charges reflect management's judgment of the probability and severity of the decline in the value of real estate assets we own. These charges and provisions may be required in the future as a result of factors beyond our control, including, among other things, changes in the economic environment and market conditions affecting the value of real property assets or natural or man-made disasters. If we are required to take impairment charges, our results of operations will be adversely impacted.

***Inflation, responses to high inflation and rising operating expenses could reduce our cash flow and funds available for future distributions.***

Our stores and any other stores we acquire or develop in the future are, and will be, subject to operating risks common to real estate in general, any or all of which may negatively affect us. Our stores are subject to increases in operating expenses such as real estate, sales and other taxes, personnel costs including mandated minimum hourly wage rates and the cost of providing specific medical coverage and governmental mandated benefits to our employees, utilities, customer acquisition costs, insurance, administrative expenses and costs for repairs and maintenance. If operating expenses continue to increase without a corresponding increase in revenues, our profitability could diminish and limit our ability to make distributions to our shareholders.



The United States Federal Reserve Board and similar international bodies have increased interest rates in recent years to control and decrease the level of inflation. Such increases in interest rates could have a material effect on our financial performance, as further described under the heading “The terms and covenants relating to our indebtedness could adversely impact our financial performance.”

***We cannot assure our ability to pay dividends in the future.***

Historically, we have paid quarterly distributions to our shareholders, and we intend to continue to pay quarterly dividends and to make distributions to our shareholders in amounts such that all or substantially all of our taxable income in each year, subject to certain adjustments, is distributed. This, along with other factors, should enable us to continue to qualify for the tax benefits accorded to a REIT under the Code. We have not established a minimum dividends payment level, and all future distributions will be made at the discretion of our Board. Our ability to pay dividends will depend upon, among other factors:

- the operational and financial performance of our stores;
- capital expenditures with respect to existing and newly acquired stores;
- general and administrative costs associated with our operation as a publicly-held REIT;
- maintenance of our REIT status;
- the amount of, and the interest rates on, our debt;
- the absence of significant expenditures relating to environmental and other regulatory matters; and
- other risk factors described in this Report.

Certain of these matters are beyond our control and any significant difference between our expectations and actual results could have a material adverse effect on our cash flow and our ability to make distributions to shareholders.

***We may become subject to litigation or threatened litigation which may divert management’s time and attention, require us to pay damages and expenses or restrict the operation of our business.***

We may become subject to disputes with commercial parties with whom we maintain relationships, customers or potential customers, or other parties with whom we do business. Any such dispute could result in litigation between us and the other parties. Whether or not any dispute actually proceeds to litigation, we may be required to devote significant management time and attention to its successful resolution (through litigation, settlement or otherwise), which would detract from our management’s ability to focus on our business. Any such resolution could involve the payment of damages or expenses by us, which may be significant. In addition, any such resolution could involve our agreement with terms that restrict the operation of our business.

There are other commercial parties, at a local, national and global level, that may assert that our use of our brand names and other intellectual property conflict with their rights to use brand names, internet domains and other intellectual property that they consider to be similar to ours. Any such commercial dispute and related resolution would involve all of the risks described above, including, in particular, our agreement to restrict the use or application of our brand name or other intellectual property.

We also could be sued for personal injuries and/or property damage occurring on our properties. We maintain liability insurance with limits that we believe are adequate to provide for the defense and/or payment of any damages arising from such lawsuits. There can be no assurance that such coverage will cover all costs and expenses from such suits.

***Legislative actions and changes may cause our general and administrative costs and compliance costs to increase.***

In order to comply with laws adopted by federal, state or local government or regulatory bodies, we may be required to increase our expenditures and hire additional personnel and additional outside legal, accounting and advisory services, all of which may cause our general and administrative and compliance costs to increase. Significant workforce-related legislative changes could increase our expenses and adversely affect our operations. Examples of possible workforce-related legislative changes include changes to an employer's obligation to recognize collective bargaining units, the process by which collective bargaining agreements are negotiated or imposed, minimum wage requirements and health care and medical and family leave mandates. In addition, changes in the regulatory environment affecting health care reimbursements, and increased compliance costs related to enforcement of federal and state wage and hour statutes and common law related to overtime, among others, could cause our expenses to increase without an ability to recoup any increased expenses through higher prices.

***Privacy concerns could result in regulatory changes that may harm our business.***

Personal privacy has become a significant issue in the jurisdictions in which we operate. Many jurisdictions in which we operate, including California and New York, have imposed restrictions and requirements on the use of personal information by those collecting such information. The regulatory framework for privacy issues is rapidly evolving and future enactment of more restrictive laws, rules or regulations and/or future enforcement actions or investigations could have a materially adverse impact on us through increased costs or restrictions on our business. Failure to comply with such laws and regulations could result in consent orders or regulatory penalties and significant legal liability, including fines, which could damage our reputation and have an adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

***Terrorist attacks, active shooter incidents and other acts of violence or war may adversely impact our performance and may affect the markets on which our securities are traded.***

Terrorist attacks at or against our stores, our interests or the United States, may negatively impact our operations and the value of our securities. Attacks, armed conflicts or active-shooter situations could negatively impact the demand for self-storage and increase the cost of insurance coverage for our stores, which could reduce our profitability and cash flow. Furthermore, any terrorist attacks, armed conflicts or active-shooter situations could result in increased volatility in or damage to the United States and worldwide financial markets and economy.

***Environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) issues may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations and damage our reputation.***

Companies across all industries are facing increasing scrutiny relating to their ESG policies. Increased regulatory requirements related to environmental causes, and related ESG disclosure rules, including the SEC’s disclosure proposal on climate change, may result in increased compliance costs or increased energy and other costs.

In addition to environmental issues, these constituencies are also focused on social and other governance issues, including matters such as human capital and social issues. We have established several policies and procedures related to diversity, equity and inclusion as part of our ESG initiative. Our initiatives also extend from individuals to entire communities, including those we serve.

Any failure to achieve our ESG goals or a perception (whether or not valid) of our failure to act responsibly with respect to the environmental, social, or governance issues, or to effectively respond to new, or changes in, legal or regulatory requirements concerning ESG matters, or increased operating costs due to increased regulation or environmental causes could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations, access to capital and reputation and increase our risk of litigation.

***Failure to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition, and share price.***

Pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, we are required to provide a report by management on internal control over financial reporting, including management’s assessment of the effectiveness of internal control. Changes to our business will necessitate ongoing changes to our internal control systems and processes. Internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatement because of its inherent limitations, including the possibility of human error, the circumvention or overriding of controls, or fraud. Therefore, even effective internal controls can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements. If we fail to maintain the adequacy of our internal controls, including any failure to implement required new or improved controls, or if we experience difficulties in their design or implementation, our business, results of operations, and financial condition could be materially harmed, we could fail to meet our reporting obligations, and there could be a material adverse effect on the market price of our common shares.

**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

## **ITEM 1C. CYBERSECURITY**

### ***Risk Management and Strategy***

We recognize the importance of developing, implementing and maintaining robust measures to safeguard our electronic information systems and we have established processes, described below, to assess, identify, manage and mitigate risks from cybersecurity threats and cybersecurity incidents. We believe our processes are reasonable for real estate companies of our size and complexity.

We have integrated cybersecurity risk management into our broader risk management framework to promote a company-wide culture of cybersecurity risk management. This integration ensures that cybersecurity considerations are an integral part of our decision-making processes at every level. Under the direction of our Senior Vice President, Information Technology and our Senior Director, Information Security & Infrastructure (together, the “Cybersecurity Leadership Team”) our Information Technology department regularly monitors cybersecurity threats and leads the prevention, detection, mitigation and remediation of cybersecurity incidents, with regular reporting to senior management and to the Board on these topics.

The Critical Security Controls, a prescriptive, prioritized, and standardized set of globally recognized best practices, guide our information security strategy. The Critical Security Controls are developed and maintained by the Center for Internet Security, Inc., a nonprofit organization with over 20 years of experience in helping individuals, businesses and governments protect themselves against cyber threats. We also consider best practices from third-party vendors and payment processors and from the Cloud Security Alliance, a nonprofit organization that leverages global expertise to offer research and education programs related to cloud security.

Recognizing the complexity and evolving nature of cybersecurity threats, we also retain a range of external experts, including cybersecurity assessors, consultants and auditors in evaluating and testing our information security processes and systems. These engagements enable us to access specialized knowledge and insights, ensuring our cybersecurity strategies and processes remain at the forefront of industry best practices. Our engagements with these third parties include regular audits, threat assessments and consultation on security enhancements. We also regularly conduct information security training to ensure that all employees, including those who may come into possession of confidential financial or personally identifiable information, are aware of information security risks and are equipped to take steps to mitigate such risks. The results of such tests, assessments, reviews and trainings are evaluated by senior management and our cybersecurity policies, processes and practices are refined as necessary based on the information provided.

We routinely conduct thorough security assessments of our third-party service providers that have access to our electronic information (including data centers operated by third parties and cloud computing platforms) and we maintain policies and procedures to oversee and identify cybersecurity risks associated with our use of third-party service providers. Our policies and procedures also include technical controls and processes, as well as contractual mechanisms to mitigate risk. Assessments are performed biannually by the Cybersecurity Leadership Team and on a regular basis by their staff.

Since January 1, 2021, we have not experienced any cybersecurity incidents that have resulted in material financial loss. We are not aware of any cybersecurity threats or cybersecurity incidents that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect us or our business strategy, results of operations or financial condition.

### ***Management Oversight***

Primary responsibility for the oversight of the assessment, identification and management of our cybersecurity risks rests with our Senior Vice President, Information Technology. Under her direction, these risk mitigation efforts are designed, tested, and implemented by our Senior Director, Information Security & Infrastructure. Collectively, the Cybersecurity Leadership Team has over 50 years of experience in the field of Information Technology, holding relevant academic degrees and industry certifications, including the Certified Cloud Security Professional and Certified Information Systems Security Professional designations. The Cybersecurity Leadership Team oversees our information technology governance programs, tests our compliance with standards, remediates known risks, and leads our employee cybersecurity training program.

The Cybersecurity Leadership Team continually assesses and discusses the latest developments in cybersecurity, including potential threats and innovative risk management techniques. This ongoing knowledge acquisition enhances our processes that are used to identify, prevent, mitigate and remediate cybersecurity threats and cybersecurity incidents. The Cybersecurity Leadership Team’s responsibilities include the deployment of advanced security measures and regular system audits to identify potential vulnerabilities. In the event of a cybersecurity incident, the Cybersecurity Leadership Team is equipped with a well-defined incident response plan. This plan includes immediate actions to mitigate the impact of the incident, reporting such events to senior management, and developing strategies for remediation and prevention of future incidents.

The Cybersecurity Leadership Team maintains an ongoing dialogue with senior management regarding emerging or potential cybersecurity risks. Together, they discuss updates on any significant developments in the cybersecurity domain, ensuring that management's oversight is proactive. In addition, a cross-organizational cyber task force, which includes the Cybersecurity Leadership Team and several members of senior management, meets regularly to consider and address cybersecurity risks, including risks related to our use of third-party service providers. This task force reports regularly to senior management, who actively participates in strategic decisions related to cybersecurity, offering guidance and approval for major initiatives. The involvement of senior management in our cybersecurity strategy ensures that cybersecurity considerations are collaborative and integrated into our broader strategic objectives.

The Cybersecurity Leadership Team regularly informs the cyber task force of all aspects related to cybersecurity risks and incidents. This ensures that the highest levels of management are kept abreast of the cybersecurity posture and potential risks facing us. Furthermore, as noted below, significant cybersecurity matters, and strategic risk management decisions are escalated to the Audit Committee and, as appropriate, the Board, ensuring that such bodies maintain comprehensive oversight and can provide guidance on critical cybersecurity issues.

### ***Board of Trustees Oversight***

The Board acknowledges the importance of managing risks associated with cybersecurity threats and cybersecurity incidents and has established oversight mechanisms to manage such risks. The Audit Committee is central to the Board's oversight of cybersecurity risks and bears the primary responsibility for this domain. The Audit Committee is composed of five independent Trustees, two of whom have considerable information technology experience.

The Audit Committee receives comprehensive briefings from the Cybersecurity Leadership Team on an annual basis. These briefings help identify areas for improvement and ensure the alignment of cybersecurity efforts with our overall risk management framework. The broad range of topics encompassed in these briefings includes:

- The current cybersecurity landscape and emerging threats;
- Our cybersecurity posture and the effectiveness of our risk management strategies;
- The status of ongoing cybersecurity initiatives and strategies; and
- Our compliance with regulatory requirements and industry standards.

Our internal controls also provide for the Audit Committee to receive prompt information regarding any cybersecurity incident that meets established reporting thresholds, as well as for updates regarding any such incident until it has been fully remediated. The Audit Committee provides updates to the Board regarding such matters, as appropriate.

## ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

As of December 31, 2023, we owned 611 self-storage properties that contained an aggregate of approximately 44.1 million rentable square feet and are located in 24 states and the District of Columbia. The following table sets forth summary information regarding our stores by state as of December 31, 2023.

State	Number of Stores	Number of Units	Total Rentable Square Feet	% of Total Rentable Square Feet	Ending Occupancy
Florida	90	65,035	6,787,173	15.4 %	90.9 %
Texas	76	46,914	5,447,787	12.3 %	90.3 %
California	63	45,248	4,786,036	10.9 %	90.4 %
New York	59	84,057	4,722,118	10.7 %	90.8 %
Arizona	48	27,896	3,092,942	7.0 %	87.8 %
Illinois	42	25,535	2,710,345	6.1 %	91.4 %
New Jersey	29	21,398	2,058,007	4.7 %	90.4 %
Nevada	22	14,613	1,706,489	3.9 %	89.8 %
Maryland	20	17,304	1,684,502	3.8 %	88.8 %
Georgia	22	14,077	1,657,228	3.8 %	89.1 %
Ohio	20	11,131	1,294,303	2.9 %	88.7 %
Massachusetts	20	13,083	1,253,278	2.8 %	87.8 %
Connecticut	22	10,785	1,200,207	2.7 %	91.7 %
Virginia	11	11,032	1,060,440	2.4 %	85.1 %
Pennsylvania	12	9,035	890,698	2.0 %	87.1 %
Tennessee	9	5,716	756,020	1.7 %	87.6 %
Colorado	10	5,544	654,202	1.5 %	89.7 %
North Carolina	9	5,353	611,773	1.4 %	88.4 %
South Carolina	8	3,883	432,324	1.0 %	89.4 %
Washington D.C.	5	5,321	410,676	0.9 %	89.2 %
Rhode Island	4	2,037	247,305	0.6 %	90.8 %
Utah	4	2,360	239,388	0.5 %	80.6 %
New Mexico	3	1,696	182,261	0.4 %	90.4 %
Minnesota	2	1,827	175,916	0.4 %	91.2 %
Indiana	1	585	70,386	0.2 %	91.5 %
<b>Total/Weighted average</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>451,465</b>	<b>44,131,804</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>89.8 %</b>

We have grown by adding stores to our portfolio through acquisitions and development. The tables set forth below show the ending occupancy, annual rent per occupied square foot and total revenues related to our stores owned as of December 31, 2023, and for each of the previous three years, grouped by the year during which we first owned or operated the store.

### Stores by Year Acquired/Developed– Ending Occupancy

Year Acquired/Developed <sup>(1)</sup>	# of Stores	Rentable Square Feet	Ending Occupancy		
			2023	2022	2021
2020 and earlier	536	38,340,866	90.1 %	91.7 %	92.6 %
2021	69	5,177,631	89.2 %	83.3 %	87.5 %
2022	5	523,599	77.3 %	55.5 %	—
2023	1	74,465	87.6 %	—	—
All stores owned as of December 31, 2023	611	44,116,561	89.8 %	90.3 %	92.0 %



## Stores by Year Acquired/Developed - Annual Rent Per Occupied Square Foot <sup>(2)</sup>

Year Acquired/Developed <sup>(1)</sup>	# of Stores	Annual Rent per Square Foot		
		2023	2022	2021
2020 and earlier	536	\$ 23.43	\$ 22.36	\$ 19.79
2021	69	21.91	20.99	19.71
2022	5	22.43	23.42	—
2023	1	28.01	—	—
All stores owned as of December 31, 2023	611	\$ 23.54	\$ 22.45	\$ 19.98

## Stores by Year Acquired/Developed - Total Revenues (dollars in thousands)

Year Acquired/Developed <sup>(1)</sup>	# of Stores	Total Revenues		
		2023	2022	2021
2020 and earlier	536	\$ 883,317	\$ 857,211	\$ 763,635
2021	69	104,190	96,047	8,668
2022	5	8,668	4,436	—
2023	1	114	—	—
All stores owned as of December 31, 2023	611	\$ 996,289	\$ 957,694	\$ 772,303

- (1) Represents the year acquired/developed for those stores we acquired from a third party or the year placed in service for those stores we developed. Tables do not include one development property that was partially completed during the year ended December 31, 2023.
- (2) Determined by dividing the aggregate rental revenue for each twelve-month period by the average of the month-end occupied square feet for the period. Rental revenue includes the impact of promotional discounts, which reduce rental income over the promotional period, of \$19.4 million, \$19.2 million and \$19.7 million for the periods ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

## Unconsolidated Real Estate Ventures

As of December 31, 2023, we held ownership interests ranging from 10% to 50% in seven unconsolidated real estate ventures for an aggregate investment carrying value of \$98.3 million. We hold interests in these real estate ventures with unaffiliated third parties to acquire, own and operate self-storage properties in select markets. As of December 31, 2023, one of these unconsolidated joint ventures did not own any self-storage properties, while the other six unconsolidated real estate ventures owned a total of 77 self-storage properties that contained an aggregate of approximately 5.6 million net rentable square feet. The self-storage properties owned by these real estate ventures are managed by us and are located in Arizona (2), California (2), Connecticut (6), Florida (6), Georgia (2), Illinois (5), Maryland (2), Massachusetts (6), Minnesota (1), New Jersey (3), New York (1), North Carolina (1), Pennsylvania (1), Rhode Island (2), Texas (35) and Vermont (2).

Each of the seven real estate ventures has assets and liabilities that we do not consolidate in our financial statements.

We account for our investments in real estate ventures using the equity method of accounting when it is determined that we have the ability to exercise significant influence over the venture. See note 5 to our consolidated financial statements for further disclosure regarding the assets, liabilities and operating results of our unconsolidated real estate ventures which we account for using the equity method of accounting.

## Capital Expenditures

We have a capital improvement program that covers office upgrades, climate-control enhancements, solar panel installations and other store upgrades. In 2024, we anticipate spending approximately \$18.5 million to \$23.5 million associated with these capital expenditures. In 2024, we also anticipate spending approximately \$20.5 million to \$25.5 million on recurring capital expenditures and approximately \$30.0 million to \$40.0 million on the development of new self-storage properties.

### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

To our knowledge, no legal proceedings are pending against us, other than routine actions and administrative proceedings, and other actions not deemed material, and which, in the aggregate, are not expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

### ITEM 4. MINING SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

## PART II

### ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

#### Repurchase of Parent Company Common Shares

The following table provides information about repurchases of the Parent Company's common shares during the three months ended December 31, 2023:

	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased <sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Average Price Paid Per Share</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</u>	<u>Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</u>
October 1 - October 31	322	\$ 38.13	N/A	3,000,000
November 1 - November 30	—	\$ —	N/A	3,000,000
December 1 - December 31	—	\$ —	N/A	3,000,000
Total	322	\$ 38.13	N/A	3,000,000

(1) Represents common shares withheld by the Parent Company upon the vesting of restricted shares to cover employee tax obligations.

The Parent Company adopted a share repurchase program in 2007 for up to 3.0 million of the Parent Company's outstanding common shares. Unless terminated earlier by resolution of the Board, the program will expire when the number of authorized shares has been repurchased. The Parent Company has made no repurchases under this program to date.

#### Market Information for and Holders of Record of Common Shares

As of December 31, 2023, there were 161 registered record holders of the Parent Company's common shares and 20 holders (other than the Parent Company) of the Operating Partnership's OP Units. These amounts do not include common shares held by brokers and other institutions on behalf of shareholders. The Parent Company's common shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol CUBE. There is no established trading market for units of the Operating Partnership.

#### Tax Characterization of Distributions

Since our initial quarter as a publicly-traded REIT, we have made regular quarterly distributions to our shareholders. Distributions to shareholders are usually taxable as ordinary income, although a portion of the distribution may be designated as a capital gain or may constitute a tax-free return of capital. Annually, we provide each of the Parent Company's common shareholders a statement detailing the tax characterization of dividends paid during the preceding year as ordinary income, capital gain or return of capital. The Parent Company's dividends for 2023 consisted entirely of ordinary income distributions.

We intend to continue to declare quarterly distributions. However, we cannot provide any assurance as to the amount or timing of future distributions.

To the extent that we make distributions in excess of our earnings and profits, as computed for federal income tax purposes, these distributions will represent a return of capital, rather than a dividend, for federal income tax purposes. Distributions that are treated as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes generally will not be taxable as a dividend to a U.S. shareholder, but will reduce the shareholder's basis in its shares (but not below zero) and therefore can result in the shareholder having a higher gain upon a subsequent sale of such shares. Return of capital distributions in excess of a shareholder's basis generally will be treated as gain from the sale of such shares for federal income tax purposes.

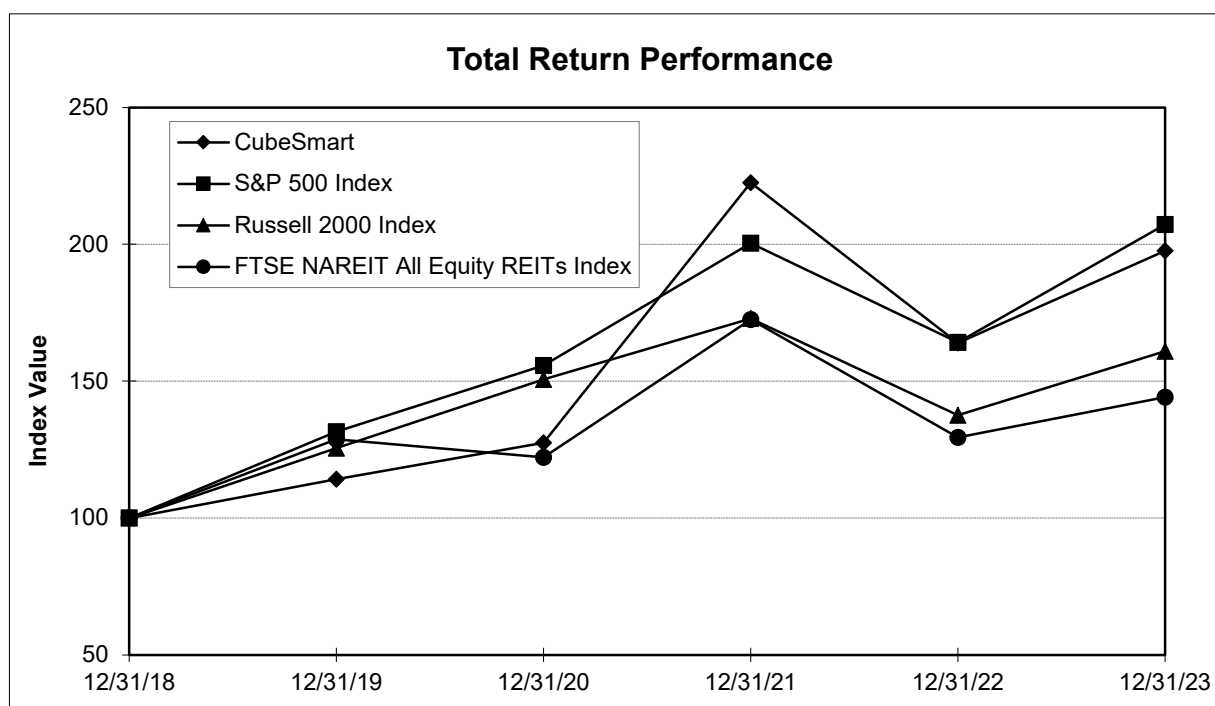
## Recent Sales of Unregistered Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

### Recent Sales of Operating Partnership Unregistered Equity Securities

None.

## Share Performance Graph

The SEC requires us to present a chart comparing the cumulative total shareholder return, assuming reinvestment of dividends, on our common shares with the cumulative total shareholder return of (i) a broad equity index and (ii) a published industry or peer group index. The following chart compares the yearly cumulative total shareholder return for our common shares with the cumulative shareholder return of companies on (i) the S&P 500 Index, (ii) the Russell 2000 Index and (iii) the FTSE NAREIT All Equity REIT Index as provided by NAREIT for the period beginning December 31, 2018 and ending December 31, 2023.



Index	For the year ended December 31,					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CubeSmart	100.00	114.12	127.44	222.49	163.95	197.56
S&P 500 Index	100.00	131.49	155.68	200.37	164.08	207.21
Russell 2000 Index	100.00	125.53	150.58	172.90	137.56	160.85
FTSE NAREIT All Equity REIT Index	100.00	128.66	122.07	172.49	129.45	144.16

ITEM 6. [Reserved]

## **ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this Report. Some of the statements we make in this section are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. For a complete discussion of forward-looking statements, see the section in this Report entitled "Forward-Looking Statements". Certain risk factors may cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the following discussion. For a discussion of such risk factors, see the section in this Report entitled "Risk Factors".*

### **Overview**

We are an integrated self-storage real estate company, and as such we have in-house capabilities in the operation, design, development, leasing, management and acquisition of self-storage properties. The Parent Company's operations are conducted solely through the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries. The Parent Company has elected to be taxed as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As of both December 31, 2023 and 2022, we owned (or partially owned and consolidated) 611 self-storage properties containing an aggregate of approximately 44.1 million rentable square feet. As of December 31, 2023, we owned stores in the District of Columbia and the following 24 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia. In addition, as of December 31, 2023, we managed 795 stores for third parties (including 77 stores containing an aggregate of approximately 5.6 million net rentable square feet as part of six separate unconsolidated real estate ventures), bringing the total number of stores we owned and/or managed to 1,406. As of December 31, 2023, we managed stores for third parties in the District of Columbia and the following 40 states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

We derive substantially all of our revenue from customers who lease space at our stores and fees earned from managing stores. Therefore, our operating results depend materially on our ability to retain our existing customers and lease our available self-storage cubes to new customers while maintaining and, where possible, increasing our pricing levels. In addition, our operating results depend on the ability of our customers to make required rental payments to us. Our approach to the management and operation of our stores combines centralized marketing, revenue management and other operational support with local operations teams that provide market-level oversight and management. We believe this approach allows us to respond quickly and effectively to changes in local market conditions and maximize revenues by managing rental rates and occupancy levels.

We typically experience seasonal fluctuations in the occupancy levels of our stores, which are generally slightly higher during the summer months due to increased moving activity.

Our results of operations may be sensitive to changes in overall economic conditions that impact consumer spending, including discretionary spending and moving trends, as well as to increased bad debts due to recessionary pressures. Adverse economic conditions affecting disposable consumer income, such as employment levels, business conditions, interest rates, tax rates, fuel and energy costs, and other matters could reduce consumer spending or cause consumers to shift their spending to other products and services. A general reduction in the level of discretionary spending or shifts in consumer discretionary spending could adversely affect our growth and profitability.

We continue our focus on maximizing internal growth opportunities and selectively pursuing targeted acquisitions and developments of self-storage properties.

We have one reportable segment: we own, operate, develop, manage and acquire self-storage properties.

Our self-storage properties are located in major metropolitan and suburban areas and have numerous customers per store. No single customer represents a significant concentration of our revenues. Our stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas provided approximately 17%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2023.

### **Summary of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Set forth below is a summary of the accounting policies and estimates that management believes are critical to the preparation of the consolidated financial statements included in this Report. Certain of the accounting policies used in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are particularly important for an understanding of the financial position and results of operations presented in the

historical consolidated financial statements included in this Report. A summary of significant accounting policies is also provided in note 2 to our consolidated financial statements. These policies require the application of judgment and assumptions by management and, as a result, are subject to a degree of uncertainty. Due to this uncertainty, actual results could differ materially from estimates calculated and utilized by management.

### ***Basis of Presentation***

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include all of the accounts of the Company, and its majority-owned and/or controlled subsidiaries. The portion of these entities not owned by the Company is presented as noncontrolling interests as of and during the periods presented. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

When the Company obtains an economic interest in an entity, the Company evaluates the entity to determine if the entity is deemed a variable interest entity (“VIE”), and if the Company is deemed to be the primary beneficiary, in accordance with authoritative guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) on the consolidation of VIEs. To the extent that the Company (i) has the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the economic performance of the VIE and (ii) has the obligation or rights to absorb the VIE's losses or receive its benefits, then the Company is considered the primary beneficiary. The Company may also consider additional factors included in the authoritative guidance, such as whether or not it is the partner in the VIE that is most closely associated with the VIE. When an entity is not deemed to be a VIE, the Company considers the provisions of additional FASB guidance to determine whether a general partner, or the general partners as a group, controls a limited partnership or similar entity when the limited partners have certain rights. The Company consolidates (i) entities that are VIEs and of which the Company is deemed to be the primary beneficiary and (ii) entities that are non-VIEs which the Company controls and in which the limited partners do not have substantive participating rights, or the ability to dissolve the entity or remove the Company without cause nor substantive participating rights.

### ***Self-Storage Properties***

The Company records self-storage properties at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation on the buildings, improvements and equipment is recorded on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, which range from five to 39 years. Expenditures for significant renovations or improvements that extend the useful life of assets are capitalized. Repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred.

When stores are acquired, the purchase price is allocated to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on estimated fair values.

Allocations to land, building and improvements and equipment are recorded based upon their respective fair values as estimated by management. If appropriate, the Company allocates a portion of the purchase price to an intangible asset attributed to the value of in-place leases. This intangible asset is generally amortized to expense over the expected remaining term of the respective leases. Substantially all of the storage leases in place at acquired stores are at market rates, as the majority of the leases are month-to-month contracts. Accordingly, to date, no portion of the purchase price has been allocated to above- or below-market lease intangibles associated with storage leases assumed at acquisition. Above- or below- market lease intangibles associated with assumed leases in which the Company serves as lessee are recorded as an adjustment to the right-of-use asset and reflect the difference between the contractual amounts to be paid pursuant to each in-place lease and management’s estimate of fair market lease rates. These amounts are amortized over the term of the lease. To date, no intangible asset has been recorded for the value of customer relationships, because the Company does not have any concentrations of significant customers and the average customer turnover is fairly frequent.

Long-lived assets classified as “held for use” are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances such as declines in occupancy and operating results indicate that there may be an impairment. The carrying value of these long-lived assets is compared to the undiscounted future net operating cash flows, plus a terminal value, attributable to the assets to determine if the store’s basis is recoverable. If a store’s basis is not considered recoverable, an impairment loss is recorded to the extent the net carrying value of the asset exceeds the fair value. The impairment loss recognized equals the excess of net carrying value over the related fair value of the asset. There were no impairment losses recognized in accordance with these procedures during the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021.

The Company considers long-lived assets to be “held for sale” upon satisfaction of the following criteria: (a) management commits to a plan to sell an asset (or group of assets), (b) the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such assets, (c) an active program to locate a buyer and other actions required to complete the plan to sell the asset have been initiated, (d) the sale of the asset is probable and transfer of the asset is expected to be completed within one year,



(e) the asset is being actively marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value and (f) actions required to complete the plan indicate that it is unlikely that significant changes to the plan will be made or that the plan will be withdrawn.

Typically these criteria are all met when the relevant asset is under contract, significant non-refundable deposits have been made by the potential buyer, the assets are immediately available for transfer and there are no contingencies related to the sale that may prevent the transaction from closing. However, each potential transaction is evaluated based on its separate facts and circumstances. Assets classified as held for sale are reported at the lesser of carrying value or fair value less estimated costs to sell and are not depreciated. There were no stores classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2023.

### ***Investments in Unconsolidated Real Estate Ventures***

The Company accounts for its investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures under the equity method of accounting when it is determined that the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over the venture. Under the equity method, investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures are recorded initially at cost, as investments in real estate entities, and subsequently adjusted for equity in earnings (losses) and cash contributions, less cash distributions and impairments. On a periodic basis, management also assesses whether there are any indicators that the carrying value of the Company's investments in unconsolidated real estate entities may be other than temporarily impaired. An investment is impaired only if the fair value of the investment, as estimated by management, is less than the carrying value of the investment and the decline is other than temporary. To the extent impairment that is other than temporary has occurred, the loss shall be measured as the excess of the carrying amount of the investment over the fair value of the investment, as estimated by management. Fair value is determined through various valuation techniques, including but not limited to, discounted cash flow models, quoted market values and third-party appraisals. There were no impairment losses related to the Company's investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures recognized during the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021.

Differences between the Company's net investment in unconsolidated real estate ventures and its underlying equity in the net assets of the ventures are primarily a result of the Company acquiring interests in existing unconsolidated real estate ventures. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Company's net investment in unconsolidated real estate ventures was greater than its underlying equity in the net assets of the unconsolidated real estate ventures by an aggregate of \$31.8 million and \$32.7 million, respectively. These differences are amortized over the lives of the self-storage properties owned by the real estate ventures. This amortization is included in equity in earnings of real estate ventures within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

### **Results of Operations**

The following discussion of our results of operations should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes thereto. Historical results set forth in the Company's consolidated statements of operations reflect only the existing stores for each period presented and should not be taken as indicative of future operations. We consider our same-store portfolio to consist of only those stores owned and operated on a stabilized basis at the beginning and at the end of the applicable years presented. We consider a store to be stabilized once it has achieved an occupancy rate that we believe, based on our assessment of market-specific data, is representative of similar self-storage assets in the applicable market for a full year measured as of the most recent January 1 and has not been significantly damaged by natural disaster or undergone significant renovation. We believe that same-store results are useful to investors in evaluating our performance because they provide information relating to changes in store-level operating performance without taking into account the effects of acquisitions, developments or dispositions. As of December 31, 2023, we owned 592 same-store properties and 19 non same-store properties. The non same-store property portfolio results include 2022 and 2023 acquisitions, dispositions, newly developed stores, stores with a significant portion of net rentable square footage taken out of service or stores that have not yet reached stabilization as defined above. For analytical presentation, all percentages are calculated using the numbers presented in the Company's consolidated financial statements contained in this Report.

The comparability of our results of operations is affected by the timing of acquisition and disposition activities during the periods reported. As of December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, we owned (or partially owned and consolidated) 611, 611 and 607 self-storage properties and related assets, respectively.

The following table summarizes the change in number of owned stores from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance - January 1	611	607	543
Stores acquired	—	1	—
Stores developed	—	—	1
Stores combined <sup>(1)</sup>	—	—	(1)
Balance - March 31	<u>611</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>543</u>
Stores acquired <sup>(2)</sup>	—	1	2
Stores developed	—	1	2
Stores combined <sup>(1)</sup>	—	(1)	—
Balance - June 30	<u>611</u>	<u>609</u>	<u>547</u>
Stores acquired	—	1	2
Stores developed	—	1	—
Stores sold	—	—	(4)
Balance - September 30	<u>611</u>	<u>611</u>	<u>545</u>
Stores acquired	1	—	62
Stores developed	—	—	1
Stores sold <sup>(3)</sup>	(1)	—	(1)
Balance - December 31	<u>611</u>	<u>611</u>	<u>607</u>

- (1) On June 21, 2022 and March 3, 2021, we completed development of new stores located in Vienna, VA and Arlington, VA for approximately \$21.8 million and \$26.4 million, respectively. In each case, the developed store is located adjacent to an existing consolidated joint venture store. Given this proximity, each developed store has been combined with the adjacent existing store in our store count upon opening, as well as for operational and reporting purposes.
- (2) For the quarter ended June 30, 2021, includes one store acquired by a consolidated joint venture in which we hold a 50% interest.
- (3) For the quarter ended December 31, 2023, relates to one store that was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois.

## Comparison of the Year Ended December 31, 2023 to the Year Ended December 31, 2022 (dollars and square feet in thousands)

	Same-Store Property Portfolio				Non Same-Store Property Portfolio		Other/ Eliminations		Total Portfolio			
	2023	2022	Change	% Change	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	Change	% Change
<b>REVENUES:</b>												
Rental income	\$ 882,011	\$ 853,939	\$ 28,072	3.3 %	\$ 29,988	\$ 25,350	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 911,999	\$ 879,289	\$ 32,710	3.7 %
Other property related income	38,420	35,718	2,702	7.6 %	1,822	1,045	61,551	59,403	101,793	96,166	5,627	5.9 %
Property management fee income	—	—	—	0.0 %	—	—	36,542	34,169	36,542	34,169	2,373	6.9 %
Total revenues	920,431	889,657	30,774	3.5 %	31,810	26,395	98,093	93,572	1,050,334	1,009,624	40,710	4.0 %
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES:</b>												
Property operating expenses	245,447	241,833	3,614	1.5 %	10,050	9,133	39,283	42,294	294,780	293,260	1,520	0.5 %
NET OPERATING INCOME:	674,984	647,824	27,160	4.2 %	21,760	17,262	58,810	51,278	755,554	716,364	39,190	5.5 %
<b>Key Metrics:</b>												
Store count	592	592			19	19			611	611		
Total square feet	42,338	42,338			1,794	1,769			44,132	44,107		
Period end occupancy	90.3 %	91.3 %			77.3 %	66.3 %			89.8 %	90.3 %		
Period average occupancy	91.8 %	93.2 %										
Realized annual rent per occupied sq. ft. <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 22.70	\$ 21.65										
<b>Depreciation and amortization</b>												
									201,238	310,610	(109,372)	(35.2)%
<b>General and administrative</b>												
									57,041	54,623	2,418	4.4 %
Subtotal									258,279	365,233	(106,954)	(29.3)%
<b>OTHER (EXPENSE) INCOME</b>												
<b>Interest:</b>												
Interest expense on loans									(93,065)	(93,284)	219	0.2 %
Loan procurement amortization expense									(4,141)	(3,897)	(244)	(6.3)%
Equity in earnings of real estate ventures									6,085	48,877	(42,792)	(87.6)%
Other									6,281	(10,355)	16,636	160.7 %
Total other expense									(84,840)	(58,659)	(26,181)	(44.6)%
<b>NET INCOME</b>												
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership									412,435	292,472	119,963	41.0 %
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries									(2,535)	(1,931)	(604)	(31.3)%
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE COMPANY'S COMMON SHAREHOLDERS									857	722	135	18.7 %
									\$ 410,757	\$ 291,263	\$ 119,494	41.0 %

(1) Realized annual rent per occupied square foot is computed by dividing rental income by the weighted average occupied square feet for the period.

### Revenues

Rental income increased from \$879.3 million in 2022 to \$912.0 million in 2023, an increase of \$32.7 million, or 3.7%. The \$28.1 million increase in same-store rental income was due primarily to an increase in rental rates. Realized annual rent per occupied square foot in our same-store portfolio increased 4.8% as a result of higher rental rates for new and existing customers during 2023 compared to 2022.

Other property related income increased from \$96.2 million in 2022 to \$101.8 million in 2023, an increase of \$5.6 million, or 5.9%. The \$2.7 million increase in same-store other property related income was attributable to a \$3.0 million increase in fee revenue. The increase was also due to a \$2.9 million increase in customer storage protection plan participation at our owned and managed stores.

### Operating Expenses

Depreciation and amortization decreased from \$310.6 million in 2022 to \$201.2 million in 2023, a decrease of \$109.4 million, or 35.2%. The decrease was primarily attributable to decreased amortization of in-place lease intangibles related to stores acquired in 2021.

General and administrative expenses increased from \$54.6 million in 2022 to \$57.0 million in 2023, an increase of \$2.4 million, or 4.4%. The increase was primarily attributable to increased personnel expenses.

### Other (expense) income

Interest expense on loans decreased from \$93.3 million in 2022 to \$93.1 million in 2023, a decrease of \$0.2 million, or 0.2%. The decrease was attributable to a lower amount of outstanding debt during 2023 compared to 2022, partially offset by higher interest rates during 2023 compared to 2022. The average outstanding debt balance decreased by \$0.12 billion to \$3.02 billion during 2023 as compared to \$3.14 billion during 2022. The weighted average effective interest rate on the Company's outstanding debt for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was 3.04% and 2.94%, respectively.

Equity in earnings of real estate ventures decreased from \$48.9 million in 2022 to \$6.1 million in 2023, a decrease of \$42.8 million, or 87.6%. The decrease was primarily due to our portion of the gains and distributions in excess of our equity investment associated with the sale by 191 IV CUBE Southeast LLC ("HVPSE") of all of its 14 stores during the year ended December 31, 2022 (see note 5 to our consolidated financial statements).

The component of other (expense) income designated as Other changed from \$10.4 million of expense in 2022 to \$6.3 million of income in 2023. This change was primarily due to \$10.5 million of transaction-related expenses in 2022 comprised primarily of severance costs associated with the acquisition of LAACO. In addition, the 2023 amount includes a \$4.8 million gain relating to a store that was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois.

### **Comparison of the Year Ended December 31, 2022 to the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

Refer to the section entitled “Results of Operations” within Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 for a comparison of the year ended December 31, 2022 to the year ended December 31, 2021.

### **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

#### ***NOI***

We define net operating income, which we refer to as “NOI”, as total continuing revenues less continuing property operating expenses. NOI also can be calculated by adding back to net income (loss): interest expense on loans, loan procurement amortization expense, loss on early extinguishment of debt, acquisition related costs, equity in losses of real estate ventures, other expense, depreciation and amortization expense, general and administrative expense, and deducting from net income (loss): equity in earnings of real estate ventures, gains from sales of real estate, net, other income, gains from remeasurement of investments in real estate ventures and interest income. NOI is not a measure of performance calculated in accordance with GAAP.

We use NOI as a measure of operating performance at each of our stores, and for all of our stores in the aggregate. NOI should not be considered as a substitute for operating income, net income, cash flows provided by operating, investing and financing activities, or other income statement or cash flow statement data prepared in accordance with GAAP.

We believe NOI is useful to investors in evaluating our operating performance because:

- it is one of the primary measures used by our management to evaluate the economic productivity of our stores, including our ability to lease our stores, increase pricing and occupancy and control our property operating expenses;
- it is widely used in the real estate industry and the self-storage industry to measure the performance and value of real estate assets without regard to various items included in net income that do not relate to or are not indicative of operating performance, such as depreciation and amortization, which can vary depending upon accounting methods and the book value of assets; and
- it helps our investors to meaningfully compare the results of our operating performance from period to period by removing the impact of our capital structure (primarily interest expense on our outstanding indebtedness) and depreciation of our basis in our assets from our operating results.

There are material limitations to using a measure such as NOI, including the difficulty associated with comparing results among more than one company and the inability to analyze certain significant items, including depreciation and interest expense, that directly affect our net income. We compensate for these limitations by considering the economic effect of the excluded expense items independently as well as in connection with our analysis of net income. NOI should be considered in addition to, but not as a substitute for, other measures of financial performance reported in accordance with GAAP, such as total revenues, operating income and net income.

#### ***FFO***

Funds from operations (“FFO”) is a widely-used performance measure for real estate companies and is provided here as a supplemental measure of operating performance. The April 2002 National Policy Bulletin of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, as amended and restated, defines FFO as net income (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains (or losses) from sales of real estate and related impairment charges, plus real estate depreciation and amortization and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures.

Management uses FFO as a key performance indicator in evaluating the operations of our stores. Given the nature of our business as a real estate owner and operator, we consider FFO a key measure of our operating performance that is not specifically defined by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. We believe that FFO is useful to management and investors as a starting point in measuring our operational performance because FFO excludes various items included in net income that do not relate to or are not

indicative of our operating performance such as gains (or losses) from sales of real estate, gains from remeasurement of investments in real estate ventures, impairments of depreciable assets and depreciation, which can make periodic and peer analyses of operating performance more difficult. Our computation of FFO may not be comparable to FFO reported by other REITs or real estate companies.

FFO should not be considered as an alternative to net income (determined in accordance with GAAP) as an indication of our performance. FFO does not represent cash generated from operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP and is not a measure of liquidity or an indicator of our ability to make cash distributions. We believe that to further understand our performance, FFO should be compared with our reported net income and considered in addition to cash flows computed in accordance with GAAP, as presented in our consolidated financial statements.

### ***FFO, as adjusted***

FFO, as adjusted represents FFO as defined above, excluding the effects of acquisition related costs, gains or losses from early extinguishment of debt, and non-recurring items, which we believe are not indicative of the Company's operating results. We present FFO, as adjusted because we believe it is a helpful measure in understanding our results of operations insofar as we believe that the items noted above that are included in FFO, but excluded from FFO, as adjusted are not indicative of our ongoing operating results. We also believe that investors, analysts and other stakeholders consider our FFO, as adjusted (or similar measures using different terminology) when evaluating us. Because other REITs or real estate companies may not compute FFO, as adjusted in the same manner as we do, and may use different terminology, our computation of FFO, as adjusted may not be comparable to FFO, as adjusted reported by other REITs or real estate companies.

The following table presents a reconciliation of net income to FFO and FFO, as adjusted, for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (in thousands):

	<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net income attributable to the Company's common shareholders	\$ 410,757	\$ 291,263
Add (deduct):		
Real estate depreciation and amortization:		
Real property	194,845	305,845
Company's share of unconsolidated real estate ventures	8,446	9,320
Gains from sales of real estate, net <sup>(1)</sup>	(1,477)	(45,705)
Noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	2,535	1,931
FFO attributable to the Company's common shareholders and third-party OP unitholders	<u>\$ 615,106</u>	<u>\$ 562,654</u>
(Deduct) add:		
Gain on involuntary conversion <sup>(2)</sup>	(4,827)	—
Property damage related to hurricane, net of expected insurance proceeds	(844)	1,266
Transaction-related expenses <sup>(3)</sup>	—	10,546
FFO, as adjusted, attributable to the Company's common shareholders and third-party OP unitholders	<u>\$ 609,435</u>	<u>\$ 574,466</u>
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	226,241	225,881
Weighted average diluted units outstanding owned by third parties	1,393	1,521
Weighted average diluted shares and units outstanding	<u>227,634</u>	<u>227,402</u>

- (1) For the year ended December 31, 2022, \$45.7 million represents gains related to the sale by 191 IV CUBE Southeast LLC ("HVPSE") of all 14 of its self-storage properties on August 30, 2022. A portion of the proceeds from the sale were held back to pay venture-level expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2023, \$1.7 million represents distributions in excess of our investment in HVPSE from the proceeds that were held back from this sale. These amounts are included in equity in earnings of real estate ventures within our consolidated statements of operations. In addition, the year ended December 31, 2023 includes a \$0.2 million loss related to the sale of the California Yacht Club, which was acquired in 2021 as part of the Company's acquisition of LAACO, Ltd. This amount is included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within our consolidated statements of operations.



- (2) Relates to a store that was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois on December 19, 2023. This amount is included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within our consolidated statements of operations.
- (3) For the year ended December 31, 2022, transaction-related expenses include severance expenses (\$10.3 million) and other transaction expenses (\$0.2 million). Prior to our acquisition of LAACO, Ltd. on December 9, 2021, the predecessor company entered into severance agreements with certain employees, including members of their executive team. These costs were known to us and the assumption of the obligation to make these payments post-closing was contemplated in our net consideration paid in the transaction. In accordance with GAAP, and based on the specific details of the arrangements with the employees prior to closing, these costs are considered post-combination compensation expenses. Transaction-related expenses are included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within our consolidated statements of operations.

## Cash Flows

### *Comparison of the Year Ended December 31, 2023 to the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

A comparison of cash flows related to operating, investing and financing activities for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 is as follows:

Net cash provided by (used in):	Year Ended December 31,		Change
	2023	2022	
	(in thousands)		
Operating activities	\$ 611,136	\$ 591,466	\$ 19,670
Investing activities	\$ (93,818)	\$ (48,767)	\$ (45,051)
Financing activities	\$ (518,026)	\$ (547,092)	\$ 29,066

Cash provided by operating activities increased from \$591.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 to \$611.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2023, reflecting an increase of \$19.7 million. Our increased cash flow from operating activities was primarily attributable to increased net operating income levels in the same-store portfolio in the 2023 period as compared to the corresponding 2022 period.

Cash used in investing activities increased from \$48.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 to \$93.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2023, reflecting an increase of \$45.1 million. The change was primarily the result of a \$48.8 million decrease in cash distributed from real estate ventures due to distributions related to the sale by HVPSE of all 14 of its stores during the 2022 period. Additionally, net proceeds received from the sale of real estate decreased by \$43.0 million as a result of the sale during the 2022 period of the Los Angeles Athletic Club, which we purchased in December 2021 as part of our acquisition of LAACO, Ltd. Also, development costs increased by \$23.2 million, primarily due to the payment of a put liability associated with a previously consolidated joint venture. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in acquisitions of storage properties of \$66.6 million. We acquired two stores and land during the year ended December 31, 2022 compared to one store during the corresponding 2023 period.

Cash used in financing activities was \$547.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 compared to \$518.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2023, reflecting a decrease of \$29.1 million. Net repayments on the Credit Facility (as defined below) decreased by \$106.2 million during the 2023 period as compared to the corresponding 2022 period. The change was partially offset by a \$55.1 million increase in cash distributions paid to common shareholders and noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership due to an increase in the common dividend per share/unit. Additionally, principal payments on mortgage loans increased \$30.2 million due to the repayment of two secured loans during the 2023 period with no comparable repayments during the 2022 period.

### *Comparison of the Year Ended December 31, 2022 to the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

Refer to the section entitled “Cash Flows” within Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 for a comparison of the year ended December 31, 2022 to the year ended December 31, 2021.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

### *Liquidity Overview*

Our cash flow from operations has historically been one of our primary sources of liquidity used to fund debt service, distributions and capital expenditures. We derive substantially all of our revenue from customers who lease space at our stores and fees earned from managing stores. Therefore, our ability to generate cash from operations is dependent on the rents that we are able to charge and collect from our customers. We believe that the properties in which we invest, self-storage properties, are less sensitive than other real estate product types to near-term economic downturns. However, prolonged economic downturns will adversely affect our cash flows from operations.

In order to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, the Parent Company is required to distribute at least 90% of its REIT taxable income, excluding capital gains, to its shareholders on an annual basis and must pay federal income tax on undistributed income to the extent it distributes less than 100% of its REIT taxable income. The nature of our business, coupled with the requirement that we distribute a substantial portion of our income on an annual basis, will cause us to have substantial liquidity needs over both the short and long term.

Our short-term liquidity needs consist primarily of funds necessary to pay operating expenses associated with our stores, refinancing of certain mortgage indebtedness, interest expense and scheduled principal payments on debt, expected distributions to limited partners and shareholders, capital expenditures and the acquisition and development of new stores. These funding requirements will vary from year to year, in some cases significantly. In the 2024 fiscal year, we expect recurring capital expenditures to be approximately \$20.5 million to \$25.5 million, planned capital improvements and store upgrades to be approximately \$18.5 million to \$23.5 million and costs associated with the development of new stores to be approximately \$30.0 million to \$40.0 million. Our currently scheduled principal payments on debt are approximately \$32.3 million in 2024.

Our most restrictive financial covenants limit the amount of additional leverage we can add; however, we believe cash flows from operations, access to equity financing, including through our at-the-market equity program and available borrowings under our Revolver (defined below) provide adequate sources of liquidity to enable us to execute our current business plan and remain in compliance with our covenants.

Our liquidity needs beyond 2024 consist primarily of contractual obligations which include repayments of indebtedness at maturity, as well as potential discretionary expenditures such as (i) non-recurring capital expenditures; (ii) redevelopment of operating stores; (iii) acquisitions of additional stores; and (iv) development of new stores. We will have to satisfy the portion of our needs not covered by cash flow from operations through additional borrowings, including borrowings under our Revolver, sales of common or preferred shares of the Parent Company and common or preferred units of the Operating Partnership and/or cash generated through store dispositions and joint venture transactions.

We believe that, as a publicly traded REIT, we will have access to multiple sources of capital to fund our long-term liquidity requirements, including the incurrence of additional debt and the issuance of additional equity. However, we cannot provide any assurance that this will be the case. Our ability to incur additional debt will be dependent on a number of factors, including our degree of leverage, the value of our unencumbered assets and borrowing restrictions that may be imposed by lenders. In addition, dislocation in the United States debt markets may significantly reduce the availability and increase the cost of long-term debt capital, including conventional mortgage financing and commercial mortgage-backed securities financing. There can be no assurance that such capital will be readily available in the future. Our ability to access the equity capital markets will be dependent on a number of factors as well, including general market conditions for REITs and market perceptions about us.

As of December 31, 2023, we had approximately \$6.5 million in available cash and cash equivalents. In addition, we had approximately \$831.3 million of availability for borrowings under our Revolver.

## Unsecured Senior Notes

Our unsecured senior notes are summarized as follows (collectively referred to as the “Senior Notes”):

Unsecured Senior Notes	December 31,		Effective Interest Rate	Issuance Date	Maturity Date
	2023	2022			
	(in thousands)				
\$300M 4.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2025 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	3.99 %	Various <sup>(1)</sup>	Nov-25
\$300M 3.125% Guaranteed Notes due 2026	300,000	300,000	3.18 %	Aug-16	Sep-26
\$550M 2.250% Guaranteed Notes due 2028	550,000	550,000	2.33 %	Nov-21	Dec-28
\$350M 4.375% Guaranteed Notes due 2029	350,000	350,000	4.46 %	Jan-19	Feb-29
\$350M 3.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2030	350,000	350,000	3.04 %	Oct-19	Feb-30
\$450M 2.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2031	450,000	450,000	2.10 %	Oct-20	Feb-31
\$500M 2.500% Guaranteed Notes due 2032	500,000	500,000	2.59 %	Nov-21	Feb-32
Principal balance outstanding	2,800,000	2,800,000			
Less: Discount on issuance of unsecured senior notes, net	(10,148)	(11,801)			
Less: Loan procurement costs, net	(13,362)	(15,849)			
Total unsecured senior notes, net	<u>\$ 2,776,490</u>	<u>\$ 2,772,350</u>			

- (1) On April 4, 2017, the Operating Partnership issued \$50.0 million of its 4.000% senior notes due 2025, which are part of the same series as the \$250.0 million principal amount of the Operating Partnership’s 4.000% senior notes due November 15, 2025 issued on October 26, 2015. The \$50.0 million and \$250.0 million tranches were priced at 101.343% and 99.735%, respectively, of the principal amount to yield 3.811% and 4.032%, respectively, to maturity. The combined weighted average effective interest rate of the 2025 notes is 3.994%.

The indenture under which the Senior Notes were issued restricts the ability of the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries to incur debt unless the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries comply with a leverage ratio not to exceed 60% and an interest coverage ratio of more than 1.5:1.0 after giving effect to the incurrence of the debt. The indenture also restricts the ability of the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries to incur secured debt unless the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries comply with a secured debt leverage ratio not to exceed 40% after giving effect to the incurrence of the debt. The indenture also contains other financial and customary covenants, including a covenant not to own unencumbered assets with a value less than 150% of the unsecured indebtedness of the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries. As of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, the Operating Partnership was in compliance with all of the financial covenants under the Senior Notes.

## Revolving Credit Facility

On December 9, 2011, we entered into a credit agreement (the “Credit Facility”), which was subsequently amended and restated. On October 26, 2022, we again amended and restated, in its entirety, our Credit Facility (the “Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility”) which, subsequent to the amendment and restatement, is comprised of an \$850.0 million unsecured revolving facility (the “Revolver”) maturing on February 15, 2027. Under the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility, pricing on the Revolver is dependent upon our unsecured debt credit ratings and leverage levels. At our current unsecured debt credit ratings and leverage levels, amounts drawn under the Revolver are priced using a margin of 0.775% plus a facility fee of 0.15% over the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”) and a 0.10% SOFR adjustment.

As of December 31, 2023, borrowings under the Revolver had an interest rate of 6.41%. Additionally, as of December 31, 2023, \$831.3 million was available for borrowing under the Revolver. The available balance under the Revolver is reduced by an outstanding letter of credit of \$0.6 million.

Under the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility, our ability to borrow under the Revolver is subject to ongoing compliance with certain financial covenants which include, among other things, (1) a maximum total indebtedness to total asset value of 60.0%, and (2) a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5:1.0. As of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, the Operating Partnership was in compliance with all financial covenants of the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility.

## Issuance of Common Shares

On November 19, 2021 we closed an underwritten offering of 15.5 million common shares at a public offering price of \$51.00 per share, resulting in net proceeds of \$765.6 million, after deducting offering costs.

We maintain an at-the-market equity program that enables us to offer and sell up to 60.0 million common shares through sales agents pursuant to equity distribution agreements (the “Equity Distribution Agreements”). Our sales activity under the program for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 is summarized below:

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
	(dollars and shares in thousands, except per share amounts)		
Number of shares sold	—	102	4,982
Average sales price per share	\$ —	\$ 50.64	\$ 40.57
Net proceeds after deducting offering costs	\$ —	\$ 4,936	\$ 199,977

We used proceeds from sales of common shares under the program during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 to fund the acquisition and development of self-storage properties and for general corporate purposes. As of December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, 5.8 million common shares, 5.8 million common shares and 5.9 million common shares, respectively, remained available for issuance under the Equity Distribution Agreements.

### Recent Developments

Subsequent to December 31, 2023, we acquired a two-store portfolio located in Connecticut for a purchase price of \$20.2 million.

### Other Material Changes in Financial Position

	December 31,		Change
	2023	2022	
	(in thousands)		
<b>Selected Assets</b>			
Storage properties, net	\$ 5,951,236	\$ 6,048,003	\$ (96,767)
<b>Selected Liabilities</b>			
Revolving credit facility	18,100	60,900	(42,800)
Mortgage loans and notes payable, net	128,186	162,918	(34,732)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	201,419	214,384	(12,965)

Storage properties, net decreased \$96.8 million from December 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023 primarily as a result of depreciation on existing assets partially offset by the acquisition of one storage property, additions and improvements to storage properties, and development costs incurred during the year.

Revolving credit facility decreased \$42.8 million from December 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023 primarily due to available cash that was used to pay down the revolving credit facility balance.

Mortgage loans and notes payable, net decreased \$34.7 million from December 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023 primarily due to the repayment in June 2023 of two mortgage loans totaling \$30.5 million.

Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities decreased \$13.0 million from December 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023 primarily due to the payment during 2023 of a put liability related to the purchase of a noncontrolling member’s interest in a consolidated joint venture.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have off-balance sheet arrangements, financings or other relationships with other unconsolidated entities (other than our co-investment partnerships) or other persons, also known as variable interest entities, not previously discussed.

### ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Our future income, cash flows and fair values relevant to financial instruments depend upon prevailing market interest rates.

## **Market Risk**

Our investment policy relating to cash and cash equivalents is to preserve principal and liquidity while maximizing returns through the investment of available funds.

### **Effect of Changes in Interest Rates on our Outstanding Debt**

Our interest rate risk objectives are to limit the impact of interest rate fluctuations on earnings and cash flows and to lower our overall borrowing costs. To achieve these objectives, we may choose to manage our exposure to fluctuations in market interest rates for a portion of our borrowings through the use of derivative financial instruments such as interest rate swaps or caps to mitigate our interest rate risk on a related financial instrument or to effectively lock the interest rate on a portion of our variable-rate debt. The analysis below presents the sensitivity of the market value of our financial instruments to selected changes in market interest rates. The range of changes chosen reflects our view of changes which are reasonably possible over a one-year period. Market values are the present value of projected future cash flows based on the market interest rates chosen.

As of December 31, 2023 our consolidated debt consisted of \$2.92 billion of outstanding mortgage loans and notes payable and unsecured senior notes that are subject to fixed rates. Additionally, as of December 31, 2023, there were \$18.1 million of outstanding unsecured credit facility borrowings subject to floating rates. Changes in market interest rates have different impacts on the fixed- and variable-rate portions of our debt portfolio. A change in market interest rates on the fixed portion of the debt portfolio impacts the net financial instrument position, but has no impact on interest incurred or cash flows. A change in market interest rates on the variable portion of the debt portfolio impacts the interest incurred and cash flows, but does not impact the net financial instrument position.

If market interest rates on our variable-rate debt increase by 100 basis points, the increase in annual interest expense on our variable-rate debt would decrease future earnings and cash flows by approximately \$0.2 million a year. If market interest rates on our variable-rate debt decrease by 100 basis points, the decrease in interest expense on our variable-rate debt would increase future earnings and cash flows by approximately \$0.2 million a year.

If market interest rates increase by 100 basis points, the fair value of our outstanding fixed-rate mortgage debt and unsecured senior notes would decrease by approximately \$122.2 million. If market interest rates decrease by 100 basis points, the fair value of our outstanding fixed-rate mortgage debt and unsecured senior notes would increase by approximately \$127.1 million.

## **ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

Financial statements required by this item appear with an Index to the Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedules, starting on page F-1 of this Report.

## **ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

None.

## **ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

### **Controls and Procedures (Parent Company)**

#### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

As of the end of the period covered by this Report, the Parent Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of its management, including its chief executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act).

Based on that evaluation, the Parent Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded that the Parent Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed at a reasonable assurance level and are effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the Parent Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Parent Company's management, including its chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

### ***Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

There has been no change in the Parent Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during its most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, its internal control over financial reporting.

### ***Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

Management's report on internal control over financial reporting of the Parent Company is set forth on page F-2 of this Report, and is incorporated herein by reference. The effectiveness of the Parent Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023 has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in its report which is included herein.

### **Controls and Procedures (Operating Partnership)**

#### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

As of the end of the period covered by this Report, the Operating Partnership carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of its management, including the Operating Partnership's chief executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Operating Partnership's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act).

Based on that evaluation, the Operating Partnership's chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded that the Operating Partnership's disclosure controls and procedures are designed at a reasonable assurance level and are effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the Operating Partnership in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Operating Partnership's management, including the Operating Partnership's chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

### ***Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

There has been no change in the Operating Partnership's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during our most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Operating Partnership's internal control over financial reporting.

### ***Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

Management's report on internal control over financial reporting of the Operating Partnership is set forth on page F-3 of this Report, and is incorporated herein by reference. The effectiveness of the Operating Partnership's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023 has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in its report which is included herein.

## **ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

### ***Trading Arrangements***

During the three months ended December 31, 2023, none of our Trustees or officers (as defined in Rule 16a-1(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) adopted or terminated a Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement or non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement (as such terms are defined in Item 408 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended).

## **ITEM 9C. DISCLOSURE REGARDING FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS THAT PREVENT INSPECTIONS**

Not applicable.

## PART III

### ITEM 10. TRUSTEES, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

We have adopted a Code of Ethics for all of our employees, officers and Trustees, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, which is available on our website at [www.cubsmart.com](http://www.cubsmart.com). We intend to disclose any amendment to, or a waiver from, a provision of our Code of Ethics on our website within four business days following the date of the amendment or waiver.

The remaining information required by this item regarding Trustees, executive officers and corporate governance is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement for the Annual Shareholders Meeting to be held in 2024 (the "Proxy Statement") under the captions "Proposal 1: Election of Trustees," "Trustee Nominees," "Named Executive Officers," "Board Committee Membership and Meetings," and "Shareholder Proposals and Nominations for the 2025 Annual Meeting." The information required by this item regarding compliance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, if any, is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement under the caption "Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports," if applicable.

### ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement under the captions "Compensation Committee," "Board Committee Membership and Meetings," "Compensation Discussion and Analysis," "Named Executive Officer Compensation," "Severance Plan and Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control," and "Trustee Compensation."

### ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2023.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column(a))
	(a)	(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders	2,763,159	\$ 34.75 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,332,836
Equity compensation plans not approved by shareholders	—	—	—
Total	2,763,159	\$ 34.75	1,332,836

(1) This number reflects the weighted average exercise price of outstanding options and has been calculated exclusive of outstanding restricted unit awards.

The information regarding security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management required by this item is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement under the caption "Security Ownership of Management" and "Security Ownership of Beneficial Owners."

### ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND TRUSTEE INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this item is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement under the captions "Corporate Governance – Trustee Independence," and "Policies Regarding Transactions with Related Persons."

### ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is hereby incorporated by reference to the material appearing in the Parent Company's Proxy Statement under the captions "Audit Committee - Fees Paid to Our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm" and "Audit Committee - Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures."



## PART IV

### ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) Documents filed as part of this report:

1. *Financial Statements.*

The response to this portion of Item 15 is submitted as a separate section of this report.

2. *Financial Statement Schedules.*

The response to this portion of Item 15 is submitted as a separate section of this report.

3. *Exhibits.*

The list of exhibits filed with this Report is set forth in response to Item 15(b). The required exhibit index has been filed with the exhibits.

(b) *Exhibits.* The following documents are filed as exhibits to this report:

- 3.1\* Articles of Amendment to the Declaration of Trust of CubeSmart, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on May 28, 2015.
- 3.2\* Articles of Restatement of the Declaration of Trust of CubeSmart, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on May 28, 2015.
- 3.3\* Articles Supplementary to Declaration of Trust of CubeSmart classifying and designating CubeSmart's 7.75% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares of Beneficial Interest, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to CubeSmart's Form 8-A, filed on October 31, 2011.
- 3.4\* Articles of Amendment to the Declaration of Trust of CubeSmart, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 3, 2016.
- 3.5\* Certificate of Limited Partnership of U-Store-It, L.P., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to CubeSmart, L.P.'s Registration Statement on Form 10, filed on July 15, 2011.
- 3.6\* Amendment No. 1 to Certificate of Limited Partnership of CubeSmart, L.P., dated September 14, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 16, 2011.
- 3.7\* Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of U-Store-It, L.P. dated as of October 27, 2004, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 2, 2004.
- 3.8\* Amendment No. 1 to Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CubeSmart, L.P. dated as of September 14, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on September 16, 2011.
- 3.9\* Amendment No. 2 to Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CubeSmart, L.P. dated as of November 2, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 2, 2011.
- 3.10\* Class C Unit Supplement No. 1 to Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of CubeSmart, L.P. dated as of April 12, 2017, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on April 18, 2017.
- 3.11\* Articles of Amendment to the Declaration of Trust of CubeSmart, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on June 2, 2017.

- 3.12\* Fifth Amended and Restated Bylaws of CubeSmart, effective February 22, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.12 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on February 24, 2023.
- 4.1\* Form of Common Share Certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Amendment No. 3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11, filed on October 20, 2004, File No. 333-117848.
- 4.2\* Form of Certificate for CubeSmart's 7.75% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares of Beneficial Interest, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to CubeSmart's Form 8-A, filed on October 31, 2011.
- 4.3\* Indenture, dated as of September 16, 2011, among CubeSmart, L.P., CubeSmart and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3, filed on September 16, 2011.
- 4.4\* First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 26, 2012, among the Company, the Operating Partnership and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on June 26, 2012.
- 4.5\* Second Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 17, 2013, among the Company, the Operating Partnership and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on December 17, 2013.
- 4.6\* Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 26, 2015, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 26, 2015.
- 4.7\* Form of \$250 million aggregate principal amount of 4.000% senior note due November 15, 2025, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 26, 2015.
- 4.8\* Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 15, 2016, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on August 15, 2016.
- 4.9\* Form of \$300 million aggregate principal amount of 3.125% senior notes due September 1, 2026, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on August 15, 2016.
- 4.10\* Form of CubeSmart Notation of Guarantee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on August 15, 2016.
- 4.11\* Form of \$50 million aggregate principal amount of 4.000% senior notes due November 15, 2025, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on April 5, 2017.
- 4.12\* Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of April 4, 2017, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on April 5, 2017.
- 4.13\* Form of \$350 million aggregate principal amount of 4.375% senior notes due February 15, 2029, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 30, 2019.
- 4.14\* Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of January 30, 2019, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 30, 2019.
- 4.15\* Form of \$350 million aggregate principal amount of 3.000% senior notes due February 15, 2030, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 11, 2019.
- 4.16\* Form of CubeSmart Notation of Guarantee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 11, 2019.

- 4.17\* Seventh Supplemental Indenture, dated of as October 11, 2019, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 11, 2019.
- 4.18\* Form of \$450 million aggregate principal amount of 2.000% senior notes due February 15, 2031, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 6, 2020.
- 4.19\* Form of CubeSmart Guarantee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 6, 2020.
- 4.20\* Eighth Supplemental Indenture, dated of as October 6, 2020, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on October 6, 2020.
- 4.21\* Description of Registrant's Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.23 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on February 21, 2020.
- 4.22\* Ninth Supplemental Indenture, dated of as November 30, 2021, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 4.23\* Form of \$550 million aggregate principal amount of 2.25% senior notes due December 15, 2028, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 4.24\* Form of CubeSmart Guarantee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 4.25\* Form of \$500 million aggregate principal amount of 2.50% senior notes due February 15, 2032, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 4.26\* Form of CubeSmart Guarantee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 4.27\* Tenth Supplemental Indenture, dated of as November 30, 2021, among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and U.S. Bank National Association, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 30, 2021.
- 10.1\*† Form of Indemnification Agreement for Trustees and Executive Officers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on May 17, 2022.
- 10.2\*† U-Store-It Trust Trustees Deferred Compensation Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2009, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.78 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, filed on March 2, 2009.
- 10.3\*† CubeSmart Executive Deferred Compensation Plan, amended and restated effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.4 \* Waiver of Ownership Limitation, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2013, filed on May 6, 2013.
- 10.5 \*† Amended and Restated CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.

- 10.6 \*† CubeSmart Executive Severance Plan, effective November 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2023, filed on November 3, 2023.
- 10.7\*† Form of Restricted Share Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective June 1, 2016, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 3, 2019.
- 10.8\*† Form of Non-Qualified Share Option Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective June 1, 2016, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 3, 2019.
- 10.9\*† Form of Performance-Vested Restricted Share Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective June 1, 2016, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on January 3, 2019.
- 10.10\* Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of October 26, 2022, by and among CubeSmart, L.P., CubeSmart, the lenders referred to therein, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the Lenders, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed on October 28, 2022.
- 10.11\* Second Amended and Restated Equity Distribution Agreement, dated March 4, 2020, by and among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 4, 2020.
- 10.12\* Second Amended and Restated Equity Distribution Agreement, dated March 4, 2020, by and among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and BofA Securities, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 4, 2020.
- 10.13\* Second Amended and Restated Equity Distribution Agreement, dated March 4, 2020, by and among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and BMO Capital Markets Corp., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 4, 2020.
- 10.14\* Second Amended and Restated Equity Distribution Agreement, dated March 4, 2020, by and among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and Jefferies LLC, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 4, 2020.
- 10.15\* Second Amended and Restated Equity Distribution Agreement, dated March 4, 2020, by and among CubeSmart, CubeSmart, L.P. and Barclays Capital Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on March 4, 2020.
- 10.16\* Agreement and Plan of Merger, by and among LAACO, Ltd., CubeSmart, L.P., CS West Merger Sub, L.P. and Stability LLC, dated as of November 15, 2021, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on November 15, 2021.
- 10.17\*† Form of Non-Qualified Share Option Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.18\*† Form of Performance-Vested Restricted Share Grant Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.19\*† Form of Performance-Vested Restricted Share Unit Grant Agreement under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.

- 10.20\*† Form of Restricted Share Grant Agreement (3-Year Vesting) under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.21\*† Form of Restricted Share Unit Grant Agreement (3-Year Vesting) under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.22\*† Form of Restricted Share Grant Agreement (5-Year Vesting) under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.23\*† Form of Restricted Share Grant Agreement for Non-Employee Trustees under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 10.24\*† Form of Restricted Share Unit Grant Agreement for Non-Employee Trustees under the CubeSmart 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated, effective August 1, 2023, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023, filed on August 4, 2023.
- 21.1 List of Subsidiaries.
- 23.1 Consent of KPMG LLP relating to the consolidated financial statements of CubeSmart and CubeSmart, L.P.
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer of CubeSmart required by Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer of CubeSmart required by Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.3 Certification of Chief Executive Officer of CubeSmart, L.P. required by Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.4 Certification of Chief Financial Officer of CubeSmart, L.P. required by Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of CubeSmart pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of CubeSmart, L.P. pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 97.1 Clawback Policy, effective December 1, 2023.
- 99.1 Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.
- 101 The following CubeSmart and CubeSmart, L.P. financial information for the year ended December 31, 2023, formatted in Inline XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statement of Equity, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (v) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, detailed tagged and filed herewith.
- 104 Cover Page Interactive Data File – embedded within the Inline XBRL document (included as Exhibit 101).

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\* Incorporated herein by reference as above indicated.

† Denotes a management contract or compensatory plan, contract or arrangement.

**ITEM 16. FORM 10-K SUMMARY**

None.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CUBESMART

By: /s/ Timothy M. Martin  
Timothy M. Martin  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 29, 2024

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ Deborah Ratner Salzberg</u> Deborah Ratner Salzberg	Chair of the Board of Trustees	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Christopher P. Marr</u> Christopher P. Marr	Chief Executive Officer and Trustee (Principal Executive Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Timothy M. Martin</u> Timothy M. Martin	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Matthew D. DeNarie</u> Matthew D. DeNarie	Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Piero Bussani</u> Piero Bussani	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jit Kee Chin</u> Jit Kee Chin	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Dorothy Dowling</u> Dorothy Dowling	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ John W. Fain</u> John W. Fain	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jair K. Lynch</u> Jair K. Lynch	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ John F. Remondi</u> John F. Remondi	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jeffrey F. Rogatz</u> Jeffrey F. Rogatz	Trustee	February 29, 2024



## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CUBESMART, L.P.

By: /s/ Timothy M. Martin  
Timothy M. Martin  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 29, 2024

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ Deborah Ratner Salzberg</u> Deborah Ratner Salzberg	Chair of the Board of Trustees	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Christopher P. Marr</u> Christopher P. Marr	Chief Executive Officer and Trustee (Principal Executive Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Timothy M. Martin</u> Timothy M. Martin	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Matthew D. DeNarie</u> Matthew D. DeNarie	Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Piero Bussani</u> Piero Bussani	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jit Kee Chin</u> Jit Kee Chin	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Dorothy Dowling</u> Dorothy Dowling	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ John W. Fain</u> John W. Fain	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jair K. Lynch</u> Jair K. Lynch	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ John F. Remondi</u> John F. Remondi	Trustee	February 29, 2024
<u>/s/ Jeffrey F. Rogatz</u> Jeffrey F. Rogatz	Trustee	February 29, 2024

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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## MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON CUBESMART INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management of CubeSmart (the "REIT") is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act. Under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the REIT's management is required to assess the effectiveness of the REIT's internal control over financial reporting as of the end of each fiscal year, and report on the basis of that assessment whether the REIT's internal control over financial reporting is effective.

The REIT's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The REIT's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and the disposition of the assets of the REIT;
- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and that the receipts and expenditures of the REIT are being made only in accordance with the authorization of the REIT's management and its Board of Trustees; and
- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the REIT's assets that could have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of internal control, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even an effective internal control system can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation. Further, because of changes in conditions, the effectiveness of an internal control system may vary over time.

Under the supervision, and with the participation, of the REIT's management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, management conducted a review, evaluation and assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). In performing its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2023, the REIT's internal control over financial reporting was effective based on the COSO framework.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, has been audited by KPMG LLP (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; PCAOB ID #185), an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report that appears herein.

February 29, 2024

## MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON CUBESMART, L.P. INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management of CubeSmart, L.P. (the "Partnership") is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act. Under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the Partnership's management is required to assess the effectiveness of the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting as of the end of each fiscal year, and report on the basis of that assessment whether the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting is effective.

The Partnership's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The Partnership's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and the disposition of the assets of the Partnership;
- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and that the receipts and expenditures of the Partnership are being made only in accordance with the authorization of the Partnership's management and its Board of Trustees; and
- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Partnership's assets that could have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of internal control, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even an effective internal control system can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation. Further, because of changes in conditions, the effectiveness of an internal control system may vary over time.

Under the supervision, and with the participation, of the Partnership's management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, management conducted a review, evaluation and assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). In performing its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2023, the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting was effective based on the COSO framework.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, has been audited by KPMG LLP (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; PCAOB ID #185), an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report that appears herein.

February 29, 2024

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Trustees of CubeSmart:

### *Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements*

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of CubeSmart and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated February 29, 2024 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

### *Basis for Opinion*

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### *Critical Audit Matter*

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of a critical audit matter does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

#### *Evaluation of the identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties*

As discussed in Notes 2 and 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company had \$6.0 billion of storage properties, net of accumulated depreciation, as of December 31, 2023. The Company evaluates long-lived assets for impairment when events or circumstances, such as declines in occupancy or operating results, indicate that there may be an impairment.

We identified the evaluation of the identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties as a critical audit matter. Subjective auditor judgment was required to evaluate the Company's identification and assessment of impairment indicators, including impacts of declines in occupancy or operating results, for certain storage properties. Changes in the assessment of declines in occupancy or operating results could have a significant impact on the Company's identification and assessment of impairment indicators.

The following are the primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter. We evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of an internal control over the Company's identification and assessment of impairment indicators, including declines in occupancy or operating results. We evaluated the Company's identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties, including certain storage properties that had declines in occupancy or declines in operating results, by:

- assessing management’s impairment policy for storage properties
- assessing the completeness of identification of certain storage properties that had impairment indicators
- reading the minutes of meetings of the Company’s Board of Trustees for indicators that certain storage properties may be subject to impairment analysis in accordance with management’s impairment policy
- inquiring of Company officials, including those in the organization who are responsible for, and have authority over, operational activities and compared to management’s analysis.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company’s auditor since 2009.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
February 29, 2024

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of CubeSmart and Partners of CubeSmart, L.P.:

### *Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements*

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of CubeSmart, L.P. and subsidiaries (the Partnership) as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, capital, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Partnership as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated February 29, 2024 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting.

### *Basis for Opinion*

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Partnership's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Partnership in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### *Critical Audit Matter*

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of a critical audit matter does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

#### *Evaluation of the identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties*

As discussed in Notes 2 and 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the Partnership had \$6.0 billion of storage properties, net of accumulated depreciation, as of December 31, 2023. The Partnership evaluates long-lived assets for impairment when events or circumstances, such as declines in occupancy or operating results, indicate that there may be an impairment.

We identified the evaluation of the identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties as a critical audit matter. Subjective auditor judgment was required to evaluate the Partnership's identification and assessment of impairment indicators, including impacts of declines in occupancy or operating results, for certain storage properties. Changes in the assessment of declines in occupancy or operating results could have a significant impact on the Partnership's identification and assessment of impairment indicators.

The following are the primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter. We evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of an internal control over the Partnership's identification and assessment of impairment indicators, including declines in occupancy or operating results. We evaluated the Partnership's identification and assessment of impairment indicators for certain storage properties, including certain storage properties that had declines in occupancy or declines in operating results, by:



- assessing management's impairment policy for storage properties
- assessing the completeness of identification of certain storage properties that had impairment indicators
- reading the minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees of CubeSmart for indicators that certain storage properties may be subject to impairment analysis in accordance with management's impairment policy
- inquiring of Partnership officials, including those in the organization who are responsible for, and have authority over, operational activities and compared to management's analysis.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Partnership's auditor since 2009.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
February 29, 2024

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Trustees of CubeSmart:

### *Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

We have audited CubeSmart and subsidiaries' (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the consolidated financial statements), and our report dated February 29, 2024 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

### *Basis for Opinion*

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on CubeSmart Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### *Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
February 29, 2024

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of CubeSmart and Partners of CubeSmart, L.P.:

### *Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

We have audited CubeSmart, L.P. and subsidiaries' (the Partnership) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Partnership maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Partnership as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, capital, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes and financial statement schedule III (collectively, the consolidated financial statements), and our report dated February 29, 2024 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

### *Basis for Opinion*

The Partnership's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on CubeSmart, L.P. Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Partnership in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### *Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
February 29, 2024

**CUBESMART AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(in thousands, except share data)

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Storage properties	\$ 7,367,613	\$ 7,295,778
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,416,377)	(1,247,775)
Storage properties, net (including VIE assets of \$180,615 and \$167,180, respectively)	5,951,236	6,048,003
Cash and cash equivalents	6,526	6,064
Restricted cash	1,691	2,861
Loan procurement costs, net of amortization	3,995	5,182
Investment in real estate ventures, at equity	98,288	105,993
Assets held for sale	—	3,745
Other assets, net	163,284	153,982
Total assets	<u>\$ 6,225,020</u>	<u>\$ 6,325,830</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
Unsecured senior notes, net	\$ 2,776,490	\$ 2,772,350
Revolving credit facility	18,100	60,900
Mortgage loans and notes payable, net	128,186	162,918
Lease liabilities - finance leases	65,714	65,758
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	201,419	214,384
Distributions payable	115,820	111,190
Deferred revenue	38,483	38,757
Liabilities held for sale	—	1,773
Total liabilities	<u>3,344,212</u>	<u>3,428,030</u>
Noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	<u>60,276</u>	<u>57,419</u>
Commitments and contingencies		
Equity		
Common shares \$.01 par value, 400,000,000 shares authorized, 224,921,053 and 224,603,462 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively	2,249	2,246
Additional paid-in capital	4,142,229	4,125,478
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(411)	(491)
Accumulated deficit	(1,345,239)	(1,301,030)
Total CubeSmart shareholders' equity	<u>2,798,828</u>	<u>2,826,203</u>
Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	21,704	14,178
Total equity	<u>2,820,532</u>	<u>2,840,381</u>
Total liabilities and equity	<u>\$ 6,225,020</u>	<u>\$ 6,325,830</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(in thousands, except per share data)

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Rental income	\$ 911,999	\$ 879,289	\$ 707,751
Other property related income	101,793	96,166	83,605
Property management fee income	36,542	34,169	31,208
Total revenues	<u>1,050,334</u>	<u>1,009,624</u>	<u>822,564</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Property operating expenses	294,780	293,260	252,104
Depreciation and amortization	201,238	310,610	232,049
General and administrative	57,041	54,623	47,809
Total operating expenses	<u>553,059</u>	<u>658,493</u>	<u>531,962</u>
<b>OTHER (EXPENSE) INCOME</b>			
Interest:			
Interest expense on loans	(93,065)	(93,284)	(78,448)
Loan procurement amortization expense	(4,141)	(3,897)	(8,168)
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	(20,328)
Equity in earnings of real estate ventures	6,085	48,877	25,275
Gains from sales of real estate, net	—	—	32,698
Other	6,281	(10,355)	(10,818)
Total other expense	<u>(84,840)</u>	<u>(58,659)</u>	<u>(59,789)</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u>412,435</u>	<u>292,472</u>	<u>230,813</u>
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	(2,535)	(1,931)	(7,873)
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
<b>NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE COMPANY'S COMMON SHAREHOLDERS</b>	<u>\$ 410,757</u>	<u>\$ 291,263</u>	<u>\$ 223,482</u>
Basic earnings per share attributable to common shareholders	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.10
Diluted earnings per share attributable to common shareholders	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.09
Weighted average basic shares outstanding	225,424	224,928	203,832
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	226,241	225,881	205,009

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(in thousands)

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
NET INCOME	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Other comprehensive income:			
Reclassification of realized losses on interest rate swaps	81	81	81
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:	81	81	81
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	412,516	292,553	230,894
Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	(2,536)	(1,933)	(7,892)
Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE COMPANY	\$ 410,837	\$ 291,342	\$ 223,544

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY**  
(in thousands, except per share data)

	Common Shares		Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Accumulated Deficit	Total CubeSmart Shareholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interests in Subsidiaries	Total Equity	Noncontrolling Interests in the Operating Partnership
	Number	Amount							
<b>Balance at December 31, 2020</b>	197,406	\$ 1,974	\$ 2,805,673	\$ (632)	\$ (974,799)	\$ 1,832,216	\$ 8,632	\$ 1,840,848	\$ 249,414
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							11,404	11,404	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							(246)	(246)	
Acquisition of noncontrolling interest in subsidiary			(2,746)			(2,746)	(651)	(3,397)	
Issuance of common shares, net	20,508	205	965,433			965,638		965,638	
Issuance of restricted shares	66								
Conversion from units to shares	5,519	56	304,959			305,015		305,015	(305,015)
Exercise of stock options	419	4	7,861			7,865		7,865	
Amortization of restricted shares			4,941			4,941		4,941	
Share compensation expense			2,271			2,271		2,271	
Adjustment for noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership					(164,109)	(164,109)		(164,109)	164,109
Net income (loss)					223,482	223,482	(542)	222,940	7,873
Other comprehensive income, net				62		62		62	19
Common share distributions (\$1.45 per share)					(303,072)	(303,072)		(303,072)	(8,180)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2021</b>	223,918	\$ 2,239	\$ 4,088,392	\$ (570)	\$ (1,218,498)	\$ 2,871,563	\$ 18,597	\$ 2,890,160	\$ 108,220
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							3,690	3,690	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							(7,387)	(7,387)	
Issuance of common shares, net	102	1	4,876			4,877		4,877	
Issuance of restricted shares	56	1				1		1	
Conversion from units to shares	475	4	22,944			22,948		22,948	(22,948)
Exercise of stock options	52	1	1,589			1,590		1,590	
Amortization of restricted shares			5,134			5,134		5,134	
Share compensation expense			2,543			2,543		2,543	
Adjustment for noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership					27,203	27,203		27,203	(27,203)
Net income (loss)					291,263	291,263	(722)	290,541	1,931
Other comprehensive income, net				79		79		79	2
Common share distributions (\$1.78 per share)					(400,998)	(400,998)		(400,998)	(2,583)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2022</b>	224,603	\$ 2,246	\$ 4,125,478	\$ (491)	\$ (1,301,030)	\$ 2,826,203	\$ 14,178	\$ 2,840,381	\$ 57,419
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							8,699	8,699	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries							(316)	(316)	
Issuance of common shares, net			(276)			(276)		(276)	
Issuance of restricted shares	48								
Conversion from units to shares	126	1	5,041			5,042		5,042	(5,042)
Exercise of stock options	144	2	2,714			2,716		2,716	
Amortization of restricted shares			6,454			6,454		6,454	
Share compensation expense			2,818			2,818		2,818	
Adjustment for noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership					(8,084)	(8,084)		(8,084)	8,084
Net income (loss)					410,757	410,757	(857)	409,900	2,535
Other comprehensive income, net				80		80		80	1
Common share distributions (\$1.98 per share)					(446,882)	(446,882)		(446,882)	(2,721)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2023</b>	224,921	\$ 2,249	\$ 4,142,229	\$ (411)	\$ (1,345,239)	\$ 2,798,828	\$ 21,704	\$ 2,820,532	\$ 60,276

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.



**CUBESMART AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(in thousands)

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	205,379	314,507	240,217
Non-cash portion of interest expense related to finance leases	(44)	(43)	202
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	20,328
Equity in earnings of real estate ventures	(6,085)	(48,877)	(25,275)
Cash distributed from real estate ventures	5,467	—	—
Gain on involuntary conversion, net	(4,827)	—	—
Gains from sales of real estate, net	—	—	(32,698)
Equity compensation expense	10,089	9,081	8,088
Accretion of fair market value adjustment of debt	(886)	(1,099)	(2,037)
Changes in other operating accounts:			
Other assets	(10,138)	3,498	(9,247)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	96	20,395	14,871
Other liabilities	(350)	1,532	3,923
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 611,136</u>	<u>\$ 591,466</u>	<u>\$ 449,185</u>
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Acquisitions of storage properties	(22,429)	(89,004)	(151,547)
Acquisition of LAACO, Ltd., net of cash acquired	—	—	(1,678,984)
Additions and improvements to storage properties	(39,853)	(41,233)	(34,608)
Development costs	(47,521)	(24,358)	(69,887)
Investment in real estate ventures	(21)	(21)	(28,261)
Cash distributed from real estate ventures	8,344	62,656	66,593
Proceeds from sale of real estate, net	238	43,193	44,026
Proceeds from involuntary conversion, net	7,424	—	—
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>\$ (93,818)</u>	<u>\$ (48,767)</u>	<u>\$ (1,852,668)</u>
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Proceeds from:			
Unsecured senior notes	—	—	1,043,427
Revolving credit facility	794,447	633,950	906,571
Principal payments on:			
Unsecured senior notes	—	—	(300,000)
Revolving credit facility	(837,247)	(782,950)	(814,471)
Mortgage loans and notes payable	(32,591)	(2,426)	(87,263)
Loan procurement costs	(69)	(3,885)	(12,548)
Debt prepayment costs	—	—	(20,023)
Acquisition of noncontrolling interest in subsidiary, net	—	—	(3,397)
Issuance of common shares, net	(276)	4,877	965,638
Cash paid upon vesting of restricted shares	(817)	(1,403)	(876)
Exercise of stock options	2,716	1,590	7,865
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	1,100	350	8,031
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	(316)	(7,387)	(246)
Distributions paid to common shareholders	(442,217)	(387,106)	(273,839)
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in Operating Partnership	(2,756)	(2,702)	(8,297)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>\$ (518,026)</u>	<u>\$ (547,092)</u>	<u>\$ 1,410,572</u>
Change in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	(708)	(4,393)	7,089
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of period	8,925	13,318	6,229
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of period	<u>\$ 8,217</u>	<u>\$ 8,925</u>	<u>\$ 13,318</u>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flow and Noncash Information</b>			
Cash paid for interest, net of interest capitalized	\$ 95,498	\$ 92,293	\$ 79,148
Supplemental disclosure of noncash activities:			
Acquisitions of storage properties	\$ —	\$ (700)	\$ —
Discount on issuance of unsecured senior notes	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 6,573
Mortgage loan assumptions	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 40,880
Accretion of put liability	\$ —	\$ 2,444	\$ 9,777
Derivative valuation adjustment	\$ 81	\$ 81	\$ 81
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	\$ 7,599	\$ 3,340	\$ 3,373

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(in thousands)

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Storage properties	\$ 7,367,613	\$ 7,295,778
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,416,377)	(1,247,775)
Storage properties, net (including VIE assets of \$180,615 and \$167,180, respectively)	5,951,236	6,048,003
Cash and cash equivalents	6,526	6,064
Restricted cash	1,691	2,861
Loan procurement costs, net of amortization	3,995	5,182
Investment in real estate ventures, at equity	98,288	105,993
Assets held for sale	—	3,745
Other assets, net	163,284	153,982
Total assets	<u>\$ 6,225,020</u>	<u>\$ 6,325,830</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL</b>		
Unsecured senior notes, net	\$ 2,776,490	\$ 2,772,350
Revolving credit facility	18,100	60,900
Mortgage loans and notes payable, net	128,186	162,918
Lease liabilities - finance leases	65,714	65,758
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	201,419	214,384
Distributions payable	115,820	111,190
Deferred revenue	38,483	38,757
Liabilities held for sale	—	1,773
Total liabilities	<u>3,344,212</u>	<u>3,428,030</u>
Limited Partnership interests of third parties	<u>60,276</u>	<u>57,419</u>
Commitments and contingencies		
Capital		
General Partner	2,799,239	2,826,694
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(411)	(491)
Total CubeSmart, L.P. capital	<u>2,798,828</u>	<u>2,826,203</u>
Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	21,704	14,178
Total capital	<u>2,820,532</u>	<u>2,840,381</u>
Total liabilities and capital	<u>\$ 6,225,020</u>	<u>\$ 6,325,830</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(in thousands, except per unit data)

	<b>For the year ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Rental income	\$ 911,999	\$ 879,289	\$ 707,751
Other property related income	101,793	96,166	83,605
Property management fee income	36,542	34,169	31,208
Total revenues	<u>1,050,334</u>	<u>1,009,624</u>	<u>822,564</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Property operating expenses	294,780	293,260	252,104
Depreciation and amortization	201,238	310,610	232,049
General and administrative	57,041	54,623	47,809
Total operating expenses	<u>553,059</u>	<u>658,493</u>	<u>531,962</u>
Interest:			
Interest expense on loans	(93,065)	(93,284)	(78,448)
Loan procurement amortization expense	(4,141)	(3,897)	(8,168)
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	(20,328)
Equity in earnings of real estate ventures	6,085	48,877	25,275
Gains from sales of real estate, net	—	—	32,698
Other	6,281	(10,355)	(10,818)
Total other expense	<u>(84,840)</u>	<u>(58,659)</u>	<u>(59,789)</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u>412,435</u>	<u>292,472</u>	<u>230,813</u>
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
<b>NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO CUBESMART L.P.</b>	<u>\$ 413,292</u>	<u>\$ 293,194</u>	<u>\$ 231,355</u>
Basic earnings per unit attributable to CubeSmart, L.P.	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.10
Diluted earnings per unit attributable to CubeSmart, L.P.	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.09
Weighted average basic units outstanding	226,817	226,449	210,949
Weighted average diluted units outstanding	227,634	227,402	212,126

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(in thousands)

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
NET INCOME	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Other comprehensive income:			
Reclassification of realized losses on interest rate swaps	81	81	81
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:	81	81	81
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	412,516	292,553	230,894
Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO CUBESMART, L.P.	\$ 413,373	\$ 293,275	\$ 231,436

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CAPITAL**  
(in thousands, except per unit data)

	General Partner		Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Total CubeSmart L.P. Capital	Noncontrolling Interests in Subsidiaries	Total Capital	Limited Partnership Interests of Third Parties
	OP Units Outstanding	Amount					
<b>Balance at December 31, 2020</b>	197,406	\$ 1,832,848	\$ (632)	\$ 1,832,216	\$ 8,632	\$ 1,840,848	\$ 249,414
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					11,404	11,404	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					(246)	(246)	
Acquisition of noncontrolling interest in subsidiary		(2,746)		(2,746)	(651)	(3,397)	
Issuance of OP units, net	20,508	965,638		965,638		965,638	
Issuance of restricted OP units	66						
Conversion from OP units to shares	5,519	305,015		305,015		305,015	(305,015)
Exercise of OP unit options	419	7,865		7,865		7,865	
Amortization of restricted OP units		4,941		4,941		4,941	
OP unit compensation expense		2,271		2,271		2,271	
Adjustment for Limited Partnership interests of third parties		(164,109)		(164,109)		(164,109)	164,109
Net income (loss)		223,482		223,482	(542)	222,940	7,873
Other comprehensive income, net			62	62		62	19
OP unit distributions (\$1.45 per unit)		(303,072)		(303,072)		(303,072)	(8,180)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2021</b>	223,918	\$ 2,872,133	\$ (570)	\$ 2,871,563	\$ 18,597	\$ 2,890,160	\$ 108,220
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					3,690	3,690	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					(7,387)	(7,387)	
Issuance of OP units, net	102	4,877		4,877		4,877	
Issuance of restricted OP units	56	1		1		1	
Conversion from OP units to shares	475	22,948		22,948		22,948	(22,948)
Exercise of OP unit options	52	1,590		1,590		1,590	
Amortization of restricted OP units		5,134		5,134		5,134	
OP unit compensation expense		2,543		2,543		2,543	
Adjustment for Limited Partnership interests of third parties		27,203		27,203		27,203	(27,203)
Net income (loss)		291,263		291,263	(722)	290,541	1,931
Other comprehensive income, net			79	79		79	2
OP unit distributions (\$1.78 per unit)		(400,998)		(400,998)		(400,998)	(2,583)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2022</b>	224,603	\$ 2,826,694	\$ (491)	\$ 2,826,203	\$ 14,178	\$ 2,840,381	\$ 57,419
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					8,699	8,699	
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries					(316)	(316)	
Issuance of OP units, net		(276)		(276)		(276)	
Issuance of restricted OP units	48						
Conversion from OP units to shares	126	5,042		5,042		5,042	(5,042)
Exercise of OP unit options	144	2,716		2,716		2,716	
Amortization of restricted OP units		6,454		6,454		6,454	
OP unit compensation expense		2,818		2,818		2,818	
Adjustment for Limited Partnership interests of third parties		(8,084)		(8,084)		(8,084)	8,084
Net income (loss)		410,757		410,757	(857)	409,900	2,535
Other comprehensive income, net			80	80		80	1
OP unit distributions (\$1.98 per unit)		(446,882)		(446,882)		(446,882)	(2,721)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2023</b>	224,921	\$ 2,799,239	\$ (411)	\$ 2,798,828	\$ 21,704	\$ 2,820,532	\$ 60,276

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(in thousands)

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	205,379	314,507	240,217
Non-cash portion of interest expense related to finance leases	(44)	(43)	202
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	20,328
Equity in earnings of real estate ventures	(6,085)	(48,877)	(25,275)
Cash distributed from real estate ventures	5,467	—	—
Gain on involuntary conversion, net	(4,827)	—	—
Gains from sales of real estate, net	—	—	(32,698)
Equity compensation expense	10,089	9,081	8,088
Accretion of fair market value adjustment of debt	(886)	(1,099)	(2,037)
Changes in other operating accounts:			
Other assets	(10,138)	3,498	(9,247)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	96	20,395	14,871
Other liabilities	(350)	1,532	3,923
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 611,136</u>	<u>\$ 591,466</u>	<u>\$ 449,185</u>
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Acquisitions of storage properties	(22,429)	(89,004)	(151,547)
Acquisition of LAACO, Ltd., net of cash acquired	—	—	(1,678,984)
Additions and improvements to storage properties	(39,853)	(41,233)	(34,608)
Development costs	(47,521)	(24,358)	(69,887)
Investment in real estate ventures	(21)	(21)	(28,261)
Cash distributed from real estate ventures	8,344	62,656	66,593
Proceeds from sale of real estate, net	238	43,193	44,026
Proceeds from involuntary conversion, net	7,424	—	—
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>\$ (93,818)</u>	<u>\$ (48,767)</u>	<u>\$ (1,852,668)</u>
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Proceeds from:			
Unsecured senior notes	—	—	1,043,427
Revolving credit facility	794,447	633,950	906,571
Principal payments on:			
Unsecured senior notes	—	—	(300,000)
Revolving credit facility	(837,247)	(782,950)	(814,471)
Mortgage loans and notes payable	(32,591)	(2,426)	(87,263)
Loan procurement costs	(69)	(3,885)	(12,548)
Debt prepayment costs	—	—	(20,023)
Acquisition of noncontrolling interest in subsidiary, net	—	—	(3,397)
Issuance of common OP units, net	(276)	4,877	965,638
Cash paid upon vesting of restricted OP units	(817)	(1,403)	(876)
Exercise of OP unit options	2,716	1,590	7,865
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	1,100	350	8,031
Distributions paid to noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	(316)	(7,387)	(246)
Distributions paid to common OP unitholders	(444,973)	(389,808)	(282,136)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>\$ (518,026)</u>	<u>\$ (547,092)</u>	<u>\$ 1,410,572</u>
Change in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	(708)	(4,393)	7,089
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of period	8,925	13,318	6,229
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of period	<u>\$ 8,217</u>	<u>\$ 8,925</u>	<u>\$ 13,318</u>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flow and Noncash Information</b>			
Cash paid for interest, net of interest capitalized	\$ 95,498	\$ 92,293	\$ 79,148
Supplemental disclosure of noncash activities:			
Acquisitions of storage properties	\$ —	\$ (700)	\$ —
Discount on issuance of unsecured senior notes	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 6,573
Mortgage loan assumptions	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 40,880
Accretion of put liability	\$ —	\$ 2,444	\$ 9,777
Derivative valuation adjustment	\$ 81	\$ 81	\$ 81
Contributions from noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	\$ 7,599	\$ 3,340	\$ 3,373

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**CUBESMART AND CUBESMART L.P.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF OPERATIONS**

CubeSmart (the “Parent Company”) operates as a self-managed and self-administered real estate investment trust (“REIT”) with its operations conducted solely through CubeSmart, L.P. and its subsidiaries. CubeSmart, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (the “Operating Partnership”), operates through an umbrella partnership structure, with the Parent Company, a Maryland REIT, as its sole general partner. In the notes to the consolidated financial statements, we use the terms the “Company”, “we” or “our” to refer to the Parent Company and the Operating Partnership together, unless the context indicates otherwise. As of December 31, 2023, the Company owned (or partially owned and consolidated) 611 self-storage properties located in the District of Columbia and 24 states throughout the United States which are presented under one reportable segment: the Company owns, operates, develops, manages and acquires self-storage properties.

As of December 31, 2023, the Parent Company owned approximately 99.4% of the partnership interests (“OP Units” or “common units”) of the Operating Partnership. The remaining OP Units, consisting exclusively of limited partner interests, are held by persons who contributed their interests in properties to the Operating Partnership in exchange for OP Units. Under the partnership agreement, these persons have the right to tender their OP Units for redemption to the Operating Partnership at any time following a specified restricted period for cash equal to the fair value of an equivalent number of common shares of the Parent Company. In lieu of delivering cash, however, the Parent Company, as the Operating Partnership’s general partner, may, at its option, choose to acquire any OP Units so tendered by issuing common shares in exchange for the tendered OP Units. If the Parent Company so chooses, its common shares will be exchanged for OP Units on a one-for-one basis. This one-for-one exchange ratio is subject to adjustment to prevent dilution. With each such exchange or redemption, the Parent Company’s percentage ownership in the Operating Partnership will increase. In addition, whenever the Parent Company issues common or other classes of its shares, it contributes the net proceeds it receives from the issuance to the Operating Partnership and the Operating Partnership issues to the Parent Company an equal number of OP Units or other partnership interests having preferences and rights that mirror the preferences and rights of the shares issued. This structure is commonly referred to as an umbrella partnership REIT or “UPREIT.”

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*Principles of Consolidation*

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include all of the accounts of the Company and its majority-owned and/or controlled subsidiaries. The portion of these entities not owned by the Company is presented as noncontrolling interests as of and during the periods consolidated. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

When the Company obtains an economic interest in an entity, the Company evaluates the entity to determine if the entity is deemed a variable interest entity (“VIE”) and if the Company is deemed to be the primary beneficiary in accordance with authoritative guidance issued on the consolidation of VIEs. To the extent that the Company (i) has the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the economic performance of the VIE and (ii) has the obligation or rights to absorb the VIE's losses or receive its benefits, then the Company is considered the primary beneficiary. When an entity is not deemed to be a VIE, the Company considers the provisions of additional guidance to determine whether a general partner, or the general partners as a group, controls a limited partnership or similar entity when the limited partners have certain rights. The Company consolidates (i) entities that are VIEs and of which the Company is deemed to be the primary beneficiary, and (ii) entities that are non-VIEs which the Company controls and which the limited partners do not have the ability to dissolve or remove the Company without cause nor substantive participating rights.

The Operating Partnership meets the criteria as a VIE. The Parent Company’s sole significant asset is its investment in the Operating Partnership. As a result, substantially all of the Parent Company’s assets and liabilities represent those assets and liabilities of the Operating Partnership. All of the Parent Company’s debt is an obligation of the Operating Partnership.

*Noncontrolling Interests*

Noncontrolling interests are the portion of equity (net assets) in a subsidiary not attributable, directly or indirectly, to a parent. The ownership interests in the subsidiary that are held by owners other than the parent are noncontrolling interests. Such noncontrolling interests are reported on the Company’s consolidated balance sheets within equity, separately from the Company’s equity. Within the Company’s consolidated statements of operations, revenues, expenses and net income or loss from controlled or consolidated entities that are less than wholly owned are reported at the consolidated amounts, including both the amounts attributable to the Company and

noncontrolling interests. Presentation of consolidated equity activity is included for both quarterly and annual financial statements, including beginning balances, activity for the period and ending balances for shareholders' equity, noncontrolling interests and total equity.

However, per the FASB-issued authoritative guidance on the classification and measurement of redeemable securities, securities that are redeemable for cash or other assets at the option of the holder, not solely within the control of the issuer, must be classified outside of permanent equity. This would result in certain outside ownership interests being included as redeemable noncontrolling interests outside of permanent equity on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. The Company makes this determination based on terms in applicable agreements, specifically in relation to redemption provisions. Additionally, with respect to noncontrolling interests for which the Company has a choice to settle the contract by delivery of its own shares, the Company considered the FASB-issued guidance on accounting for derivative financial instruments indexed to, and potentially settled in, a company's own stock to evaluate whether the Company controls the actions or events necessary to issue the maximum number of shares that could be required to be delivered under share settlement of the contract. The guidance also requires that noncontrolling interests are adjusted each period so that the carrying value equals the greater of its carrying value based on the accumulation of historical cost or its redemption fair value.

The consolidated results of the Company include results attributable to units of the Operating Partnership that are not owned by the Company. These interests were issued in the form of OP Units and were a component of the consideration the Company paid to acquire certain self-storage properties. Limited partners who acquired OP Units have the right to require the Operating Partnership to redeem part or all of their OP Units for, at the Company's option, an equivalent number of common shares of the Company or cash based upon the fair value of an equivalent number of common shares of the Company. However, the operating agreement contains certain circumstances that could result in a net cash settlement outside the control of the Company, as the Company does not have the ability to settle in unregistered shares. Accordingly, consistent with the guidance discussed above, the Company will continue to record these noncontrolling interests outside of permanent equity on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Net income or loss related to these noncontrolling interests is excluded from net income or loss within the Company's consolidated statements of operations. The Company has adjusted the carrying value of its noncontrolling interests subject to redemption value to the extent applicable. Based on the Company's evaluation of the redemption value of the redeemable noncontrolling interests, the Operating Partnership reflected these interests at their redemption value as of December 31, 2023, as the estimated redemption value exceeded their carrying value.

### ***Estimates***

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Although management believes the assumptions and estimates made are reasonable and appropriate, as discussed in the applicable sections throughout these consolidated financial statements, different assumptions and estimates could materially impact the Company's reported results. There is a degree of uncertainty inherent in these estimates and assumptions, and changes in market conditions could impact the Company's future operating results.

### ***Reclassifications***

Certain amounts on the Company's and the Operating Partnership's consolidated balance sheets have been reclassified in prior years to conform to the current year presentation. Additionally, the Operating Partnership's consolidated statements of operations have been updated to conform to the current year presentation.

### ***Self-Storage Properties***

Self-storage properties are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The cost of self-storage properties reflects their purchase price or development cost. Costs incurred for the renovation of a store are capitalized to the Company's investment in that store. Ordinary repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Major replacements and betterments, which improve or extend the life of the asset, are capitalized and depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The costs to develop self-storage properties are capitalized to construction in progress while the projects are under development.



### ***Purchase Price Allocation***

When stores are acquired in an asset acquisition, the purchase price and acquisition-related costs are allocated to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on estimated relative fair values. Allocations to land, building and improvements and equipment are recorded based upon their respective relative fair values as estimated by management. If appropriate, the Company allocates a portion of the purchase price to an intangible asset attributed to the value of in-place leases. This intangible is generally amortized to expense over the expected remaining term of the respective leases. Substantially all of the storage leases in place at acquired stores are at market rates, as the majority of the leases are month-to-month contracts. Accordingly, to date, no portion of the purchase price has been allocated to above- or below-market lease intangibles associated with storage leases assumed at acquisition. Above- or below-market lease intangibles associated with assumed leases in which the Company serves as lessee are recorded as an adjustment to the right-of-use asset and reflect the difference between the contractual amounts to be paid pursuant to each in-place lease and management's estimate of fair market lease rates. These amounts are amortized over the term of the lease. To date, no intangible asset has been recorded for the value of customer relationships, because the Company does not have any concentrations of significant customers and the average customer turnover is fairly frequent.

### ***Depreciation and Amortization***

The costs of self-storage properties and improvements are depreciated using the straight-line method based on useful lives ranging from five to 39 years. Right-of-use assets associated with finance leases are amortized from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the useful life of the right-to-use asset or the end of the lease term. Fully depreciated or amortized assets and the associated accumulated depreciation or amortization are written off. The Company wrote off fully depreciated or amortized real estate assets and in-place lease intangible assets of \$29.1 million and \$3.4 million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2023, and \$32.3 million and \$121.6 million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2022.

### ***Impairment of Long-Lived Assets***

We evaluate long-lived assets for impairment when events or circumstances such as declines in occupancy and operating results indicate that there may be an impairment. The carrying value of these long-lived assets is compared to the undiscounted future net operating cash flows, plus a terminal value, attributable to the assets to determine if the asset's basis is recoverable. If a store's basis is not considered recoverable, an impairment loss is recorded to the extent the net carrying value of the asset exceeds the fair value. The impairment loss recognized equals the excess of net carrying value over the related fair value of the asset. There were no impairment losses recognized during the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021.

### ***Long-Lived Assets Held for Sale***

We consider long-lived assets to be "held for sale" upon satisfaction of the following criteria: (a) management commits to a plan to sell an asset (or group of assets), (b) the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such assets, (c) an active program to locate a buyer and other actions required to complete the plan to sell the asset have been initiated, (d) the sale of the asset is probable and transfer of the asset is expected to be completed within one year, (e) the asset is being actively marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value and (f) actions required to complete the plan indicate that it is unlikely that significant changes to the plan will be made or that the plan will be withdrawn.

Typically these criteria are all met when the relevant asset is under contract, significant non-refundable deposits have been made by the potential buyer, the assets are immediately available for transfer, and there are no contingencies related to the sale that may prevent the transaction from closing. However, each potential transaction is evaluated based on its separate facts and circumstances. Assets classified as held for sale are reported at the lesser of carrying value or fair value less estimated costs to sell and are not depreciated. There were no assets classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2023.

### ***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents are highly-liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. The Company may maintain cash equivalents in financial institutions in excess of insured limits, but believes this risk is mitigated by only investing in or through major financial institutions.

### **Restricted Cash**

Restricted cash generally consists of cash deposits required for debt service, capital replacement and expense reserves in connection with the terms of our loan agreements, as well as utility deposits.

### **Loan Procurement Costs**

Loan procurement costs related to borrowings were \$53.7 million and \$53.9 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and are reported net of accumulated amortization of \$25.3 million and \$19.8 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. In accordance with ASU No. 2015-03, Loan procurement costs, net are presented as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of the related debt liability. If there is not an associated debt liability recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheets, the costs are recorded as an asset net of accumulated amortization. Loan procurement costs associated with the Company's revolving credit facility remain in Loan procurement costs, net of amortization on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. The costs are amortized over the estimated life of the related debt using the effective interest method and are reported as Loan procurement amortization expense within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

### **Investments in Unconsolidated Real Estate Ventures**

The Company accounts for its investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures under the equity method of accounting when it is determined that the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over the venture. Under the equity method of accounting, investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures are recorded initially at cost, as investments in real estate ventures, and subsequently adjusted for equity in earnings (losses), cash contributions, distributions and impairments. On a periodic basis, management assesses whether there are any indicators that the value of the Company's investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures may be other than temporarily impaired. An investment is impaired only if the fair value of the investment, as estimated by management, is less than the carrying value of the investment and the decline is other than temporary. To the extent impairment that is other than temporary has occurred, the loss shall be measured as the excess of the carrying amount of the investment over the fair value of the investment, as estimated by management. The determination as to whether impairment exists requires significant management judgment about the fair value of the Company's ownership interest. Fair value is determined through various valuation techniques, including but not limited to, discounted cash flow models, quoted market values and third-party appraisals. There were no impairment losses related to the Company's investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures recognized during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Differences between the Company's net investment in unconsolidated real estate ventures and its underlying equity in the net assets of the ventures are primarily a result of the Company acquiring interests in existing unconsolidated real estate ventures. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Company's net investment in unconsolidated real estate ventures was greater than its underlying equity in the net assets of the unconsolidated real estate ventures by an aggregate of \$31.8 million and \$32.7 million, respectively. These differences are amortized over the lives of the self-storage properties owned by the real estate ventures. This amortization is included in equity in earnings of real estate ventures within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

### **Other Assets**

Other assets are comprised of the following as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	(in thousands)	
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$164 and \$2,263, respectively	\$ 1,806	\$ 1,181
Accounts receivable, net	8,944	7,932
Prepaid property taxes	8,171	8,033
Prepaid insurance	4,879	2,129
Amounts due from affiliates (see note 14)	18,045	15,947
Assets related to deferred compensation arrangements	60,038	55,572
Right-of-use assets - operating leases	50,476	49,491
Ground lease receivable	6,193	6,138
Other	4,732	7,559
Total other assets, net	\$ 163,284	\$ 153,982

### ***Revenue Recognition***

Management has determined that substantially all of the Company's leases are operating leases. Rental income is recognized in accordance with the terms of the leases, which generally are month-to-month.

The Company recognizes gains from sales of real estate in accordance with the guidance on transfer of nonfinancial assets. Payments received from purchasers prior to closing are recorded as deposits. Gains on real estate sold are recognized when a valid contract exists, the collectability of the sales price is reasonably assured and the control of the property has transferred.

### ***Advertising and Marketing Costs***

The Company incurs advertising and marketing costs primarily attributable to internet marketing and other media advertisements. These costs are expensed as incurred. The Company incurred \$24.5 million, \$22.4 million and \$21.0 million in advertising and marketing expenses for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively, which are included in Property operating expenses within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

### ***Equity Offering Costs***

Underwriting discounts and commissions, financial advisory fees and other offering costs are reflected as a reduction to additional paid-in capital. For the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company recognized \$0.3 million, \$0.2 million and \$28.3 million, respectively, of equity offering costs related to the issuance of common shares.

### ***Other Property Related Income***

Other property related income consists of late fees, administrative charges, customer storage protection plan fees, sales of storage supplies and other ancillary revenues and is recognized in the period that it is earned.

### ***Capitalized Interest***

The Company capitalizes interest incurred that is directly associated with construction activities until the asset is placed into service. Interest is capitalized to the related asset(s) using the weighted average rate of the Company's outstanding debt. For the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company capitalized \$1.3 million, \$1.3 million and \$1.9 million, respectively, of interest incurred that is directly associated with construction activities.

### ***Derivative Financial Instruments***

The Company carries all derivatives on the balance sheet at fair value. The Company determines the fair value of derivatives using observable prices that are based on inputs not quoted on active markets, but corroborated by market data. The accounting for changes in the fair value of a derivative instrument depends on whether the derivative has been designated and qualifies as part of a hedging relationship and, if so, the reason for holding it. The Company's use of derivative instruments has been limited to cash flow hedges of certain interest rate risks. The Company had no outstanding derivatives as of December 31, 2023 or 2022.

### ***Income Taxes***

The Company has elected to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856-860 of the Internal Revenue Code since the Company's commencement of operations in 2004. Management believes that the requirements to maintain these elections are being met. Accordingly, no provision for federal income taxes has been reflected in the consolidated financial statements other than for operations conducted through our taxable REIT subsidiaries.

Earnings and profits, which determine the taxability of distributions to shareholders, differ from net income reported for financial reporting purposes due to differences in cost basis, the estimated useful lives used to compute depreciation, and the allocation of net income and loss for financial versus tax reporting purposes. The net tax basis in the Company's assets was approximately \$6,022.1 million and \$6,145.8 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Since the Company's initial quarter as a publicly-traded REIT, it has made regular quarterly distributions to its shareholders. Distributions to shareholders are usually taxable as ordinary income, although a portion of the distribution may be designated as capital gain or may constitute a tax-free return of capital. Annually, the Company provides each of its shareholders a statement detailing the tax

characterization of dividends paid during the preceding year as ordinary income, capital gain or return of capital. The Company's dividends for 2023 consisted entirely of ordinary income distributions.

The Company is subject to a 4% federal excise tax if sufficient taxable income is not distributed within prescribed time limits. The excise tax equals 4% of the annual amount, if any, by which the sum of (a) 85% of the Company's ordinary income, (b) 95% of the Company's net capital gains and (c) 100% of prior year undistributed taxable income exceeds cash distributions and certain taxes paid by the Company. No excise tax was incurred in 2023, 2022 or 2021.

Taxable REIT subsidiaries are subject to federal and state income taxes. Our taxable REIT subsidiaries had a net deferred tax liability of \$1.1 million and \$1.0 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

### ***Earnings per Share and Unit***

Basic earnings per share and unit are calculated based on the weighted average number of common shares and restricted shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share and unit is calculated by further adjusting for the dilutive impact of share options, unvested restricted shares and contingently issuable shares outstanding during the period using the treasury stock method. Potentially dilutive securities calculated under the treasury stock method were 817,000, 953,000 and 1,177,000 for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

### ***Share-Based Payments***

We apply the fair value method of accounting for contingently issued shares and share options issued under our incentive award plan. Accordingly, share compensation expense is recorded ratably over the vesting period relating to such contingently issued shares and options. The Company has recognized compensation expense on a straight-line method over the requisite service period, which is included in general and administrative expense within the Company's consolidated statement of operations. The Company recognizes forfeitures on share-based payments as they occur.

### ***Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In November 2023, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2023-07 – Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures. The amended guidance requires the disclosure of incremental segment information, including significant segment expenses that are regularly provided to the chief operating decision maker ("CODM") and a reconciliation of segment profit or loss to net income. The title and position of the CODM must also be disclosed, along with how the CODM uses the reported measures to assess segment performance and to allocate resources. Entities with a single reportable segment (such as the Company) will be required to provide the disclosures required by Topic 280, as amended. ASU 2023-07 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

### ***Concentration of Credit Risk***

The Company's stores are located in major metropolitan and rural areas and have numerous customers per store. No single customer represents a significant concentration of our revenues. The stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas provided approximately 17%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of the Company's total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2023. The stores in New York, Florida, California and Texas provided approximately 16%, 15%, 11% and 9%, respectively, of the Company's total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2022. The stores in New York, Florida, Texas and California provided approximately 19%, 15%, 9% and 8%, respectively, of the Company's total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021.

### 3. STORAGE PROPERTIES

The book value of the Company's real estate assets is summarized as follows:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	(in thousands)	
Land	\$ 1,594,742	\$ 1,588,138
Buildings and improvements	5,517,544	5,483,506
Equipment	144,372	144,605
Construction in progress	69,010	37,584
Right-of-use assets - finance leases	41,945	41,945
Storage properties	7,367,613	7,295,778
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,416,377)	(1,247,775)
Storage properties, net	<u>\$ 5,951,236</u>	<u>\$ 6,048,003</u>

The following table summarizes the Company's acquisition and disposition activity for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021:

Asset/Portfolio	Metropolitan Statistical Area	Transaction Date	Number of Stores	Transaction Price (in thousands)
<i>2023 Acquisition:</i>				
New Jersey Asset	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	December 2023	1	\$ 22,000
			<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 22,000</u>
<i>2023 Disposition:</i>				
Illinois Asset <sup>(1)</sup>	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	December 2023	1	\$ 8,000
			<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
<i>2022 Acquisitions:</i>				
Maryland Asset	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	February 2022	1	\$ 32,000
Texas Asset	San Antonio, TX	June 2022	1	23,000
Georgia Asset	Atlanta, GA	July 2022	1	20,700
			<u>3</u>	<u>\$ 75,700</u>
<i>2021 Acquisitions:</i>				
Minnesota Asset <sup>(2)</sup>	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	April 2021	1	\$ 12,000
Maryland Asset	Baltimore-Towson, MD	June 2021	1	22,075
New Jersey/Pennsylvania Assets	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	July 2021	2	33,000
Florida Asset	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	November 2021	1	14,750
Georgia Asset	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	November 2021	1	15,200
Pennsylvania Asset	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	November 2021	1	24,500
Nevada Asset	Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	December 2021	1	21,000
Storage West Assets	Various (see note 4)	December 2021	57	1,648,426 <sup>(3)</sup>
Illinois Asset	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	December 2021	1	10,300
			<u>66</u>	<u>\$ 1,801,251</u>
<i>2021 Dispositions:</i>				
Colorado/Nevada Assets	Denver-Aurora, CO / Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	September 2021	2	\$ 16,900
North Carolina Assets	Burlington, NC	September 2021	2	21,700
Texas Asset	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	November 2021	1	5,200
			<u>5</u>	<u>\$ 43,800</u>

- (1) This store was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois.
- (2) This store was acquired by a consolidated joint venture in which the Company holds a 50% interest.
- (3) Purchase price represents the acquisition of all 167,557 outstanding partnership units of LAACO, Ltd. ("LAACO") for \$9,838 per unit. At the time of the acquisition, LAACO owned 57 storage properties (the "Storage West Assets") and 50% ownership interests in two separate joint ventures. Through this acquisition, the Company also acquired LAACO's wholly-owned subsidiaries, the Los Angeles Athletic Club and the California Yacht Club (the "Club Operations"). The Los Angeles Athletic

Club was sold by the Company during the year ended December 31, 2022. The California Yacht Club was sold by the Company during the year ended December 31, 2023.

#### **4. INVESTMENT ACTIVITY**

##### ***2023 Acquisition***

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company acquired one store located in New Jersey for a purchase price of \$22.0 million. In connection with this transaction, which was accounted for as an asset acquisition, the Company allocated the purchase price and acquisition-related costs to the tangible and intangible assets acquired based on relative fair value. Intangible assets consisted of in-place leases, which aggregated to \$2.0 million at the time of the acquisition and prior to amortization of such amounts. The estimated life of these in-place leases is 12 months and the amortization expense that was recognized during the year ended December 31, 2023 was approximately \$0.2 million.

As of December 31, 2023 the Company had made a deposit of \$0.2 million associated with a portfolio of two stores that was under contract to be acquired for an acquisition price of \$20.2 million (see note 18). This deposit is reflected in Other assets, net on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

##### ***2023 Dispositions***

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company sold the California Yacht Club, which it purchased in December 2021 as part of the LAACO acquisition, for \$0.8 million. A loss of \$0.2 million was recognized in conjunction with the sale. This loss is included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

Additionally, in December 2023, a store was subject to an involuntary conversion by the Department of Transportation of the State of Illinois. The Company received \$8.0 million as consideration and recorded a gain of \$4.8 million. This gain is included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

##### ***2022 Acquisitions***

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company acquired three stores located in Georgia (1), Maryland (1) and Texas (1) for an aggregate purchase price of \$75.7 million. In connection with these transactions, which were accounted for as asset acquisitions, the Company allocated the purchase price and acquisition-related costs to the tangible and intangible assets acquired based on relative fair value. Intangible assets consisted of in-place leases, which aggregated to \$3.4 million at the time of the acquisition and prior to amortization of such amounts. The estimated life of these in-place leases is 12 months and the amortization expense that was recognized during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was approximately \$1.1 million and \$2.3 million, respectively.

Additionally, on February 2, 2022, the Company acquired land underlying a wholly-owned store located in Bronx, New York for \$7.5 million. The land was previously subject to a ground lease in which the Company served as lessee. As a result of the transaction, which was accounted for as an asset acquisition, the Company was released from its obligations under the ground lease, and the right-of-use asset and lease liability totaling \$4.1 million and \$5.0 million, respectively, were removed from the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

Also, on April 28, 2022, the Company acquired land underlying a store owned by 191 IV CUBE LLC, an unconsolidated joint venture in which the Company holds a 20% ownership interest (see note 5). The purchase price for the land was \$6.1 million, and the Company now serves as the lessor in a ground lease to 191 IV CUBE LLC.

##### ***2022 Disposition***

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company sold the Los Angeles Athletic Club, which it purchased in December 2021 as part of the LAACO acquisition, for \$44.0 million. No gain or loss was recognized in conjunction with the sale.

##### ***Development Activity***

As of December 31, 2023, the Company had invested in consolidated joint ventures to develop four self-storage properties located in New Jersey (1) and New York (3). Construction for these projects is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2025. As of December 31, 2023, development costs incurred to date for these projects totaled \$59.3 million. Total construction costs for these projects

are expected to be \$109.7 million. These costs are capitalized to construction in progress while the projects are under development and are reflected in Storage properties on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

The Company has completed the construction of and opened for operation the following stores since January 1, 2021. The costs associated with the construction of these stores are capitalized to land, building and improvements, as well as equipment and are reflected in Storage properties on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

Store Location	Number of Stores	Date Opened	CubeSmart Ownership Interest	Total Construction Costs (in thousands)
Valley Stream, NY <sup>(1)</sup>	1	Q3 2022	100%	\$ 37,200
Vienna, VA <sup>(2)</sup>	1	Q2 2022	80%	21,800
Newton, MA <sup>(3)</sup>	1	Q4 2021	100%	20,800
East Meadow, NY <sup>(1)</sup>	1	Q2 2021	100%	25,900
King of Prussia, PA	1	Q2 2021	70%	22,800
Arlington, VA <sup>(2)</sup>	1	Q1 2021	90%	26,400
	<u>6</u>			<u>\$ 154,900</u>

- (1) These stores were previously owned by two separate consolidated joint ventures, of which the Company held a 51% ownership interest in each. On June 29, 2021, the noncontrolling member in the venture that owned the East Meadow, NY store put its 49% interest in the venture to the Company for \$6.6 million. On January 18, 2023, the noncontrolling member in the venture that owned the Valley Stream, NY store put its 49% interest in the venture to the Company for \$15.3 million. The cash payments related to each of these transactions are included in Development costs in the consolidated statements of cash flows.
- (2) Each of these stores are located adjacent to an existing consolidated joint venture store. Given this proximity, each of these stores has been combined with the adjacent existing store in our store count upon opening, as well as for operational and reporting purposes.
- (3) During the fourth quarter of 2021, the Company, through a joint venture in which it owned a 90% interest that was previously consolidated, completed the construction of this store and it was opened for operation. On December 14, 2021, the Company acquired the 10% interest of the noncontrolling member in the venture that owned the store for \$3.4 million. Prior to this transaction, the noncontrolling member's interest in this venture was reported in Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Since the Company retained its controlling interest in the venture and the store is now wholly owned, this transaction was accounted for as an equity transaction. The carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest was reduced to zero to reflect the purchase and the difference between the purchase price paid by the Company and the carrying amount of the noncontrolling interest of \$2.7 million was recorded as an adjustment to equity attributable to the Company, with no gain or loss recorded. The \$13.2 million related party loan extended by the Company to the venture that owned the store was repaid in conjunction with the Company's acquisition of the noncontrolling member's ownership interest.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, construction on a portion of the Company's development property in Astoria, NY was substantially completed and opened for operation. The remainder of the development is expected to be completed during the second quarter of 2024.

### ***LAACO Acquisition***

On December 9, 2021, the Company acquired all outstanding partnership units of LAACO, the owner of the Storage West Assets and, as a result, LAACO became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. The 57 Storage West Assets are located in Arizona (17), California (20), Nevada (13) and Texas (7). Through its acquisition of LAACO, the Company also acquired a 50% interest in two separate unconsolidated joint ventures, each of which own one storage property in California (see note 5). In addition, through this acquisition, the Company also acquired the Club Operations, which included the Los Angeles Athletic Club (consisting of athletic facilities, food and beverage operations and a hotel) and the California Yacht Club (consisting of sports facilities, food and beverage operations and a marina). During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company sold the Los Angeles Athletic Club (see above). During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company sold the California Yacht Club (see above).

The following summarizes the relevant components contemplated in the acquisition of LAACO:

	<b>Amount</b>
	<b>(in thousands)</b>
Costs contemplated:	
Capitalized costs:	
LAACO partnership units <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,648,426
Long-term debt assumed and repaid at closing	40,880
Payments to LAACO management (capitalized) <sup>(2)</sup>	16,807
Other transaction costs <sup>(3)</sup>	13,407
Total capitalized costs	\$ 1,719,520
Payments and anticipated payments to LAACO management (expensed) <sup>(2)</sup>	25,144
Total costs contemplated	<u>\$ 1,744,664</u>
Estimated fair value of Club Operations (included in total costs contemplated above)	\$ 46,800

- (1) Represents the acquisition of all 167,557 outstanding partnership units for \$9,838 per unit.
- (2) Upon the acquisition of LAACO, the Company assumed severance obligations payable to certain employees pursuant to pre-existing agreements. Based on the specific details of the arrangements, \$16.8 million in costs were capitalized to the basis of the acquired properties while \$25.1 million were considered post-combination compensation expenses. Of this \$25.1 million, \$10.3 million and \$14.8 million were included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. There were no severance costs recognized during the year ended December 31, 2023.
- (3) Includes consulting fees, legal fees, and other costs.

The Company accounted for the acquisition of LAACO as an asset acquisition. As a result, the capitalized costs noted above were allocated to LAACO's real estate assets, intangible assets and real estate venture investments on a relative fair value basis. All other assets acquired and liabilities assumed were recorded at fair value. The following summarizes the accounting for the LAACO acquisition:

	<b>Amount</b>
	<b>(in thousands)</b>
Storage properties	\$ 1,517,243
Cash and cash equivalents	18,291
Investment in real estate ventures, at equity	35,737
Assets held for sale	50,435
Other assets, net	143,599
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	(38,350)
Deferred revenue	(3,764)
Security deposits	(36)
Liabilities held for sale	(3,635)
Total	<u>\$ 1,719,520</u>

Intangible assets (included above in Other assets, net) consisted of in-place leases, which aggregated to \$109.7 million at the time of the acquisition and prior to amortization of such amounts. The estimated life of these in-place leases is 12 months and the amortization expense that was recognized during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 was approximately \$100.6 million and \$9.1 million, respectively. There was no amortization expense recognized for these in-place leases during the year ended December 31, 2023.

### ***Other 2021 Acquisitions***

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company acquired eight additional stores located in Florida (1), Georgia (1), Illinois (1), Maryland (1), Nevada (1), New Jersey (1) and Pennsylvania (2) for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$140.8 million. Also, a consolidated joint venture, in which the Company holds a 50% interest, acquired a store in Minnesota for a purchase price of \$12.0 million. In connection with these transactions, which were accounted for as asset acquisitions, the Company allocated the purchase price and acquisition-related costs to the tangible and intangible assets acquired based on fair value. Intangible assets consisted of in-place leases, which aggregated to \$11.9 million at the time of the acquisitions and prior to amortization of such amounts. The estimated life of these in-place leases is 12 months and the amortization expense that was recognized during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021



was approximately \$8.3 million and \$3.6 million, respectively. There was no amortization expense recognized for these in-place leases during the year ended December 31, 2023.

### 2021 Dispositions

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company sold five stores located in Colorado (1), Nevada (1), North Carolina (2) and Texas (1) for an aggregate sales price of \$43.8 million. In conjunction with the sales, the Company recorded gains that totaled \$32.7 million.

## 5. INVESTMENT IN UNCONSOLIDATED REAL ESTATE VENTURES

The Company's investments in unconsolidated real estate ventures are summarized as follows (dollars in thousands):

Unconsolidated Real Estate Ventures	CubeSmart Ownership Interest	Number of Stores as of December 31,		Carrying Value of Investment as of December 31,	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
Fontana Self Storage, LLC ("Fontana") <sup>(1)</sup>	50%	1	1	\$ 13,575	\$ 13,789
Rancho Cucamonga Self Storage, LLC ("RCSS") <sup>(1)</sup>	50%	1	1	20,679	20,994
191 V CUBE LLC ("HVP V")	20%	6	6	12,759	14,318
191 IV CUBE LLC ("HVP IV")	20%	28	28	17,085	19,853
CUBE HHF Northeast Venture LLC ("HHFNE")	10%	13	13	951	1,101
CUBE HHF Limited Partnership ("HHF")	50%	28	28	33,239	35,938
		<u>77</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>\$ 98,288</u>	<u>\$ 105,993</u>

- (1) On December 9, 2021, the Company completed the acquisition of LAACO, which included a 50% interest in Fontana and RCSS, each of which owns one self-storage property in California. As of the date of acquisition, the Company recognized differences between the Company's equity investment in Fontana and RCSS and the underlying equity reflected at the venture level. As of December 31, 2023, this difference was \$12.8 million for Fontana and \$19.0 million for RCSS. These differences are being amortized over the expected useful life of the self-storage properties owned by the ventures.

As of December 31, 2023, the Company also held a 10% interest in 191 IV CUBE Southeast LLC ("HVPSE"). On August 30, 2022, HVPSE sold all 14 of its stores to an unaffiliated third-party buyer for an aggregate sales price of \$235.0 million. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Company received distributions of \$1.7 million in excess of its investment in HVPSE from proceeds that were held back at the time of the sale. These distributions are included in Equity in earnings of real estate ventures within the Company's consolidated statements of operations. As of December 31, 2023, HVPSE had no assets or liabilities.

The Company determined that Fontana, RCSS, HVP V, HVPSE, HVP IV, HHFNE and HHF (the "Ventures") are not VIEs in accordance with the accounting standard for the consolidation of VIEs. As a result, the Company used the voting interest model under the accounting standard for consolidation in order to determine whether to consolidate the Ventures. Based upon each member's substantive participating rights over the activities of each entity as stipulated in the operating agreements, the Ventures are not consolidated by the Company and are accounted for under the equity method of accounting. The Company's investments in the Ventures are included in Investment in real estate ventures, at equity on the Company's consolidated balance sheets and the Company's earnings from its investments in the Ventures are presented in Equity in earnings of real estate ventures within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

The amounts reflected in the following table are based on the historical financial information of the Ventures. The following is a summary of the financial position of the Ventures as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>	(in thousands)	
Storage properties, net	\$ 715,142	\$ 741,563
Other assets	10,382	11,708
Total assets	<u>\$ 725,524</u>	<u>\$ 753,271</u>
<b>Liabilities and equity</b>		
Debt	\$ 470,573	\$ 468,783
Other liabilities	18,557	16,626
Equity		
CubeSmart	66,446	73,289
Joint venture partners	169,948	194,573
Total liabilities and equity	<u>\$ 725,524</u>	<u>\$ 753,271</u>

The following is a summary of results of operations of the Ventures for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022, and 2021:

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
	(in thousands)		
Total revenues	\$ 99,442	\$ 102,910	\$ 88,449
Operating expenses	(40,677)	(42,408)	(37,967)
Other expenses	(347)	(484)	(1,138)
Interest expense, net	(17,189)	(15,568)	(12,031)
Depreciation and amortization	(30,607)	(36,866)	(37,805)
Gains from sale of real estate, net	—	114,107	46,966
Net income	<u>\$ 10,622</u>	<u>\$ 121,691</u>	<u>\$ 46,474</u>
Company's share of net income	\$ 6,085	\$ 48,877	\$ 25,275

## 6. UNSECURED SENIOR NOTES

The Company's unsecured senior notes are summarized as follows (collectively referred to as the "Senior Notes"):

Unsecured Senior Notes	December 31,		Effective Interest Rate	Issuance Date	Maturity Date
	2023	2022			
	(in thousands)				
\$300M 4.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2025 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	3.99 %	Various <sup>(1)</sup>	Nov-25
\$300M 3.125% Guaranteed Notes due 2026	300,000	300,000	3.18 %	Aug-16	Sep-26
\$550M 2.250% Guaranteed Notes due 2028	550,000	550,000	2.33 %	Nov-21	Dec-28
\$350M 4.375% Guaranteed Notes due 2029	350,000	350,000	4.46 %	Jan-19	Feb-29
\$350M 3.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2030	350,000	350,000	3.04 %	Oct-19	Feb-30
\$450M 2.000% Guaranteed Notes due 2031	450,000	450,000	2.10 %	Oct-20	Feb-31
\$500M 2.500% Guaranteed Notes due 2032	500,000	500,000	2.59 %	Nov-21	Feb-32
Principal balance outstanding	2,800,000	2,800,000			
Less: Discount on issuance of unsecured senior notes, net	(10,148)	(11,801)			
Less: Loan procurement costs, net	(13,362)	(15,849)			
Total unsecured senior notes, net	<u>\$ 2,776,490</u>	<u>\$ 2,772,350</u>			

- (1) On April 4, 2017, the Operating Partnership issued \$50.0 million of its 4.000% senior notes due 2025, which are part of the same series as the \$250.0 million principal amount of the Operating Partnership's 4.000% senior notes due November 15, 2025 issued on October 26, 2015. The \$50.0 million and \$250.0 million tranches were priced at 101.343% and 99.735%, respectively, of the principal amount to yield 3.811% and 4.032%, respectively, to maturity. The combined weighted average effective interest rate of the 2025 notes is 3.994%.

The indenture under which the Senior Notes were issued restricts the ability of the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries to incur debt unless the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries comply with a leverage ratio not to exceed 60% and an interest coverage ratio of more than 1.5:1.0 after giving effect to the incurrence of the debt. The indenture also restricts the ability of the Operating Partnership and its subsidiaries to incur secured debt unless the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries comply with a secured debt leverage ratio not to exceed 40% after giving effect to the incurrence of the debt. The indenture also contains other financial and customary covenants, including a covenant not to own unencumbered assets with a value less than 150% of the unsecured indebtedness of the Operating Partnership and its consolidated subsidiaries. As of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, the Operating Partnership was in compliance with all of the financial covenants under the Senior Notes.

## 7. REVOLVING CREDIT FACILITY

On December 9, 2011, the Company entered into a credit agreement (the “Credit Facility”), which was subsequently amended and restated. On October 26, 2022, the Company again amended and restated, in its entirety, the Credit Facility (the “Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility”) which, subsequent to the amendment and restatement, is comprised of an \$850.0 million unsecured revolving credit facility (the “Revolver”) maturing on February 15, 2027. Under the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility, pricing on the Revolver is dependent upon the Company’s unsecured debt credit ratings and leverage levels. At the Company’s current unsecured debt credit ratings and leverage levels, amounts drawn under the Revolver are priced using a margin of 0.775% plus a facility fee of 0.15% over the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”) and a 0.10% SOFR adjustment.

As of December 31, 2023, borrowings under the Revolver had an interest rate of 6.41%. Additionally, as of December 31, 2023, \$831.3 million was available for borrowing under the Revolver. The available balance under the Revolver is reduced by an outstanding letter of credit of \$0.6 million.

Under the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility, the Company’s ability to borrow under the Revolver is subject to ongoing compliance with certain financial covenants which include, among other things, (1) a maximum total indebtedness to total asset value of 60.0%, and (2) a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5:1.0. As of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, the Operating Partnership was in compliance with all financial covenants of the Second Amended and Restated Credit Facility.

## 8. MORTGAGE LOANS AND NOTES PAYABLE

The Company’s mortgage loans and notes payable are summarized as follows:

Mortgage Loans and Notes Payable	Carrying Value as of December 31,		Effective Interest Rate	Maturity Date
	2023	2022		
	(in thousands)			
Nashville V, TN <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ —	\$ 2,148	3.85 %	Jun-23
New York, NY <sup>(1)</sup>	—	28,669	3.51 %	Jun-23
Annapolis I, MD	4,703	4,906	3.78 %	May-24
Brooklyn XV, NY	14,746	15,093	2.15 %	May-24
Long Island City IV, NY	11,946	12,270	2.15 %	May-24
Long Island City II, NY	17,834	18,283	2.25 %	Jul-26
Long Island City III, NY	17,839	18,290	2.25 %	Aug-26
Flushing II, NY	54,300	54,300	2.15 %	Jul-29
Principal balance outstanding	121,368	153,959		
Plus: Unamortized fair value adjustment	7,689	10,228		
Less: Loan procurement costs, net	(871)	(1,269)		
Total mortgage loans and notes payable, net	<u>\$ 128,186</u>	<u>\$ 162,918</u>		

(1) These mortgage loans were repaid in full in June 2023.

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Company's mortgage loans and notes payable were secured by certain of its self-storage properties with net book values of approximately \$356.1 million and \$442.9 million, respectively. The following table represents the future principal payment requirements on the outstanding mortgage loans and notes payable as of December 31, 2023 (in thousands):

2024	\$	32,329
2025		979
2026		33,760
2027		—
2028		—
2029		54,300
Total principal payments	\$	<u>121,368</u>

## 9. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

Accumulated other comprehensive loss represents unrealized losses on interest rate swaps (see note 10). The following table summarizes the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	(in thousands)	
Beginning balance	\$ (494)	\$ (575)
Reclassification of realized losses on interest rate swaps <sup>(1)</sup>	81	81
Ending balance	(413)	(494)
Less: portion included in noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	2	3
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss included in equity	\$ (411)	\$ (491)

(1) See note 10 for additional information about the effects of the amounts reclassified.

## 10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company is exposed to credit risk with regard to its cash accounts. The Company holds deposits at certain financial institutions in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limits. The Company's cash accounts are held with major financial institutions and management believes that the risk of loss due to disruption at these financial institutions is low.

The Company's use of derivative instruments is limited to the utilization of interest rate swap agreements or other instruments to manage interest rate risk exposures and not for speculative purposes. The principal objective of such arrangements is to minimize the risks and/or costs associated with the Company's operating and financial structure, as well as to hedge specific transactions. The counterparties to these arrangements are major financial institutions with which the Company and its subsidiaries may also have other financial relationships. The Company is potentially exposed to credit loss in the event of non-performance by these counterparties. However, because of the high credit ratings of the counterparties, the Company does not anticipate that any of the counterparties will fail to meet these obligations as they come due. The Company does not hedge credit or property value market risks.

The Company formally assesses, both at inception of a hedge and on an on-going basis, whether each derivative is highly-effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of the hedged item. If management determines that the derivative is highly-effective as a hedge, then the Company accounts for the derivative using hedge accounting, pursuant to which gains or losses inherent in the derivative do not impact the Company's results of operations. If management determines that the derivative is not highly-effective as a hedge or if a derivative ceases to be a highly-effective hedge, the Company discontinues hedge accounting prospectively and reflects within its consolidated statements of operations realized and unrealized gains and losses with respect to the derivative. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, all derivative instruments entered into by the Company had been settled.

On December 24, 2018, the Company entered into interest rate swap agreements with notional amounts that aggregated to \$150.0 million (the "Interest Rate Swaps") to protect the Company against adverse fluctuations in interest rates by reducing exposure to variability in cash flows relating to interest payments on a forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The Interest Rate Swaps qualified and were designated as cash flow hedges. Accordingly, the Interest Rate Swaps were recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheets at fair value and the related gains or losses were deferred in shareholders' equity as accumulated other comprehensive income or loss. These deferred gains and losses were amortized into interest expense during the period or periods in which the related interest payments

affected earnings. On January 24, 2019, in conjunction with the issuance of \$300.0 million of outstanding 4.375% senior notes due 2029 (the “2029 Notes”), the Company settled the Interest Rate Swaps for \$0.8 million. The \$0.8 million termination premium will be reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss as an increase to interest expense over the life of the 2029 Notes, which mature on February 15, 2029. The change in unrealized losses on interest rate swaps reflects a reclassification of \$0.1 million of unrealized losses from accumulated other comprehensive loss as an increase to interest expense during 2023. The Company estimates that \$0.1 million will be reclassified as an increase to interest expense during 2024.

## 11. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Company applies the methods of determining fair value, as described in authoritative guidance, to value its financial assets and liabilities. As defined in the guidance, fair value is based on the price that would be received from the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In order to increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements, the guidance establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes observable and unobservable inputs used to measure fair value into three broad levels, which are described below:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for assets or liabilities. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs.

Level 2: Observable prices that are based on inputs not quoted on active markets, but corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs are used when little or no market data is available. The fair value hierarchy gives the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs.

In determining fair value, the Company utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs, to the extent possible, as well as considering counterparty credit risk in its assessment of fair value.

The fair values of financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, accounts receivable, other financial instruments included in other assets, accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities approximate their respective carrying values at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

The following table summarizes the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company’s debt as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>December 31, 2023</u>	<u>December 31, 2022</u>
	(in thousands)	
Carrying value	\$ 2,922,776	\$ 2,996,168
Fair value	2,631,221	2,568,103

The fair value of debt estimates were based on a discounted cash flow analysis assuming market interest rates for comparable obligations as of December 31, 2023 and 2022. The Company estimates the fair value of its fixed-rate debt and the credit spreads over variable market rates on its variable-rate debt by discounting the future cash flows of each instrument at estimated market rates or credit spreads consistent with the maturity of the debt obligation with similar credit policies, which is classified within level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. Rates and credit spreads take into consideration general market conditions and maturity.

## 12. NONCONTROLLING INTERESTS

### *Interests in Consolidated Joint Ventures*

Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries represent the ownership interests of third parties in the Company's consolidated joint ventures. All consolidated joint ventures were formed to develop, own and operate new stores with the exception of Anoka, which was formed to acquire an existing store that had commenced operations. The following table summarizes the Company's consolidated joint ventures, each of which are accounted for as VIEs:

Consolidated Joint Ventures	Number of Stores	CubeSmart Ownership Interest	December 31, 2023		
			Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Related Party Loans <sup>(1)</sup>
				(in thousands)	
New Rochelle Investors, LLC ("New Rochelle")	1	70%	\$ 23,732	\$ 283	\$ —
1074 Raritan Road, LLC ("Clark")	1	90%	12,556	6,344	4,924
350 Main Street, LLC ("Port Chester")	1	90%	5,860	15	—
Astoria Investors, LLC ("Astoria")	1	70%	42,168	27,636	25,164
CS Lock Up Anoka, LLC ("Anoka")	1	50%	10,330	5,585	5,540
CS Valley Forge Village Storage, LLC ("VfV")	1	70%	20,319	15,859	15,771
CS Vienna, LLC ("Vienna")	1	80%	30,504	35,157	34,875
SH3, LLC ("SH3")	1	90%	37,122	272	—
	<u>8</u>		<u>\$ 182,591</u>	<u>\$ 91,151</u>	<u>\$ 86,274</u>

- (1) Related party loans represent amounts payable from the joint venture to the Company and are included in total liabilities within the table above. The loans and related party interest have been eliminated for consolidation purposes.

### *Operating Partnership Ownership*

During the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, 126,087, 475,046 and 5,519,233 OP Units, respectively, were redeemed for common shares of the Company.

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, 1,300,462 and 1,426,549 OP Units, respectively, were owned by third parties. The per unit cash redemption amount of the outstanding OP Units owned by third parties was calculated based upon the closing price of the common shares of CubeSmart on the New York Stock Exchange on the final trading day of the year. Based on the Company's evaluation of the redemption value of the redeemable noncontrolling interests, the Company has reflected these interests at the greater of the carrying value based on the accumulation of historical cost or the redemption value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022. The aggregate redemption value of the 1,300,462 OP Units owned by third parties as of December 31, 2023 was \$60.3 million.

## 13. LEASES

### *CubeSmart as Lessor*

The Company derives revenue primarily from rents received from customers who rent cubes at its self-storage properties under month-to-month leases for personal or business use. The self-storage lease agreements utilized by the Company vary slightly to comply with state-specific laws and regulations, but, subject to such laws and regulations, generally provide for automatic monthly renewals, flexibility to increase rental rates over time as market conditions permit and the collection of contingent fees such as administrative and late fees. None of the self-storage lease agreements contain options that allow the customer to purchase the leased space at any time during, or at the expiration of, the lease term. All self-storage leases in which the Company serves as lessor have been classified as operating leases. Accordingly, storage cubes are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment, if any, and are included in Storage properties on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Operating lease income for amounts received under the Company's self-storage lease agreements is recognized on a straight-line basis which, due to the month-to-month nature of the leases, results in the recognition of income during the initial term and each subsequent monthly renewal using the then-in-place rent amount. Operating lease income is included in Rental income within the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Variable lease income related to the Company's self-storage lease agreements consists of administrative and late fees charged to customers. For the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, administrative and late fees totaled \$30.0 million, \$27.8 million, and \$21.3 million, respectively, and are included in Other property related income within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

### CubeSmart as Lessee

The Company serves as lessee in lease agreements for land, office space, automobiles and certain equipment, which have remaining lease terms of up to 41 years. Certain of the Company's leases (1) provide for one or more options to renew, with renewal options that can extend the lease up to 69 years, (2) allow for early termination at certain points during the lease term and/or (3) give the Company the option to purchase the leased property. In all cases, the exercise of the lease renewal, termination and purchase options, if provided for in the lease, are at the Company's sole discretion. Certain of the Company's lease agreements, particularly its land leases, require rental payments that are periodically adjusted for inflation using a defined index. None of the Company's lease agreements contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants. Lease expense for payments related to the Company's finance leases is recognized as interest expense using the interest method over the related lease term. Lease expense for payments related to the Company's operating leases is recognized on a straight-line basis over the related lease term, which includes options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that the Company will exercise that option.

Right-of-use assets represent the Company's right to use an underlying asset during the lease term and lease liabilities represent the Company's obligation to make lease payments as specified in the lease. Right-of-use assets and lease liabilities related to the Company's operating leases are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of the remaining lease payments over the lease term. As the Company's leases do not provide an implicit rate, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate based on the information available regarding the Company's unsecured borrowing rates and implied secured spread at the lease commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. The right-of-use asset also includes any lease payments made at or before lease commencement less any lease incentives.

For the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company's lease cost consists of the following components:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
	(in thousands)		
<b>Finance lease cost:</b>			
Amortization of finance lease right-of-use assets	\$ 964	\$ 964	\$ 964
Interest expense related to finance lease liabilities	2,138	2,140	2,139
Operating lease cost	3,064	2,980	3,278
Short-term lease cost <sup>(1)</sup>	1,375	868	1,173
<b>Total lease costs</b>	<b>\$ 7,541</b>	<b>\$ 6,952</b>	<b>\$ 7,554</b>
<b>Cash paid for amounts included in measurement of lease liabilities:</b>			
Operating cash outflows for finance leases	\$ 2,183	\$ 2,183	\$ 1,938
Operating cash outflows for operating leases	2,601	2,453	2,513
<b>Total cash outflows for lease liability measurement</b>	<b>\$ 4,784</b>	<b>\$ 4,636</b>	<b>\$ 4,451</b>

- (1) Represents automobile leases that have a lease term of 12 months. The Company has made an accounting policy election not to apply the recognition requirements of ASC 842 to this asset class. The lease cost associated with these leases is recognized on a straight-line basis over the related lease term.

The following table represents supplemental balance sheet information related to leases as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Finance Leases</b>		
Right-of-use assets included in Storage properties, net	\$ 41,945	\$ 41,945
Lease liabilities included in Lease liabilities - finance leases	\$ 65,714	\$ 65,758
<b>Operating Leases</b>		
Right-of-use assets included in Other assets, net	\$ 50,476	\$ 49,491
Lease liabilities included in Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$ 50,324	\$ 48,664
<b>Weighted Average Lease Term (in years)</b>		
Finance leases	40.5	41.5
Operating leases	32.0	33.3
<b>Weighted Average Discount Rate</b>		
Finance leases	3.25 %	3.25 %
Operating leases	4.52 %	4.44 %

The following table represents the future lease liability maturities as of December 31, 2023 (in thousands):

	Finance	Operating
2024	\$ 2,183	\$ 2,536
2025	2,224	2,524
2026	2,334	2,587
2027	2,371	2,618
2028	2,371	2,649
2029 and thereafter	115,855	86,718
Total lease payments	127,338	99,632
Less: Imputed interest	(61,624)	(49,308)
Present value of lease liabilities	\$ 65,714	\$ 50,324

As of December 31, 2023, the Company has not entered into any lease agreements that are set to commence in the future.

#### 14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company provides management services to certain joint ventures and other related parties. Management agreements provide for fee income to the Company based on a percentage of revenues at the managed stores. Total management fees for unconsolidated real estate ventures or other entities in which the Company held an ownership interest for the years ending December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 were \$4.8 million, \$5.1 million and \$4.9 million, respectively.

The management agreements for certain joint ventures, other related parties and third-party stores provide for the reimbursement to the Company for certain expenses incurred to manage the stores. These reimbursements consist of amounts due for management fees, payroll and other store expenses. The amounts due to the Company were \$18.0 million and \$15.9 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and are included in Other Assets, net on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Additionally, the Company had outstanding mortgage loans receivable from consolidated joint ventures of \$86.3 million and \$64.4 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, which are eliminated for consolidation purposes. The Company believes that all of these related-party receivables are fully collectible.

The HVP V, HVPSE, HVP IV and HHFNE operating agreements provide for acquisition, disposition and other fees payable from HVP V, HVPSE, HVP IV and HHFNE to the Company upon the closing of a property transaction by HVP V, HVPSE, HVP IV and HHFNE, or any of their subsidiaries and completion of certain measures as defined in the operating agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company recognized \$0.6 million and \$1.3 million, respectively, in fees associated with property transactions. No



such fees were recognized during the year ended December 31, 2023. Property transaction fees are included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

In April 2022, the Company began serving as lessor in a ground lease related to land underlying an HVP IV property located in Texas (see note 4). During the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Company recognized income associated with this ground lease of \$0.4 million and \$0.2 million, respectively. This income is included in the component of other (expense) income designated as Other within the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

## **15. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

### ***Development Commitments***

The Company has agreements with developers for the construction of four new self-storage properties (see note 4), which will require payments of approximately \$43.0 million, due in installments upon completion of certain construction milestones, during 2024 and 2025.

### ***Litigation***

From time to time, the Company is involved in claims which arise in the ordinary course of business. In accordance with applicable accounting guidance, management establishes an accrued liability for claim expenses, insurance retention and litigation costs when those matters present loss contingencies that are both probable and reasonably estimable. In such cases, there may be exposure to loss in excess of those amounts accrued. The estimated loss, if any, is based upon currently available information and is subject to significant judgment, a variety of assumptions and known and unknown uncertainties. In the opinion of management, the Company has made adequate provisions for potential liabilities arising from any such matters, which are included in Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

## **16. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS**

The Company has a share-based compensation plan (the "Plan") which it utilizes to compensate certain employees and non-employee Trustees. The Plan was last amended and restated in 2016. The Plan provides for the grant of share options, share appreciation rights, restricted shares, performance units, which may be denominated in cash or shares, including restricted shares and restricted share units, and other share-based awards, including unrestricted common shares or awards denominated or payable in, or valued in whole or part by reference to, common shares. Share options granted under the Plan may be non-qualified share options or incentive share options.

Upon shareholder approval of the amendment and restatement of the Plan on June 1, 2016, 4,500,000 additional common shares were made available for award under the Plan. As a result, these 4,500,000 additional shares, together with the 991,117 shares that remained available for future awards under the Plan at the time of the shareholder approval, plus any common shares that are restored to availability upon expiration or forfeiture of outstanding options or restricted share awards, would constitute the "Aggregate Share Reserve". As of December 31, 2023: (i) 1,332,836 common shares remained available for future awards under the Plan; (ii) 360,529 unvested restricted share awards were outstanding under the Plan; and (iii) 2,763,159 common shares were subject to outstanding options under the Plan.

The Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee"). The Compensation Committee interprets the Plan and, subject to its right to delegate authority to grant awards, determines the terms and provisions of option grants and share awards.

Under the Plan, the Compensation Committee determines the vesting schedule of each award, subject to a one-year minimum vesting requirement for share options, share appreciation rights, and certain restricted share and restricted share unit awards, but with permitted acceleration of vesting in the event of a participant's death or disability, or in the event of a change in control or certain changes in our capital structure. Notwithstanding the foregoing one-year minimum vesting limitation, up to five percent of the shares subject to the Aggregate Share Reserve may be subject to awards that are not subject to such limitation. The exercise price for options is equivalent to the fair value of the underlying common shares at the grant date. The Compensation Committee also determines the term of each option, which shall not exceed 10 years from the grant date.

### ***Share Options***

The fair values for options granted in 2023, 2022 and 2021 were estimated at the time the options were granted using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model applying the following weighted average assumptions:

<b>Assumptions:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Risk-free interest rate	4.1 %	1.5 %	0.6 %
Expected dividend yield	4.1 %	3.7 %	3.8 %
Volatility <sup>(1)</sup>	26.00 %	25.00 %	25.00 %
Weighted average expected life of the options <sup>(2)</sup>	6.0 years	6.0 years	6.0 years
Weighted average grant date fair value of options granted per share	\$ 7.90	\$ 8.83	\$ 4.62
Term	10.0 years	10.0 years	10.0 years

(1) Expected volatility is based upon the Company's historical daily share prices.

(2) The expected life is based on the contractual term of the options as well as the weighted average vesting period.

In 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company recognized compensation expense related to options issued to employees and executives of approximately \$2.8 million, \$2.5 million and \$2.3 million, respectively, which is included in General and administrative expense within the Company's consolidated statements of operations. The share options vest ratably over three years. As of December 31, 2023, the Company had approximately \$3.0 million of unrecognized option compensation cost related to all grants that will be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.7 years.

The table below summarizes the option activity under the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	<b>Options</b>	<b>Weighted Average Strike Price</b>	<b>Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)</b>
Balance at December 31, 2022	2,537,038	\$ 33.10	6.21
Options granted	408,650	40.25	9.00
Options canceled	(38,296)	44.17	8.44
Options exercised	(144,233)	18.83	1.66
Balance at December 31, 2023	2,763,159	\$ 34.75	5.95
Vested or expected to vest at December 31, 2023	2,763,159	\$ 34.75	5.95
Exercisable at December 31, 2023	1,972,708	\$ 31.40	5.02

As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate intrinsic value of options that were exercisable was approximately \$30.6 million. As of that date, the aggregate intrinsic value of options that had vested or were expected to vest was approximately \$35.3 million. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercised was approximately \$3.9 million, \$1.0 million and \$10.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

### ***Restricted Shares & Performance Units***

During 2023, 2022 and 2021 the Company granted restricted shares to employees and Trustees and also granted performance units to certain executives.

The fair values for restricted share awards made under the Plan were valued at the grant date fair value, which is the market price of the underlying common shares. The shares vest over either a 3-year or 5-year period beginning with the first anniversary of the grant.

Performance units represent the right to earn common shares. The performance units were granted in the form of deferred share units with a market condition, entitling the holders thereof to receive common shares at a future date. The performance units are awarded based on the Company's total return to shareholders with respect to a specified peer group consisting of publicly traded REITs over a three-year period. The performance units cliff vest upon the third anniversary of the effective date. The Company used a Monte Carlo simulation analysis to estimate the fair value of the awards, the key assumptions of which are as follows:

<b>Assumptions:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Risk-free interest rate	4.2 %	1.0 %	0.2 %
Volatility <sup>(1)</sup>	32.00 %	28.00 %	28.00 %

(1) Expected volatility is based upon the Company's historical daily share prices.

During the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company recognized compensation expense related to restricted shares and performance units of approximately \$7.3 million, \$6.5 million and \$5.8 million, respectively, which is included in General and administrative expense within the Company's consolidated statements of operations. The following table presents non-vested restricted share and performance unit activity under the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	<b>Number of Non- Vested Restricted Shares and Performance Units</b>
Non-Vested at January 1, 2023	340,952
Granted	190,540
Vested	(155,468)
Forfeited	(15,495)
Non-Vested at December 31, 2023	<u>360,529</u>

The weighted average fair value of restricted shares and performance units granted during the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 was \$46.94, \$61.41 and \$39.37, respectively. The total fair value of restricted shares and performance units vested during the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 was \$6.1 million, \$5.6 million and \$4.8 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2023 the Company had approximately \$8.5 million of remaining unrecognized restricted share and performance unit compensation costs that are expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.1 years.

## 17. EARNINGS PER SHARE AND UNIT AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND CAPITAL

### *Earnings per share and shareholders' equity*

The following is a summary of the elements used in calculating basic and diluted earnings per share:

	<b>For the year ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>(dollars and shares in thousands, except per share amounts)</b>		
Net income	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Noncontrolling interests in the Operating Partnership	(2,535)	(1,931)	(7,873)
Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
Net income attributable to the Company's common shareholders	<u>\$ 410,757</u>	<u>\$ 291,263</u>	<u>\$ 223,482</u>
Weighted average basic shares outstanding	225,424	224,928	203,832
Share options and restricted share units	817	953	1,177
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding <sup>(1)</sup>	226,241	225,881	205,009
Basic earnings per share attributable to common shareholders	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.10
Diluted earnings per share attributable to common shareholders <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.09

Income allocated to noncontrolling interests of the Operating Partnership has been excluded from the numerator and OP Units owned by third parties have been omitted from the denominator for the purpose of computing diluted earnings per share since the effect of including these amounts in the numerator and denominator would be anti-dilutive. Weighted average outstanding OP Units owned by third parties for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 were 1.4 million, 1.5 million and 7.1 million, respectively.

### *Earnings per unit and capital*

The following is a summary of the elements used in calculating basic and diluted earnings per unit:

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
	(dollars and units in thousands, except per unit amounts)		
Net income	\$ 412,435	\$ 292,472	\$ 230,813
Noncontrolling interests in subsidiaries	857	722	542
Net income attributable to CubeSmart, L.P.	<u>\$ 413,292</u>	<u>\$ 293,194</u>	<u>\$ 231,355</u>
Weighted average basic units outstanding <sup>(3)</sup>	226,817	226,449	210,949
Unit options and restricted share units	817	953	1,177
Weighted average diluted units outstanding <sup>(1) (3)</sup>	<u>227,634</u>	<u>227,402</u>	<u>212,126</u>
Basic earnings per unit attributable to CubeSmart, L.P.	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.10
Diluted earnings per unit attributable to CubeSmart, L.P. <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.09

- (1) For the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, the Company declared cash dividends per common share/unit of \$1.98, \$1.78 and \$1.45, respectively.
- (2) The amounts of anti-dilutive options that were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share/unit for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 were 0.7 million and 0.3 million, respectively. There were no anti-dilutive options for the year ended December 31, 2021.
- (3) Prior period amounts have been updated to conform to current year presentation.

The OP Units owned by the General Partner and the OP Units owned by third parties have essentially the same economic characteristics as they share equally in the total net income or loss and distributions of the Operating Partnership. OP Units owned by third parties may be redeemed for cash, or at the Company's option, common shares of CubeSmart on a one-for-one basis. The following is a summary of OP Units outstanding:

	As of December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
Outstanding OP Units owned by third parties	1,300,462	1,426,549	1,901,595
Outstanding OP Units owned by the General Partner	224,921,053	224,603,462	223,917,993

### *Common Shares*

On November 19, 2021, the Company closed an underwritten offering of 15.5 million common shares at a public offering price of \$51.00 per share, resulting in net proceeds of \$765.6 million, after deducting offering costs.

The Company maintains an at-the-market equity program that enables it to offer and sell up to 60.0 million common shares through sales agents pursuant to equity distribution agreements (the "Equity Distribution Agreements"). The Company's sales activity under the program for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 is summarized below:

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2023	2022	2021
	(dollars and shares in thousands, except per share amounts)		
Number of shares sold	—	102	4,982
Average sales price per share	\$ —	\$ 50.64	\$ 40.57
Net proceeds after deducting offering costs	\$ —	\$ 4,936	\$ 199,977

The proceeds from the sales of common shares under the program during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 were used to fund the acquisition and development of self-storage properties and for general corporate purposes. As of December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, 5.8 million common shares, 5.8 million common shares and 5.9 million common shares, respectively, remained available for issuance under the Equity Distribution Agreements.

## **18. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Subsequent to December 31, 2023, the Company acquired a two-store portfolio located in Connecticut for a purchase price of \$20.2 million.

**CUBESMART  
SCHEDULE III  
REAL ESTATE AND RELATED DEPRECIATION  
December 31, 2023  
(dollars in thousands)**

State	Number of Stores	Total Rentable Square Feet (unaudited)	Encumbrances	Initial Cost		Costs Subsequent to Acquisition	Gross Carrying Amount at December 31, 2023			Accumulated Depreciation (A)
				Land	Buildings & Improvements		Land	Buildings & Improvements	Total	
Arizona	48	3,092,942	\$ —	\$ 98,442	\$ 389,514	\$ 27,444	\$ 99,493	\$ 400,450	\$ 499,943	\$ 60,754
California	63	4,786,036	—	371,460	683,683	38,549	373,301	664,396	1,037,697	116,504
Colorado	10	654,202	—	11,812	46,755	4,694	11,786	45,062	56,848	14,871
Connecticut	22	1,200,207	—	22,023	82,375	21,345	23,570	87,502	111,072	37,274
Florida	90	6,787,173	—	104,987	531,360	96,582	112,652	551,408	664,060	190,501
Georgia	22	1,657,228	—	20,015	117,825	11,719	19,826	117,027	136,853	34,046
Illinois	42	2,710,345	—	52,723	219,307	31,381	52,619	225,813	278,432	77,211
Indiana	1	70,386	—	1,134	5,589	255	1,134	5,838	6,972	1,759
Maryland	20	1,684,502	4,703	40,467	214,985	15,001	41,323	217,309	258,632	56,982
Massachusetts	20	1,253,278	—	31,948	159,000	12,636	32,200	165,719	197,919	37,799
Minnesota	2	175,916	—	2,621	21,655	434	2,621	22,050	24,671	3,359
Nevada	22	1,706,489	—	69,956	394,023	6,933	71,704	398,853	470,557	33,057
New Jersey	29	2,058,007	—	50,194	203,710	38,759	53,706	222,218	275,924	71,436
New Mexico	3	182,261	—	2,866	9,367	2,008	2,867	8,110	10,977	3,656
New York	59	4,722,118	116,665	427,921	1,331,857	59,471	444,147	1,358,515	1,802,662	334,413
North Carolina	9	611,773	—	10,349	44,680	6,716	10,787	47,568	58,355	14,783
Ohio	20	1,294,303	—	13,529	51,265	18,472	14,937	54,757	69,694	23,175
Pennsylvania	12	890,698	—	18,177	95,559	11,070	18,131	101,174	119,305	24,254
Rhode Island	4	247,305	—	3,480	17,156	1,704	3,481	18,801	22,282	5,493
South Carolina	8	432,324	—	6,117	31,039	1,502	6,117	32,541	38,658	4,349
Tennessee	9	756,020	—	9,117	54,403	6,343	8,991	53,032	62,023	15,759
Texas	76	5,447,787	—	110,252	476,749	37,262	110,569	487,356	597,925	118,240
Utah	4	239,388	—	10,763	2,844	2,885	10,623	4,187	14,810	2,068
Virginia	11	1,060,440	—	37,282	138,668	4,992	37,283	136,406	173,689	37,307
Washington D.C.	5	410,676	—	28,759	80,996	2,564	28,802	77,512	106,314	18,842
Other Corporate Assets	—	—	—	2,071	13,294	1,692	2,072	13,940	16,012	3,721
	611	44,131,804	\$ 121,368	\$ 1,558,465	\$ 5,417,658	\$ 462,413	\$ 1,594,742	\$ 5,517,544	\$ 7,112,286	\$ 1,341,613

(A) Depreciation on the buildings and improvements is recorded on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, which range from five to 39 years.

Activity in storage properties during the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023 was as follows (in thousands):

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Storage properties*			
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 7,295,778	\$ 7,183,494	\$ 5,489,754
Acquisitions & improvements	74,259	191,495	1,795,965
Fully depreciated assets	(29,133)	(32,344)	(52,722)
Dispositions and other	(4,717)	(6,230)	(19,408)
Construction in progress, net	31,426	(40,637)	(30,095)
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 7,367,613</u>	<u>\$ 7,295,778</u>	<u>\$ 7,183,494</u>
Accumulated depreciation*			
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 1,247,775	\$ 1,085,824	\$ 983,940
Depreciation expense	199,065	195,522	160,933
Fully depreciated assets	(29,133)	(32,344)	(52,722)
Dispositions and other	(1,330)	(1,227)	(6,327)
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 1,416,377</u>	<u>\$ 1,247,775</u>	<u>\$ 1,085,824</u>
Storage properties, net	<u>\$ 5,951,236</u>	<u>\$ 6,048,003</u>	<u>\$ 6,097,670</u>

\* These amounts include equipment that is housed at the Company's stores which is excluded from Schedule III above.

As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate cost of Storage properties for federal income tax purposes was approximately \$7,719.6 million.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES****Deborah R. Salzberg**

Chair of the Board  
Principal,  
Uplands Real Estate Partners

**Christopher P. Marr**

President & Chief Executive Officer,  
CubeSmart

**Piero Bussani**

Chief Legal Officer,  
Homebound.com

**Jit Kee Chin**

Chief Data and Innovation Officer,  
Suffolk Construction Corporation

**Dorothy Dowling**

Managing Director,  
Horwath HTL

**John W. Fain**

Senior Vice President,  
Sales and Marketing (retired),  
UPS Freight

**Jair K. Lynch**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners

**John F. Remondi**

Former President, Chief Executive  
Officer & Director,  
Navient

**Jeffrey F. Rogatz**

Managing Director,  
Robert W. Baird & Co.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS****Christopher P. Marr**

President & Chief Executive Officer

**Timothy M. Martin**

Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

**Jeffrey P. Foster**

Chief Legal Officer & Secretary

**Joel D. Keaton**

Chief Operating Officer

**Jennifer L. Schulte**

Chief Human Resources Officer

**CORPORATE INFORMATION****Transfer Agent**

Equiniti Trust Company, LLC  
PO Box 500  
Newark, NJ 07101  
800.937.5449

**Stock Listing**

CubeSmart trades on the New  
York Stock Exchange under the  
symbol CUBE

**Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of  
shareholders will be held at  
5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, PA 19355  
on May 21, 2024 at 8:00 A.M.  
Eastern Time

**Corporate Headquarters**

5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, PA 19355

**Investor Relations**

5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, PA 19355  
610.535.5000

**Form 10-K**

The Annual Report on Form  
10-K filed with the Securities  
and Exchange Commission is  
available to shareholders  
without charge upon  
written request to:

Investor Relations  
5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, PA 19355  
610.535.5000

**Internet**

Financial statements and other  
information are available  
electronically on CubeSmart's  
investor website at  
investors.cubesmart.com

CubeSmart submitted to the New York Stock Exchange the certification of the Chief Executive Officer certifying that he is not aware of any violation of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance listing standards in effect at the time of the submission of such certificate.

In addition, the Company has timely filed, as exhibits 31.1, 31.2, 31.3 and 31.4 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023, the certifications of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, respectively, required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 regarding the quality of CubeSmart and CubeSmart L.P.'s public disclosure.

**Forward-looking Statements**

This Annual Report contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements are based on assumptions and expectations that may not be realized and are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which cannot be predicted with accuracy and some of which might not even be anticipated. Although the Company believes the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, future events and actual results, performance, transactions or achievements, financial and otherwise, may differ materially from the results, performance, transactions or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Risk, uncertainties and other factors that might cause such differences, some of which could be material, include but are not limited to: adverse changes in economic conditions in the real estate industry and in the markets in which the Company owns and operate self-storage properties; the effect of competition from existing and new self-storage properties and operators on the Company's ability to maintain or raise occupancy and rental rates; the failure to execute the Company's business plan; adverse impacts from pandemics, quarantines and stay at home orders, including the impact on the Company's ability to operate its self-storage properties, the demand for self-storage, rental rates and fees and rent collection levels; reduced availability and increased costs of external sources of capital; increases in interest rates and operating costs; financing risks, including the risk of over-leverage and the corresponding risk of default on the Company's mortgage and other debt and potential inability to refinance existing or future debt; counterparty non-performance related to the use of derivative financial instruments; risks related to the Company's ability to maintain its qualification as a real estate investment trust ("REIT") for federal income tax purposes; the failure of acquisitions and developments to close on expected terms, or at all, or to perform as expected; increases in taxes, fees and assessments from state and local jurisdictions; the failure of the Company's joint venture partners to fulfill their obligations to the Company or their pursuit of actions that are inconsistent with the Company's objectives; reductions in asset valuations and related impairment charges; cybersecurity breaches, cyber or ransomware attacks or a failure of the Company's networks, systems or technology, which could adversely impact the Company's business, customer and employee relationships or result in fraudulent payments; changes in real estate, zoning, use and occupancy laws or regulations; risks related to or consequences of earthquakes, hurricanes, windstorms, floods, other natural disasters or acts of violence, pandemics, active shooters, terrorism, insurrection or war that impact the markets in which the Company operates; potential environmental and other material liabilities; governmental, administrative and executive orders, regulations and laws, which could adversely impact the Company's business operations and customer and employee relationships; uninsured or uninsurable losses and the ability to obtain insurance coverage, indemnity or recovery from insurance against risks and losses; the Company's ability to attract and retain talent in the current labor market; other factors affecting the real estate industry generally or the self-storage industry in particular; and other risks identified in this Annual Report and, from time to time, in other reports that the Company files with the SEC or in other documents that the Company publicly disseminates. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise except as may be required by securities law.





5 Old Lancaster Road  
Malvern, PA 19355  
[www.cubessmart.com](http://www.cubessmart.com)