

# Foresight



Central Business District





# Central Business District

#### **OVERVIEW**

Austin's Central Business District, for the first time in almost two decades, is awash with new vacancies. New buildings are coming online, many tenants have compressed their space needs post-Covid and venture capital deployment has decreased sharply the last 18 months. Large subleases have softened the market along with 'see through buildings' that were not pre-leased and, as a result, are carrying big block vacancies with little activity. These factors have created a perfect storm sending vacancy to a historic high in excess of 24%, creating new found leverage for occupiers. Meanwhile, many office property owners are dealing with impending debt maturities in the wake of these headwinds.





## **LEGACY** BUILDINGS

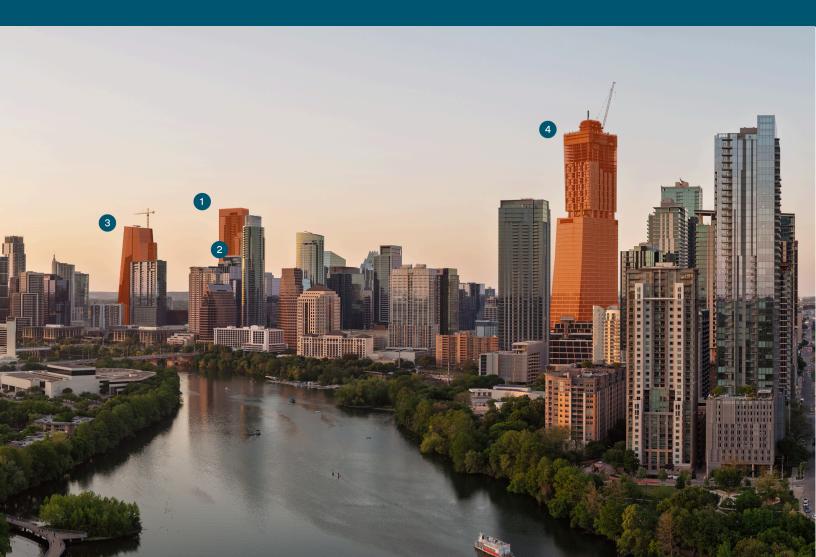
- Older legacy office properties built before 2013 have suffered the most in a softening market
- Tenants relocating to newer construction at similar costs, causing a "flight to quality" given rent realignment
- Nationwide, tenants are increasingly attracted to more modern assets that are highly amenitized
- Rental rates in older stock are trending at \$10.00 to \$15.00 PSF below newer Class A office properties
- Free rent inducements in legacy buildings are significant with some recent lease comps with as much as 12 months of net rental abatement



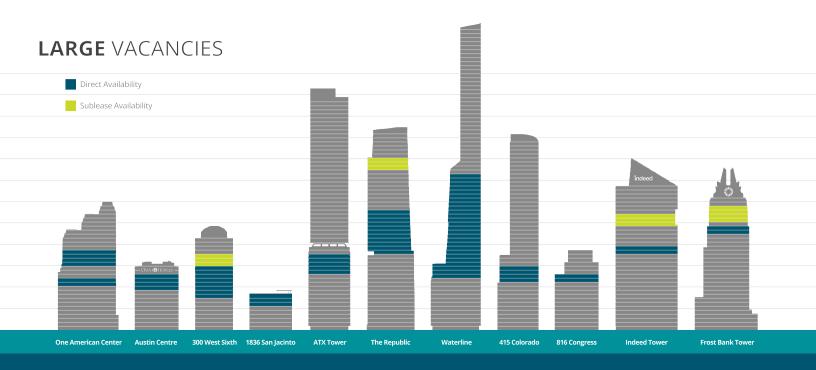
# **New Construction**



## >2.2M SF NEW SUPPLY



# Skyline Report







# By the Numbers

14.8m sf

TOTAL INVENTORY

 $1.9_{\mathrm{M}\,\mathrm{SF}}$ 

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

\$67.13

AVERAGE CLASS A RENT

-168k sf

YEAR TO DATE ABSORPTION

**27.**3%

CLASS A VACANCY

>24%

MARKET-WIDE VACANCY













An influx of poorly timed new supply

Decreased demand evident with negative absorption numbers

Work-from-home compressing space needs

Venture capital deployment decreased resulting in less tech growth

Pre-leasing under 30% for new construction projects since 2020

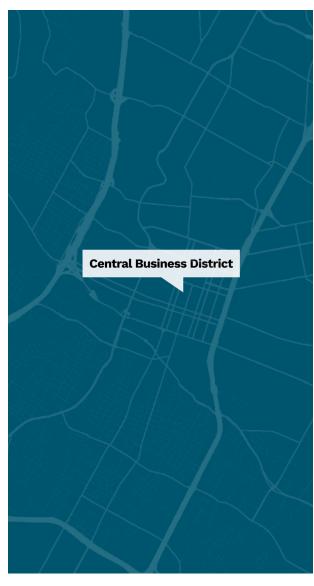
Historic vacancy



# **Tenant Opportunity**

Tenants in the Central Business District have never had more leverage driven by the sudden increase of supply and demand compression

- With increased options come the ability to upgrade to newer properties that are now more economically viable
- As a result, tenants who prefer to remain in their existing building upon their lease expiration are extending their leases early, realigning the economics of their current deal, obtaining rent reductions, abatement while securing robust tenant improvement allowances
- As property owners face impending loan maturities, tenants have a stronger position with landlords that can't lose rental income lest they face potential default
- Occupiers must hedge against risk of property owners' loan defaults by securing subordination, non disturbance, & attornment agreements to protect lease terms





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