

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC
Form 424B5
July 14, 2014
Table of Contents

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offering is not permitted.

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-196033

Subject to Completion, Dated July 14, 2014

Preliminary prospectus supplement to prospectus dated June 16, 2014

6,000,000 Shares

Common Stock

This is a public offering of common stock of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. We are offering 6,000,000 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. Our common stock is traded on the NYSE MKT under the symbol IRT. On July 11, 2014, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$10.41 per share.

RAIT has informed us that it may purchase up to \$5.0 million in shares of our common stock in this offering, at the public offering price, for which no underwriting discounts and commissions will be paid to the underwriters; however, RAIT is under no obligation to purchase any shares in this offering.

Investing in our common stock involves risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 5 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a discussion of risks you should consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters the right to purchase up to 900,000 additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discount and commissions, within 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, to cover over-allotments, if any. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, the underwriting discounts and commissions will be \$, and the proceeds, before expenses, to us will be \$.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares on or about July , 2014.

Book-Running Manager

Deutsche Bank Securities

Co-Managers

**Compass Point
Drexel Hamilton**

**Ladenburg Thalmann
The Huntington Investment Company**

William Blair

**JMP Securities
National Securities Corporation**

The date of this prospectus supplement is July , 2014.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of this offering and also adds to or updates the information contained in the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which provides more general information about the securities we may offer from time to time, some of which may not apply to this offering. To the extent the information contained in this prospectus supplement conflicts with any information in the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference, the information in this prospectus supplement shall control. The information in this prospectus supplement may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should carefully read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference, before deciding to invest in our common stock.

Unless otherwise indicated or the context requires otherwise, references in this prospectus supplement to we, our, us and our company mean Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries, including Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, which we refer to as our operating partnership, and references in this prospectus supplement to RAIT mean RAIT Financial Trust, a Maryland real estate investment trust and the parent company of our external advisor.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference contain certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipates, estimates, expects, projects, intends, plans, believes and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance identify forward-looking statements. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our future financial and operating results and performance, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to our future operations, products and services, statements about our potential acquisitions and our potential financing transactions, including, but not limited to, the statements appearing in this prospectus supplement under Summary Recent Developments, and other statements that are not historical facts. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to our future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and those discussed and identified in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and our other filings with the SEC, which we incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of their respective dates. All forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus supplement or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any documents filed by us with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a copying fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, our SEC filings are available free of charge through our website at <http://www.irtreit.com> as soon as reasonably practicable after filing with the SEC. The information contained on or linked to our website is not part of, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are a part of the registration statement but do not contain all of the information in the registration statement, parts of which, including the exhibits to the registration statement, have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference herein or therein to a contract or other document, the reference is only a summary and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the SEC's website and our website.

S-iii

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

SEC rules allow us to incorporate by reference information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus from the date we file that document. Any reports filed by us with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement and before the date that the offering of the securities covered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is completed or terminated will automatically update and, where applicable, supersede any information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or incorporated by reference herein or therein. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014;

the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 1, 2014 and incorporated by reference into Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013;

our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on December 2, 2013 and our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 3, 2014, February 6, 2014 (as amended by our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on April 16, 2014), February 12, 2014, March 3, 2014, March 4, 2014 (as amended by our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 12, 2014), March 25, 2014, March 28, 2014, April 3, 2014 (as amended by our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 13, 2014), May 7, 2014, May 16, 2014, June 12, 2014 and July 14, 2014; and

the description of our shares of common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A dated August 5, 2013. All documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the completion or termination of this offering are also incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and will automatically update and, where applicable, supersede information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Nothing in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to, but not filed with, the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished as an exhibit pursuant to Item 9.01 of Form 8-K).

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Independence Realty Trust, Inc.

Attention: Andres Viroslav

Investor Relations

Cira Centre

2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104

Telephone: (215) 243-9000

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and may not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should carefully read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, especially the Risk Factors section beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 5 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. Except as otherwise noted, all information in this prospectus supplement assumes (i) no exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option and (ii) RAIT does not purchase shares of our common stock in this offering.

The Company

We are a Maryland corporation that owns apartment properties in geographic submarkets that we believe support strong occupancy and have the potential for growth in rental rates. We seek to provide stockholders with attractive risk-adjusted returns, with an emphasis on distributions and capital appreciation. We are externally advised by a wholly-owned subsidiary of RAIT Financial Trust, or RAIT (NYSE: RAS), a multi-strategy commercial real estate company organized as an internally managed REIT with approximately \$5.1 billion of assets under management as of March 31, 2014. RAIT invests primarily in commercial mortgages and, to a lesser extent, apartment properties. We elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011.

Recent Developments

As of the date of this prospectus supplement, our potential acquisitions include the following four properties. We cannot provide any assurances that we will complete any or all of these acquisitions or that the actual purchase prices will not vary significantly from our expectations.

We are under agreement to acquire an apartment property located in Ridgeland, Mississippi for a purchase price of approximately \$16.7 million. The property is comprised of 168 apartment units, with an average occupancy rate of approximately 94% at June 30, 2014, and was built in 2003. The closing of this acquisition is subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions. We may terminate this acquisition if the zoning approval is not satisfactory to us, in our sole discretion, in which case we will be entitled to a refund of our earnest money deposit.

We have negotiated a contribution agreement regarding the potential acquisition of an apartment property located in Memphis, Tennessee, for an estimated purchase price of approximately \$27.9 million. The property is comprised of 360 apartment units, with an average occupancy of 96.1% at June 30, 2014, and was built in 2000. We will not execute the contribution agreement until the owners of the tenant-in-common, or TIC, interests in the property consent to, and approve, the sale of the property to us on the terms we have negotiated. We cannot provide any assurances that the owners of the TIC interests will consent to, and approve, the sale of the property pursuant to the negotiated terms of the contribution agreement. If the owners of the TIC interests approve the sale pursuant to the negotiated terms, the contribution agreement provides for electing contributors who are accredited investors to receive common units of our operating

Table of Contents

partnership in lieu of cash consideration. Beginning one year after the date of issuance, these common units will be exchangeable for an equivalent number of shares of our common stock pursuant to an exchange agreement to be entered into at closing of the acquisition.

We are negotiating a purchase and sale agreement on an apartment property located in Raleigh, North Carolina with an estimated purchase price of approximately \$24.3 million. The property is comprised of 266 apartment units, with an average occupancy of approximately 93% at April 16, 2014, and was built in 2001. We cannot provide any assurances that we will enter into a definitive agreement in connection with this potential acquisition.

We are negotiating a purchase and sale agreement on an apartment property located in Indianapolis, Indiana with an estimated purchase price of approximately \$19 million. The property is comprised of 324 apartment units. We cannot provide any assurances that we will enter into a definitive agreement in connection with this potential acquisition.

Additionally, as of the date of this prospectus supplement, we are evaluating and discussing the potential acquisition of apartment properties containing 3,484 apartment units, in the aggregate, with estimated aggregate purchase prices of \$310.3 million. We cannot assure you that these acquisitions will be completed or that the actual purchase prices will not vary significantly from our expectations.

We expect to close no later than July 31, 2014 on an approximate \$14.2 million non-recourse first mortgage loan on Carrington Park Apartments, a 202-unit garden-style property located in Little Rock, Arkansas. The loan will bear interest at a fixed rate of 3.95% and will be interest-only for the 10 year term of the loan. We purchased the property in May 2014 for \$21.5 million. The proceeds of this loan will be used to repay amounts outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility with Huntington National Bank, an affiliate of one of the underwriters of this offering, as well as for general corporate purposes and future acquisitions.

We expect to close no later than July 31, 2014 on an approximate \$13.2 million non-recourse first mortgage loan on Arbors on the Reservoir, a 170-unit garden-style property located in Ridgeland, Mississippi. The loan will bear interest at a fixed rate of 3.95% and will be interest-only for the 10 year term of the loan. We purchased the property in May 2014 for approximately \$20.3 million. The proceeds of this loan will be used to repay amounts outstanding under our secured revolving credit facility with Huntington National Bank, an affiliate of one of the underwriters of this offering, as well as for general corporate purposes and future acquisitions.

On July 10, 2014, our board of directors declared regular monthly dividends on our common stock for July, August and September 2014 of \$0.06 per share per month, totaling \$0.18 per share for the quarter. We expect that the July dividend will be paid on August 15, 2014 to holders of record on July 31, 2014.

Corporate Information

Our principal executive offices are located at Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104 and our telephone number is (215) 243-9000. Our internet address is <http://www.irtreit.com>. We do not incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus any material from our website, which should not be considered part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Issuer	Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation
Shares of common stock offered by us	6,000,000 shares(1)
Shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering	23,751,540 shares(1)(2)
Restrictions on ownership	Our charter generally prohibits any stockholder from beneficially or constructively owning more than 9.8% in value of the aggregate of our outstanding shares of stock and 9.8% in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of any class or series of outstanding shares of our capital stock, including our common stock. Our board of directors has granted such an exception for RAIT and its subsidiaries to own, in the aggregate, up to 100% of our outstanding common stock.
Use of proceeds	We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering to acquire apartment properties in the ordinary course of our business, which may include the potential acquisitions described in this prospectus supplement under Summary Recent Developments, and, to a lesser extent, for general corporate purposes and working capital. See Use of Proceeds.
Distribution policy	We are required to distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income each year (subject to certain adjustments) in order to qualify as a REIT under the Code. To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we intend to continue to make regular quarterly distributions to the holders of our common stock. A portion of our distributions may be treated as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. Distributions will be made at the discretion of our board of directors, subject to applicable law.
NYSE MKT symbol	IRT
Risk factors	Investing in our common stock involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 5 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a discussion of certain risks you should consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.

(1) Excludes up to 900,000 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option.

(2) The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 17,751,540 shares of our common stock outstanding as of July 11, 2014. This number does not include: (i) 742,000 shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our long-term incentive plan and (ii) 222,062 shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance upon the exchange of the same number of common units of our operating partnership issued to third parties in connection with our May 2014 acquisition of the property known as Carrington Park Apartments.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves risks. You should carefully consider, among other factors, the risks described below and under the caption Risk Factors beginning on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 5 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 before deciding to invest in our common stock.

The market prices for our common stock after this offering may be lower than the public offering price and may be volatile.

The prices at which our common stock may sell in the public market after this offering may be lower than the public offering price. Fluctuations in the market prices of our common stock may not be correlated in a predictable way to our performance or operating results. The prices at which our common stock trade may fluctuate as a result of factors that are beyond our control or unrelated to our performance or operating results.

We may not complete the acquisition of the apartment property we have under contract as of the date of this prospectus, and we may not be able to enter definitive agreements with the other potential acquisitions described under Summary Recent Developments.

We may use a significant portion of the net proceeds of this offering to fund a portion of the potential acquisitions described in Summary Recent Developments. In the case of the potential acquisition in Ridgeland, Mississippi, the acquisition is subject to the satisfaction of various closing conditions, and there can be no assurance that these conditions will be satisfied. In addition, as of the date of this prospectus supplement, the Ridgeland, Mississippi property does not conform to current zoning regulations and the non-conformity is scheduled to be reviewed by the local zoning board on July 15, 2014. While we anticipate the Ridgeland, Mississippi property's non-conforming zoning status will be approved, no assurance can be provided that this will occur. If the non-conforming zoning status is not approved, we may terminate this acquisition, in our sole discretion, in which case we will be entitled to a refund of our earnest money deposit. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that this potential acquisition will close on the terms described herein, or at all. In all other cases, we have not yet entered into definitive agreements relating to the other potential acquisitions described in this prospectus supplement, and we cannot provide any assurances that we will enter into definitive agreements in connection with the potential acquisitions. If we fail to consummate these acquisitions, we will have issued a significant number of additional shares of our common stock without realizing a corresponding increase in earnings and cash flow from acquiring these properties. In addition, we will have broad authority to use the net proceeds of this offering for other purposes, including the acquisition of other properties that we may identify in the future or for other investments, which may not be initially accretive to our results of operations. As a result, failure to consummate one or more of the property acquisitions could have a negative impact on our financial condition, results of operations and the market price of our common stock.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds we will receive from this offering will be approximately \$ million, or approximately \$ million if the underwriters exercise in full their over-allotment option, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us (assuming RAIT does not purchase any shares of our common stock in this offering). We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering to acquire additional apartment properties in the ordinary course of our business which may include the potential acquisitions described in this prospectus supplement under Summary Recent Developments, and, to a lesser extent, for general corporate purposes and working capital.

S-5

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and our capitalization as of March 31, 2014:

on an actual basis; and

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance and sale of 6,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. It does not include up to an additional 900,000 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option. In addition, it does not reflect the effect of certain transactions that have occurred since March 31, 2014, which transactions are described in our unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2014 included in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 12, 2014 and incorporated by reference herein.

This table should be read in conjunction with (i) Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, (ii) our consolidated financial statements, including the accompanying notes, appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, and (iii) our unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements referred to in the preceding paragraph, including the accompanying notes, each of which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

	Actual	As Adjusted
	(in thousands,	
	except share information)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 24,635	\$
Indebtedness	\$ 191,350	\$
Equity:		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 50,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding, actual and as adjusted		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 300,000,000 shares authorized, 17,742,540 shares issued and outstanding, actual, and shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted(1)	177	
Additional paid in capital	141,046	
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(3,551)	
Total equity	137,672	
Total capitalization	\$ 329,022	\$

(1) Excludes 9,000 shares of our common stock issued after March 31, 2014 through our long-term incentive plan.

Table of Contents

UNDERWRITING

Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. is acting as representative of the several underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase from us, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of shares of common stock set forth opposite the underwriter's name at a public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement.

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	
Compass Point Research & Trading, LLC	
Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc.	
William Blair & Company, L.L.C.	
JMP Securities LLC	
Drexel Hamilton, LLC	
The Huntington Investment Company	
National Securities Corporation	
Total	6,000,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the shares offered hereby are subject to certain conditions precedent and that the underwriters will purchase all of the shares offered by this prospectus, other than those covered by the option to purchase additional shares described below, if any of these shares are purchased.

We have been advised by the underwriters that the underwriters propose to offer the shares to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus and to dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of \$ _____ per share under the public offering price. After the public offering, the underwriters may change the offering price and other selling terms.

We have granted to the underwriters an option to purchase, exercisable not later than 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, up to 900,000 additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover of this prospectus, to cover over-allotments, if any. Pursuant to the underwriting agreement, the purchase price per share paid by the underwriters for these shares will be reduced by the amount of any dividends or distributions declared by us and payable on the shares initially sold by us in this offering but not payable on these shares. We will be obligated, pursuant to the over-allotment option, to sell these shares to the underwriters to the extent the over-allotment option is exercised. If any additional shares are purchased, the underwriters will offer the additional shares on the same terms as those on which the shares are being offered.

The underwriting discounts and commissions per share are equal to the public offering price per share less the amount paid by the underwriters to us per share. The underwriting discounts and commissions are approximately _____ % of the per share public offering price. RAIT has informed us that it may purchase up to \$5.0 million in shares of our common stock in this offering, at the public offering price, for which no underwriting discounts and commissions will be paid to the underwriters; however, RAIT is under no obligation to purchase any shares in this

Table of Contents

offering. We have agreed to pay the underwriters the following discounts and commissions, assuming either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriters of the underwriters option described above:

	Per Share	Without Exercise of Option	With Full Exercise of Option
Underwriting discounts and commissions paid by us	\$	\$	\$
The estimated offering expenses payable by us (including up to \$10,000 of certain underwriters counsel fees), exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions, are estimated to be approximately \$250,000.			

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against some specified types of liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act and to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of any of these liabilities.

Subject to certain limited exceptions, we and all of our directors and executive officers, our advisor and RAIT have agreed with each underwriter that, without the prior written consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., we will not, during the period ending 60 days after the date of this prospectus (1) offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or any contract to purchase, purchase any option or any contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our common stock or any other securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our common stock, (2) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common stock (whether any such transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is to be settled by delivery of our common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise) or (3) file any registration statement with the SEC relating to the offering of any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our common stock.

The restrictions contained in the preceding paragraph will not apply to (1) the shares of our common stock offered and sold pursuant to this prospectus; (2) the issuance of shares of our common stock pursuant to the advisory agreement or upon the exercise of an option or warrant or the conversion of a security outstanding as of the date of this prospectus supplement; (3) the issuance of shares of our common stock or securities exchangeable or exercisable for or convertible into our common stock as consideration for the acquisition of real estate assets, provided that the aggregate number of shares or other securities does not exceed 10% of the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus supplement after giving effect to the issuance and sale of the shares in this offering and the recipients of those securities agree in writing not to sell, offer, dispose of or otherwise transfer those securities during the remainder of the 60-day restricted period without the prior written consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.; (4) awards issued or issuable under our long-term incentive plan; and (5) the filing of a prospectus supplement for, and the issuance of common stock pursuant to, a dividend reinvestment and stock purchase plan, provided that the maximum number of shares issuable pursuant to such plan does not exceed 20% of the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus supplement after giving effect to the issuance and sale of the shares in this offering.

In addition, our directors and executive officers, our advisor and RAIT have agreed that, without the prior consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., they will not make any demand for or exercise any right with respect to the registration of any shares of our common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our common stock.

Table of Contents

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if (i) during the last 17 days of the restricted period described above we issue an earnings release or material news or a material event occurs or (ii) prior to the expiration of such restricted period, we announce that we will release earnings results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of such restricted period, the restrictions imposed by this agreement shall continue to apply until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings release or the occurrence of the material news or material event.

Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., in its sole discretion, may release the common stock and other securities subject to the lock-up restrictions described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell our shares in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, purchases to cover positions created by short sales and stabilizing transactions.

Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of shares than it is required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriters' over-allotment option from us in the offering. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the underwriters' over-allotment option from us in the offering.

Naked short sales are any sales in excess of the underwriters' over-allotment option from us in the offering. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of our shares made by the underwriters in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the other underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representative of the underwriters has repurchased shares sold by or for the account of that underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

Purchases to cover a short position and stabilizing transactions may have the effect of preventing or slowing a decline in the market price of our shares. Additionally, these purchases, along with the imposition of the penalty bid, may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of our shares. As a result, the price of our shares may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the NYSE MKT, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may be made available in electronic format on Internet websites maintained by the underwriters of this offering. Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, in electronic format, the information on the underwriters' websites and any information contained in any other website maintained by the underwriters is not part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or the registration statement of which they form a part.

Table of Contents

Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. has advised us that the underwriters do not intend to confirm sales in this offering to any account over which such underwriter exercises discretionary authority.

Certain of the underwriters and/or their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking services for us and for RAIT in the ordinary course of their business, including acting as underwriters in connection with public offerings of our securities and RAIT's securities. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions. In addition, certain of the underwriters and/or their affiliates may in the future engage in investment banking services for other affiliates of our company and RAIT in the ordinary course of business for which they may receive customary fees and commissions. An affiliate of The Huntington Investment Company is the lender under our secured revolving credit facility.

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. In the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriters and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates, including RAIT. The underwriters and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction (except in the United States) that would permit a public offering of the shares, or the possession, circulation or distribution of this prospectus or any other material relating to us or the shares where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, the shares may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this prospectus nor any other offering material or advertisements in connection with the shares may be distributed or published, in or from any country or jurisdiction except in compliance with any applicable rules and regulations of any such country or jurisdiction.

The underwriters may arrange to sell the shares offered hereby in certain jurisdictions outside the United States, either directly or through affiliates, where it is permitted to do so.

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (the "EEA") that has implemented the Prospectus Directive, as defined below (each, a "Relevant Member State"), an offer to the public of any shares that are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus may not be made in that Relevant Member State, except that an offer to the public in that Relevant Member State of any of the shares may be made at any time under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive, if they have been implemented in that Relevant Member State:

- (a) at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

Table of Contents

- (b) by any underwriter to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provisions of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors, as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the underwriter for any such offer; or

- (c) in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of the shares shall result in a requirement for us or the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

Any person making or intending to make any offer within the EEA of the shares that are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus should only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for us or the underwriters to produce a prospectus for such offer. Neither we nor any underwriter has authorized, or will authorize, the making of any offer of the shares offered hereby through any financial intermediary, other than offers made by the underwriters that constitute the final offering of the securities contemplated in this prospectus.

For the purposes of this provision and the buyer's representation below, the expression an offer of securities to the public in relation to the shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase the shares, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State) and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State and the expression 2010 PD Amending Directive means Directive 2010/73/EU.

Each person in a Relevant Member State who receives any communication in respect of, or who acquires any of the shares that are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus will be deemed to have represented, warranted and agreed to and with the underwriters and us that:

- (a) it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive; and
- (b) in the case of any shares acquired by it as a financial intermediary, as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, (i) the shares acquired by it in the offering have not been acquired on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors, as defined in the Prospectus Directive, or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the underwriters has been given to the offer or resale; or (ii) where the shares have been acquired by it on behalf of persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors, the offer of those shares to it is not treated under the Prospectus Directive as having been made to such persons.

United Kingdom

Any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the FSMA)), in connection with the issue or sale of the shares, has only been, and will only be, communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to us.

Anything in relation to the shares in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom, has been, and may only be done, in compliance with all applicable provisions of the FSMA.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The audited financial statements and schedules as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 and for each of the three years ended December 31, 2013 incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Reserve at Eagle Ridge Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, the Oklahoma Portfolio Combined Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, the King s Landing Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, the Carrington Park Apartments Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, the Arbors at the Reservoir Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013 and the Crossings at Ridgewood Apartments Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2012 have been audited by McGladrey LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their reports incorporated by reference herein, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon such reports and upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

LEGAL MATTERS

The legality of the securities will be passed upon for us by Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. In addition, certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Ledgewood, a professional corporation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The description of material U.S. federal income tax considerations described in Exhibit 99.1 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, is based on the opinion of Ledgewood, a professional corporation. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Hunton & Williams LLP.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

\$1,000,000,000

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Warrants

Stockholder Rights

Units

Debt Securities

This prospectus contains a general description of the securities which we may offer for sale. We will provide the specific terms of the securities we sell in one or more supplements to this prospectus or other offering materials.

You should read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials carefully before you invest.

Our shares of common stock are listed for trading on the NYSE MKT under the symbol IRT. On June 13, 2014, the last reported sale price of our shares of common stock on the NYSE MKT was \$9.05 per share.

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should read the sections entitled Risk Factors on page 5 in this prospectus and in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission that are incorporated by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a discussion of factors you should consider before buying our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus is dated June 16, 2014.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	2
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	2
<u>OUR COMPANY</u>	4
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	5
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	11
<u>DESCRIPTION OF STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS</u>	12
<u>DESCRIPTION OF UNITS</u>	12
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	13
<u>MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS</u>	21
<u>DESCRIPTION OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AND OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</u>	26
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	32
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	33
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	34
<u>EXPERTS</u>	35
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	35

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this registration process, over the three year period (or such longer period permitted under SEC rules) from the effective date of the registration statement, we may sell any combination of shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, or common stock, shares of our preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, or preferred stock, warrants exercisable for other securities of ours, stockholder rights, units and debt securities. The terms of these offerings will be determined at the time of sale. We refer to the common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights, units and debt securities collectively as the securities in this prospectus. For more information on how our securities may be sold, please read the section of the prospectus entitled Plan of Distribution.

The specific terms of the securities we offer and the terms of their sale will be set forth in an accompanying supplement to this prospectus or other offering materials. This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. The prospectus supplement or other offering materials may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials together with the additional information described in the section of the prospectus entitled Where You Can Find More Information. We are not making an offer of our securities in any state where the offer or solicitation is not authorized. References in this prospectus to the company, we, us, and our are to Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation, unless the context otherwise requires inclusion of our subsidiaries.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains or incorporates by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipates, estimates, expects, projects, intends, plans, believes and words and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance identify forward-looking statements. These statements may be made directly in this prospectus and they may also be incorporated by reference in this prospectus from other documents filed with the SEC, and include, but are not limited to, statements about future financial and operating results and performance, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to future operations, products and services, and other statements that are not historical facts. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials and those discussed and identified in item 1A of our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and our other public filings with the SEC, which we incorporate by reference in this prospectus, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus or the date of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. If we do update

one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that we have filed with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a copying fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the SEC internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Unless specifically listed under Incorporation by Reference below, the information contained on the SEC website is not intended to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and you should not consider that information a part of this prospectus.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 with respect to the securities offered hereby. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement, parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information with respect to us and the securities offered hereby, reference is also made to such registration statement.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

Certain information about us is incorporated by reference to reports and exhibits we file with the SEC that are not included in this prospectus. We disclose important information to you by referring you to these documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 filed on March 11, 2014, which incorporates certain sections of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 1, 2014.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014.

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 3, 2014, February 6, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on April 16, 2014), February 12, 2014, March 3, 2014, March 4, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 12, 2014), March 25, 2014, March 28, 2014, April 3, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 13, 2014), May 7, 2014, May 16, 2014 and June 12, 2014.

The description of our shares of common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A dated August 5, 2013.

All documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of the initial filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and prior to the effectiveness of this registration statement and on or after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the

offerings made pursuant to this prospectus are also incorporated herein by reference and will automatically update and supersede information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished under Item 9.01 or included as an exhibit to Form 8-K).

Table of Contents

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Independence Realty Trust, Inc.

Attention: Andres Viroslav

Investor Relations

Cira Centre

2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104

Telephone: (215) 243-9000

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. We have not authorized any person to provide information other than that provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials we may use is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and that any information in a document we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference.

The statements that we make in this prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus about the contents of any other documents are not necessarily complete, and are qualified in their entirety by referring you to copies of those documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, or as an exhibit to the documents incorporated by reference. You can obtain copies of these documents from the SEC or from us, as described above.

Table of Contents

OUR COMPANY

We are a Maryland corporation that owns apartment properties in geographic submarkets that we believe support strong occupancy and have the potential for growth in rental rates. We seek to provide stockholders with attractive risk-adjusted returns, with an emphasis on distributions and capital appreciation. We are externally advised by a wholly-owned subsidiary of RAIT Financial Trust, or RAIT (NYSE: RAS), a multi-strategy commercial real estate company organized as an internally managed REIT with approximately \$3.6 billion of assets under management as of December 31, 2013. RAIT invests primarily in commercial mortgages and, to a lesser extent, apartment properties. We elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011.

We seek to acquire and operate apartment properties that:

have stable occupancy;

are located in submarkets that we do not expect will experience substantial new apartment construction in the foreseeable future;

in appropriate circumstances, present opportunities for repositioning or updating through capital expenditures; and

present opportunities to apply tailored marketing and management strategies to attract and retain residents and enable rent increases.

For a description of our portfolio of apartment properties, see Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Our Properties in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2014 which is incorporated herein by reference. As of the date of this prospectus, we have two apartment properties under contract located in Ridgeland Mississippi and are in the process of completing our due diligence on these properties. One property has 170 units, with a contemplated purchase price of \$20.250 million, and the second property has 168 units, with a contemplated purchase price of \$17.6 million. These contracts are subject to customary closing conditions and we cannot provide any assurances that the acquisitions will be completed. As of the date of this prospectus, we do not consider the acquisition of the second property to be probable because significant open due diligence items must be resolved to our satisfaction. As of the date of this prospectus, we have proposed or signed non-binding letters of intent regarding the potential acquisition of apartment properties containing approximately 836 units, with an estimated aggregate purchase price of approximately \$66.850 million. Because these letters of intent are non-binding, we have determined that the acquisitions subject to these letters of intent are not probable as of the date of this prospectus. We cannot assure you that we will acquire any of the properties under contract or subject to letters of intent or that any actual acquisition price will not be significantly different from what we currently estimate.

Our principal executive offices are located at Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104 and our telephone number is (215) 243-9000. Our internet address is <http://www.irtreit.com>. We do not incorporate by reference into this prospectus any material from our website.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the specific risks discussed or incorporated by reference in the applicable prospectus supplement or in this prospectus, together with all the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in an applicable prospectus supplement. In particular, you should consider the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

General

Our board of directors may authorize the issuance of additional securities, including the securities described in this prospectus, for property or other consideration on such terms as it may deem advisable and may classify or reclassify any unissued shares of capital stock of our company without approval of the holders of the outstanding securities. We may issue debt obligations with conversion privileges on such terms and conditions as the directors may determine, whereby the holders of such debt obligations may acquire our common stock or preferred stock. We may also issue warrants, options and rights to buy shares on such terms as the directors deem advisable, despite the possible dilution in the value of the outstanding shares which may result from the exercise of such warrants, options or rights to buy shares, as part of a ratable issuance to stockholders, a private or public offering or another financial arrangement.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

Common Stock and Preferred Stock

The following description of our shares of common stock and shares of preferred stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the shares of common stock and shares of preferred stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The terms of our charter and by-laws are more detailed than the general information provided below. Therefore, you should carefully consider the actual provisions of these documents.

We are authorized to issue 350,000,000 shares of stock, consisting of 300,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share. Our charter authorizes our board of directors, with the approval of a majority of the entire board of directors and without any action on the part of our stockholders, subject to any preferential rights of any class or series of preferential stock, to amend our charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of authorized shares of stock or the number of authorized shares of stock of any class or series. As of June 13, 2014, we had 17,751,540 outstanding shares of common stock and no outstanding shares of preferred stock. Under Maryland law, stockholders generally are not liable for a corporation's debts or obligations.

Common Stock

All of the shares of our common stock offered hereby will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of our common stock:

are entitled to receive distributions as authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of legally available funds;

in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or dissolution of our company, are entitled to share ratably in the distributable assets of our company remaining after satisfaction of the prior preferential rights of any outstanding preferred stock and the satisfaction of all of our debts and liabilities; and

do not have preference, conversion, exchange, sinking fund, redemption rights or preemptive rights to subscribe for any of our securities and generally have no appraisal rights unless our board of directors determines that appraisal rights apply, with respect to all or any classes or series of shares, to one or more transactions occurring after the date of such determination in connection with which holders of such shares would otherwise be entitled to exercise appraisal rights.

Shares of our common stock will be held in uncertificated form, which will eliminate the physical handling and safekeeping responsibilities inherent in owning transferable stock certificates and eliminate the need to return a duly executed stock certificate to effect a transfer.

Table of Contents

Stockholder Voting

Except as otherwise provided, all shares of common stock will have equal voting rights. Because stockholders do not have cumulative voting rights, holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect our entire board of directors. The voting rights per share of our equity securities issued in the future will be established by our board of directors.

Under Maryland law and our charter, generally we may not, without the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter:

amend our charter, except to increase or decrease the number of authorized shares of stock of any class or series or the aggregate number of authorized shares of stock, change our name, change the name or other designation or the par value of any class or series of stock, change the aggregate par value of our stock or effect certain reverse stock splits;

sell all or substantially all of our assets other than in the ordinary course of our business;

cause a merger or consolidation of our company;

effect a statutory share exchange; or

dissolve our company.

Each stockholder entitled to vote on a matter may do so at a meeting in person or by proxy directing the manner in which he or she desires that his or her vote be cast or without a meeting by a consent in writing or by electronic transmission. Any proxy must be received by us prior to the date on which the vote is taken. Pursuant to the Maryland General Corporation Law, or MGCL, and our charter and bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of stockholders may be taken without a meeting (a) by the unanimous consent in writing or by electronic transmission of each stockholder entitled to vote on the matter or (b) if the action is advised and submitted for stockholder approval by our board of directors, by a consent in writing or by electronic transmission of stockholders entitled to cast not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take the action at a meeting. Our bylaws require us to provide notice of any action taken by less than unanimous written consent to each stockholder not later than 10 days after the effective time of such action.

Preferred Stock

Our charter authorizes our board of directors, without further stockholder action, to provide for the issuance of up to 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, in one or more classes or series, with such terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers or rights, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series, as our board of directors shall approve.

Any shares of preferred stock issued under this registration statement will be issued as one or more new series of shares of preferred stock, the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of which will be fixed by articles

supplementary relating to each series. A prospectus supplement relating to each series will specify the terms of the shares of preferred stock, including:

the maximum number of shares in the series and the designation of the series;

the terms on which dividends, if any, will be paid;

the terms on which the shares may be redeemed, if at all;

the liquidation preference, if any;

the terms of any retirement or sinking fund for the purchase or redemption of the shares of the series;

the terms and conditions, if any, on which the shares of the series will be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of stock;

Table of Contents

the voting rights, if any, of the shares of the series; and

any or all other preferences and relative, participating, operational or other special rights or qualifications, limitations or restrictions of the shares of the series.

We currently have no shares of preferred stock outstanding. The description of the terms of a particular series of shares of preferred stock included in any prospectus supplement will not be complete. You should refer to the articles supplementary with respect to a series of preferred stock for complete information concerning the terms of that series. A copy of the articles supplementary for each new series of preferred stock will be filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or as an exhibit to a filing incorporated by reference in such registration statement.

Our board of directors may authorize the issuance of series of preferred stock with voting or conversion rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of common stockholders. The issuance of shares of preferred stock, which may provide flexibility in connection with possible acquisitions and other corporate purposes, could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control, and may cause the market price of shares of common stock to decline or impair the voting and other rights of the holders of shares of common stock.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must meet several requirements concerning the ownership of our outstanding capital stock. Specifically, no more than 50% in value of our outstanding capital stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Code to include specified private foundations, employee benefit plans and trusts, and charitable trusts, during the last half of a taxable year. Moreover, 100 or more persons must own our outstanding shares of capital stock during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year.

Because our board of directors believes it is essential for our company to continue to qualify as a REIT and for other corporate purposes, our charter, subject to the exceptions described below, provides that no person may beneficially or constructively own, more than 9.8% of the aggregate of our outstanding shares of stock and 9.8%, in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of any class or series of the outstanding shares of our capital stock, including our common stock.

Our charter provides for certain circumstances where our board of directors, in its sole discretion, may except a holder of our shares (prospectively or retroactively) from the 9.8% ownership limitation and impose other limitations and restrictions on ownership. Our board of directors has granted such an exception for RAIT. Additionally, our charter prohibits, subject to the exceptions described below, any transfer of capital stock that would:

result in our capital stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, determined without reference to any rules of attribution;

result in our company being closely held under U.S. federal income tax laws (regardless of whether the ownership interest is held during the last half of a taxable year);

cause our company to own, actually or constructively, 9.8% or more of the ownership interests in a tenant of our real property; or

cause us to fail to qualify, under U.S. federal income tax laws or otherwise, as a REIT.

Any attempted transfer of our stock which, if effective, would result in our stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, will be null and void, with the intended transferee acquiring no rights in such shares of stock, and any other prohibited transfer of shares of our stock described above will result in the number

Table of Contents

of shares that would cause such person to violate the above restrictions (rounded up to the nearest whole share) to be designated as shares-in-trust and transferred automatically to a trust effective at the close of business on the Business Day (as defined in our charter) before the purported transfer of such shares. The record holder of the shares that are designated as shares-in-trust, or the prohibited owner, will be required to immediately submit such number of shares of capital stock to our company for registration in the name of the trust. We will designate the trustee, but it will not be affiliated with our company and any prohibited owner. The beneficiary of the trust will be one or more nonprofit organizations that are named by our company and whose beneficial ownership does not violate any of the ownership restrictions set forth above. If the transfer to the trust would not be effective for any reason to prevent a violation of the limitations on ownership and transfer, then the transfer of that number of shares that otherwise would cause the violation will be null and void, with the intended transferee acquiring no rights in such shares.

Shares-in-trust will remain shares of issued and outstanding capital stock and will be entitled to the same rights and privileges as all other stock of the same class or series. The trust will receive all dividends and other distributions on the shares-in-trust and will hold such dividends or other distributions in trust for the benefit of the beneficiary. The trustee will vote all shares-in-trust and, subject to Maryland law, will have the authority to rescind as void any vote cast by the prohibited owner prior to our discovery that the shares have been transferred to the trust and to recast the vote in accordance with the desires of the trustee acting for the benefit of the beneficiary. However, if we have already taken irreversible corporate action, then the trustee will not have the authority to rescind and recast the vote.

Within 20 days of receiving notice from us that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, the trustee will sell the shares held by the trust to a person, designated by the trustee, whose ownership of the shares will not violate the above ownership limitations. Upon the sale, the interest of the beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the trustee will distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited owner and to the beneficiary as follows:

The prohibited owner will receive from the trust the lesser of:

the price per share such prohibited owner paid for the shares of capital stock that were designated as shares-in-trust or, if the prohibited owner did not give value for the shares (such as in the case of a devise or gift), the market price per share on the date of the event causing the shares to be held as shares-in-trust; or

the price per share received by the trust from the sale of such shares-in-trust.

The trustee may reduce the amount payable to the prohibited owner by the amount of dividends and other distributions which have been paid to the prohibited owner and are owed by the prohibited owner to the trustee. The trust will immediately distribute to the beneficiary any amounts received by the trust in excess of the amounts to be paid to the prohibited owner. If, prior to our discovery that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, the shares are sold by the prohibited owner, then such shares shall be deemed to have been sold on behalf of the trust and, to the extent that the prohibited owner received an amount for the shares that exceeds the amount such prohibited owner was entitled to receive, the excess shall be paid to the trustee upon demand.

In addition, the shares-in-trust will be deemed to have been offered for sale to our company, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of:

the price per share in the transaction that resulted in the transfer to the trust or, in the case of a gift or devise, the market price per share on the date of the gift or devise; or

the market price per share on the date that our company, or our designee, accepts such offer.

We may reduce the amount payable to the prohibited owner by the amount of dividends and other distributions which have been paid to the prohibited owner and are owed by the prohibited owner to the trustee. We may pay the amount of such reduction to the trustee for the benefit of the beneficiary. We will have the right to accept such offer until the trustee has sold such shares-in-trust. Upon a sale to the company, the interest of the beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the trustee shall distribute the net proceeds to the prohibited owner.

Table of Contents

Market price on any date means, with respect to any class or series of outstanding shares, the closing price for such shares on such date. The closing price on any date refers to the last quoted price as reported by the primary securities exchange or market on which our stock is then listed or quoted for trading. If our shares are not listed or admitted to trading on any national securities exchange, the last quoted price, or, if not so quoted, the average of the high bid and low asked prices in the over-the-counter market. If our stock is not so listed or quoted on any national securities exchange available on an over-the-counter market, or otherwise, at the time of determination of the market price, our board of directors will determine the market price in good faith.

Any person who (a) acquires or attempts or intends to acquire shares in violation of the foregoing restrictions on ownership and transfer of our stock, transfers or receives shares subject to such limitations, or would have owned shares that resulted in a transfer to a beneficial trust, or (b) proposes or attempts any of the transactions in clause (a), is required to give us immediate written notice or, in the case of a proposed or attempted transaction, at least 15 days written notice prior to such transaction. In both cases, such persons must provide to us such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such transfer on our status as a REIT.

If you own, directly or indirectly, more than 5%, or such lower percentages as required under U.S. federal income tax laws or the regulations promulgated thereunder, of our outstanding shares of stock, then you must, within 30 days of the end of each taxable year, provide to us a written statement or affidavit stating your name and address, the number of shares of capital stock owned directly or indirectly, and a description of how such shares are held. In addition, each direct or indirect stockholder must provide us such additional information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such ownership on our status as a REIT and to ensure compliance with the ownership limit.

The ownership limit generally will not apply to the acquisition of shares of capital stock by an underwriter that participates in a public offering or private placement of such shares. In addition, our board of directors, upon receipt of a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel and upon such other conditions as our charter or board of directors may direct, may exempt a person (prospectively or retroactively) from the ownership limit or establish or increase an excepted holder limit for such person. Subject to certain conditions, our board of directors may also increase the ownership limit for one or more persons and decrease the ownership limit for all other persons.

The restrictions on ownership and transfer described above will continue to apply until our board of directors determines that it is no longer in the best interests of our company to attempt to qualify, or to continue to qualify, as a REIT or that compliance is no longer required for REIT qualification.

All certificates, if any, representing our common stock, will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

The ownership limit in our charter may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a takeover or other transaction or change in control of our company that might involve a premium price for your shares or otherwise be in your interest as a stockholder.

Transfer Agent

The transfer agent for our shares of common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company. We expect that American Stock Transfer & Trust Company will act as the transfer agent for any common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights (if traded separately) or units we may offer pursuant to a supplement to this prospectus.

No Stockholder Rights Plan

We currently do not have a stockholder rights plan.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

The following describes some of the general terms and provisions of warrants we may issue. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement or any other offering materials and may be attached to or separate from those securities. Warrants may be issued under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a warrant agent or may be represented by individual warrant certificates, all as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement or any other offering materials. The warrant agent, if any, for any series of warrants will act solely as our agent and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

Reference is made to each prospectus supplement or any other offering materials for the specific terms of the warrants offered thereby. These terms may include the following, as applicable:

the title and aggregate number of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the title, amount and terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

the title, amount and terms of the securities offered with the warrants and the number of warrants issued with each such security;

the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

the price at which the related securities may be purchased upon exercise of the warrants;

the exercise period for the warrants;

the minimum or maximum number of warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

any applicable anti-dilution, redemption or call provisions;

any applicable book-entry provisions;

a discussion of federal income tax considerations, if any; and

any other terms of the warrants.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS

We may issue stockholder rights (rights of our stockholders to purchase shares of common stock or other securities). Rights may be issued independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from such securities. Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement, each, a rights agreement, to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as rights agent, or the rights agent, specified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to that particular issue of rights. The rights agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the rights of any series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of rights. The foregoing sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the rights offered hereby. Further terms of any series of rights and the applicable rights agreement will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement we will file relating to that series and, with respect to the applicable rights agreements, will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part at or before the issuance of such series of rights.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the rights to be issued including, where applicable, the following:

the date for determining the stockholders entitled to rights issued in the offering;

the aggregate number of shares of common stock or other securities purchasable upon exercise of such rights and the exercise price;

the aggregate number of rights being issued;

the date, if any, on and after which such rights may be separately transferrable;

the date on which the right to exercise such rights will commence and the date on which such rights will expire;

the minimum or maximum number of such rights which may be exercised at any one time;

a discussion of certain federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of such rights, including the terms, procedures, and limitations relating to distribution, exchange and exercise of such rights.

The exercise price for any series of rights will be payable in United States dollars only and will be in registered form only.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

We may issue units consisting of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights, debt securities, or any combination of those securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any units including the following:

the terms of the units and each of the securities included in the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities included in the units may or may not be traded separately;

the terms of any unit agreement governing the units;

if applicable, a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations relating to the units;
and

the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

General

The debt securities will be:

our direct general obligations;

either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities; and

issued under separate indentures among us and a trustee which will be named in a prospectus supplement and a supplemental indenture.

We may issue debt securities in one or more series.

If we offer senior debt securities, we will issue them under a senior indenture. If we issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a subordinated indenture. Each of the open-ended indentures is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We have not restated either indenture in its entirety in this description. You should read the relevant indenture because it, and not this description, controls your rights as holders of the debt securities. Capitalized terms used in the summary have the meanings specified in the indentures.

Specific Terms of Each Series of Debt Securities in the Prospectus Supplement

A prospectus supplement and a supplemental indenture relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following:

the issuer of the debt securities;

the co-issuers of the debt securities, if any;

the guarantors of the debt securities, if any;

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated debt securities;

the title of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the process to authenticate and deliver the debt securities and the application of the proceeds thereof;

the assets, if any, that are pledged as security for the payment of the debt securities;

the terms of any release, or the release and substitution of, any assets pledged as security for the payment of the debt securities;

whether we will issue the debt securities in individual certificates to each holder in registered form, or in the form of temporary or permanent global securities held by a depository on behalf of holders;

the prices at which we will issue the debt securities;

the portion of the principal amount that will be payable if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;

the currency or currency unit in which the debt securities will be payable, if not U.S. dollars;

the dates on which the principal of the debt securities will be payable;

the interest rate that the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;

any conversion or exchange provisions;

any optional redemption provisions;

Table of Contents

any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem the debt securities;

any changes to or additional events of default or covenants; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

We may offer and sell debt securities, including original issue discount debt securities, at a substantial discount below their principal amount. The relevant prospectus supplement will describe special U.S. federal income tax and any other considerations applicable to those securities. In addition, the prospectus supplement may describe certain special U.S. federal income tax or other considerations applicable to any debt securities that are denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

Consolidation, Merger or Asset Sale

Each indenture will, in general, allow us to consolidate or merge with or into another domestic entity. It will also allow each issuer to sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets to another domestic entity. If this happens, the remaining or acquiring entity must assume all of the issuer's responsibilities and liabilities under the indenture, including the payment of all amounts due on the debt securities and performance of the issuer's covenants in the indenture.

However, each indenture will impose certain requirements with respect to any consolidation or merger with or into an entity, or any sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of all or substantially all of an issuer's assets, including:

the remaining or acquiring entity must be organized under the laws of the United States, any state or the District of Columbia;

the remaining or acquiring entity must assume the issuer's obligations under the indenture; and

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default may exist.

The remaining or acquiring entity will be substituted for the issuer in the indenture with the same effect as if it had been an original party to the indenture, and the issuer will be relieved from any further obligations under the indenture.

No Protection in the Event of a Change of Control

Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions that protect the holders of the debt securities in the event of a change of control of us or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, whether or not such transaction results in a change of control of us.

Modification of Indentures

We may supplement or amend an indenture if the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series issued under the indenture affected by the supplement or amendment consent to it. Further, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive past defaults under the indenture and compliance by us with our covenants with respect to the debt securities of that series only. Those holders may not, however, waive any default in any payment on any debt security of that series or compliance with a provision that cannot be supplemented or amended without the consent of each holder affected. Without the consent of each outstanding debt security affected, no modification of the indenture or waiver may:

reduce the principal amount of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;

reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any debt security;

Table of Contents

reduce or waive the premium payable upon redemption or alter or waive the provisions with respect to the redemption of the debt securities (except as may be permitted in the case of a particular series of debt securities);

reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on any debt security;

waive an event of default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the debt securities (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

except as otherwise permitted under the indenture, release any security that may have been granted with respect to the debt securities;

make any debt security payable in currency other than that stated in the debt securities;

in the case of any subordinated debt security, make any change in the subordination provisions that adversely affects the rights of any holder under those provisions;

make any change in the provisions of the indenture relating to waivers of past defaults or the rights of holders of debt securities to receive payments of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the debt securities;

waive a redemption payment with respect to any debt security (except as may be permitted in the case of a particular series of debt securities);

except as otherwise permitted in the indenture, release any guarantor from its obligations under its guarantee or the indenture or change any guarantee in any manner that would adversely affect the rights of holders; or

make any change in the preceding amendment, supplement and waiver provisions (except to increase any percentage set forth therein).

We may supplement or amend an indenture without the consent of any holders of the debt securities in certain circumstances, including:

to establish the form of terms of any series of debt securities;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;

to provide for uncertificated notes in addition to or in place of certified notes;

to provide for the assumption of an issuer's or guarantor's obligations to holders of debt securities in the case of a merger or consolidation or disposition of all or substantially all of such issuer's or guarantor's assets;

in the case of any subordinated debt security, to make any change in the subordination provisions that limits or terminates the benefits applicable to any holder of senior indebtedness of us, any co-issuer or guarantor, as applicable;

to add or release co-issuers pursuant to the terms of the indenture;

to add or release guarantors pursuant to the terms of the indenture;

to make any changes that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the holders of debt securities or that do not, taken as a whole, materially adversely affect the rights under the indenture of any holder of debt securities;

to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act;

to evidence or provide for the acceptance of appointment under the indenture of a successor trustee;

Table of Contents

to add any additional events of default; or

to secure the debt securities and/or the guarantees.

Events of Default and Remedies

Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, an event of default, when used in an indenture, will mean any of the following with respect to the debt securities of any series:

failure to pay when due the principal of or any premium on any debt security of that series;

failure to pay, within 90 days of the due date, interest on any debt security of that series;

failure to pay when due any sinking fund payment with respect to any debt securities of that series;

failure on the part of the issuers to comply with the covenant described under Consolidation, Merger or Asset Sale;

failure to perform any other covenant in the indenture that continues for 30 days after written notice is given to the issuers;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of an issuer; or

any other event of default provided under the terms of the debt securities of that series.

An event of default for a particular series of debt securities will not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series of debt securities issued under an indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest) if it considers such withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders.

If an event of default for any series of debt securities occurs and continues, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series may declare the entire principal of, and accrued interest on, all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, subject to certain conditions, the holders of a majority in the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series can rescind the declaration.

Other than its duties in case of a default, a trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable security or indemnity. If they provide this reasonable security or indemnification, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of any series of debt securities may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the trustee, for that series of debt securities.

No Limit on Amount of Debt Securities

Neither indenture will limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue, unless we indicate otherwise in a prospectus supplement. Each indenture will allow us to issue debt securities of any series up to the aggregate principal amount that we authorize.

Registration of Notes

We will issue debt securities of a series only in registered form, without coupons, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

Minimum Denominations

Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, the debt securities will be issued only in principal amounts of \$1,000 each or integral multiples of \$1,000.

Table of Contents

No Personal Liability

None of the past, present or future partners, incorporators, managers, members, trustees, directors, officers, employees, unitholders, stockholders of the company or stockholders of any issuer or any guarantor will have any liability for the obligations of the issuers or any guarantors under the indenture or the debt securities or for any claim based on such obligations or their creation. Each holder of debt securities by accepting a debt security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issuance of the debt securities. The waiver may not be effective with respect to violations of federal securities laws, however, and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

Payment and Transfer

The trustee will initially act as paying agent and registrar under each indenture. The issuers may change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of debt securities, and the issuers or any of their subsidiaries may act as paying agent or registrar.

If a holder of debt securities has given wire transfer instructions to the issuers, the issuers will make all payments on the debt securities in accordance with those instructions. All other payments on the debt securities will be made at the corporate trust office of the trustee, unless the issuers elect to make interest payments by check mailed to the holders at their addresses set forth in the debt security register.

The trustee and any paying agent will repay to us upon request any funds held by them for payments on the debt securities that remain unclaimed for two years after the date upon which that payment has become due. After payment to us, holders entitled to the money must look to us for payment as general creditors.

Exchange, Registration and Transfer

Debt securities of any series may be exchangeable for other debt securities of the same series, the same total principal amount and the same terms but in different authorized denominations in accordance with the indenture.

Holders may present debt securities for exchange or registration of transfer at the office of the registrar. The registrar will effect the transfer or exchange when it is satisfied with the documents of title and identity of the person making the request. We will not charge a service fee for any registration of transfer or exchange of the debt securities. We may, however, require the payment of any tax or other governmental charge payable for that registration.

We will not be required:

to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange debt securities of a series either during a period beginning 15 business days prior to the selection of debt securities of that series for redemption and ending on the close of business on the day of mailing of the relevant notice of redemption or repurchase, or between a record date and the next succeeding interest payment date; or

to register the transfer or exchange of any debt security called for redemption or repurchase, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security we are redeeming or repurchasing in part.

Provisions Relating only to the Senior Debt Securities

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The senior debt securities will be effectively subordinated, however, to all of our secured debt to the extent of the value of the collateral for that debt. We will disclose the amount of our secured debt in the prospectus supplement.

Provisions Relating only to the Subordinated Debt Securities

Subordinated Debt Securities Subordinated to Senior Indebtedness

The subordinated debt securities will rank junior in right of payment to all of the senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Payment Blockages

The subordinated indenture will provide that no payment of principal, interest and any premium on the subordinated debt securities may be made in the event:

we or our property is involved in any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or bankruptcy;

we fail to pay the principal, interest, any premium or any other amounts on any senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement within any applicable grace period or the maturity of such senior indebtedness is accelerated following any other default, subject to certain limited exceptions set forth in the subordinated indenture; or

any other default on any senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement occurs that permits immediate acceleration of its maturity, in which case a payment blockage on the subordinated debt securities will be imposed for a maximum of 179 days at any one time.

No Limitation on Amount of Senior Debt

The subordinated indenture will not limit the amount of senior indebtedness that we, any co-issuer or any guarantor may incur, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

Book Entry, Delivery and Form

The debt securities of a particular series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global certificates that will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC. This means that we would not issue certificates to each holder. Instead, one or more global debt securities would be issued to DTC, which would keep a computerized record of its participants (for example, your broker) whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participant would then keep a record of its clients who purchased the debt securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated debt security, a global debt security may not be transferred, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global debt security as a whole to one another.

Beneficial interests in global debt securities will be shown on, and transfers of global debt securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC has provided us the following information: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the United States Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its participants, or direct participants, deposit with DTC. DTC also records the settlement among direct participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for direct participants' accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, or DTCC. DTCC

is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

We will wire all payments on global debt securities to DTC's nominee. We and the trustee will treat DTC's nominee as the owner of the global debt securities for all purposes. Accordingly, we, the trustee and any paying agent will have no direct responsibility or liability to pay amounts due on the global debt securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global debt securities.

Table of Contents

It is DTC's current practice, upon receipt of any payment on global debt securities, to credit direct participants accounts on the payment date according to their respective holdings of beneficial interests in the global debt securities as shown on DTC's records. In addition, it is DTC's current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to direct participants whose accounts are credited with debt securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy. Payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global debt securities, and voting by participants, will be governed by the customary practices between the participants and owners of beneficial interests, as is the case with debt securities held for the account of customers registered in street name. However, payments will be the responsibility of the participants and not of DTC, the trustee or us.

Debt securities represented by a global debt security will be exchangeable for certificated debt securities with the same terms in authorized denominations only if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law and in either event a successor depository is not appointed by us within 90 days; or

we determine not to require all of the debt securities of a series to be represented by a global debt security.

Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance

Each indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect as to all outstanding debt securities of any series issued thereunder, when:

(a) either:

(1) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have been authenticated (except lost, stolen or destroyed debt securities that have been replaced or paid and debt securities for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust and thereafter repaid to us) have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation; or

(2) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have not been delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable by reason of the giving of a notice of redemption or otherwise or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee and in any case we have irrevocably deposited or caused to be irrevocably deposited with the trustee as trust funds cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable U.S. Government Obligations or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, without consideration of any reinvestment of interest, to pay and discharge the entire indebtedness of such debt securities not delivered to the trustee for cancellation, with respect to principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest to the date of such deposit (in the case of debt securities that have been due and payable) or the stated maturity or redemption date;

(b) we have paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable by us under the indenture; and

(c) we have delivered an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel to the trustee stating that all conditions precedent to satisfaction and discharge have been satisfied.

The debt securities of a particular series will be subject to legal or covenant defeasance to the extent, and upon the terms and conditions, set forth in the prospectus supplement.

Governing Law

Each indenture and all of the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

The Trustee

We will enter into each indenture with a trustee that is qualified to act under the Trust Indenture Act and with any other trustees chosen by us and appointed in a supplemental indenture for a particular series of debt securities.

Table of Contents

Resignation or Removal of Trustee

If the trustee has or acquires a conflicting interest within the meaning of the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee must either eliminate its conflicting interest or resign, to the extent and in the manner provided by, and subject to the provisions of, the Trust Indenture Act and the applicable indenture. Any resignation will require the appointment of a successor trustee under the applicable Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions of such indenture.

The trustee may resign or be removed by us with respect to one or more series of debt securities and a successor trustee may be appointed to act with respect to any such series. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of any series may remove the trustee with respect to the debt securities of such series.

Limitations on Trustee if It Is Our Creditor

Each indenture will contain certain limitations on the right of the trustee, if it becomes a creditor of an issuer or a guarantor, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise.

Annual Trustee Report to Holders of Debt Securities

The trustee is required to submit an annual report to the holders of the debt securities regarding, among other things, the trustee's eligibility to serve as such, the priority of the trustee's claims regarding certain advances made by it, and any action taken by the trustee materially affecting the debt securities.

Certificates and Opinions to Be Furnished to Trustee

Each indenture will provide that, in addition to other certificates or opinions that may be specifically required by other provisions of an indenture, every application by us for action by the trustee shall be accompanied by a certificate of certain of our officers and an opinion of counsel (who may be our counsel) stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all conditions precedent to such action have been complied with by us.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS

*The following is a summary of certain provisions of Maryland law and of our charter and bylaws. While we believe that the following description covers the material aspects of these provisions, the description may not contain all of the information that is important to you. We encourage you to read carefully this entire prospectus, our charter and bylaws and the relevant provisions of Maryland law, for a more complete understanding of these provisions. Copies of our charter and bylaws are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and the following summary, to the extent it relates to those documents, is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information*.*

Stockholders Meetings

Our bylaws provide that an annual meeting of the stockholders will be held on a date that the board of directors may determine. The purpose of each annual meeting of the stockholders is to elect directors and to transact any other proper business.

The chairman, the president, the chief executive officer or the board of directors may call a special meeting of the stockholders. Subject to compliance with certain procedures set forth in our bylaws, the secretary must call a special meeting to act on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders when stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting on such matter make a written request for the meeting. In general, the presence, in person or by proxy, of stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting will constitute a quorum. Generally, a majority of the votes cast at a duly called meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present is sufficient to approve any matter unless our charter or the MGCL require otherwise.

Board of Directors

Our business and affairs will be managed under the direction of our board of directors. Our charter and bylaws provide that the number of directors may not be less than the minimum number required by the MGCL and our bylaws provide that the number of directors may not be more than 15. Except as may be provided by our board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, any vacancy on the board of directors may be filled only by a majority of the remaining directors, whether or not the remaining directors constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is duly elected and qualifies. Any director may resign at any time by delivering notice to the board of directors, the chairman of the board or the secretary. Further, any director or the entire board may be removed but only for cause by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of the votes entitled to be cast generally in the election of directors, subject to the preferential rights of any preferred stock. A plurality of all the votes cast at a duly called meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present is sufficient to elect a director.

Amendment of the Organizational Documents

Our charter may be amended after a declaration by the board of directors that the amendment is advisable and, except for those amendments which are permitted under Maryland law to be made without stockholder approval, approval by the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of all votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our board of directors has the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of our bylaws and to make new bylaws.

Dissolution

We may be dissolved after a declaration by a majority of the entire board of directors that dissolution is advisable and the approval by stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

Table of Contents

Advance Notice of Director Nominations and New Business

Our bylaws provide that, with respect to our annual meeting of stockholders, nominations for election to our board of directors and the proposal of other business to be considered by stockholders may be made only:

pursuant to our notice of the meeting;

by or at the direction of our board of directors; or

by any stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving notice of such nomination or proposal of business and at the time of the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated or on any such other business and who has complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

Our bylaws also provide that, with respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in the notice of meeting may be brought before the meeting of stockholders and that, with respect to meetings at which directors will be elected, nominations for election to the board of directors may be made only:

by or at the direction of the board of directors; or

provided that the special meeting has been called in accordance with our bylaws for the purpose of electing directors, by any stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving notice of such nomination and at the time of the special meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated and who complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

A stockholder nomination or proposal of business in connection with a stockholders' annual meeting must provide the information required in our bylaws and be delivered to our secretary at our principal executive offices:

not earlier than the 150th day or later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the date of the proxy statement for the prior year's annual meeting; provided, however,

in the event that the date of the annual meeting is advanced or delayed by more than 30 days from the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, not earlier than the 150th day or later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting, as originally convened, or the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made; or

in the event that the number of directors is increased and there is no public announcement of such action at least 130 days before the first anniversary of the date of mailing of the proxy statement for the prior year's

annual meeting, and with respect to nominees for any new positions created by such increase, not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the tenth day following the day on which such public announcement is first made.

A stockholder nomination for an individual for election as a director in connection with a special meeting called for the purpose of electing one or more directors must provide the information required in our bylaws and be delivered to our secretary at our principal executive offices:

not earlier than the 120th day prior to the special meeting; and

not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 90th day prior to the special meeting or the tenth day following the first public announcement of the special meeting and the nominees proposed by the board of directors to be elected at the meeting. The public announcement of a postponement or adjournment of a special meeting shall not commence a new time period for the giving of stockholder notice.

Table of Contents

Business Combinations

Under Maryland law, business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange, or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's outstanding voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under the statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board of directors.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholders with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for his or her shares. Maryland law also permits various exemptions from these provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Pursuant to the statute, our board of directors has by resolution exempted business combinations between us and any other person from these provisions of the MGCL, provided that the business combination is first approved by our board of directors and, consequently, the five year prohibition and the supermajority vote requirements will not apply to such business combinations. As a result, we will be able to enter into any business combinations which are first approved by our board of directors, including business combinations that may not be in the best interests of our stockholders, without compliance by us with the supermajority vote requirements and other provisions of the statute. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or our board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Control Share Acquisitions

Maryland law provides that a holder of control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition has no voting rights with respect to such shares except to the extent approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares owned by the acquirer, by officers or by employees who are directors of the corporation are excluded from the vote on whether to accord voting rights to the control shares. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquirer or in respect of which the acquirer is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power

Table of Contents

(except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquirer to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more but less than one-third; (ii) one-third or more but less than a majority; or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power.

Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval or shares acquired directly from the corporation. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions. A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights for control shares are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver a statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquirer or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquirer becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights, unless the corporation's charter or bylaws provide otherwise. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquirer in the control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply to (a) shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or statutory share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction, or (b) acquisitions approved or exempted by our charter or bylaws.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions of shares of our stock by any person. We can offer no assurance that this provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future.

Subtitle 8

Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the MGCL permits the board of directors of a Maryland corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Exchange Act and at least three independent directors to elect to be subject, by provision in its charter or bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the charter or bylaws, to any or all of the following provisions:

a classified board;

a two-thirds vote requirement for removing a director;

a requirement that the number of directors be fixed only by vote of the directors;

a requirement that a vacancy on the board be filled only by the remaining directors and (if the board is classified) for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred; and

a majority requirement for the calling of a stockholder requested special meeting of stockholders. We have elected that, except as may be provided by our board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, vacancies on our board of directors may be filled only by the remaining directors and for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred. Through provisions in our

Table of Contents

charter and bylaws unrelated to Subtitle 8, we already vest in our board of directors the exclusive power to fix the number of directorships and require, unless the meeting is called by our chairman of the board, our chief executive officer, our president or our board of directors, the written request of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders in order to call a special meeting of stockholders to act on such matter.

Table of Contents

**DESCRIPTION OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AND
OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

*The following is a summary of the agreement of limited partnership of Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, our operating partnership. This summary and the descriptions of our operating partnership agreement provisions included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus are qualified by such agreement itself, which is filed as an exhibit to our registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information*.*

Management of our Operating Partnership

Our operating partnership is organized as a Delaware limited partnership pursuant to the terms of the operating partnership agreement. We are the general partner of, and expect to conduct substantially all of our business through, our operating partnership. Pursuant to the operating partnership agreement we, as the general partner, will have full, exclusive and complete responsibility and discretion in the management and control of the partnership, including the ability to enter into major transactions, such as acquisitions, dispositions and refinancings, and to cause changes in our operating partnership's business and distribution policies. Further, we may, without the consent of the limited partners:

file a voluntary petition seeking liquidation, reorganization, arrangement or readjustment, in any form, of the partnership's debts under Title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, or any other federal or state insolvency law, or corresponding provisions of future laws, or file an answer consenting to or acquiescing in any such petition; or

cause our operating partnership to make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors or admit in writing its inability to pay its debts as they mature.

The limited partners, in their capacities as such, will have no authority to transact business for, or participate in the management or decisions of, our operating partnership, except as provided in the operating partnership agreement and as required by applicable law. Further, the limited partners have no right to remove us as the general partner.

Conducting our operations through our operating partnership allows the sellers of properties to contribute their property interests to our operating partnership in exchange for common units in our operating partnership rather than for cash or our common stock. This enables the seller to defer some or all of the potential taxable gain on the transfer. From the seller's perspective, there are also differences between the ownership of common stock and partnership units, some of which may be material because they impact the business organization form, distribution rights, voting rights, transferability of equity interests received and U.S. federal income taxation. Our operating partnership and each limited partner will file separate tax returns.

Description of Partnership Units

Partnership interests in our operating partnership are divided into units. Our operating partnership has two classes of units: general partnership units and common units in our operating partnership. General partnership units represent an interest as a general partner in our operating partnership and we, as general partner, will hold all such units. In return for our initial capital contribution of \$200,000, our operating partnership issued to us 20,000 general partnership units.

Common units in our operating partnership represent an interest as a limited partner in our operating partnership. Our operating partnership may issue additional units and classes of units with rights different from, and superior to, those of general partnership units and/or other common units in our operating partnership, without the consent of the limited partners. Holders of common units in our operating partnership do not have any preemptive rights with respect to the issuance of additional units. Our operating partnership previously had

Table of Contents

issued four types of limited partnership units: (1) common units, (2) Series A preferred units, which were issued to us in connection with our sale of shares of our preferred stock, (3) Series B preferred units, which were issued to RAIT NTR Holdings, LLC in exchange for cash used to fund the acquisition of our Runaway Bay property, and (4) special units, which were also issued to RAIT NTR Holdings, LLC. On May 7, 2013, all outstanding operating partnership common units were exchanged for shares of our common stock, 100 common units were issued to IRT Limited Partner, LLC, which were not exchanged, and RAIT NTR Holdings LLC's special units were terminated. Effective August 19, 2013, all of the Series B preferred units of our operating partnership were redeemed with a portion of the net proceeds of our August 2013 underwritten offering and all of the Series A preferred units were redeemed in connection with our redemption of the Series A preferred stock with a portion of the net proceeds of our August 2013 underwritten offering.

For each common unit received, investors generally will be required to contribute money or property, with a net equity value determined by the general partner. Holders of limited partnership units will not be obligated to make additional capital contributions to our operating partnership. Further, such holders will not have the right to make additional capital contributions to our operating partnership or to purchase additional limited partnership units without our consent as general partner.

Limited partners do not have the right to participate in the management of our operating partnership. Limited partners who do not participate in the management of our operating partnership, by virtue of their status as limited partners, generally are not liable for the debts and liabilities of our operating partnership beyond the amount of their capital contributions. We, however, as the general partner of our operating partnership, are liable for any unpaid debts and liabilities. The voting rights of the limited partners are generally limited to approval of specific types of amendments to our operating partnership agreement. See [Management of our Operating Partnership](#), above.

In general, each common unit will share equally in distributions from our operating partnership when such distributions are declared by us, the general partner, which decision will be made in our sole discretion. Upon our operating partnership's liquidation, common units will also share equally in the assets of our operating partnership that are available for distribution, after payment of all liabilities, establishment of reserves and after payment of any preferred return owed to holders of limited partnership preferred units. In addition, a portion of the items of income, gain, loss and deduction of our operating partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes will be allocated to each common unit, regardless of whether any distributions are made by our operating partnership. See [Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships](#), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 for a description of the manner in which income, gain, loss and deductions are allocated under the operating partnership agreement. As general partner, we may amend the allocation and distribution sections of the operating partnership agreement to reflect the issuance of additional units and classes of units without the consent of the limited partners.

Under certain circumstances, holders of limited partnership units may be restricted from transferring their interests without the consent of the general partner. See [Transferability of Interests](#) below, for a discussion of certain restrictions imposed by the operating partnership agreement on such transfers. After owning a common unit for one year, common unit holders generally may, subject to certain restrictions, exchange limited partnership units for cash or, at our option, shares of common stock. See [Limited Partner Exchange Rights](#), below, for a description of these rights and the amount and types of consideration a limited partner is entitled to receive upon exercise of such rights. These exchange rights are accelerated in the case of some extraordinary transactions. See [Extraordinary Transactions](#), below, for an explanation of the exchange rights under such circumstances.

Table of Contents

Amendments

As general partner, we may also amend the operating partnership agreement without the consent of the limited partners. However, the following amendments will require the unanimous written consent of the affected limited partners or the consent of limited partners holding more than 50% of the voting power in our operating partnership:

any amendment that alters or changes the distribution rights of limited partners, subject to the exceptions discussed below under the Distributions portion of this section;

any amendment that alters or changes the limited partner's exchange rights;

any amendment that imposes on limited partners any obligation to make additional capital contributions; or

any amendment that alters the terms of the operating partnership agreement regarding the rights of the limited partners with respect to extraordinary transactions.

Indemnification

To the extent permitted by law, the operating partnership agreement provides for indemnification of us when acting in our capacity as general partner. It also provides for indemnification of directors, officers and other persons who we may designate under the same conditions, and subject to the same restrictions, applicable to the indemnification of officers, directors, employees and stockholders under our charter.

Transferability of Interests

Under the operating partnership agreement, we may not withdraw from the partnership or transfer or assign all of our general partnership interest without the consent of holders of two-thirds of the limited partnership units, except in connection with the sale of all or substantially all of our assets. Under certain circumstances and with the prior written consent of the general partner and satisfaction of other conditions set forth in the operating partnership agreement, holders of limited partnership units may withdraw from the partnership and transfer and/or encumber all or any part of their units.

In addition, limited partnership units are not registered under the federal or state securities laws. As a result, the ability of a holder to transfer its units may be restricted under such laws.

Extraordinary Transactions

The operating partnership agreement generally permits us and/or our operating partnership to engage in any authorized business combination without the consent of the limited partners. A business combination is any merger, consolidation or other combination with or into another entity, or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of any entity, or any liquidation, reclassification, recapitalization or change in the terms of the equity stock into which a unit may be converted or for which a unit may be exchanged. We are required to send to each common unit holder notice of a proposed business combination at least 15 days prior to the record date for our stockholder vote on the combination. In the case of a proposed combination, each holder of a common unit in our operating partnership shall

have the right to exercise its exchange right prior to the stockholder vote on the transaction. Upon the limited partner's exercise of the exchange right in the case of a business combination, the partnership units will be exchanged into cash or, at our option, shares of common stock in us. However, we cannot pay a common unit holder in shares of our common stock if the issuance of shares to such holder would:

be prohibited under our charter; for example, if the issuance would (i) violate the 9.8% ownership limit or (ii) result in our being closely held within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Code. See Description of Stock Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer ;

cause us to no longer otherwise qualify, or create a material risk that we may no longer otherwise qualify, as a REIT in the opinion of our counsel; or

Table of Contents

cause the acquisition of shares by the limited partner to be integrated with any other distribution of shares for purposes of complying with the registration provisions of the Securities Act.

Any limited partnership unit holders who timely exchange their units prior to the record date for the stockholder vote on a business combination shall be entitled to vote their shares in any stockholder vote on the business combination. Holders of limited partnership units who exchange their units after the record date may not vote their shares in any stockholder vote on the proposed business combination. The right of the common unit holders to exercise their right to exchange without regard to whether they have held the units for more than a year shall terminate upon the earlier of (i) the disapproval of the business combination by our board of directors, (ii) the disapproval of the business combination by stockholders, (iii) the abandonment of the business combination by any of the parties to it, or (iv) the business combination's effective date.

Issuance of Additional Units

As general partner of our operating partnership, we can, without the consent of the limited partners, cause our operating partnership to issue additional units representing general and/or limited partner interests. A new issuance may include preferred units, which may have rights which are different than, and/or superior to, those of general partnership units and limited partnership units. Furthermore, the operating partnership agreement requires the issuance of additional common units corresponding with any issuance of stock by us pursuant to any distribution reinvestment program we may adopt in the future or as a result of distributing stock in order to meet our annual distribution requirement to maintain our qualification as a REIT.

Capital Contributions

The operating partnership agreement provides that, if our operating partnership requires additional funds at any time, or from time to time, in excess of funds available to it from prior borrowings or capital contributions, we, as general partner, have the right to raise additional funds required by our operating partnership by causing it to borrow the necessary funds from third parties on such terms and conditions as we deem appropriate. As an alternative to borrowing funds required by our operating partnership, we may contribute the amount of such required funds as an additional capital contribution. The operating partnership agreement also provides that we must contribute cash or other property received as consideration for the issuance of capital stock to our operating partnership in exchange for units. Upon the contribution of cash or other property received in exchange for the issuance of shares of common stock, we will receive one general partnership common unit for each share issued by us. Upon the contribution of the cash or other property received in exchange for the issuance of each share of capital stock other than common stock, we will receive one unit with rights and preferences respecting distributions corresponding to the rights and preferences of the capital stock that we issued. If we contribute additional capital to our operating partnership, our partnership interest will be increased on a proportionate basis. Conversely, the partnership interests of the limited partners will be decreased on a proportionate basis in the event we contribute any additional capital.

Distributions

Distributions from the partnership are made at the times and in the amounts determined by us, as the general partner. Under the operating partnership agreement, preferred units, if any, may entitle their holders to distributions prior to the payment of distributions for the other units. The agreement further provides that remaining amounts available for distribution after distributions for preferred units, if any, will be distributed at the times and in the amounts we determine as the general partner in our sole discretion, pro rata, to the holders of the general partnership units and the limited partnership units, in accordance with the number of units that they hold. We will also distribute the remaining amounts to the holders of preferred units, if any, which are entitled to share in the net profits of our operating partnership beyond, or in lieu of, the receipt of any preferred return. The operating partnership agreement also

provides that, as general partner, we have the right to amend the distribution provisions of the operating partnership agreement to reflect the issuance of additional classes of units.

Table of Contents

The operating partnership agreement provides that cash available for distribution will be distributed to the partners based on their percentage interests.

Liquidation

Upon the liquidation of our operating partnership, after payment of debts and obligations, any remaining assets of the partnership will be distributed to partners pro rata in accordance with their positive capital accounts.

Allocations

The operating partnership agreement provides that net income, net loss and any other individual items of income, gain, loss or deduction of our operating partnership shall be allocated among the partners in such a manner that the capital account of each partner, immediately after making such allocation, is, as nearly as possible, equal proportionately to the distributions that would be made to such partner if our operating partnership were dissolved, its affairs wound up and its assets were sold for cash, all operating partnership liabilities were satisfied, and the net assets of our operating partnership were distributed to the partners immediately after making such allocation.

Operations

The operating partnership agreement requires that the partnership be operated in a manner that will:

satisfy the requirements for our qualification as a REIT;

avoid any U.S. federal income or excise tax liability, unless we otherwise cease to qualify as a REIT; and

ensure that our operating partnership will not be classified as a publicly traded partnership under the Code. Pursuant to the operating partnership agreement, our operating partnership will assume and pay when due, or reimburse us for, payment of all administrative and operating costs and expenses incurred by our operating partnership and the administrative costs and expenses that we incur on behalf, or for the benefit, of our operating partnership.

Limited Partner Exchange Rights

Each holder of a common unit will have the right, commencing one year from the issuance of the common units (except in connection with a business combination), to cause our operating partnership to exchange their units for cash equal to the value of an equivalent number of our shares of common stock or, at our option, by issuing one share of our common stock for each unit exchanged. We will make the decision whether to exercise our right to exchange common units for shares of our common stock on a case by case basis at our sole and absolute discretion. The limited partnership units exchanged for cash or common stock will augment our ownership percentage in our operating partnership.

See Extraordinary Transactions, above, for a description of exchange rights in connection with mergers and other major transactions. However, we cannot exchange common units for shares of our common stock if the issuance of shares to such holder would:

be prohibited under our charter; for example, if the issuance would (i) violate the 9.8% ownership limit or (ii) result in our being closely held within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Code. See Description of Stock Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer ;

Table of Contents

cause us to no longer otherwise qualify, or create a material risk that we may no longer otherwise qualify, as a REIT in the opinion of our counsel; or

cause the acquisition of shares by the limited partner to be integrated with any other distribution of shares for purposes of complying with the registration provisions of the Securities Act.

Any shares of common stock issued to the limited partners upon exchange of their common units may be sold only pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act or an exemption from, or exception to, registration requirements. We expect to grant holders of partnership interests registration rights for such shares of common stock. The cash necessary to exchange common units will come from any funds legally available to us or our operating partnership. However, specific funds will not be specially set aside for such purposes, nor will an accounting reserve be established for it. As general partner, we will have the right to grant similar exchange rights to holders of other classes of units, if any, in our operating partnership, and to holders of equity interests in the entities that own our properties.

Exercise of exchange rights will be a taxable transaction in which gain or loss will be recognized by the limited partner exercising its right to exchange its units into common stock to the extent that the amount realized exceeds the limited partner's adjusted basis in the units exchanged. See Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Tax Matters

Pursuant to the operating partnership agreement, we will be the tax matters partner of our operating partnership, and as such, will have authority to make tax decisions under the Code on behalf of our operating partnership. Tax income and loss will generally be allocated in a manner that reflects the entitlement of the general partner and the limited partners to receive distributions from our operating partnership. For a description of other tax consequences stemming from our investment in our operating partnership, see Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Duties and Conflicts

Subject to restrictions relating to contracts with our operating partnership, us as general partner or our affiliates, any limited partner may engage in other business activities outside our operating partnership, including business activities that directly compete with our operating partnership.

Term

Our operating partnership will continue in full force and effect until December 31, 2099 or until sooner dissolved and terminated upon (i) our dissolution, bankruptcy, insolvency or termination, (ii) the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of our operating partnership unless we, as general partner, elect to continue the business of our operating partnership to collect the indebtedness or other consideration to be received in exchange for the assets of our operating partnership, or (iii) by operation of law.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS**

Our ratios of earnings to fixed charges and to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the years indicated are set forth below. For purposes of calculating the ratios set forth below, earnings represent net income from our consolidated statements of operations, as adjusted for fixed charges; fixed charges represent interest expense and preferred stock dividends represent income or loss allocated to shares of preferred stock from our consolidated statements of operations.

The following table presents our ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the five years ended December 31, 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	For the Years Ended December 31				Period from March 26, 2009 (Date of inception) Through December 31 2009
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	1.3x	1.1x	(1)	N/Ax	N/Ax
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges and preferred share dividends	1.3x	1.1x	(2)	N/Ax	N/Ax

(1) The dollar amount of the deficiency for the years ended December 31, 2011 is \$0.4 million

(2) The dollar amount of the deficiency for the years ended December 31, 2011 is \$0.4 million

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as otherwise set forth in a supplement to this prospectus or in other offering materials we may use, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which may include repayment or redemption of indebtedness, redemption of preferred equity, capital expenditures and working capital. Except as otherwise set forth in a supplement to this prospectus or in other offering materials we may use, pending any of these uses, the net proceeds of a sale will be held in interest-bearing bank accounts or invested in readily marketable, interest-bearing securities.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may distribute our securities from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices. We may change these prices from time to time. We may also distribute our securities at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, including, in the case of our equity securities, sales deemed to be an at the market offering as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act to or through a market maker or directly into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, for shares.

We may sell our securities in any of the following ways:

through underwriters or dealers,

through agents who may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act,

directly to one or more purchasers, and

directly to holders of warrants or stockholder rights exercisable for our securities upon the exercise of their warrants or rights.

The prospectus supplement or any other offering materials we may use for a particular offering will set forth the distribution method, the terms of the securities we offer, the terms of the offering, purchase price, the proceeds we will receive from the offering, any delayed delivery arrangements, any underwriting arrangements, including underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters' compensation, and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments which they may be required to make.

If we use underwriters in the sale, the securities we offer will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Our securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. The underwriter or underwriters with respect to a particular underwritten offering of our securities will be named in the prospectus supplement or any other offering materials relating to that offering, and if an underwriting syndicate is used, the managing underwriter or underwriters will be set forth on the cover of that prospectus supplement or in the other offering materials.

If we use dealers in an offering of our securities, we will sell the shares to the dealers as principals. The dealers may then resell the shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by those dealers at the time of resale. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in a prospectus supplement or other offering materials. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

We may also offer our securities directly, or through agents we designate, from time to time at fixed prices, which we may change, or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. We will name any agent we use and describe the

terms of the agency, including any commission payable by us to the agent, in a prospectus supplement or other offering materials. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement or any other offering materials relating to the offering, any agent we use will act on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

In certain states, our securities may be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in certain states, our securities may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in that state or an exemption from registration or qualification is available and is complied with.

Any shares of common stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement or any other offering materials will be listed on the NYSE MKT or other national securities exchange. Shares of preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights, units and debt securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The audited financial statements and schedules as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 and for each of the three years ended December 31, 2013 incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The Reserve at Eagle Ridge Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, the Oklahoma Portfolio Combined Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013, and the King's Landing Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2013 have been audited by McGladrey LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their reports incorporated by reference herein, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon such reports and upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

LEGAL MATTERS

The legality of the securities has been passed upon for us by Venable LLP. In addition, certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Ledgewood, a professional corporation. The description of the federal income tax consequences appearing in and incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus is based on the opinion of Ledgewood.

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by us. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date of such documents or that the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement	
<u>About This Prospectus Supplement</u>	S-i
<u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-ii
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	S-iii
<u>Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference</u>	S-iv
<u>Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-5
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-6
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-7
<u>Experts</u>	S-12
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-12
Prospectus	
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	1
<u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference</u>	2
<u>Our Company</u>	4
<u>Risk Factors</u>	5
<u>Description of Securities</u>	6
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	6
<u>Description of Warrants</u>	11
<u>Description of Stockholder Rights</u>	12
<u>Description of Units</u>	12
<u>Description of the Debt Securities</u>	13
<u>Material Provisions of Maryland Law and Our Charter and Bylaws</u>	21
<u>Description of Our Operating Partnership and Our Operating Partnership Agreement</u>	26
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends</u>	32
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	33
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	34
<u>Experts</u>	35
<u>Legal Matters</u>	35

6,000,000 Shares of

Common Stock

Prospectus Supplement

July , 2014

Deutsche Bank Securities

Compass Point

Ladenburg Thalmann

William Blair

JMP Securities

Drexel Hamilton

The Huntington Investment Company

National Securities Corporation

PROSPECTUS