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# Private Capital for Affordable Housing Development: Getting to Scale

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# Developing New Affordable Housing to Meet Demand...



...will require private capital.



With limited national and municipal funds, government requires leverage of private debt and equity capital to increase production





## and Private Capital Requires...

- Risk-adjusted rates of return
- Credit and Underwriting Standards
- Appraisal and Title
- Control of Development and Operating Costs
- Sound, long-term asset and property management



# Case 1: Corporate Equity Investment in Rental Housing

- Provide tax credit for qualified affordable housing developments, which:
  - Define Affordable Rent for Compliance Term (e.g., 15, 30+ years)
  - Require occupancy by Income-Eligible Households (% Area Median Income, AMI)

# Model: Low Income Housing Tax Credit (U.S.)

\$7.3 B US/year (FY 2015)

110,000 units/year average

1,450 projects/year average

2.6 million units 1987-2013

40,5000 projects 1987-2013

27% nonprofit developer/operator

73% for profit developer/operator





# Structure



- Developer of Qualified Project Receives Allocation of Tax Credits from State Housing Agency



- Developer Sells Credits through Skilled Intermediaries Who Assess Risk and Provide Asset Management. (Some corporate tax payers may develop this capacity for their own account.)



- Limited Partnership (LP), Limited Liability Corporation (LLC):
  - **Corporate Investor** (Limited Partner, LP) = 99.99% owner
  - **General Partner** (Developer/Operator, GP) = 0.01% owner





# Benefits

- Market Discipline Applied to Public/Private Partnerships
- Compliance Enforcement with Tax Penalty
- Third Party Oversight of Property and Asset Management
- Annual Compliance and Financial Audit
- Efficient Pricing in Competitive, Transparent Market
- Price is driven by value of tax credit, not market value of housing. (Community Reinvestment Act Compliance in U.S.)

Equity Pays for 30% - 70% of Total Development Cost:

- Dependent on value of credit, level of affordability (% AMI)
- Market price of tax credits



# Requires....

- State allocating agency with underwriting and asset management capacity;
- Corporate tax payers;
- Capable developers, property and asset managers;
- Intermediary investment managers;
- Capital sources (debt, subsidy) to pay for the balance of development costs





# Issues

- Assure long-term (permanent) affordability
- Provide property reinvestment every 10-15 years
- Provide for no cost investor (LP) exit
- Equity is subordinate to Senior, Amortizing Debt
- Credit Efficiency Goal: 90% of tax credit goes to direct housing investment



# Scale



Example:

- \_\_\_% of annual corporate tax revenue to Credits
- ×
- 90% credit efficiency factor
- ÷
- 50% of total development costs from tax credits
- =

Total units financed per year





## Case 2: Long-Term Debt for Rental Housing



Purpose:

Leverage Predictable Cash Flow from Rental Housing to Minimize Public Subsidy

Long-Term Debt: 10-30 Year Term  
("Permanent" vs. short-term Construction Loan)





# Loan Structures

- Construction to Permanent, Joint Underwriting
- Construction and Permanent, Separate Underwriting
- Credit Enhancement
  - State-supported loss reserves
  - State-supported yield maintenance
  - Value of sovereign guaranty
  - Third party credit enhancement (e.g., World Bank)



# Liquidity



Rental Housing Permanent Lending Will Be Constrained by:



- Bank Capital
- Liquidity Structures:
  - Securitization
  - Credit Enhancement
  - Capital Advances from (Bank) Intermediary





# Underwriting Standards

- Loan to Value (Construction/Permanent)
- Debt Coverage Ratio
- Reserves for Operations, Replacements (Capitalized, Ongoing)
- Income and Expense Escalators
- Vacancy and Bad Debt
- Operating Expense Standards, verifiable
- Physical Needs Assessment for Rehabilitation Projects
- Construction Cost Verification: New, Rehabilitation
- Conversion of Construction to Permanent Loan: Stabilization of Income and Expenses





# A Capital Plan for Scale

Supportable, Sustainable Permanent Debt

+

Private Equity Investment (e.g., Tax Credits)

+

Capital (and Operating) Subsidies

÷

Total Development Costs per Unit

=

Housing Units which Can Be Financed

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# Thank You

Contact

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