REAL ESTATE

McLean, Great Falls: Strong First Half

Sellers in the area are experiencing in many cases the "best of times" market conditions.

By Karen Briscoe

he real estate market in McLean and Great Falls remains strong in the first half of 2017 over 2016 in every segment except one.

The number of transactions was up 12 percent over the first half of 2017 for the same time period in 2016. Going back to compare to the 2007 market over one decade ago, the number is up 29 percent. This is good news as the market closes out the spring selling season and we enter into the summertime.

The last peak year in Northern Virginia was 2007. All price segments performed better or remained steady in the first half of the year 2017 compared to that benchmark year of 2007.

Sellers in the area are experiencing in many cases the "best of times" market conditions to date for the year. As we move into the second half of the year, there are strong indications that homes priced well and in good condition will sell for solid prices. There are some market segments that may experience price appreciation, should demand continue to remain strong relative to supply.

Not surprising, the most significant increases in number of transactions took place in the

lower brackets. Homes priced under \$1.25 million for the zip codes 22101, 22102 and 22066 comprised the majority of the gains. The under \$750,000 is predomi-

nantly condos, townhomes, smaller single-family homes or lot/land where the existing home is torn down and a new home is constructed. The lower brackets represent three price ranges: under \$750,000; \$750,000 to \$1 million, and \$1 million to \$1.25 million. Total sales in the combined lower brackets were up by 17 percent year over year for the first half.

The move-up buyer falls into the next three price brackets which includes these price ranges: \$1.25 million to \$2 million; \$2 million to \$3 million and \$3 million plus. The market was essentially flat year

over year in this segment from 2017 to 2016, although it improved over 2007 by 15 percent. There are considerably fewer buyers who qualify to purchase homes in the upper bracket price ranges and thus

			2017 1st & 2nd	Qtr. Sales: 609	2		
	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k	
Zip Code							
22101	10	16	77	49	87	43	
22102	4	7	16	14	21	146	
22066	2	6	28	25	49	9	
	Total: 16	Total: 29	Total: 121	Total: 88	Total: 157	Total: 198	
	Combined 1	Total Upper E	Brackets: 166	Combined Total Lower Brackets: 443			
			2016 1st & 2nd	Qtr. Sales: 542	!		
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k	
22101	9	16	58	48	73	31	
22102	4	9	25	14	35	104	
22066	1	10	32	23	34	16	
	Total: 14	Total: 35	Total: 115	Total: 85	Total: 142	Total: 151	
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 164				ed Total Lower Brac		

2007 1st & 2nd Qtr. Sales: 471									
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k			
22101	3	8	43	30	63	71			
22102	6	10	20	5	15	92			
22066	4	7	43	11	24	16			
	Total: 13	Total: 25	Total: 106	Total: 46	Total: 102	Total: 177			
Combined Total Upper Brackets: 144				Combined Total Lower Brackets: 327					

Home sales in McLean/Great Falls area

over year in this segment from 2017 to overall numbers tend to stay fairly consis-2016, although it improved over 2007 by tent or flat.

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