

## 2009 Baton Rouge Office Market Overview

Presented by: Branon W. Pesnell, CCIM, SIOR





**April, 2009** 

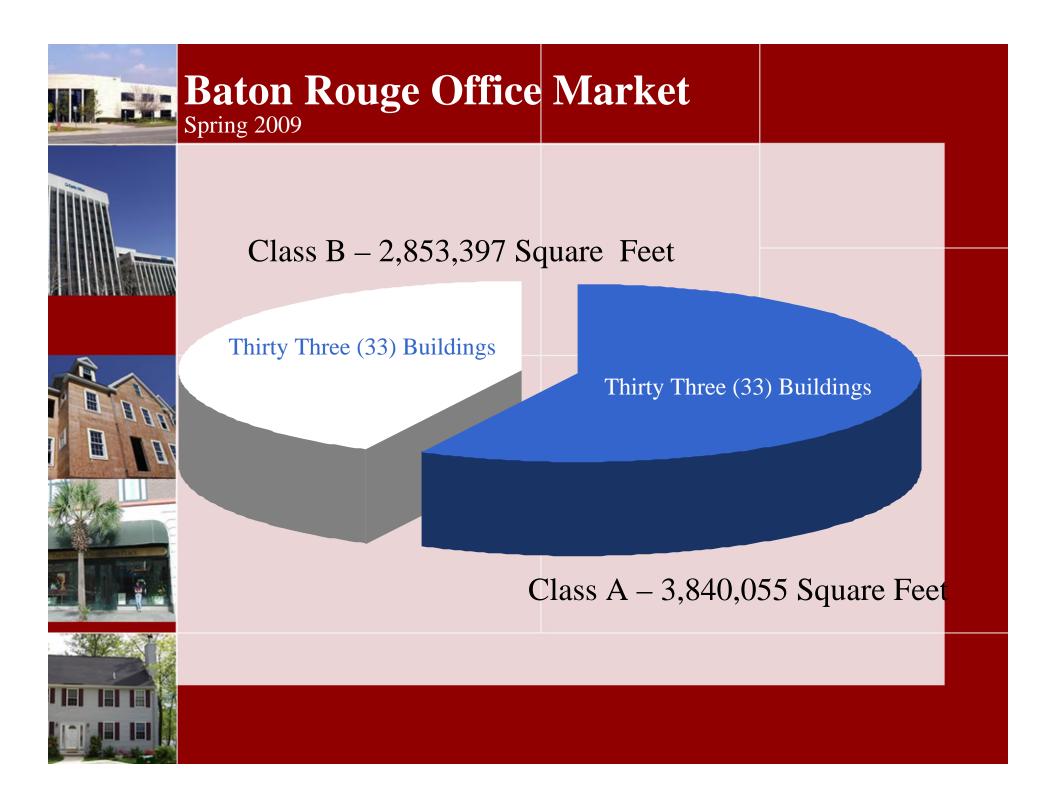
# 

### **Executive Summary**





- National recession slows local demand for office space
- Large amount of sublease space enters market
- Investors and Tenants taking the "wait and see" approach
- Buyer/Seller and Landlord/Tenant expectations still at odds
- Market continues to equalize/normalize



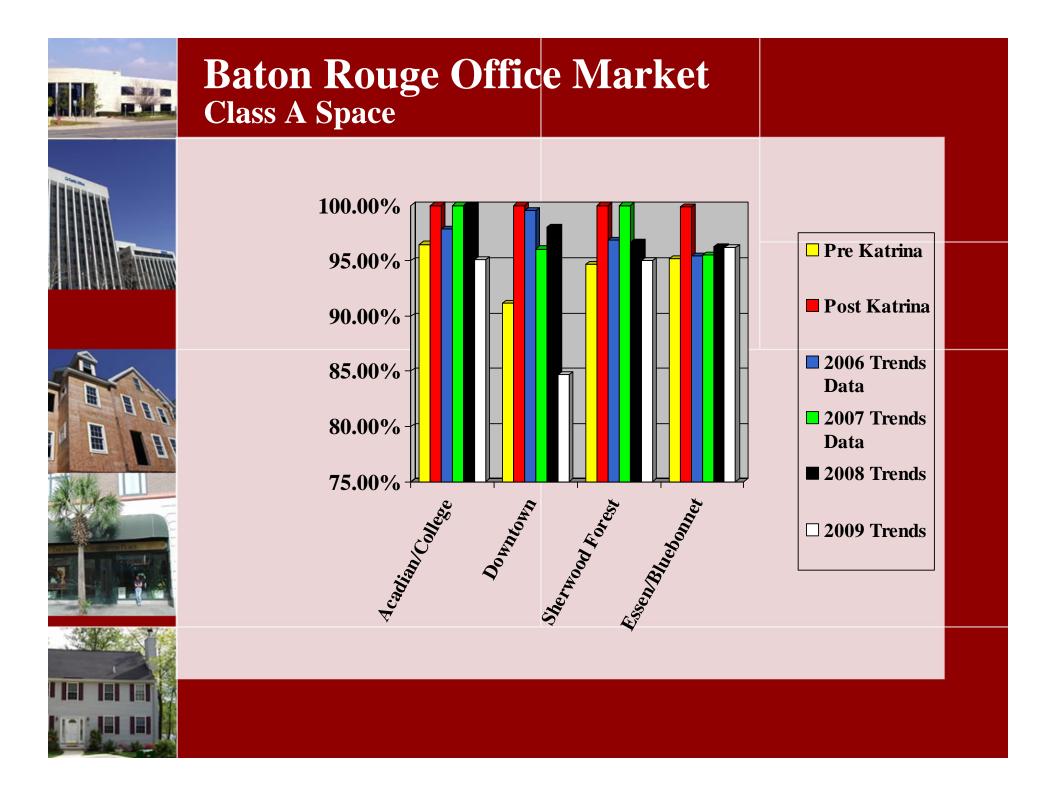


# Baton Rouge Office Market





	Class A	Class B	Total
Downtown	84.66%	72.10%	80.10%
Acadian/College	95.11%	94.09%	94.89%
Essen/Bluebonnet	94.98%	93.25%	94.86%
Sherwood Forest	96.21%	89.00%	91.25%
Florida/Airline	N/A	71.99%	71.99%
Total	91.42%	77.29%	85.39%

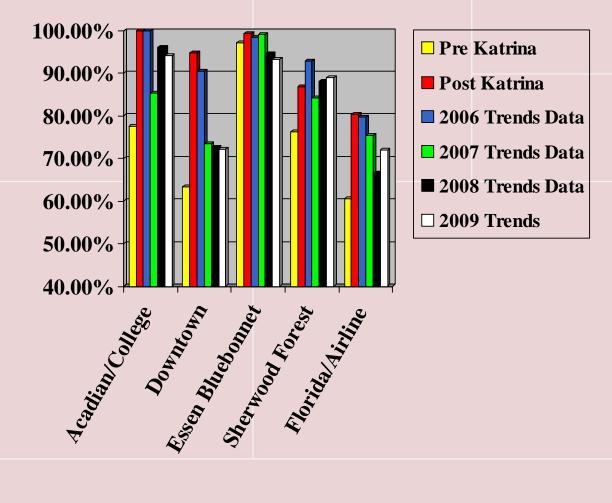




#### Baton Rouge Offic e Market Class B Space





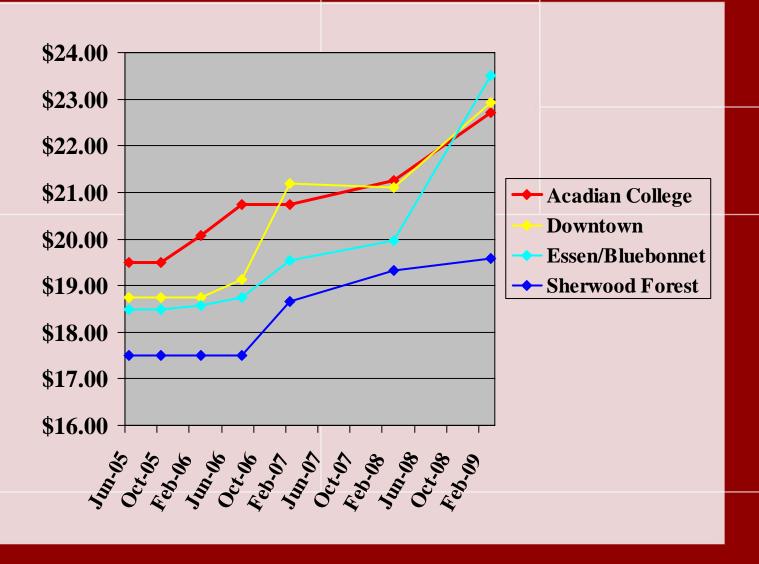




#### **Baton Rouge Offic e Market** Quoted Rental Rates - Class A





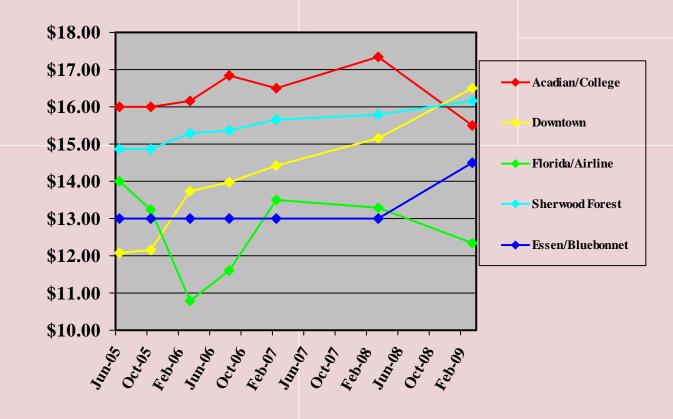




#### **Baton Rouge Offic e Market** Quoted Rental Rates - Class B









## **Downtown Office** Market





- Average Class A rental rate of \$22.92 psf/year
  - Current Class B occupancy rate of 72.10%
  - Current Class B rental rate of \$16.50 psf/year





## **Downtown Office Market Factors**

- City Plaza II Finalizing Construction
  - 253,000 Square Feet
  - 12 Floors (4-5 Floors Remaining)
  - \$28.00 -\$30.00 PSF quoted rents
  - Ready for TI

#### City Plaza I / One American Vacancy

- Baker Donelson move (13,000 sq.ft.)
- Phelps Dunbar relocation to City Plaza II (32,000 sq.ft.)
- Business Report relocation
- Stanford Group shut down

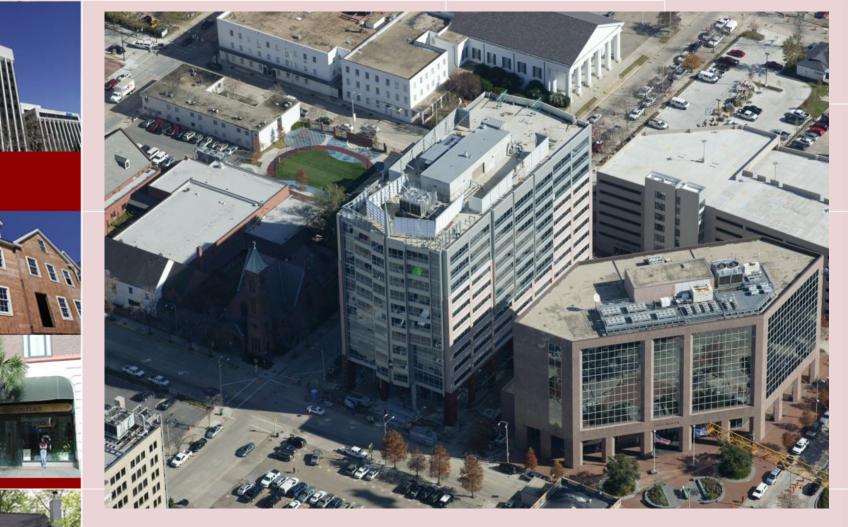
#### Historic Building Renovations

- Kress, Welch, Levy Building
- Gordon Building
- 421 Third Street
- Large Class B Vacancies
  - Commerce Building 140,000 RSF
  - 339 Florida 23,000 RSF





## City Plaza II



## **Kress/Welch/Levy Building Renovation**









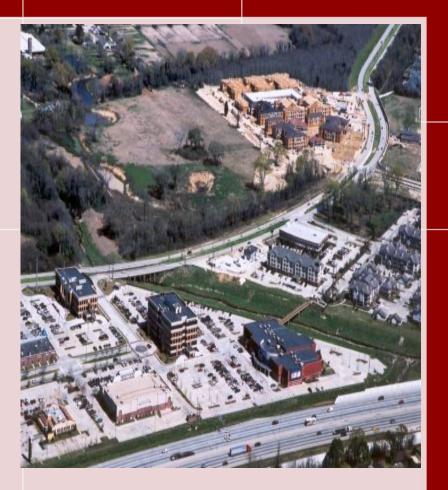
## Acadian/College Office Market



- Current Class A occupancy rate of 95.11%
- Average Class A rental rate of \$22.71 psf/year



- Current Class B occupancy rate of 94.09%
- Current Class B rental rate of \$15.50 psf/year.





### Acadian/College Office Market Factors

- Class A still strong but showing signs of softening
- Class B space is sitting on market for extended periods

#### Sublease space enters market

- 4,300 sq.ft. at Corporate II
- 11,000 sq.ft. @ Corporate Center

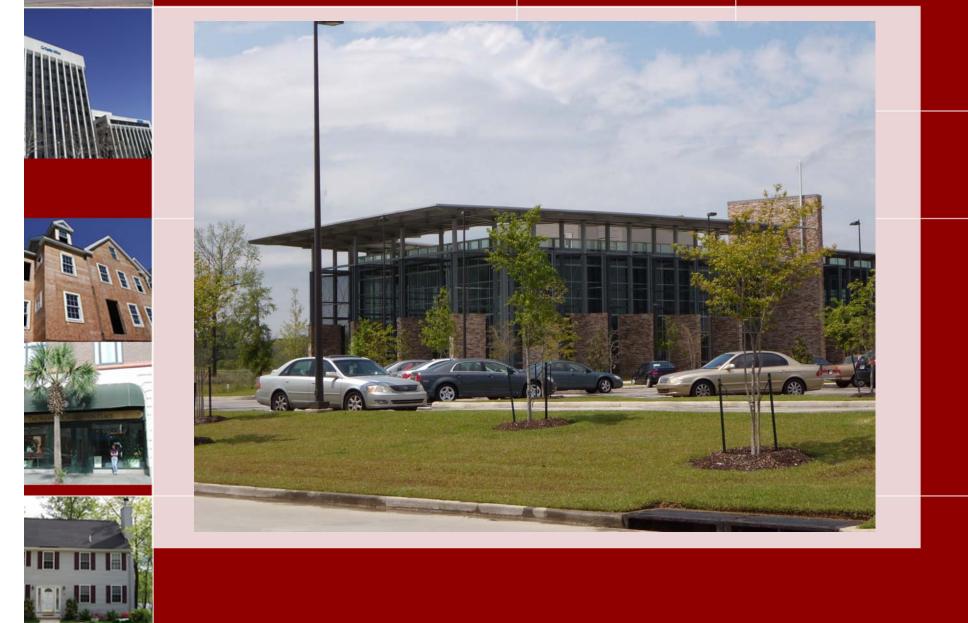
#### Upcoming Lamar relocation

- Plans to renovate the fomer Chase operations center next door
- Will leave 54,000 sq.ft. available in approximately 18 months

#### New construction at Towne Center

- 18,000 sq.ft. of excess space available in Republic Finance building
- Several lots trading for build to suit/owner occupant buildings

## **Republic Finance** @ Towne Centre

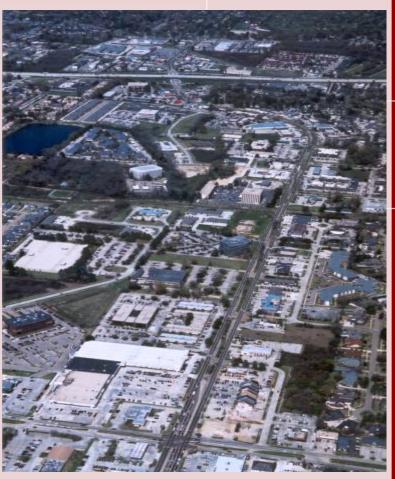




#### **Sherwood Office Market** YTD 2009



- Current Class A occupancy rate of 96.21%.
- Average Class A rental rate is \$19.58 psf/year.
  - Current Class B occupancy rate of 89.00%.
- Current Class B asking rate is \$16.17 psf/year.







## **Sherwood Office Market Factors**

- Existing vacancies sitting on market for extended periods
- Occupancy and rental rates remain stable
- Road construction at Sherwood/Coursey should improve traffic flow (a common leasing obstacle)





## Airline/Florida Office Market

- Current Class B occupancy rate of 71.99%.
- Current Class B asking rate is \$12.33 psf/year
  - No Class A buildings in this market segment





## **Airline/Florida Office Market Factors**





#### **Area Buildings For Sale or Lease**

- Direct General (90,000 +/- sq.ft.) move out in late 2007
- 1900 Lobdell (54,000 +/- sq.ft.) has been unoccupied since the Corps of Engineers vacated in February 2007
- 1771 Lobdell (110,000 +/- sq.ft.) approximately ½ occupied by a school, the remainder has been unoccupied for several years

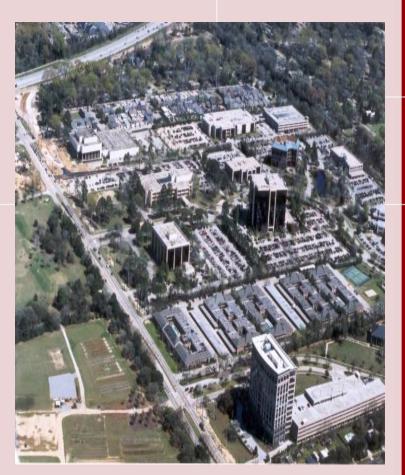


## Essen/Bluebonnet Office Market





- Current Class A occupancy rate of 94.98%.
- Average Class A asking rate is \$23.50 psf/year
- Current Class B occupancy rate of 93.25%
- Average Class B asking rate is \$14.50 psf/year





#### **Essen/Bluebonnet** Office Market Factors



- United Plaza II (18,000 +/- sq.ft.)
- United IV (7,716 +/- sq.ft.)

#### Large blocks pending or available

- Essen Centre (19,000 +/- RSF)
- Perkins Rowe (31,000 +/- sq.ft.)
- Cardinal Hill (6,500 +/- sq.ft.)
- Essen Crossing (10,000 +/- sq.ft.)

#### Most proposed new construction in area sits dormant

- Spatz Building 80,000 +/- RSF Proposed
- Perkins @ Kenilworth 30,000+/- RSF Proposed



## **Cardinal Hill**





## ++

### Forecast



- Length of recession and negative media will continue to slow market activity
- Buyers and Tenants will continue to take the "wait and see" approach unless Landlords and Sellers start to lower expectations
- Locally, the underlying economics and fundamentals are sound and there are no underlying problems that would slow recovery
- Building/property values and occupancy/rental rates will remain at healthy market levels

