UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 29, 2022

Sterling Real Estate Trust dba Sterling Multifamily Trust (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

(State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 4340 18th Ave South Ste. 200 Fargo, North Dakota (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Ep Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (701) 353-2720 (Former name or former address if changed since last report.) Securities Registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act Title of Each Class Trading Symbol(s) Name of each exchange on which registered Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	North Dakota	000-54295	90-0115411
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (701) 353-2720		(Commission File Nur	nber) (IRS Employer Identification No.)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (701) 353-2720 (Former name or former address if changed since last report.) Securities Registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act Title of Each Class Trading Symbol(s) Name of each exchange on which registered Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)		200	58103
(Former name or former address if changed since last report.) Securities Registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act Title of Each Class Trading Symbol(s) Name of each exchange on which registered Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	(Address of Principal Executive	Offices)	(Zip Code)
Securities Registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act Title of Each Class Trading Symbol(s) Name of each exchange on which registered Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	Registrant	s's telephone number, including a	rea code: (701) 353-2720
Title of Each Class Trading Symbol(s) Name of each exchange on which registered Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	(Forme	er name or former address if char	nged since last report.)
Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share N/A N/A Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	Securities Registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of	of the Act	
Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under an the following provisions: Under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Ü
the following provisions: Uritten communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share	N/A	N/A
		K filing is intended to simultaneo	usly satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of
☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425	under the Securities Act (17 CF	R 230.425)
	☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 ur	nder the Exchange Act (17 CFR 2	240.14a-12)
☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))	☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuan	t to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exc	hange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))	☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuan	t to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Excl	nange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CF 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR § 240.12b-2). Emerging growth company □	230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchan		
If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \Box		ē	1 1 5 6

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

New Promissory Note

On December 29, 2022, Sterling Real Estate Trust (the "Company"), through its operating partnership, Sterling Properties L.L.L.P. (the "Borrower") entered into a promissory note (the "New Promissory Note") with Bell Bank in the principal amount of \$26,500,000. The New Promissory Note bears interest at a rate of one percentage point under the "Prime Rate" as published in the Wall Street Journal, with principal plus accrued and unpaid interest due and payable on February 1, 2023. The Borrower may prepay the New Promissory Note without penalty.

The New Promissory Note contains customary events of default, upon which Bell Bank may declare the entire unpaid principal balance of the New Promissory Note and all accrued and unpaid interest immediately due and payable. The New Promissory Note is guaranteed by the Company and is secured by the Company's investment account held with Bell Bank.

The Company has a historical and ongoing relationship with Bell Bank, which has periodically provided the Company with certain financial services. James S. Wieland, a Trustee of the Company, also serves as a Board Member of Bell Bank and may have an indirect material interest in any such engagement and related transactions.

The descriptions of the New Promissory Note and Company guaranty contained herein does not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the complete text of the New Promissory Note and Commercial Guaranty, copies of which are filed herewith as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and are incorporated by reference herein.

Item 2.03. Creation of Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant

The information provided in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit	
No.	Title
	Bell Bank Promissory Note, dated December 29, 2022, between Bell Bank and Sterling Properties, LLLP, together with
10.1	Commercial Guaranty of Sterling Real Estate Trust, dated December 29, 2022.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File, (Formatted in inline XBRL).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Sterling Real Estate Trust

Date: January 4, 2023

By: /s/ Joel S. Thomsen
Name: Joel S. Thomsen

Title: President



PROMISSORY NOTE

Loan Date Maturity Loan No Principal Initials Call/Coll Account Officer 2377986 \$26,500,000,00 12-29-2022 02-01-2023 0001300362 410 / 302 NLA01 References in the boxes above are for Lender's use only and do not limit the applicability of this document to any particular loan or item.

Any item above containing "***" has been omitted due to text length limitations. Borrower: Lender: BELL BANK STERLING PROPERTIES. CENTER 4340 18TH AVES STE 200 OFFICE FARGO, ND 58103 3100 13th Ave South PO Box 10877 Fargo, ND 58106-0877 (701) 298-1500

Principal Amount: \$26,500,000.00 Date of Note: December 29,

2022

PROMISE TO PAY. STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP ("Borrower") promises to pay to BELL BANK ("Lender"), or order, in lawful money of the United States of America, the principal amount of Twenty-six Million Five Hundred Thousand & 00/100 Dollars (\$26,500,000.00), together with interest on the unpaid principal balance from December 29, 2022, until paid in full.

PAYMENT. Borrower will pay this loan in one principal payment of \$26,500,000.00 plus interest on February 1, 2023. This payment due on February 1, 2023, will be for all principal and all accrued Interest not yet paid. Unless otherwise agreed or required by applicable law, payments will be applied to any accrued unpaid interest first; then to principal; then to late charges and other charges. Payments received at Lender's address on any business day will be credited to your loan as of the date received. For purposes of receiving payments, business day is defined as Monday-Friday, excluding Federal and bank holidays. Borrower will pay Lender at Lender's address shown above or at such other place as Lender may designate in writing.

VARIABLE INTEREST RATE. The interest rate on this Note is subject to change from time to time based on changes in an independent index which is the "Prime Rate" as published in the Wall Street Journal (the "Index"). The Index is not necessarily the lowest rate charged by Lender on its loans. Lender will tell Borrower the current Index rate upon Borrower's request. The interest rate change will not occur more often than each day, using the effective date as published in the Wall Street Journal. Borrower understands that Lender may make loans based on other rates as well. Interest on the unpaid principal balance of this Note will be calculated as described in the "INTEREST CALCULATION METHOD" paragraph using a rate of 1.000 percentage point under the Index (the "Margin"). If Lender determines, in its sole discretion, that the Index has become unavailable or unreliable. Either temporarily, indefinitely, or permanently, during the term of this Note, Lender may amend this Note by designating a substantially similar substitute index. Lender may also amend and adjust the Margin to accompany the substitute index. The change to the Margin may be a positive or negative value, or zero. In making these amendments, Lender may take into consideration any then-prevailing market convention for selecting a substitute index and margin for the specific Index that is unavailable or unreliable. Such an amendment to the terms of this Note will become effective and bind Borrower 10 business days after Lender gives written notice to Borrower without any action or consent of the Borrower. NOTICE: Under no circumstances will the interest rate on this Note be less than 2.900% per annoum or more than the maximum rate allowed by applicable law.

INTEREST CALCULATION METHOD. Interest on this Note is computed on a 365/360 basis; that is, by applying the ratio of the Interest rate over a year of 360 days, multiplied by the outstanding principal balance, multiplied by the actual number of days the principal balance is outstanding. All interest payable under this Note is computed using this method.

PREPAYMENT. Borrower may pay without penalty all or a portion of the amount owed earlier than it is due. Early payments will not, unless agreed to by Lender in writing, relieve Borrower of Borrower's obligation to continue to make payments under the payment schedule. Rather, early payments will reduce the principal balance due. Borrower agrees not to send Lender payments marked "paid in full", "without recourse", or similar language. If Borrower sends such a payment, Lender may accept it without losing any of Lender's rights under this Note, and Borrower will remain obligated to pay any further amount owed to Lender. All written communications concerning disputed amounts, including any check or other payment instrument that indicates that the payment constitutes "payment In full" of the amount owed or that is tendered with other conditions or limitations or as full satisfaction of a disputed amount must be mailed or delivered to: BELL BANK, CENTER OFFICE, 3100 13th Ave South, PO Box 10877, Fargo, ND 58106-0877.

LATE CHARGE. If a payment is 11 days or more late, Borrower will be charged 5.000% of the unpaid portion of the regularly scheduled payment or \$25.00, whichever is greater.

INTEREST AFTER DEFAULT. Upon default, including failure to pay upon final maturity, the interest rate on this Note shall be increased by adding an additional 3,000 percentage point margin ("Default Rate Margin"). The Default Rate Margin shall also apply to each succeeding interest rate change that would have applied had there been no default. However, in no event will the interest rate exceed the maximum interest rate limitations under applicable law.

DEFAULT. Each of the following shall constitute an event of default ("Event of Default") under this

Note: Payment Default. Borrower fails to make any payment when due under this Note.

Other Defaults. Borrower fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Note or in any of the related documents or to comply with or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Borrower.

Default in Favor of Third Parties. Borrower or any Granter defaults under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement. or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of Borrower's property or Borrower's ability to repay this Note or perform Borrower's obligations under this Note or any of the related documents.

False Statements. Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Borrower or on Borrower's behalf under this Note or the related documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

Death or Insolvency. The dissolution or termination of Borrower's existence as a going business or the death of any partner, the insolvency of Borrower, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Borrower's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Borrower.

Creditor or Forfeiture Proceedings. Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Borrower or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the loan. This includes a garnishment of any of Borrower's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Borrower as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Borrower gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

Events Affecting Guarantor. Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any Guarantor of any of the indebtedness or any Guarantor dies or becomes incompetent, or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any guaranty of the indebtedness evidenced by this Note.

Events Affecting General Partner of Borrower. Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any general partner of Borrower or any general partner dies or becomes incompetent.

Change In Ownership. The resignation or expulsion of any general partner with an ownership interest of twenty-five percent (25%) or more in Borrower.

Adverse Change. A material adverse change occurs in Borrower's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of this Note is impaired.

Insecurity. Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

immediately due, and then Borrower will pay that amount.

ATTORNEYS' FEES; EXPENSES. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help collect this Note if Borrower does not pay. Borrower will pay

PROMISSORY NOTE (Continued)

Page 2

Lender that amount. This includes, subject to any limits under applicable law, Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, whether or not there is a lawsuit, including reasonable attorneys' fees, expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), and appeals. If not prohibited by applicable law, Borrower also will pay any court costs, in addition to all other sums provided by law.

JURY WAIVER. Lender and Borrower hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by either Lender

or Borrower against the other.

GOVERNING LAW. This Note will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of North Dakota without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. This Note has been accepted by Lender in the State of North **Dakota**.

CHOICE OF VENUE. If there is a lawsuit, Borrower agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of Cass County, State of North Dakota.

RIGHT OF SETOFF. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Borrower's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, o'r some other account). This includes all accounts Borrower holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Borrower may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Borrower authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

OBLIGATION TO NOTIFY. Borrower agrees to promptly notify Lender (i) of any changes in ownership of those individuals or entities owning 25% or more of the equity interests in Borrower, and (ii) if the identity of the individuals or entities with significant responsibility to manage, control or direct Borrower changes. Borrower agrees to execute and deliver a certification in favor of Lender setting forth information on the ownership and control of Borrower, as requested by Lender from time to lime, including following any ownership or control change in Borrower.

SUCCESSOR INTERESTS. The terms of this Note shall be binding upon Borrower, and upon Borrower's heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of Lender and its successors and assigns.

NOTIFY US OF INACCURATE INFORMATION WE REPORT TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES. Borrower may notify Lender if Lender

reports any inaccurate information about Borrower's account(s) to a consumer reporting agency. Borrower's written notice describing the specific inaccuracy(ies) should be sent to Lender at the following address: BELL BANK 3100 13th Avenue South Fargo, ND 58106-0877.

COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION. This document, and any related documents, may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed an original, and all such counterparts, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. This document, and any related documents, may be delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, and if delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, shall constitute and be admissible as original documents and evidence of the signer's execution of the documents.

FURTHER ASSURANCES AND LIMITED POWER OF ATTORNEY. The parties hereto agree to do all things deemed necessary by Lender in order to fully document the loan evidenced by this Note and any related agreements, and will fully cooperate concerning the execution and delivery of security agreements, stock powers, instructions and/or other documents pertaining to any collateral intended to secure this indebtedness. Borrower agrees to assist in the cure of any defects in the execution, delivery or substance of the Note and related agreements, and in the creation and perfection of any liens, security interests or other collateral rights securing the Note. Furthermore, the Borrower, for and in consideration of Lender approving, closing and funding this Note, hereby grants authority to any authorized representative of Lender, the limited power to correct and/or execute or initial all typographical or clerical errors discovered in any of the loan documents required to be executed by Borrower in connection with this loan. No other action may be taken by Lender for Borrower. The Borrower hereby ratifies and confirms all action taken pursuant to this limited power of attorney. In the event this limited power of attorney is exercised, the Borrower will be notified in writing and will receive a copy of the document that was executed, initialed or revised on the Borrower's behalf.

GENERAL PROVISIONS. If any part of this Note cannot be enforced, this fact will not affect the rest of the Note. Lender may delay or forgo enforcing any of its rights or remedies under this Note without losing them. Borrower and any other person who signs, guarantees or endorses this Note, to the extent allowed by law, waive presentment, demand for payment, and notice of dishonor. Upon any change in the terms of this Note, and unless otherwise expressly stated in writing, no party who signs this Note, whether as maker, guarantor, accommodation maker or endorser, shall be released from liability. All such parties agree that Lender may renew or extend (repeatedly and for any length of time) this loan or release any party, partner, or guarantor or collateral; or impair, fail to realize upon or perfect Lender's security interest in the collateral; and take any other action deemed necessary by Lender without the consent of or notice to anyone. All such parties also agree that Lender may modify this loan without the consent of or notice to anyone other than the party with whom the modification is made. The obligations under this Note are joint and several.

PRIOR TO SIGNING THIS NOTE, BORROWER READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS NOTE, INCLUDING THE VARIABLE INTEREST RATE PROVISIONS. BORROWER AGREES TO THE TERMS OF THE NOTE.

BORROWER ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS PROMISSORY

NOTE. BORROWER:

STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP

STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST, General Partner of STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP

By: <u>/s/ Joel S. Thomsen</u> Joel S. Thomsen, President of STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST



COMMERCIAL GUARANTY

Borrower: STERLING PROPERTIES.

LLLP

4340 18TH AVE S STE 200 FARGO, ND 58103

Lender: BELL BANK

CENTER OFFICE 3100 13th Ave South PO Box 10877

Fargo, ND 58106-0877 (701) 298-1500

Guarantor: STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST

4340 18TH AVES STE 200 FARGO, ND 58103

CONTINUING GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE. For good and valuable consideration, Guarantor absolutely and unconditionally guarantees full and punctual payment and satisfaction of the Indebtedness of Borrower to Lender, and the performance and discharge of all Borrower's obligations under the Note and the Related Documents. This is a guaranty of payment and performance and not of collection, so Lender can enforce this Guaranty against Guarantor even when Lender has not exhausted Lender's remedies against anyone else obligated to pay the Indebtedness or against any collateral securing the Indebtedness, this Guaranty or any other guaranty of the Indebtedness. Guarantor will make any payments to Lender or its order, on demand, in legal tender of the United States of America, in same-day funds, without set-off or deduction or counterclaim, and will otherwise perform Borrower's obligations under the Note and Related Documents. Under this Guaranty, Guarantor's liability is unlimited and Guarantor's obligations are continuing.

INDEBTEDNESS. The word "Indebtedness" as used in this Guaranty means all of the principal amount outstanding from time to time and at any one or more times, accrued unpaid interest thereon and all collection costs and legal expenses related thereto permitted by law, reasonable attorneys' fees, arising from any and all debts, liabilities and obligations of every nature or form, now existing or hereafter arising or acquired, that Borrower individually or collectively or interchangeably with others, owes or will owe Lender. "Indebtedness" includes, without limitation, loans, advances, debts, overdraft indebtedness, credit card indebtedness, lease obligations, liabilities and obligations under any interest rate protection agreements or foreign currency exchange agreements or commodity price protection agreements, other obligations, and liabilities of Borrower, and any present or future judgments against Borrower, future advances, loans or transactions that renew, extend, modify, refinance, consolidate or substitute these debts, liabilities and obligations whether: voluntarily or involuntarily incurred; due or to become due by their terms or acceleration; absolute or contingent; liquidated or unliquidated; determined or undetermined; direct or indirect; primary or secondary in nature or arising from a guaranty or surety; secured or unsecured; joint or several or joint and several; evidenced by a negotiable or non-negotiable instrument or writing; originated by Lender or another or others; barred or unenforceable against Borrower for any reason whatsoever; for any transactions that may be voldable for any reason (such as infancy, insanity, ultra vires or otherwise); and originated then reduced or extinguished and then afterwards increased or reinstated.

If Lender presently holds one or more guaranties, or hereafter receives additional guaranties from Guarantor, Lender's rights under all guaranties shall be cumulative. This Guaranty shall not (unless specifically provided below to the contrary) affect or invalidate any such other guaranties. Guarantor's liability will be Guarantor's aggregate liability under the terms of this Guaranty and any such other unterminated guaranties.

CONTINUING GUARANTY. THIS IS A "CONTINUING GUARANTY" UNDER WHICH GUARANTOR AGREES TO GUARANTEE THE FULL AND PUNCTUAL PAYMENT, PERFORMANCE AND SATISFACTION OF THE INDEBTEDNESS OF BORROWER TO LENDER, NOW EXISTING OR HEREAFTER ARISING OR ACQUIRED, ON AN OPEN AND CONTINUING BASIS. ACCORDINGLY, ANY PAYMENTS MADE ON THE INDEBTEDNESS WILL NOT DISCHARGE OR DIMINISH GUARANTOR'S OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITY UNDER THIS GUARANTY FOR ANY REMAINING AND SUCCEEDING INDEBTEDNESS EVEN WHEN ALL OR PART OF THE OUTSTANDING INDEBTEDNESS MAY BE A ZERO BALANCE FROM TIME TO TIME.

DURATION OF GUARANTY. This Guaranty will take effect when received by Lender without the necessity of any acceptance by Lender, or any notice to Guarantor or to Borrower, and will continue in full force until all the Indebtedness incurred or contracted before receipt by Lender of any notice of revocation shall have been fully and finally paid and satisfied and all of Guarantor's other obligations under this Guaranty shall have been performed in full. If Guarantor elects to revoke this Guaranty, Guarantor may only do so in writing. Guarantor's written notice of revocation must be mailed to Lender, by certified mail, at Lender's address listed above or such other place as Lender may designate in writing. Written revocation of this Guaranty will apply only to new Indebtedness created after actual receipt by Lender of Guarantor's written revocation. For this purpose and without limitation, the term "new Indebtedness" does not include the Indebtedness which at the time of notice of revocation is contingent, unliquidated, undetermined or not due and which later becomes absolute, liquidated, determined or due. For this purpose and without limitation, "new Indebtedness" does not include all or part of the Indebtedness that is: incurred by Borrower prior to revocation; incurred under a commitment that became binding before revocation; any renewals, extensions, substitutions, and modifications of the Indebtedness. This Guaranty shall bind Guarantor's death. Subject to the foregoing, Guarantor's executor or administrator or other legal representative may terminate this Guaranty in the same manner in which Guarantor might have terminated it and with the same effect. Release of any other guarantor or termination of any other guaranty of the Indebtedness shall not affect the liability of Guarantor under this Guaranty. A revocation Lender receives from any one or more Guarantors shall not affect the liability of any remaining Guarantor specifically acknowledges and agrees that reductions in the amount of the Indebtedness, eve

GUARANTOR'S AUTHORIZATION TO LENDER. Guarantor authorizes Lender, either before or after any revocation hereof, without notice or demand and without lessening Guarantor's liability under this Guaranty, from time to time: (A) prior to revocation as set forth above, to make one or more additional secured or unsecured loans to Borrower, to lease equipment or other goods to Borrower, or otherwise to extend additional credit to Borrower; (B) to alter, compromise, renew, extend, accelerate, or otherwise change one or more times the time for payment or other terms of the Indebtedness or any part of the Indebtedness, including increases and decreases of the rate of interest on the Indebtedness, extensions may be repeated and may be for longer than the original loan term; (C) to take and hold security for the payment of this Guaranty or the Indebtedness, and exchange, enforce, waive, subordinate, fail or decide not to perfect, and release any such security, with or without the substitution of new collateral; (D) to release, substitute, agree not to sue, or deal with any one or more of Borrower's sureties, endorsers, or other guarantors on any terms or in any manner Lender may choose; (E) to determine how, when and what application of payments and credits shall be made on the Indebtedness; (F) to apply such security and direct the order or manner of sale thereof, including without limitation, any nonjudicial sale permitted by the terms of the controlling security agreement or deed of trust, as Lender in its discretion may determine; (G) to sell, transfer, assign or grant participations in all or any part of the Indebtedness; and (H) to assign or transfer this Guaranty in whole or in part.

GUARANTOR'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES. Guarantor represents and warrants to Lender that (A) no representations or agreements of any kind have been made to Guarantor which would limit or qualify in any way the terms of this Guaranty; (B) this Guaranty is executed at Borrower's request and not at the request of Lender; (C) Guarantor has full power, right and authority to enter into this Guaranty; (D) the provisions of this Guaranty do not conflict with or result in a default under any agreement or other instrument binding upon Guarantor and do not result in a violation of any law, regulation, court decree or order applicable to Guarantor; (E) Guarantor has not and will not, without the prior written consent of Lender, sell, lease, assign, encumber. hypothecate, transfer, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of Guarantor's assets, or any interest therein; (F) upon Lender's request, Guarantor will provide to Lender financial and credit information in form acceptable to Lender, and all such financial information which currently has been, and all future financial information which will be provided to Lender is and will be true and correct in all material respects and fairly present Guarantor's financial condition as of the dates the financial information is provided; (G) no material adverse change has occurred in Guarantor's financial condition since the date of the most recent financial statements provided to Lender and no event has occurred which may materially adversely affect Guarantor's financial condition; (H) no litigation, claim, investigation, administrative proceeding or similar action (including those for unpaid taxes) against Guarantor is pending or threatened; (I) Lender has made no representation to Guarantor as to the creditworthiness of Borrower; and (J) Guarantor has established adequate means of obtaining from Borrower on a continuing basis information regarding Borrower's financial condition. Guarantor risks under this Guaranty, and Guarantor further agrees that, absent a request f

COMMERCIAL GUARANTY (Continued)

Page 2

Annual Statements. As soon as available, but in no event later than 180 days after the end of each fiscal year, Guarantor's balance sheet and income statement for the year ended, audited by certified public accountant in form satisfactory to lender.

Interim Statements. As soon as available, but in no event later than 60 days after the end of each quarter, Guarantor's balance sheet and profit and loss statement for the period ended, reviewed by certified public accountant in form satisfactory to Lender.

All financial reports required to be provided under this Guaranty shall be prepared in accordance with GAAP, applied on a consistent basis, and certified by Guarantor as being true and correct.

GUARANTOR'S WAIVERS. Except as prohibited by applicable law, Guarantor waives any right to require Lender (A) to continue lending money or to extend other credit to Borrower; (B) to make any presentment, protest, demand, or notice of any kind, including notice of any nonpayment of the Indebtedness or of any nonpayment related to any collateral, or notice of any action or nonaction on the part of Borrower, Lender, any surety, endorser, or other guarantor in connection with the Indebtedness or in connection with the creation of new or additional loans or obligations; (C) to resort for payment or to proceed directly or at once against any person, including Borrower or any other guarantor; (D) to proceed directly against or exhaust any collateral held by Lender from Borrower, any other guarantor, or any other person; (E) to give notice of the terms, time, and place of any public or private sale of personal property security held by Lender from Borrower or to comply with any other applicable provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code; (F) to pursue any other remedy within Lender's power; or (G) to commit any act or omission of any kind, or at any time, with respect to any matter whatsoever.

Guarantor also waives any and all rights or defenses based on suretyship or impairment of collateral including, but not limited to, any rights or defenses arising by reason of (A) any "one action" or "anti-deficiency" law or any other law which may prevent Lender from bringing any action, including a claim for deficiency, against Guarantor, before or after Lender's commencement or completion of any foreclosure action, either judicially or by exercise of a power of sale; (B) any election of remedies by Lender which destroys or otherwise adversely affects Guarantor's subrogation rights or Guarantor's rights to proceed against Borrower for reimbursement, including without limitation, any loss of rights Guarantor may suffer by reason of any law limiting, qualifying, or discharging the Indebtedness; (C) any disability or other defense of Borrower, of any other guarantor, or of any other presson, or by reason of the cessation of Borrower's liability from any cause whatsoever, other than payment in full in legal tender, of the Indebtedness; (D) any right to claim discharge of the Indebtedness on the basis of unjustified impairment of any collateral for the Indebtedness; (E) any statute of limitations, if at any time any action or suit brought by Lender against Guarantor is commenced, there is outstanding Indebtedness which is not barred by any applicable statute of limitations; or (F) any defenses given to guarantors at law or in equity other than actual payment and performance of the Indebtedness. If payment is made by Borrower, whether voluntarily or otherwise, or by any third party, on the Indebtedness and thereafter Lender is forced to remit the amount of that payment to Borrower's trustee in bankruptcy or to any similar person under any federal or state bankruptcy law or law for the relief of debtors, the Indebtedness shall be considered unpaid for the purpose of the enforcement of this Guaranty.

Guarantor further waives and agrees not to assert or claim at any time any deductions to the amount guaranteed under this Guaranty for any claim of setoff, counterclaim, counter demand, recoupment or similar right, whether such claim, demand or right may be asserted by the Borrower, the Guarantor, or both.

GUARANTOR'S UNDERSTANDING WITH RESPECT TO WAIVERS. Guarantor warrants and agrees that each of the waivers set forth above is made with Guarantor's full knowledge of its significance and consequences and that, under the circumstances, the waivers are reasonable and not contrary to public policy or law. If any such waiver is determined to be contrary to any applicable law or public policy, such waiver shall be effective only to the extent permitted by law or public policy.

RIGHT OF SETOFF. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Guarantor's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Guarantor holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Guarantor may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Guarantor authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to hold these funds if there is a default, and Lender may apply the funds in these accounts to pay what Guarantor owes under the terms of this Guaranty.

SUBORDINATION OF BORROWER'S DEBTS TO GUARANTOR. Guarantor agrees that the Indebtedness, whether now existing or hereafter created, shall be superior to any claim that Guarantor may now have or hereafter acquire against Borrower, whether or not Borrower becomes insolvent. Guarantor hereby expressly subordinates any claim Guarantor may have against Borrower, whether or not Borrower becomes only claim that Lender may now or hereafter have against Borrower. In the event of insolvency and consequent liquidation of the assets of Borrower, through bankruptcy, by an assignment for the benefit of creditors, by voluntary liquidation, or otherwise, the assets of Borrower applicable to the payment of the claims of both Lender and Guarantor shall be paid to Lender and shall be first applied by Lender to the Indebtedness. Guarantor does hereby assign to Lender all claims which it may have or acquire against Borrower or against any assignee or trustee in bankruptcy of Borrower; provided however, that such assignment shall be effective only for the purpose of assuring to Lender full payment in legal tender of the Indebtedness. If Lender so requests, any notes or credit agreements now or hereafter evidencing any debts or obligations of Borrower to Guarantor shall be marked with a legend that the same are subject to this Guaranty and shall be delivered to Lender. Guarantor agrees, and Lender is hereby authorized, in the name of Guarantor, from time to time to file financing statements and continuation statements

and to execute documents and to take such other actions as Lender deems necessary or appropriate to perfect, preserve and enforce its rights under this Guaranty.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDEMNIFICATION. If any part of the Indebtedness is now or hereafter secured by any mortgage or deed of trust granted in favor of Lender on any real property ("Property"), then the provisions in this section shall be applicable. Guarantor hereby [1] acknowledges the representations and warranties of Borrower in the mortgage/deed of trust regarding the environmental condition of the Property and agrees to promptly notify Lender if Guarantor has or obtains actual knowledge that any such representations and warranties are or become materially incorrect; (2) releases and waives any future claims against Lender for indemnity or contribution in the event Borrower and/or Guarantor becomes liable for cleanup or other costs under any such laws; and (3) agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Lender and its directors, officers, agents, representatives, successors and assigns (collectively, "Indemnified Parties") against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, penalties, and expenses, including attorneys' fees, consultants' fees, and costs which the Indemnified Parties may directly or indirectly sustain or suffer (collectively, "Environmental Costs") resulting from the violation of any Environmental Laws or as a consequence of the presence or discovery of any Hazardous Substances in, upon, over, under or emanating from the Property, whether or not Borrower is responsible therefore. Any such Environmental Costs shall be added to and become part of the Indebtedness under this Guaranty. The provisions of this section of the Guaranty, including the obligation to indemnify and defend, shall survive the payment in full of the Indebtedness and the satisfaction or reconveyance of the mortgage or deed of trust, and shall continue for the benefit of any purchaser at a foreclosure sale. For the purposes of this section, the terms "Environmental Laws" and "Hazardous Substances" shall have the definitions given below:

Environmental Laws. The words "Environmental Laws" mean any and all state, federal and local statutes, regulations and ordinances relating to the protection of human health or the environmental necessions. Including without limitation the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601, et seq. (TCRCLA"), the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499 ("SARA"), the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. Section 1801, et seq., the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 6901, et seq., or other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or common law, and shall also include pollutants, contaminants, polychlorinated biphenyls, asbestos, urea formaldehyde, petroleum and petroleum products, and agricultural chemicals.

Hazardous Substances. The words "Hazardous Substances" mean materials that, because of their quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or pose a present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly used, retated, stored, disposed of, generated, manufactured, transported or otherwise handled. The words "Hazardous Substances" are used in their very broadest sense and include without limitation any and all hazardous or toxic substances, materials or waste as defined by or listed under the Environmental Laws. The term "Hazardous Substances" also includes, without limitation, petroleum and petroleum by-products or any fraction thereof and asbestos.

MISCELLANEOUS **PROVISIONS.** The following miscellaneous provisions are a part of this Guaranty:

Amendments. This Guaranty, together with any Related Documents, constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the parties as to the matters set forth in this Guaranty. No alteration of or amendment to this Guaranty shall be effective unless given in writing and signed by the party or parties sought to be charged or bound by the alteration or amendment.

Attorneys' Fees; Expenses. Guarantor agrees to pay upon demand all of Lender's costs and expenses, including Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, incurred in connection with the enforcement of this Guaranty. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help enforce this Guaranty, and Guarantor shall pay the costs and expenses of such enforcement. Costs and expenses include Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and legal expenses whether or not there is a lawsuit, including reasonable attorneys' fees and legal expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic slay or injunction), app als, and any anticipated post-judgment collection services. Guarantor also shall pay all court costs and such add1llonal fees as may be directed by the

Caption Headings. Caption headings in this Guaranty are for convenience purposes only and are not to be used to interpret or define the provisions of this Guaranty.

COMMERCIAL GUARANTY

(Continued)

Page 3

Governing Law. This Guaranty will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of North Dakota without regard to its conflicts of law provisions

Choice of Venue. If there is a lawsuit, Guarantor agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of Cass County,

Integration. Guarantor further agrees that Guarantor has read and fully understands the terms of this Guaranty; Guarantor has had the opportunity to be advised by Guarantor's attorney with respect to this Guaranty; the Guaranty fully reflects Guarantor's intentions and parol evidence is not required to interpret the terms of this Guaranty. Guarantor hereby indemnifies and holds Lender harmless from all losses, claims, damages, and costs (including Lender's attorneys' fees) suffered or incurred by Lender as a result of any breach by Guarantor of the warranties, representations and agreements of this paragraph.

Interpretation. In all cases where there is more than one Borrower or Guarantor, then all words used in this Guaranty in the singular shall Interpretation. In all cases where there is more than one Borrower or Guarantor, then all words used in this Guaranty in the singular shall be deemed to have been used in the plural where the context and construction so require; and where there is more than one Borrower named in this Guaranty or when this Guaranty is executed by more than one Guarantor, the words "Borrower" and "Guarantor" respectively shall mean all and any one or more of them. The words "Guarantor," "Borrower," and "Lender" include the heirs, successors, assigns, and transferees of each of them. If a court finds that any provision of this Guaranty is not valid or should not be enforced, that fact by itself will not mean that the rest of this Guaranty will not be valid or enforced. Therefore, a court will enforce the rest of the provisions of this Guaranty even if a provision of this Guaranty may be found to be invalid or unenforceable. If any one or more of Borrower or Guarantor are corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, or similar entities, it is not necessary for Lender to inquire into the powers of Borrower or Guarantor or of the officers, directors, partners, managers, or other agents acting or purporting to act on their behalf, and any indebtedness made or created in reliance upon the professed exercise of such powers shall be guaranteed under this

Notices. Any notice required to be given under this Guaranty shall be given in writing, and, except for revocation notices by Guarantor, shall be effective when actually delivered, when actually received by telefacsimile (unless otherwise required by law), when deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier, or, if mailed, when deposited in the United States mail, as first class, certified or registered mail postage prepaid, directed to the addresses shown near the beginning of this Guaranty. All revocation notices by Guarantor shall be in writing and shall be effective upon delivery to Lender as provided in the section of this Guaranty entitled "DURATION OF GUARANTY."

Any party may change its address for notices under this Guaranty by giving formal written notice to the other parties, specifying that the purpose of the notice is to change the party's address. For notice purposes, Guarantor agrees to keep Lender informed at all times of Guarantor's current address. Unless otherwise provided or required by law, if there is more than one Guarantor, any notice given by Lender to any Guarantor is deemed to be notice given to all Guarantors

No Waiver by Lender. Lender shall not be deemed to have waived any rights under this Guaranty unless such waiver is given in writing and signed by Lender. No delay or omission on the part of Lender in exercising any right shall operate as a waiver of such right or any other right. A waiver by Lender of a provision of this Guaranty shall not prejudice or constitute a waiver of Lender's right otherwise to demand strict compliance with that provision or any other provision of this Guaranty. No prior waiver by Lender, nor any course of dealing between Lender and Guarantor, shall constitute a waiver of any of Lender's rights or of any of Guarantor's obligations as to any future transactions. Whenever the consent of Lender is required under this Guaranty, the granting of such consent by Lender in any instance shall not constitute continuing consent to subsequent instances where such consent is required and in all cases such consent may be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of Lender.

Successors and Assigns. Subject to any limitations stated in this Guaranty on transfer of Guarantor's interest, this Guaranty shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties, their successors and assigns

Waive Jury. Lender and Guarantor hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by either Lender or Guarantor against the other

Counterparts and Electronic Transmission. This document, and any related documents, may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed an original, and all such counterparts, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. This document, and any related documents, may be delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, and if delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, shall constitute and be admissible as original documents and evidence of the signer's execution of the documents.

DEFINITIONS. The following capitalized words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in this Guaranty. Unless specifically stated to the contrary, all references to dollar amounts shall mean amounts in lawful money of the United States of America. Words and terms used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular, as the context may require. Words and terms not otherwise defined in this Guaranty shall have the meanings attributed to such terms in the Uniform Commercial Code:

Borrower. The word "Borrower" means STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP and includes all co-signers and co-makers signing the Note and all their successors and assigns.

GAAP. The word "GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles.

Guarantor. The word "Guarantor" means everyone signing this Guaranty, including without limitation STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST, and in each case, any signer's successors and assigns

Guaranty. The word "Guaranty" means this guaranty from Guarantor to Lender

Indebtedness. The word "Indebtedness" means Borrower's indebtedness to Lender as more particularly described in this

Guaranty. Lender. The word "Lender" means BELL BANK, its successors and assigns.

Note. The word "Note" means and includes without limitation all of Borrower's promissory notes and/or credit agreements evidencing Borrower's loan obligations in favor of Lender, together with all renewals of, extensions of, modifications of, refinancings of, consolidations of and substitutions for promissory notes or credit agreements.

Related Documents. The words "Related Documents" mean all promissory notes, credit agreements, loan agreements, environmental agreements, guaranties, security agreements, mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, collateral mortgages, and all other instruments, agreements and documents, whether now or hereafter existing, executed in connection with the Indebtedness

EACH UNDERSIGNED GUARANTOR ACKNOWLEDGES HAVING READ ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS GUARANTY EAGN UNDERSIGNED GUARANTOK ACKNOWLEDGES HAVING KEAD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS GUARANTY AND AGREES TO ITS TERMS. IN ADDITION, EACH GUARANTOR UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS GUARANTY IS EFFECTIVE UPON GUARANTOR'S EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THIS GUARANTY TO LENDER AND THAT THE GUARANTY WILL CONTINUE UNTIL TERMINATED IN THE MANNER SET FORTH IN THE SECTION TITLED "DURATION OF GUARANTY". NO FORMAL ACCEPTANCE BY LENDER IS NECESSARY TO MAKE THIS GUARANTY EFFECTIVE. THIS GUARANTY IS DATED DECEMBER 29, 2022.

GUARANTOR

STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST

By: <u>/s/ Joel S. Thomsen</u> Joel S. Thomsen, President of STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST



COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT

Principal	Loan Date	Maturity	Loan No	Call/ Coll	Account	Officer	Initials .
\$26,500,000.0	00 12-29-2022 02-	01-2023	2377986	410 / 302	0001300362	NLA01	miliaio
	References in the boxes		ender's use only and do not			oarticular loan	or item.
		Any item ab	ove containing "***" has bee	en omitted due to text	length limitations.		
Granter:	STERLING PROPERTIES.		Lender:	BELL BANK			
LLLP				CENTER			
	4340 18TH AVE S STE 200			OFFICE 3100 13th Ave			
	FARGO, ND 58103			South PO Box			
				10877			
				Fargo, ND 581	06-0877		
				(701) 298-1500			

THIS COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT dated December 29, 2022, is made and executed between STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP ("Grantor") and BELL BANK ("Lender").

GRANT OF SECURITY INTEREST. For valuable consideration, Grantor grants to Lender a security interest in the Collateral to secure the Indebtedness and agrees that Lender shall have the rights stated in this Agreement with respect to the Collateral, In addition to all other rights which Lender may have by law.

COLLATERAL DESCRIPTION. The word "Collateral" as used in this Agreement means Grantor's present and future rights, title and interest in and to the following described investment property, together with any and all present and future additions thereto, substitutions therefor, and replacements thereof, together with any and all present and future certificates and/or instruments evidencing any securities and further together with all Brokerage Accounts, all books and records relating to the Collateral in any form, and all Income and Proceeds as described herein:

Bell Bank Investment Account Number 62-0227-01-7 together with all investment property and other contents thereof

CROSS-COLLATERALIZATION. In addition to the Note, this Agreement secures all obligations, debts and liabilities, plus interest thereon, of Granter to Lender, or any one or more of them, as well as all claims by Lender against Granter or any one or more of them, whether now existing or hereafter arising, whether related or unrelated to the purpose of the Note, whether voluntary or otherwise, whether due or not due, direct or indirect. determined or undetermined, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether Granter may be liable individually or jointly with others, whether obligated as guarantor, surety, accommodation party or otherwise, and whether recovery upon such amounts may be or hereafter may become barred by any statute of limitations, and whether the obligation to repay such amounts may be or hereafter may herome otherwise unenforceable.

RIGHT OF SETOFF. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Grantor's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Granter holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Granter may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Granter authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the Indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLATERAL. Grantor represents and warrants to Lender that:

Ownership. Grantor is the lawful owner of the Collateral free and clear of all security interests, liens, encumbrances and claims of others except as disclosed to and accepted by Lender in writing prior to execution of this Agreement.

Right to Pledge. Granter has the full right, power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to pledge the Collateral.

Authority; Binding Effect. Granter has the full right, power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to grant a security interest in the Collateral to Lender. This Agreement is binding upon Grantor as well as Grantor's successors and assigns, and is legally enforceable in accordance with its terms. The foregoing representations and warranties, and all other representations and warranties contained in this Agreement are and shall be continuing in nature and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as this Agreement is terminated or cancelled as provided herein.

No Further Assignment. Granter has not, and shall not, sell, assign, transfer, encumber or otherwise dispose of any of Grantor's rights in the Collateral except as provided in this Agreement.

No Defaults. There are no defaults existing under the Collateral, and there are no offsets or counterclaims to the same. Granter will strictly and promptly perform each of the terms, conditions, covenants and agreements, if any, contained in the Collateral which are to be performed by Granter.

No Violation. The execution and delivery of this Agreement will not violate any law or agreement governing Granter or to which Granter is a party, and its partnership agreement does not prohibit any term or condition of this Agreement.

Financing Statements. Granter authorizes Lender to file a UCC financing statement, or alternatively, a copy of this Agreement to perfect Lender's security interest. At Lender's request, Granter additionally agrees to sign all other documents that are necessary to perfect, protect, and continue Lender's security interest in the Property. Granter will pay all filing fees, title transfer fees, and other fees and costs involved unless prohibited by law or unless Lender is required by law to pay such fees and costs. Granter irrevocably appoints Lender to execute documents necessary to transfer title if there is a default. Lender may file a copy of this Agreement as a financing statement. Granter will promptly notify Lender of any change to Grantor's name or the name of any individual Granter, any individual who is a trustee or settler or trustor for a Granter under this Agreement. Granter will also promptly notify Lender of any change to the name that appears on the most recently issued, unexpired driver's license or state-issued identification card, any expiration of the most recently issued driver's license or state-issued identification card for Granter or any individual for whom Granter is required to provide notice regarding name changes.

LENDER'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLATERAL. Lender may hold the Collateral until all Indebtedness has been paid and satisfied. Thereafter Lender may deliver the Collateral to Granter or to any other owner of the Collateral. Lender shall have the following rights in addition to all other rights Lender may have by law:

Maintenance and Protection of Collateral. Lender may, but shall not be obligated to, take such steps as it deems necessary or desirable to protect, maintain, insure, store, or care for the Collateral, including paying of any liens or claims against the Collateral. This may include such things as hiring other people, such as attorneys, appraisers or other experts. Lender may charge Granter for any cost incurred in so doing. When applicable law provides more than one method of perfection of Lender's security interest, Lender may choose the method(s) to be used. If the Collateral consists of stock, bonds or other investment property for which no certificate has been issued, Granter agrees, at Lender's request, either to request issuance of an appropriate certificate or to give instructions on Lender's forms to the issuer, transfer agent, mutual fund company, or broker, as the case may be, to record on its books or records Lender's security interest in the Collateral. Granter also agrees to execute any additional documents, including but not limited to, a control agreement, necessary to perfect Lender's security interest as Lender may desire.

Income and Proceeds from the Collateral. Lender may receive all Income and Proceeds and add it to the Collateral. Granter agrees to deliver to Lender immediately upon receipt, in the exact form received and without commingling with other property, all Income and Proceeds from the Collateral which may be received by, paid, or delivered to Granter or for Grantor's account, whether as an addition to, in discharge of, in substitution of, or in exchange for any of the Collateral.

Application of Cash. At Lender's option, Lender may apply any cash, whether included in the Collateral or received as Income and Proceeds or through liquidation, sale, or retirement, of the Collateral, to the satisfaction of the Indebtedness or such portion thereof as Lender shall choose, whether or not matured.

Transactions with Others. Lender may (1) extend time for payment or other performance, (2) grant a renewal or change in terms or conditions, or (3) compromise, compound or release any obligation, with any one or more Obligors, endorsers, or Guarantors of the Indebtedness as Lender deems advisable, without obtaining the prior written consent of Granter, and no such act or failure to act shall affect Lender's rights against Granter or the Collateral.

COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT (Continued)

Page 2

All Collateral Secures Indebtedness. All Collateral shall be security for the Indebtedness, whether the Collateral is located at one or more offices or branches of Lender. This **will** be the case whether or not the office or branch where Grantor obtained Grantor's loan knows about the Collateral or relies upon the Collateral as security.

Collection of Collateral. Lender at Lender's option may, but need not, collect the Income and Proceeds directly from the Obligors. Grantor authorizes and directs the Obligors, if Lender decides to collect the Income and Proceeds, to pay and deliver to Lender all Income and Proceeds from the Collateral and to accept Lender's receipt for the payments.

Power of Attorney. Grantor irrevocably appoints Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, (a) to demand, collect, receive, receipt for, sue and recover all Income and Proceeds and other sums of money and other property which may now or hereafter become due, owing or payable from the Obligors in accordance with the terms of the Collateral; (b) to execute, sign and endorse any and all instruments. receipts, checks, drafts and warrants issued in payment for the Collateral; (c) to settle or compromise any and all claims arising under the Collateral, and in the place and stead of Granter, execute and deliver Grantor's release and acquittance for Grantor; (d) to file any claim or claims or to take any action or institute or take part in any proceedings, either in Lender's own name or in the name of Granter, or otherwise, which in the discretion of Lender may seem to be necessary or advisable; and (e) to execute in Grantor's name and to deliver to the Obligors on Grantor's behalf, at the time and in the manner specified by the Collateral, any necessary instruments or documents.

Perfection of Security Interest. Upon Lender's request, Granter will deliver to Lender any and all of the documents evidencing or constituting the Collateral. When applicable law provides more than one method of perfection of Lender's security interest, Lender may choose the method(s) to be used. Upon Lender's request, Granter will sign and deliver any writings necessary to perfect Lender's security interest. Grantor hereby appoints Lender as Grantor's irrevocable attorney-in-fact for the purpose of executing any documents necessary to perfect, amend, or to continue the security interest granted in this Agreement or to demand termination of filings of other secured parties. This is a continuing Security Agreement and will continue in effect even though all or any part of the Indebtedness is paid in full and even though for a period of time Grantor may not be indebted to Lender.

LENDER'S EXPENDITURES. If any action or proceeding is commenced that would materially affect Lender's interest in the Collateral or if Granter falls to comply with any provision of this Agreement or any Related Documents, including but not limited to Grantor's failure to discharge or pay when due any amounts Granter is required to discharge or pay under this Agreement or any Related Documents, Lender on Grantor's behalf may (but shall not be obligated to) take any action that Lender deems appropriate, including but not limited to discharging or paying all taxes, liens, security interests, encumbrances and other claims, at any time levied or placed on the Collateral and paying all costs for insuring, maintaining and preserving the Collateral. All such expenditures incurred or paid by Lender for such purposes will then bear interest at the rate charged under the Note from the date incurred or paid by Lender to the date of repayment by Granter. All such expenses will become a part of the Indebtedness and, at Lender's option, will (A) be payable on demand; (B) be added to the balance of the Note and be apportioned among and be payable with any installment payments to become due during either (1) the term of any applicable insurance policy; or (2) the remaining term of the Note; or (C) be treated as a balloon payment which will be due and payable at the Note's maturity. The Agreement also will secure payment of these amounts. Such right shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies to which Lender may be entitled upon the occurrence of any Event of Default.

LIMITATIONS ON OBLIGATIONS OF LENDER. Lender shall use ordinary reasonable care in the physical preservation and custody of the Collateral in Lender's possession, but shall have no other obligation to protect the Collateral or its value. In particular, but without limitation, Lender shall have no responsibility for (A) any depreciation in value of the Collateral or for the collection or protection of any Income and Proceeds from the Collateral, (B) preservation of rights against parties to the Collateral or against third persons, (C) ascertaining any maturities, calls, conversions, exchanges, offers, tenders, or similar matters relating to any of the Collateral, or (D) informing Grantor about any of the above, whether or not Lender has or is deemed to have knowledge of such matters. Except as provided above, Lender shall have no liability for depreciation or deterioration of the Collateral.

DEFAULT. Each of the following shall constitute an Event of Default under this

Agreement: Payment Default. Granter fails to make any payment when due under

the Indebtedness

Other Defaults. Grantor fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Agreement or in any of the Related Documents or to comply with or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Grantor.

Default in Favor of Third Parties. Any guarantor or Granter defaults under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement, or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of any guarantor's or Grantor's property or ability to perform their respective obligations under this Agreement or any of the Related Documents.

False Statements. Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Granter or on Grantor's behalf under this Agreement or the Related Documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

Defective Collateralization. This Agreement or any of the Related Documents ceases to be in full force and effect (including failure of any collateral document to create a valid and perfected security interest or lien) at any time and for any reason.

Insolvency. The dissolution or termination of Grantor's existence as a going business or the death of any partner, the insolvency of Grantor, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Grantor's property. any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Grantor.

Creditor or Forfeiture Proceedings. Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Granter or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the Indebtedness. This includes a garnishment of any of Grantor's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Granter as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Granter gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

Events Affecting Guarantor. Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any Guarantor of any of the Indebtedness or Guarantor dies or becomes incompetent or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any Guaranty of the Indebtedness.

Adverse Change. A material adverse change occurs in Grantor's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of the Indebtedness is impaired.

Insecurity. Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

RIGHTS AND REMEDIES ON DEFAULT. If an Event of Default occurs under this Agreement, at any time thereafter, Lender may exercise any one or more of the following rights and remedies:

Accelerate Indebtedness. Declare all Indebtedness, including any prepayment penalty which Granter would be required to pay, immediately due and payable, without notice of any kind to Granter.

Collect the Collateral. Collect any of the Collateral and, at Lender's option and to the extent permitted by applicable law, retain possession of the Collateral while suing on the Indebtedness.

Sell the Collateral. Sell the Collateral, at Lender's discretion, as a unit or in parcels, at one or more public or private sales. Unless the Collateral is perishable or threatens to decline speedily in value or is of a type customarily sold on a recognized market, Lender shall give or mail to Granter, and other persons as required by law, notice at least ten (10) days in advance of the time and place of any public sale, or of the time after which any private sale may be made. However, no notice need be provided to any person who, after an Event of Default occurs, enters into and authenticates an agreement waiving that person's right to notification of sale. Granter agrees that any requirement of reasonable notice as to Grantor is satisfied if Lender mails notice by ordinary mail addressed to Granter at the last address Granter has given Lender in writing. If a public sale is held, there shall be sufficient compliance with all requirements of notice to the public by a single publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the county where the Collateral is located, setting forth the time and place of sale and a brief description of the property to be sold. Lender may be a purchaser at any public sale.

Sell Securities. Sell any securities included in the Collateral in a manner consistent with applicable federal and state securities laws. If, because of restrictions under such laws, Lender is unable, or believes Lender is unable, to sell the securities in an open market transaction, Granter agrees that Lender will have no obligation to delay sale until the securities can be registered. Then Lender may make a private sale to one or more persons or to a restricted group of persons, even though such sale may result in a price that is less favorable than might be

COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT (Continued)

Page 3

obtained in an open market transaction. Such a sale will be considered commercially reasonable. If any securities held as Collateral are "restricted securities" as defined in the Rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (such as Regulation D or Rule 144) or the rules of state securities departments under state "Blue Sky" laws, or if Grantor or any other owner of the Collateral is an affiliate of the issuer of the securities, Grantor agrees that neither Grantor, nor any member of Grantor's family, nor any other person signing this Agreement will sell or dispose of any securities of such issuer without obtaining Lender's prior written consent.

Rights and Remedies with Respect to Investment Property, Financial Assets and Related Collateral. In addition to other rights and remedies granted under this Agreement and under applicable law, Lender may exercise any or all of the following rights and remedies: (1) register with any issuer or broker or other securities intermediary any of the Collateral consisting of investment property or financial assets (collectively herein, "investment property") in Lender's sole name or in the name of Lender's broker, agent or nominee; (2) cause any issuer, broker or other securities intermediary to deliver to Lender any of the Collateral consisting of securities, or investment property capable of being delivered; (3) enter into a control agreement or power of attorney with any issuer or securities intermediary with respect to any Collateral consisting of investment property, on such terms as Lender may deem appropriate, in its sole discretion, including without limitation, an agreement granting to Lender any of the rights provided hereunder without further notice to or consent by Granter; (4) execute any such control agreement on Grantor's behalf and in Grantor's name, and hereby irrevocably appoints Lender as agent and attorney-in-fact, coupled with an interest, for the purpose of executing such control agreement on Grantor's behalf; (5) exercise any and all rights of Lender under any such control agreement or power of attorney; (6) exercise any voting, conversion, registration, purchase, option, or other rights with respect to any Collateral; (7) collect, with or without legal action, and issue receipts concerning any notes, hecks, drafts, remittances or distributions that are paid or payable with respect to any Collateral consisting of investment property. Any control agreement entered with respect to any investment property shall contain the following provisions, at Lender's discretion. Lender shall be authorized to instruct the issuer, broker or other securities intermediary to sale or to liquidate any investment pr

Foreclosure. Maintain a judicial suit for foreclosure and sale of the Collateral.

Transfer Title. Effect transfer of title upon sale of all or part of the Collateral. For this purpose, Granter irrevocably appoints Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact to execute endorsements, assignments and instruments in the name of Granter and each of them (if more than one) as shall be necessary or reasonable.

Other Rights and Remedies. Have and exercise any or all of the rights and remedies of a secured creditor under the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code, at law, in equity, or otherwise.

Application of Proceeds. Apply any cash which is part of the Collateral, or which is received from the collection or sale of the Collateral, to reimbursement of any expenses, including any costs for registration of securities, commissions incurred in connection with a sale, reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs, whether or not there is a lawsuit and including any fees on appeal, incurred by Lender in connection with the collection and sale of such Collateral and to the payment of the Indebtedness of Granter to Lender, with any excess funds to be paid to Granter as the interests of Granter may appear. Granter agrees, to the extent permitted by law, to pay any deficiency after application of the proceeds of the Collateral to the Indebtedness.

Election of Remedies. Except as may be prohibited by applicable law, all of Lender's rights and remedies, whether evidenced by this Agreement, the Related Documents, or by any other writing, shall be cumulative and may be exercised singularly or concurrently. Election by Lender to pursue any remedy shall not exclude pursuit of any other remedy, and an election to make expenditures or to take action to perform an obligation of Granter under this Agreement, after Grantor's failure to perform, shall not affect Lender's right to declare a default and exercise its remedies.

COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION. This document, and any related documents, may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed an original, and all such counterparts, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document. This document, and any related documents, may be delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, and if delivered by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission, shall constitute and be admissible as original documents and evidence of the signer's execution of the documents.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS. The following miscellaneous provisions are a part of this Agreement:

Amendments. This Agreement, together with any Related Documents, constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the parties as to the matters set forth in this Agreement. No alteration of or amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless given in writing and signed by the party or parties sought to be charged or bound by the alteration or amendment.

Attorneys' Fees; Expenses. Grantor agrees to pay upon demand all of Lender's costs and expenses, including Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, incurred in connection with the enforcement of this Agreement. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help enforce this Agreement, and Grantor shall pay the costs and expenses of such enforcement. Costs and expenses include Lender's reasonable attorneys' fees and legal expenses whether or not there is a lawsuit, including reasonable attorneys' fees and legal expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), appeals, and any anticipated post-judgment collection services. Grantor also shall pay all court costs and such additional fees as may be directed by the court.

Caption Headings. Caption headings in this Agreement are for convenience purposes only and are not to be used to interpret or define the provisions of this Agreement.

Governing Law. This Agreement will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of North Dakota without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. This Agreement has been accepted by Lender In the State of North Dakota.

Choice of Venue. If there is a lawsuit, Granter agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of Cass County, State of North Dakota.

No Waiver by Lender. Lender shall not be deemed to have waived any rights under this Agreement unless such waiver is given in writing and signed by Lender. No delay or omission on the part of Lender in exercising any right shall operate as a waiver of such right or any other right. A waiver by Lender of a provision of this Agreement shall not prejudice or constitute a waiver of Lender's right otherwise to demand strict compliance with that provision or any other provision of this Agreement. No prior waiver by Lender, nor any course of dealing between Lender and Granter, shall constitute a waiver of any of Lender's rights or of any of Grantor's obligations as to any future transactions. Whenever the consent of Lender is required under this Agreement, the granting of such consent by Lender in any instance shall not constitute continuing consent to subsequent instances where such consent is required and in all cases such consent may be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of Lender.

Notices. Any notice required to be given under this Agreement shall be given in writing, and shall be effective when actually delivered, when actually received by telefacsimile (unless otherwise required by law), when deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier, or, if mailed, when deposited in the United States mail, as first class, certified or registered mail postage prepaid, directed to the addresses shown near the beginning of this Agreement. Any party may change its address for notices under this Agreement by giving formal written notice to the other parties, specifying that the purpose of the notice is to change the party's address. For notice purposes, Grantor agrees to keep Lender informed at all times of Grantor's current address. Unless otherwise provided or required by law, if there is more than one Grantor, any notice given by Lender to any Granter is deemed to be notice given to all Grantors.

Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of this Agreement to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any circumstance, that finding shall not make the offending provision illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any other circumstance. If feasible, the offending provision shall be considered modified so that it becomes legal, valid and enforceable. If the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be considered deleted from this Agreement. Unless otherwise required by law, the illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the legality, validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement.

Successors and Assigns. Subject to any limitations stated in this Agreement on transfer of Grantor's interest, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties, their successors and assigns. If ownership of the Collateral becomes vested in a

COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT

(Continued)

Page 4

person other than Grantor, Lender, without notice to Grantor, may deal with Grantor's successors with reference to this Agreement and the Indebtedness by way of forbearance or extension without releasing Grantor from the obligations of this Agreement or liability under the Indebtedness

Time is of the Essence. Time is of the essence in the performance of this Agreement.

DEFINITIONS. The following capitalized words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in this Agreement. Unless specifically stated to the contrary, all references to dollar amounts shall mean amounts in lawful money of the United States of America. Words and terms used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular, as the context may require. Words and terms not otherwise defined in this Agreement shall have the meanings attributed to such terms in the Uniform Commercial Code:

Agreement. The word "Agreement" means this Commercial Pledge and Security Agreement, as this Commercial Pledge and Security Agreement may be amended or modified from time to time, together with all exhibits and schedules attached to this Commercial Pledge and Security Agreement from time to time.

Borrower. The word "Borrower" means STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP and includes all co-signers and co-makers signing the Note and all their successors and assigns.

Brokerage Accounts. The words "Brokerage Accounts" mean any securities accounts or commodity accounts included in the Collateral at any time, together with all credit balances and money credited to the account, all investment property carried in the account, and, except as otherwise agreed by Lender in writing, all other securities accounts and commodity accounts Grantor maintains with the same broker.

Collateral. The word "Collateral" means all of Grantor's right, title and interest in and to all the Collateral as described in the Collateral Description section of this Agreement.

Event of Default. The words "Event of Default" mean any of the events of default set forth in this Agreement in the default section of this Agreement.

Grantor. The word "Granter" means STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP.

Guarantor. The word "Guarantor" means any guarantor, surety, or accommodation party of any or all of the Indebtedness.

Guaranty. The word "Guaranty" means the guaranty from Guarantor to Lender, including without limitation a guaranty of all or part of the Note.

Income and Proceeds. The words "Income and Proceeds" mean all present and future income, proceeds, earnings, increases, and substitutions from or for the Collateral of every kind and nature, including without limitation all payments, interest, profits, distributions, benefits, rights, options, warrants, dividends, stock dividends, stock rights, regulatory dividends, subscriptions, monies, claims for money due and to become due, proceeds of any insurance on the Collateral, shares of stock of different par value or no par value issued in substitution or exchange for shares included in the Collateral, and all other property Granter is entitled to receive on account of such Collateral, including accounts, documents, instruments, chattel paper, investment property, and general intangibles.

Indebtedness. The word "Indebtedness" means the indebtedness evidenced by the Note or Related Documents, including all principal and interest together with all other indebtedness and costs and expenses for which Grantor is responsible under this Agreement or under any of the Related Documents. Specifically, without limitation, Indebtedness includes all amounts that may be indirectly secured by the Cross-Collateralization provision of this Agreement.

Lender. The word "Lender" means BELL BANK, its successors and assigns

Note. The word "Note" means the Note dated December 29, 2022 and executed by STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP in the principal amount of \$26,500,000,00, together with all renewals of, extensions of, modifications of, refinancings of, consolidations of, and substitutions for the note or credit agreement.

Obliger. The word "Obliger" means without limitation any and all persons obligated to pay money or to perform some other act under the Collateral.

Property. The word "Property" means all of Grantor's right, title and interest in and to all the Property as described in the "Collateral Description" section of this Agreement.

Related Documents. The words "Related Documents" mean all promissory notes, credit agreements, loan agreements, environmental agreements, guaranties, security agreements, mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, collateral mortgages, and all other instruments, agreements and documents, whether now or hereafter existing, executed in connection with the Indebtedness.

GRANTOR HAS READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT AND AGREES TO ITS TERMS. THIS AGREEMENT IS DATED DECEMBER 29, 2022.

GRANTOR:

STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP

STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST, General Partner of STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP

By: <u>/s/ Joel S. Thomsen</u> Joel S. Thomsen, President of STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST

Loan No.: 2377986

ADDENDUM TO PROMISSORY NOTE AND COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT

TIDS ADDENDUM TO PROMISSORY NOTE AND COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AND SECURITY AGREEMENT ("Addendum") is entered into and effective as of December 29, 2022, by and between STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP, whose address is 4340 18th Ave S., Suite 200, Fargo, ND 58103 ("Borrower") and BELL BANK ("Lender"), and modifies and amends (a) that certain Promissory Note dated of even date herewith, made payable by Borrower to the order of Lender ("Note"), and (b) that certain Commercial Pledge and Security Agreement dated as of the date hereof by Borrower in favor of Lender ("Pledge Agreement"), each with respect to loans made by Lender to Borrower.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, Borrower and Lender desire to modify and amend certain terms and provisions of the Note and Pledge Agreement as provided in this Addendum.

AGREEMENT:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Borrower and Lender agree as follows:

- I. <u>Definitions</u>. Capitalized terms that are used and not otherwise defined in this Addendum shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in the Note and Pledge Agreement, as applicable. The Note and Pledge Agreement and all ancillary transaction documents are collectively referred to as the "Loan Documents."
 - 2. <u>Amendments to Note</u>. The Note is hereby amended as follows:
 - a. In the section titled "DEFAULT":
 - In the subsection titled "Default in Favor of Third Parties," the phrase: "any of Borrower's property or" is hereby deleted.
 - In the subsection titled "Death or Insolvency," the phrase "or the death of any partner" is hereby deleted.
 - 111. In the subsection titled "Events Affecting Guarantor," the phrase: "dies or becomes incompetent, or" is hereby deleted.
 - 1v. In the subsection titled "Events Affecting General Partner of Borrower," the phrase: "or any general partner dies or becomes incompetent" is hereby deleted.
 - 3. <u>Amendments to Pledge Agreement.</u> The Security Agreement is hereby amended as follows:
 - a. In the section titled "REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTJES WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLATERAL":
 - In the subsection titled "Financing Statements," in the sixth sentence, the phrase "or the name of any individual Grantor, any individual who is a partner for a Grantor, and any individual who is a trustee or settlor or trustor for a Grantor" is hereby deleted. The seventh sentence which reads: "Grantor will also promptly notify Lender of any change to the name that appears on the most recently issued, unexpired driver's license or state-issued identification card, any expiration of the most recently issued driver's license or state issued identification card for Grantor or any individual for whom Grantor is required to provide notice regarding name changes" is hereby deleted.

- b. In the section titled "DEFAULT":
 - In the subsection titled "Insolvency," the phrase "or the death of any partner" is hereby deleted.
 - In the subsection titled "Events Affecting Guarantor," the phrase: "dies or becomes incompetent, or" is hereby deleted.
- 4. <u>No Other Modifications; Incorporation</u>. Except as otherwise modified by this Addendum, all other terms and conditions of the Loan Documents remain unchanged. This Addendum is hereby incorporated into and made a part of the Loan Documents.
- 5. <u>Governing Law.</u> This Addendum shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of North Dakota.
- 6. <u>Severability.</u> It is intended that each paragraph of this Addendum shall be viewed as separate and divisible, and in the event that any paragraph shall be held to be invalid, the remaining paragraphs shall continue to be in full force and effect.
- 7. <u>Provisions Binding.</u> The provisions of this Addendum shall be binding on, and inure to the benefit of, the Parties and their respective legal representatives, successors, heirs and assigns.
- 8. <u>Further Actions.</u> Each party to this Addendum agrees to perform any further acts and sign and deliver any further documents that may be reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this Addendum.
- 9. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Addendum may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 10. <u>Modifications</u>. All modifications to this Addendum shall be in writing and signed by all parties hereto or their successors, assigns or representatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Addendum as of the date first above written.

BORROWER:

STERLING PROPERTIES, LLLP

By: STERLING REAL ESTATE TRUST, its General Partner

Joel S. Thomsen, President

LENDER:

BELL BANK

By: /s/ Nicole Aarestad

Nicole Aarestad, Senior Vice President