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**Less is more, as in balance sheets. - by David Kirk**

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The FOMC announces a 0.5% increase on rates to 0.75%-1% for a soft landing. More job offerings than job seekers and wage gains should persist. Lending should increase the rate in borrowings, easing expansion, fueling inflationary pressures, softly hopefully. The uncertainty of the rippling impact rates should slow the market dynamics, but we will see. Traditional patterns of economic trends are flummoxed, or the economists are wondering and hedging forecasts. Whatever happens, pricing should push and recessionary conditions bubble, even if the boil is short lived.

Because. Depends. Extraordinary job switching during the pandemic and ongoing impacts underscore a sectoral shift that is already historical and will only continue. The life-sciences are leading several metropolitan job markets where the multiplier effect is already spreading impact. Implosions are also reaching scale. Healthcare and infrastructure are moving forward and expected to similarly cause further rippling. No forecast, yet, impacting economic short-term conditions because it depends. Training on the job and academies for growth are proliferating. Dropping education requirements is a trend, no longer anecdotal. New problems need new solutions.

A pause in the markets is predictable. Stabilization in rates could well result from the collision of the downside and upside pressures and momentum of economic balance if not buoyancy and expectations. Economies come in all sizes and interdependencies. Monitoring and preparedness are certainties. Nimble and deliberate, the stewards of the built environment should move through this storm. Metaphors aside, the performance and appeal of commercial property investments have been stable to strong. Probably persist.

If all seems optimistic, much is still in process. Similar to emergency efforts to deal effectively with the pandemic, sectoral enterprise for climate change readiness and amelioration is proliferating. Much to do and to follow, and this a national priority with burdens and benefits. The built environment is the place to implement these priorities. Credits and abatements galore. Technological advancements in abundance. Funding with preferences.

Meeting the challenge is the hallmark of good stewardship of the built environment. Buildings and bridges, bathrooms and benches. WiFi and welfare. It is all connected. More is better. Much higher, as in rates. Longer lasting. Less is more, as in balance sheets.

Happy Springtime!

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