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EQUITY RESIDENTIAL Form 8-K April 19, 2012

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 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): April 18, 2012

# **EQUITY RESIDENTIAL**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction

1-12252 (Commission 13-3675988 (I.R.S. Employer

of incorporation or organization)

File Number)

**Identification Number**)

# ERP OPERATING LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Illinois	0-24920	36-3894853
(State or other jurisdiction	(Commission	(I.R.S. Employer
of incorporation or organization)	File Number)	Identification Number)

Two North Riverside Plaza

Suite 400, Chicago, Illinois
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (312) 474-1300

#### Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2 below):

- " 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)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14-d(b) under the Exchange 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))

#### ITEM 1.01 ENTRY INTO A MATERIAL DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT.

Amendment to Other Interest Agreement

As previously disclosed, ERP Operating Limited Partnership (\_ERP ) and certain affiliates of Bank of America Corp. and Barclays PLC (together, the \_Sellers ), are parties to an Other Interest Agreement dated as of December 2, 2011 (as amended on February 17, 2012, the \_Other Interest Agreement ). Pursuant to the Other Interest Agreement, at any time from January 20, 2012 through and including April 19, 2012 (the \_Exercise Period ), ERP is entitled, but not obligated, to exercise its right to acquire the remaining 26.5% interest held by the Sellers (the \_Other Interests ) in various entities affiliated with Archstone, a privately-held owner, operator and developer of multifamily apartment properties (the \_Archstone Entities ).

On April 18, 2012, ERP and the Sellers entered into the Second Amendment to Other Interest Agreement (the <u>Amendment</u>) extending the Exercise Period through May 21, 2012, and increasing the total minimum consideration to be paid by ERP to the Sellers upon the exercise of its rights under the Other Interest Agreement to \$1,500,000,000. Other than as set forth in the Amendment, the terms of the Other Interest Agreement remain in full force and effect as previously disclosed.

#### Other Matters

Certain affiliates of the Sellers have performed investment banking, commercial banking and advisory services for ERP and its affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and reimbursement of expenses. Certain affiliates of the Sellers may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for ERP in the ordinary course of their business for which they will receive customary fees and reimbursement of expenses. In addition, certain of the Sellers or their affiliates are lenders, and in some cases agents or arrangers for the lenders, under ERP s unsecured revolving credit facility and certain other credit facilities.

The foregoing description of the Other Interest Agreement, as amended by the Amendment, is not complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Other Interest Agreement and the Amendment, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### ITEM 7.01 REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE.

On April 18, 2012, Equity Residential issued a press release announcing the execution of the Amendment. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is being furnished and shall not be deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission nor incorporated by reference in any registration statement filed by Equity Residential or ERP under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Statements in this Current Report on Form 8-K, and other statements that ERP or Equity Residential may make, including statements about the benefits of the acquisition of any interests in the Archstone Entities, may contain forward-looking statements that involve numerous risks and uncertainties. The statements contained in this Current Report on Form 8-K that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including, without limitation, statements regarding the expected benefits and closing of the acquisition, the management of ERP s expectations, beliefs and intentions. All forward-looking statements included in this communication are based on information available to Equity Residential and ERP on the date hereof. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, can, will, could, anticipates, intends, believes, estimates, predicts, potential, targets, goals, projects, preliminary, outlook. such words, similar expressions, or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. No assurance can be given that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do so, what impact they will have on Equity Residential s or ERP s results of operations or financial condition. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. Neither Equity Residential, ERP nor any other person can assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of forward-looking statements. There are various important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in any such forward-looking statements, many of which are beyond ERP's and Equity Residential's control. These factors include, at a minimum: any determination regarding the exercise of ERP s rights under the Other Interest Agreement as amended by the Amendment; any exercise of the right of first offer; failure to obtain, delays in obtaining or adverse conditions contained in any required regulatory or other approvals; failure to consummate or delay in consummating the acquisition for other reasons; changes in laws or regulations; failure of the investment in the Archstone Entities to perform as expected, even in the event an acquisition is consummated; inability to influence the operations and control of the Archstone Entities following consummation of any such acquisition; and changes in general economic conditions. ERP and Equity Residential undertake no obligation (and expressly disclaim any such obligation) to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. For additional information, please refer to

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ERP s and Equity Residential s most recent Form 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K reports filed with the SEC.

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#### ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

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Number Description

Second Amendment to Other Interest Agreement, dated April 18, 2012, by and among ERP Operating Limited Partnership, BIH

ASN LLC, Archstone Equity Holdings Inc., Bank of America, N.A. and Banc of America Strategic Ventures, Inc.

99.1 Press Release dated April 18, 2012.

#### **SIGNATURES**

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

## **EQUITY RESIDENTIAL**

Date: April 19, 2012 By: /s/ Mark J. Parrell

Date: April 19, 2012

Name: Mark J. Parrell

ts: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

#### ERP OPERATING LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

By: Equity Residential, its general partner

By: /s/ Mark J. Parrell

Name: Mark J. Parrell

Its: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer