

MERITAGE HOMES REPORTS THIRD QUARTER 2022 RESULTS INCLUDING A 35% INCREASE IN DILUTED EPS, HIGHEST QUARTERLY HOME CLOSING REVENUE AND RECORD SG&A LEVERAGE OF 8.1%

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Oct. 26, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Meritage Homes Corporation (NYSE: MTH), a leading U.S. homebuilder, reported third quarter results for the period ended September 30, 2022.

Summary Operating Results (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Т	Three Months Ended September 30,					Nine Months	Ended September 30,					
		2022		2021	% Chg		2022		2021	% Chg			
Homes closed (units)		3,487		3,112	12 %		9,566		9,275	3 %			
Home closing revenue	\$	1,569,032	\$	1,251,435	25 %	\$	4,223,435	\$	3,596,060	17 %			
Average sales price - closings	\$	450	\$	402	12 %	\$	442	\$	388	14 %			
Home orders (units)		2,310		3,441	(33)%		9,951		10,441	(5)%			
Home order value	\$	974,314	\$	1,488,951	(35)%	\$	4,551,894	\$	4,337,753	5 %			
Average sales price - orders	\$	422	\$	433	(3)%	\$	457	\$	415	10 %			
Ending backlog (units)							6,064		5,838	4 %			
Ending backlog value						\$	2,826,759	\$	2,555,405	11 %			
Average sales price - backlog						\$	466	\$	438	6 %			
Earnings before income taxes	\$	329,491	\$	261,709	26 %	\$	947,069	\$	643,337	47 %			
Net earnings	\$	262,489	\$	200,752	31 %	\$	729,827	\$	499,984	46 %			
Diluted EPS	\$	7.10	\$	5.25	35 %	\$	19.65	\$	13.06	50 %			

MANAGEMENT COMMENTS

"Despite a rapidly evolving housing market challenged by interest rate hikes, supply chain issues, Hurricane lan and market uncertainty, in the third quarter of 2022, Meritage achieved its highest quarterly home closing revenue and record quarterly diluted earnings per share," said Steven J. Hilton, executive chairman of Meritage Homes.

"Our closings of 3,487 homes this quarter were 12% greater than prior year," added Phillippe Lord, chief executive officer of Meritage Homes. "Our third quarter 2022 home closing revenue of \$1.6 billion combined with our home closing gross margin of 28.7%, our lowest SG&A leverage of 8.1% and an energy tax credit catch-up of \$13.1 million, led to a 35% year-over-year increase in our diluted EPS from \$5.25 to \$7.10 this quarter."

"However, sales orders fell sharply during the quarter. The third quarter 2022 sales orders of 2,310 homes were 33% lower than prior year primarily due to elevated cancellations. The cancellation rate was 30% this quarter. Gross sales orders declined 14% year-over-year, confirming that underlying home demand is stronger than the net numbers convey. Our third quarter 2022 average absorption pace was 2.7 per month, which was down from 5.0 per month in the third quarter of 2021. We expect sales orders will remain weaker until mortgage interest rates stabilize, we complete more move-in ready inventory and close out of our mature backlog. In each market, we are working to find the right combination of price adjustments and incentives to get back to our target absorption pace of 3-4 net sales per month," Mr. Lord continued.

"We believe the continuation of the rapidly increasing mortgage interest rates, expectations of further significant increases to come, inflation and uncertainty in the economy are temporarily outweighing the positive impact of favorable demographics and the low supply of new and resale housing inventory on demand," said Mr. Lord. "The market deterioration we experienced at the end of the second quarter deepened throughout the third quarter. Our various discounting and incentive initiatives are helping to attract and retain customers, but we are seeing some homebuyers hold off on their purchase decisions due to uncertain market conditions."

"Building materials and labor shortages are still delaying a return to normal cycle times, but we are confident that our pre-started inventory strategy executed by our exceptional team will ensure that we close timely on our current backlog while offering move-in ready homes for our future homebuyers," remarked Mr. Lord. "We remain committed to growing Meritage's market share and maximizing shareholder return in this evolving market."

"Although Meritage's community count grew 17% year-over-year, the 275 active communities at September 30, 2022 were 9% lower sequentially compared to June 30, 2022. In response to weakening demand, we added only approximately 1,800 new lots under control, while we reassessed our land positions and successfully reduced our lot supply since the beginning of this year. We terminated options on our lowest performing land deals, which totaled roughly 5,200 lots with a corresponding \$8.8 million walk-away charge this quarter. We spent \$380 million on land acquisition and development this quarter and at September 30, 2022, lot supply totaled approximately 66,000," said Mr. Lord. "We feel confident we have ample liquidity and a healthy balance sheet to manage through this changing environment. We had nothing drawn under our credit facility and our net debt-to-capital was 18.9% at September 30, 2022."

Mr. Lord concluded, "We continue to monitor and evaluate shifting market conditions. We are projecting 4,300-4,700 home closings for the fourth quarter of 2022, which we anticipate will generate quarterly home closing revenue of \$1.85-2.10 billion. Home closing gross margin is projected to be around 25%, reflecting the increased incentives we have been offering the last couple of quarters. With a projected effective tax rate of 23.5%, we expect diluted EPS to be in the range of \$6.50-7.40 for the fourth quarter of 2022."

THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

- Total sales orders of 2,310 homes for the third quarter of 2022 were 33% lower than prior year despite a 25% year-over-year increase in average community count. The average absorption pace decreased 46% to 2.7 per month from 5.0 in the prior year primarily due to our elevated cancellation rate of 30% this quarter. Gross sales orders of 3,291 homes declined 14% compared to the third quarter of 2021. Entry-level represented 88% of third quarter 2022 orders, compared to 84% in the prior year. Average sales price ("ASP") on orders decreased 3% year-over-year to \$422,000 in the third quarter of 2022 and decreased 12% sequentially from \$480,000 in the second quarter of 2022.
- The 25% year-over-year increase in home closing revenue to \$1.6 billion for the third quarter of 2022 was due to 12% greater home closing volume and 12% higher ASPs on closings compared to prior year.
- The 100 bps deterioration in third quarter 2022 home closing gross margin to 28.7% from 29.7% a year ago mainly resulted from greater incentives, \$8.8 million in write-offs related to the lot option deposits and diligence costs from terminated land deals and higher direct costs. In the third quarter of 2021, the write-offs for terminated land deals totaled \$0.9 million.
- Selling, general and administrative expenses ("SG&A") were 8.1% of third quarter 2022 home closing revenue, a 120 bps improvement over 9.3% in the prior year resulting from greater leverage of fixed expenses on higher home closing revenue as well as lower commissions expense as a percentage of home closing revenue.
- The third quarter effective income tax rate was 20.3% in 2022 compared to 23.3% in 2021. The 2022 rate reflected earned eligible energy tax credits on qualifying homes we delivered in the first nine months of 2022, as the Inflation Reduction Act ("IRA") enacted in August 2022 retroactively extended the Internal Revenue Code §45L new energy-efficient homes credit. The 2021 rate similarly benefited from the Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act passed in December 2019 ("2019 Act").
- Net earnings were \$262.5 million (\$7.10 per diluted share) for the third quarter of 2022, a 31% increase over \$200.8 million (\$5.25 per diluted share) for the third quarter of 2021. Strong earnings growth reflected pricing power, improved overhead leverage and a catch-up of tax credits, which combined with a lower outstanding share count in the current quarter, led to a 35% year-over-year improvement in earnings per diluted share.

YEAR TO DATE RESULTS

- Total sales orders of 9,951 homes for the first nine months of 2022 decreased 5% over prior year despite a 29% year-over-year increase in average community count. The year to date September 2022 average absorption pace declined 26% due to elevated cancellations.
- Home closing revenue increased 17% for the first nine months of 2022 to \$4.2 billion due to 14% higher ASPs on closings given the favorable pricing environment and 3% greater home closing volume.
- The 270 bps improvement for home closing gross margin in the first nine months of 2022 to 30.1% from 27.4% was primarily due to higher ASPs on closings resulting from favorable pricing and better leveraging of fixed costs on greater home closing revenue. The year to date 2022 home closing gross margin included \$11.6 million of write-offs from terminated land deals related to lot option deposits and diligence costs,

which compared to \$2.1 million in the prior year.

- SG&A as a percentage of home closing revenue improved 110 bps year-over-year to 8.3% from 9.4% in the first nine months of 2021, due to greater leverage of overhead expenses on higher home closing revenue and lower commissions expense as a percentage of home closing revenue.
- In the first nine months of 2021, we recognized a loss on early extinguishment of debt of \$18.2 million in connection with the early redemption in April 2021 of our 7.00% senior notes due 2022. There were no such transactions in the first nine months of 2022.
- The effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2022 was 22.9%, compared to 22.3% for the first nine months of 2021. Tax credits earned on qualifying energy-efficient homes we delivered in the first nine months of 2022 resulted from the passage of the IRA while those related to the prior year were under the 2019 Act.
- Net earnings were \$729.8 million (\$19.65 per diluted share) for the first nine months of 2022, a 46% increase over \$500.0 million (\$13.06 per diluted share) for the first nine months of 2021, primarily reflecting pricing power, expanded gross margin and greater overhead leverage in 2022, as well as a lower outstanding share count in the first nine months of 2022.

BALANCE SHEET

- Cash and cash equivalents at September 30, 2022 totaled \$299.4 million, compared to \$618.3 million at December 31, 2021, primarily as a result of investments in real estate. Real estate assets increased from \$3.7 billion at December 31, 2021 to \$4.7 billion at September 30, 2022.
- A total of approximately 66,000 lots were owned or controlled as of September 30, 2022 compared to approximately 70,000 total lots at September 30, 2021.
- Debt-to-capital and net debt-to-capital ratios were 23.9% and 18.9%, respectively, at September 30, 2022, which compared to 27.6% and 15.1%, respectively, at December 31, 2021.
- The Company repurchased 1,166,040 shares of stock for a total of \$109.3 million during the first nine months of 2022. There were no share repurchases during the current quarter. As of September 30, 2022, \$244.1 million remained available to repurchase under our authorized share repurchase program.

CONFERENCE CALL

Management will host a conference call to discuss its third quarter results at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (11:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time) on Thursday, October 27, 2022. The call will be webcast live with an accompanying slideshow available on the "Investor Relations" page of the Company's website at https://investors.meritagehomes.com. Telephone participants will be able to join by dialing in to 1-877-407-6951 US toll free or 1-412-902-0046 on the day of the call.

A replay of the call will be available via webcast beginning at approximately 11:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time) on October 27, 2022 and extending through November 10, 2022, at https://investors.meritagehomes.com.

Meritage Homes Corporation and Subsidiaries Consolidated Income Statements (In thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

Tillee Molitiis Eliueu Septellibel 30,	Three	Months	Ended	September 30,
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		2022	2021	Change \$	Change %
Homebuilding:			 		
Home closing revenue	\$	1,569,032	\$ 1,251,435	\$ 317,597	25 %
Land closing revenue		8,989	8,470	519	6 %
Total closing revenue		1,578,021	 1,259,905	318,116	25 %
Cost of home closings		(1,118,394)	 (879,759)	238,635	27 %
Cost of land closings		(8,577)	(7,706)	871	11 %
Total cost of closings		(1,126,971)	(887,465)	 239,506	27 %
Home closing gross profit		450,638	371,676	 78,962	21 %
Land closing gross profit		412	764	(352)	(46)%
Total closing gross profit		451,050	372,440	78,610	21 %
Financial Services:					
Revenue		6,308	5,208	1,100	21 %
Expense		(2,804)	(2,308)	496	21 %
Earnings from financial services unconsolidated entities and other, net		1,338	1,324	14	1 %
Financial services profit		4,842	4,224	618	15 %
Commissions and other sales costs	_	(77,884)	(68,952)	 8,932	13 %
General and administrative expenses		(48,443)	(47,192)	1,251	3 %
Interest expense		_	(79)	(79)	(100)%
Other (expense)/income, net		(74)	1,268	(1,342)	(106)%
Earnings before income taxes		329,491	261,709	67,782	26 %
Provision for income taxes		(67,002)	(60,957)	6,045	10 %
Net earnings	\$	262,489	\$ 200,752	\$ 61,737	31 %

Earnings per common share:

Basic			(Change \$ or shares	Change %
Earnings per common share	\$ 7.18	\$ 5.33	\$	1.85	35 %
Weighted average shares outstanding	36,569	37,647		(1,078)	(3)%
Diluted					
Earnings per common share	\$ 7.10	\$ 5.25	\$	1.85	35 %
Weighted average shares outstanding	36,946	38,229		(1,283)	(3)%

Nine	Months	Ended	September 30,

	2022	2021		Change \$	Change %
Homebuilding:					
Home closing revenue	\$ 4,223,435	\$ 3,596,060	\$	627,375	17 %
Land closing revenue	53,901	25,225		28,676	114 %
Total closing revenue	4,277,336	3,621,285		656,051	18 %
Cost of home closings	(2,950,409)	(2,612,428)		337,981	13 %
Cost of land closings	(42,046)	(24,246)		17,800	73 %
Total cost of closings	(2,992,455)	(2,636,674)		355,781	13 %
Home closing gross profit	1,273,026	983,632		289,394	29 %
Land closing gross profit	11,855	979		10,876	1,111 %
Total closing gross profit	1,284,881	984,611		300,270	30 %
Financial Services:					
Revenue	16,119	15,624		495	3 %
Expense	(7,897)	(6,846)		1,051	15 %
Earnings from financial services unconsolidated entities and other, net	4,033	3,821		212	6 %
Financial services profit	 12,255	 12,599	_	(344)	(3)%
Commissions and other sales costs	(212,807)	(210,585)		2,222	1 %
General and administrative expenses	(136,370)	(128,297)		8,073	6 %
Interest expense	(41)	(246)		(205)	(83)%
Other (expense)/ income, net	(849)	3,443		(4,292)	(125)%
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	_	(18,188)		(18,188)	n/a
Earnings before income taxes	947,069	643,337		303,732	47 %
Provision for income taxes	 (217,242)	(143,353)		73,889	52 %
Net earnings	\$ 729,827	\$ 499,984	\$	229,843	46 %

Earnings per common share:

•			(Change \$ or	or			
Basic				shares	Change %			
Earnings per common share	\$ 19.87	\$ 13.26	\$	6.61	50 %			
Weighted average shares outstanding	36,736	37,703		(967)	(3)%			
Diluted								
Earnings per common share	\$ 19.65	\$ 13.06	\$	6.59	50 %			
Weighted average shares outstanding	37,136	38,285		(1,149)	(3)%			

Meritage Homes Corporation and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Se	ptember 30, 2022	D	December 31, 2021	
Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	299,387	\$	618,335	
Other receivables		193,307		147,548	
Real estate ⁽¹⁾		4,726,262		3,734,408	
Real estate not owned		_		8,011	
Deposits on real estate under option or contract		88,428		90,679	
Investments in unconsolidated entities		11,356		5,764	
Property and equipment, net		39,437		37,340	
Deferred tax asset, net		41,060		40,672	
Prepaids, other assets and goodwill		171,853		124,776	
Total assets	\$	5,571,090	\$	4,807,533	
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$	322,227	\$	216,009	
Accrued liabilities		353,512		337,277	
Home sale deposits		57,767		42,610	
Liabilities related to real estate not owned		_		7,210	
Loans payable and other borrowings		12,460		17,552	
Senior notes, net		1,143,314		1,142,486	
Total liabilities		1,889,280		1,763,144	
Stockholders' Equity:					
Preferred stock		_		_	
Common stock		366		373	
Additional paid-in capital		322,442		414,841	
Retained earnings		3,359,002		2,629,175	
Total stockholders' equity		3,681,810		3,044,389	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	5,571,090	\$	4,807,533	
(1) Real estate – Allocated costs:					
Homes under contract under construction	\$	1,452,691	\$	1,039,822	
Unsold homes, completed and under construction		986,862		484,999	
Model homes		87,550		81,049	
Finished home sites and home sites under development		2,199,159		2,128,538	
Total real estate	\$	4,726,262	\$	3,734,408	

Supplemental Information and Non-GAAP Financial Disclosures (Dollars in thousands – unaudited):

	Three Months Ended September 30,					Nine Months Ended September 30,				
		2022		2021		2022		2021		
Depreciation and amortization	\$	5,822	\$	6,478	\$	17,545	\$	19,892		
Non-cash charges	\$	8,791	\$	877	\$	11,608	\$	2,092		
Summary of Capitalized Interest:										
Capitalized interest, beginning of period	\$	61,459	\$	56,710	\$	56,253	\$	58,940		
Interest incurred		15,179		15,212		45,563		47,625		
Interest expensed		_		(79)		(41)		(246)		
Interest amortized to cost of home and land closings		(14,548)		(14,550)		(39,685)		(49,026)		
Capitalized interest, end of period	\$	62,090	\$	57,293	\$	62,090	\$	57,293		
	September 30, 2022		D	ecember 31, 2021						
Senior notes, net, loans payable and other borrowings	\$	1,155,774	\$	1,160,038						
Stockholders' equity		3,681,810		3,044,389						
Total capital	\$	4,837,584	\$	4,204,427						
Debt-to-capital		23.9%		27.6%						
Senior notes, net, loans payable and other borrowings	\$	1,155,774	\$	1,160,038						
Less: cash and cash equivalents		(299,387)		(618,335)						
Net debt	\$	856,387	\$	541,703						
Stockholders' equity		3,681,810		3,044,389						
Total net capital	\$	4,538,197	\$	3,586,092						
Net debt-to-capital		18.9%		15.1%						

Meritage Homes Corporation and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended So			eptember 30,	
		2022		2021	
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net earnings	\$	729,827	\$	499,984	
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash used in operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization		17,545		19,892	
Stock-based compensation		16,897		14,435	
Loss on early extinguishment of debt		_		18,188	
Equity in earnings from unconsolidated entities		(3,703)		(2,878)	
Distribution of earnings from unconsolidated entities		3,785		3,324	
Other		11,154		(3,085)	
Changes in assets and liabilities:					
Increase in real estate		(990,106)		(810,731)	
Decrease/(increase) in deposits on real estate under option or contract		176		(18,453)	
Increase in other receivables, prepaids and other assets		(89,177)		(51,611)	
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		118,636		67,301	
Increase in home sale deposits		15,157		14,928	
Net cash used in operating activities		(169,809)		(248,706)	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Investments in unconsolidated entities		(5,674)		(1)	
Distributions of capital from unconsolidated entities		_		_	
Purchases of property and equipment		(19,537)		(17,910)	
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment		328		404	
Maturities/sales of investments and securities		1,032		2,795	
Payments to purchase investments and securities		(1,032)		(2,795)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(24,883)		(17,507)	
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Repayment of loans payable and other borrowings		(14,953)		(6,308)	
Repayment of senior notes		_		(317,690)	
Proceeds from issuance of senior notes		_		450,000	
Payment of debt issuance costs		_		(6,102)	
Repurchase of shares		(109,303)		(37,017)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(124,256)		82,883	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(318,948)		(183,330)	
Beginning cash and cash equivalents		618,335		745,621	
Ending cash and cash equivalents	\$	299,387	\$	562,291	

Meritage Homes Corporation and Subsidiaries Operating Data (Dollars in thousands) (Unaudited)

Three Months Ended September 30,

	20	2022			2021			
	Homes		Value	Homes		Value		
Homes Closed:				_		_		
Arizona	599	\$	254,530	532	\$	193,847		
California	321		236,872	295		177,623		
Colorado	166		98,625	144		80,149		
West Region	1,086		590,027	971		451,619		
Texas	1,218		499,713	1,012		383,206		
Central Region	1,218		499,713	1,012		383,206		
Florida	426		166,138	386		139,642		
Georgia	117		53,108	139		52,004		
North Carolina	340		148,111	371		145,268		
South Carolina	147		48,777	92		31,686		
Tennessee	153		63,158	141		48,010		
East Region	1,183		479,292	1,129		416,610		
Total	3,487	\$	1,569,032	3,112	\$	1,251,435		
Homes Ordered:								
Arizona	232	\$	97,462	550	\$	233,828		
California	187		122,994	319		213,859		
Colorado	37		20,642	207		123,242		
West Region	456		241,098	1,076		570,929		
Texas	635		253,321	1,070		427,689		
Central Region	635		253,321	1,070		427,689		
Florida	531		214,004	534		192,479		
Georgia	175		71,731	176		74,766		
North Carolina	251		98,147	347		140,135		
South Carolina	137		42,728	100		31,535		
Tennessee	125		53,285	138	_	51,418		
East Region	1,219		479,895	1,295		490,333		
Total	2,310	\$	974,314	3,441	\$	1,488,951		

Nine Months Ended September 30,

	20		2021			
	Homes		Value	Homes		Value
Homes Closed:				_		
Arizona	1,599	\$	687,527	1,423	\$	497,105
California	852		597,913	890		547,754
Colorado	424		254,089	464		239,399
West Region	2,875		1,539,529	2,777		1,284,258
Texas	3,139		1,269,868	3,129		1,105,429
Central Region	3,139		1,269,868	3,129		1,105,429
Florida	1,301		503,820	1,246		440,847
Georgia	423		190,769	456		169,620
North Carolina	996		415,975	1,000		372,119
South Carolina	400		132,855	258		87,741
Tennessee	432		170,619	409		136,046
East Region	3,552		1,414,038	3,369		1,206,373
Total	9,566	\$	4,223,435	9,275	\$	3,596,060
Homes Ordered:						
Arizona	1,342	\$	594,631	1,776	\$	713,067
California	888		642,938	949		604,478
Colorado	406		249,105	557		317,155
West Region	2,636		1,486,674	3,282		1,634,700
Texas	3,027		1,293,282	3,286		1,248,032
Central Region	3,027		1,293,282	3,286		1,248,032
Florida	1,788		724,209	1,481		547,706
Georgia	620		280,010	533		213,632
North Carolina	1,015		439,618	1,156		450,854
South Carolina	435		146,100	264		90,532
Tennessee	430		182,001	439		152,297
East Region	4,288		1,771,938	3,873		1,455,021
Total	9,951	\$	4,551,894	10,441	\$	4,337,753
Order Backlog:						
Arizona	888	\$	397,695	1,346	\$	560,090
California	429		314,622	503		331,454
Colorado	310		192,763	301		182,536
West Region	1,627		905,080	2,150		1,074,080
Texas	1,766		790,227	1,787		715,226
Central Region	1,766		790,227	1,787		715,226
Florida	1,355		571,001	785		321,831
Georgia	400		180,059	233		101,996
North Carolina	584		247,405	610		242,192
South Carolina	168		57,664	126		44,028
Tennessee	164		75,323	147		56,052
East Region	2,671		1,131,452	1,901		766,099
Total	6,064	\$	2,826,759	5,838	\$	2,555,405

Meritage Homes Corporation and Subsidiaries Operating Data (Unaudited)

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I hree	Months	Ended	Sentem	ber 30

	202	2022		2021	
	Ending	Average	Ending	Average	
Active Communities:					
Arizona	52	54.0	38	38.0	
California	32	32.0	18	19.0	
Colorado	18	18.5	16	16.5	
West Region	102	104.5	72	73.5	
Texas	74	77.0	68	66.0	
Central Region	74	77.0	68	66.0	
Florida	30	35.5	38	36.0	
Georgia	18	16.0	12	11.0	
North Carolina	27	29.5	26	26.0	
South Carolina	12	14.5	11	9.0	
Tennessee	12	12.0	9	9.5	
East Region	99	107.5	96	91.5	
Total	275	289.0	236	231.0	

Nine Months Ended September 30,

	202	2022		2021	
	Ending	Average	Ending	Average	
Active Communities:					
Arizona	52	46.8	38	35.5	
California	32	27.3	18	18.3	
Colorado	18	18.0	16	14.0	
West Region	102	92.1	72	67.8	
Texas	74	75.6	68	63.6	
Central Region	74	75.6	68	63.6	
Florida	30	38.4	38	33.3	
Georgia	18	15.5	12	10.3	
North Carolina	27	28.6	26	24.3	
South Carolina	12	14.0	11	7.5	
Tennessee	12	12.5	9	8.5	
East Region	99	109.0	96	83.9	
Total	275	276.7	236	215.3	

About Meritage Homes Corporation

Meritage Homes is the seventh-largest public homebuilder in the United States, based on homes closed in 2021. The Company offers a variety of entry-level and first move-up homes. Operations span across Arizona, California, Colorado, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Utah.

Meritage Homes has delivered over 160,000 homes in its 36-year history, and has a reputation for its distinctive style, quality construction, and award-winning customer experience. The Company is the industry leader in energy-efficient homebuilding and a nine-time recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year for Sustained Excellence Award since 2013 for innovation and industry leadership in energy efficient homebuilding, and the recipient of the EPA Indoor airPLUS Leader Award.

For more information, visit www.meritagehomes.com.

The information included in this press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include expectations about the housing market in general; expectations about our future results; and projected fourth quarter 2022 home closings, home closing revenue, home closing gross margin, effective tax rate and diluted earnings per share.

Such statements are based on the current beliefs and expectations of Company management and current market conditions, which are subject to significant uncertainties and fluctuations. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. The Company makes no commitment, and disclaims any duty, except as

required by law, to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect future events or changes in these expectations. Meritage's business is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. As a result of those risks and uncertainties, the Company's stock and note prices may fluctuate dramatically. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following: changes in interest rates, the availability and pricing of residential mortgages and the potential benefits of rate locks; inflation in the cost of materials used to develop communities and construct homes; supply chain and labor constraints; our ability to acquire and develop lots may be negatively impacted if we are unable to obtain performance and surety bonds; the ability of our potential buyers to sell their existing homes; legislation related to tariffs; the adverse effect of slow absorption rates; impairments of our real estate inventory; cancellation rates; competition; home warranty and construction defect claims; failures in health and safety performance; fluctuations in quarterly operating results; our level of indebtedness; our ability to obtain financing if our credit ratings are downgraded; our potential exposure to and impacts from natural disasters or severe weather conditions; the availability and cost of finished lots and undeveloped land; the success of our strategy to offer and market entry-level and first move-up homes; a change to the feasibility of projects under option or contract that could result in the write-down or write-off of earnest money or option deposits; our limited geographic diversification; the replication of our energy-efficient technologies by our competitors; shortages in the availability and cost of subcontract labor; our exposure to information technology failures and security breaches and the impact thereof; the loss of key personnel; changes in tax laws that adversely impact us or our homebuyers; our inability to prevail on contested tax positions; failure of our employees and representatives to comply with laws and regulations; our compliance with government regulations related to our financial services operations; negative publicity that affects our reputation; potential disruptions to our business by an epidemic or pandemic (such as COVID-19), and measures that federal, state and local governments and/or health authorities implement to address it; and other factors identified in documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including those set forth in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021 and our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2022 under the caption "Risk Factors," which can be found on our website at investors.meritagehomes.com.

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Source: Meritage Homes Corporation