

March 13, 2013



# COPT Prices Offering of 3,900,000 Common Shares

COLUMBIA, Md.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT or the Company) (NYSE: OFC) has priced its previously announced public offering of 3,900,000 newly issued common shares of beneficial interest for estimated gross proceeds, before deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses, of approximately \$106.3 million. The Company has granted the underwriter an option to purchase up to an additional 585,000 shares during the next 30 days.

The offering is expected to close on or about March 19, 2013. The Company intends to use the proceeds to redeem its outstanding 7.625% Series J Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares (NYSE: OFCPrJ) and for general corporate purposes.

BofA Merrill Lynch is acting as the book-running manager for the common share offering and may offer the common shares from time to time for sale in one or more transactions on the New York Stock Exchange, in the over-the-counter market, through negotiated transactions or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

Copies of the prospectus supplement, when available, and the accompanying prospectus relating to these securities may be obtained without charge from BofA Merrill Lynch, 222 Broadway, New York, NY 10038 Attn: Prospectus Department, or by email at [dg.prospectus\\_requests@baml.com](mailto:dg.prospectus_requests@baml.com). A copy of the prospectus supplement and accompanying base prospectus may also be obtained without charge by visiting the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

This announcement shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or other jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or other jurisdiction.

## **Company Information**

COPT is an office REIT that focuses primarily on serving the specialized requirements of U.S. Government agencies and defense contractors, most of whom are engaged in defense information technology and national security-related activities. The Company generally acquires, develops, manages and leases office and data center properties concentrated in large office parks primarily located near knowledge-based government demand drivers and/or in targeted markets or submarkets in the Greater Washington, DC/Baltimore region. As of December 31, 2012, the Company's consolidated portfolio consisted of 208 office properties totaling 18.8 million rentable square feet. COPT is an S&P MidCap 400 company.

## **Forward-Looking Information**

*This press release may contain “forward-looking” statements, as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, that are based on the Company’s current expectations, estimates and projections about future events and financial trends affecting the Company. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “estimate,” “plan” or other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties, many of which the Company cannot predict with accuracy and some of which the Company might not even anticipate. Accordingly, the Company can give no assurance that these expectations, estimates and projections will be achieved. Future events and actual results may differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements.*

*Important factors that may affect these expectations, estimates, and projections include, but are not limited to:*

- general economic and business conditions, which will, among other things, affect office property and data center demand and rents, tenant creditworthiness, interest rates, financing availability and property values;*
- adverse changes in the real estate markets including, among other things, increased competition with other companies;*
- governmental actions and initiatives, including risks associated with the impact of a government shutdown or budgetary reductions or impasses, such as a reduction in rental revenues, non-renewal of leases, and/or a curtailment of demand for additional space by the Company’s strategic customers;*
- the Company’s ability to borrow on favorable terms;*
- risks of real estate acquisition and development activities, including, among other things, risks that development projects may not be completed on schedule, that tenants may not take occupancy or pay rent or that development or operating costs may be greater than anticipated;*
- the Company’s ability to sell properties included in its Strategic Reallocation Plan;*
- risks of investing through joint venture structures, including risks that the Company’s joint venture partners may not fulfill their financial obligations as investors or may take actions that are inconsistent with the Company’s objectives;*
- changes in the Company’s plans for properties or views of market economic conditions or failure to obtain development rights, either of which could result in recognition of significant impairment losses;*
- the Company’s ability to satisfy and operate effectively under Federal income tax rules relating to real estate investment trusts and partnerships;*
- the Company’s ability to achieve projected results;*
- the dilutive effects of issuing additional common shares; and*
- environmental requirements.*

*The Company undertakes no obligation to update or supplement any forward-looking*

*statements. For further information, please refer to the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, particularly the section entitled "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.*

Corporate Office Properties Trust

IR Contacts:

Stephanie Krewson, 443-285-5453

VP, Investor Relations

[stephanie.krewson@copt.com](mailto:stephanie.krewson@copt.com)

or

Michelle Layne, 443-285-5452

Investor Relations Specialist

[michelle.layne@copt.com](mailto:michelle.layne@copt.com)

Source: Corporate Office Properties Trust