

CEDAR SHOPPING CENTERS INC

Form 424B5

December 02, 2004

Table of Contents

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-114710**

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated May 4, 2004)

2,500,000 Shares

Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc.

Common Stock

We are offering 2,500,000 shares of our common stock.

Investing in our common stock involves risks that are described in the Risk Factors section beginning on page 3 of the accompanying prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDR. The last reported sale price for the common stock on November 29, 2004 was \$14.03 per share.

The underwriters have agreed to purchase the shares of common stock offered hereby from us at a purchase price of \$13.3285 per share, which will result in net proceeds (before expenses) to us of \$33,321,250. The underwriters are offering the shares at an initial public offering price of \$13.60 per share, for total gross proceeds of \$34,000,000 and an underwriting discount of \$.2715 per share, or \$678,750 in the aggregate. After the initial public offering, the underwriters may change the public offering price and other selling terms.

The underwriters may also purchase up to 375,000 additional shares from us at the initial public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement to cover overallotments.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The shares of common stock will be ready for delivery through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company on or about December 3, 2004.

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Raymond James

The date of this prospectus supplement is November 30, 2004.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| Use of Proceeds | S-1 |
| The Company | S-2 |
| Recent Developments | S-2 |
| Underwriting | S-3 |
| Legal Matters | S-5 |
| Experts | S-5 |
| Incorporation of Certain Information By Reference | S-5 |
| Where You Can Find More Information | S-5 |
| Forward-Looking Statements | S-6 |

Prospectus

| | |
|---|----|
| About this Prospectus | 1 |
| Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference | 1 |
| The Company | 2 |
| Risk Factors | 3 |
| Use of Proceeds | 11 |
| Description of Preferred Stock | 11 |
| Description of Depositary Shares | 17 |
| Description of Common Stock | 20 |
| Description of Warrants | 20 |
| Description of Stock Purchase Contracts | 21 |
| Description of Units | 22 |
| Plan of Distribution | 22 |
| Legal Matters | 23 |
| Experts | 23 |
| Where You Can Find More Information | 23 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

THE COMPANY

RISK FACTORS

USE OF PROCEEDS

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

LEGAL MATTERS

EXPERTS

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds of this offering, after deducting the underwriting discount and other offering expenses, will be about \$33.2 million (or \$38.2 million if the underwriters fully exercise the over-allotment option). We will contribute the net proceeds from this offering to Cedar Shopping Centers Partnership, L.P., our operating partnership, which presently intends to use all the net proceeds from this offering to repay amounts outstanding on our secured revolving credit facility. As of November 29, 2004, we had approximately \$66.6 million outstanding on our secured revolving credit facility, which matures in January 2007. Borrowings under our secured revolving credit facility bear interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 150 to 205 basis points depending on our overall leverage ratio. We may then borrow from time to time under our secured revolving credit facility to provide funds for general working capital and other corporate purposes, including the acquisition of additional properties and the redevelopment or development of existing or new properties.

S-1

Table of Contents

THE COMPANY

We were organized in 1984 and elected to be taxed as a REIT in 1986. We are a fully integrated, self-administered and self-managed real estate company. We acquire, own, manage, lease and redevelop primarily community and neighborhood shopping centers located primarily in Pennsylvania. As of September 30, 2004, we owned 28 properties, aggregating approximately 4.3 million square feet of gross leasable area, or GLA, including 22 wholly-owned properties comprising approximately 3.6 million square feet of GLA and six properties owned through joint ventures comprising approximately 700,000 square feet of GLA. The portfolio was approximately 95% leased as of that date, excluding properties under development.

We conduct our business through our operating partnership, a Delaware limited partnership. We own approximately a 97% interest in the operating partnership.

Our principal executive offices are located at 44 South Bayles Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050, our telephone number is (516) 767-6492 and our website address is www.cedarshoppingcenters.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and is not incorporated in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus by reference.

In this prospectus supplement, the terms we, us and our include Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc., Cedar Shopping Centers Partnership, L.P. and their consolidated subsidiaries.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On November 1, 2004, we purchased Franklin Village Plaza, in Franklin, Massachusetts. The property is an approximate 253,000 square foot shopping center with an adjacent approximate 36,000 square foot office building. Stop & Shop is the principal anchor tenant; other tenants include Marshalls, Radio Shack, Payless, Bath & Body Works and Applebees. In addition, Stop & Shop has executed a lease amendment to expand its store from approximately 55,000 square feet to approximately 75,000 square feet.

The purchase price, including closing costs, was approximately \$72.5 million. The acquisition was funded by a \$43.5 million, seven-year, 4.81% interest-only first mortgage, with the balance funded from our secured revolving credit facility.

On November 2, 2004, we amended certain terms of our \$100 million secured revolving credit facility. Our operating partnership is the borrower under the credit facility. The lead arranger and Administrative Agent is Fleet National Bank. The amendment included the following terms: (1) the interest rate margin was reduced by 75 basis points, from a range of 225 to 275 basis points, to a range of 150 to 205 basis points above LIBOR, depending on our leverage ratio, (2) an accordion feature was added pursuant to which the credit facility may be increased to \$200 million, and (3) certain covenants were amended to accommodate our development activities and to provide additional flexibility.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Subject to the terms and conditions contained in a purchase agreement between us and the underwriters named below, we have agreed to sell to each of the underwriters and each of the underwriters has severally agreed to purchase from us, the number of shares listed opposite its name.

| Underwriter | Number of Shares |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated | 1,250,000 |
| Raymond James & Associates, Inc. | 1,250,000 |
| Total | 2,500,000 |

The underwriters have agreed to purchase all of the shares sold under the purchase agreement if any of the shares are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the purchase agreement provides that the purchase commitment of the nondefaulting underwriter may be increased or the purchase agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriters are offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the purchase agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officers' certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The underwriters have advised us that they propose initially to offer the shares to the public at the initial public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. After the initial public offering, the public offering price and other selling terms may be changed and commissions may be charged.

The following table shows the initial public offering price, underwriting discount and proceeds before expenses to us. The information assumes either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriters of the overallotment option.

| | Per Share | Without Option | With Option |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Public offering price | \$13.60 | \$34,000,000 | \$39,100,000 |
| Underwriting discount | \$.2715 | \$678,750 | \$780,562 |
| Proceeds, before expenses, to us | \$13.3285 | \$33,321,250 | \$38,319,438 |

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discount, are estimated at \$100,000 and are payable by us.

Overallotment Option

We have granted an option to the underwriters to purchase up to 375,000 additional shares at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. The underwriters may exercise this option for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement solely to cover any overallotments. If the underwriters exercise this option, each will be obligated, subject to conditions contained in the purchase agreement, to purchase a number of additional shares proportionate to that underwriter's initial amount reflected in the above table.

Table of Contents

No Sales of Similar Securities

We, our executive officers and our directors who beneficially own shares of our common stock as of the date of this prospectus have agreed, with some exceptions, not to sell or transfer any common stock for 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without first obtaining the written consent of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. Specifically, we and these other individuals have agreed not to directly or indirectly

offer, pledge, sell or contract to sell any common stock,

sell any option or contract to purchase any common stock,

purchase any option or contract to sell any common stock,

grant any option, right or warrant for the sale of any common stock,

lend or otherwise dispose of or transfer any common stock,

request or demand that we file a registration statement related to the common stock, or

enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, the economic consequence of ownership of any common stock whether any such swap or transaction is to be settled by delivery of common stock or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

This lockup provision applies to common stock and to securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for or repayable with common stock. It also applies to shares of our common stock owned now or acquired later by the person executing the agreement or for which the person executing the agreement later acquires the power of disposition.

New York Stock Exchange Listing

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDR.

Price Stabilization and Short Positions

Until the distribution of the shares is completed, rules of the SEC may limit the ability of the underwriters to bid for and purchase our common stock. However, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize the price of the common stock, such as bids or purchases to peg, fix or maintain that price.

If the underwriters create a short position in our common stock in connection with this offering (i.e., if they sell more shares than are set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement), the underwriters may reduce that short position by purchasing shares in the open market. The underwriters may also elect to reduce any short position by exercising all or part of the overallotment option described above. Purchases of our common stock to stabilize its price or to reduce a short position may cause the price of our common stock to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above might have on the price of our common stock. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation that the underwriters will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Electronic Prospectus

Merrill Lynch will be facilitating Internet distribution of this offering to certain of its Internet subscription customers. Merrill Lynch intends to allocate a limited number of shares for sale to its online brokerage customers. An electronic prospectus is available on the Internet Web site maintained by Merrill Lynch. Other than the prospectus in electronic format, the information on the Merrill Lynch website is not part of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

Other Relationships

In the ordinary course of their business, the underwriters and their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, commercial banking and investment banking transactions with us. They have received and will receive customary fees and commissions on these transactions.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP of New York, New York and for the underwriters by Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, have audited our consolidated financial statements and schedule included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, the combined statement of revenues and certain expenses of The Commons and Townfair Center for the year ended December 31, 2003 appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed May 21, 2004 and the statement of revenues and certain expenses of Franklin Village Plaza for the year ended December 31, 2003 appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 5, 2004, as set forth in their reports which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Our financial statements and schedule are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's report, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we subsequently file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference our documents listed below which were filed with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act):

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2004, June 30, 2004 and September 30, 2004; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed March 22, 2004 (as amended May 21, 2004), June 24, 2004, and November 5 and 8, 2004.

We also incorporate by reference each of the following documents that we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement but before the end of the offering:

Reports filed under Sections 13(a) and (c) of the Exchange Act;

Definitive proxy or information statements filed under Section 14 of the Exchange Act in connection with any subsequent stockholders' meeting; and

Any reports filed under Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

You may request copies of the filings, at no cost, by telephone at (516) 767-6492 or by mail at: Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc., 44 South Bayles Avenue, Port Washington, New York 11050, Attention: Investor Relations.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

You may read and copy any material that we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may also access our SEC filings over the Internet at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You can identify the forward-looking statements by their use of forward-looking words, such as believes, expects, may, will, should, seeks, intends, plans, or anticipates, or the negative of those words or similar words. Forward-looking statements reflect our views about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, assumptions and changes in circumstances that may cause our actual results to differ significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. The factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expected results include changes in economic, business, competitive market and regulatory conditions. For more information regarding risks that may cause our actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements, please see the discussion under Risk Factors contained in the accompanying prospectus and the other information contained in our publicly available filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. We do not undertake any responsibility to update any of these factors or to announce publicly any revisions to forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference is accurate only as of their respective dates or on other dates which are specified in those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

\$200,000,000

Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc.

Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, Warrants,

Stock Purchase Contracts and Units

Cedar may offer and issue from time to time up to \$200,000,000 of:

shares of common stock;

shares of preferred stock;

shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares;

warrants;

stock purchase contracts; and

units.

Cedar's common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDR.

The securities to be offered by us will be in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of offering.

When we sell a particular series of securities, we will prepare a prospectus supplement describing the offering and the terms of that series of securities. Such terms may include limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer of the securities, in each case as may be appropriate to preserve our status as a real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes.

Where necessary, the applicable prospectus supplement will contain information about certain United States Federal income tax considerations relating to, and any listing on a securities exchange of, the securities covered by such prospectus supplement.

See Risk Factors beginning at page 3 of this Prospectus for a description of certain factors that you should consider prior to purchasing the securities.

We may offer the securities directly or through agents or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of the securities their names, and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them, will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in an accompanying prospectus supplement. We can sell the securities through agents, underwriters or dealers only with delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities. See Plan of Distribution.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The Attorney General of The State Of New York has not passed on or endorsed the merits of this Offering. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

The date of this Prospectus is May 4, 2004.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a shelf registration or continuous offering process. We may from time to time sell any combination of the securities offered in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$200,000,000.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities we will provide you with a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. The prospectus supplement which contains specific information about the terms of the securities being offered may also include a discussion of certain U.S. Federal income tax consequences and any risk factors or other special considerations applicable to those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in the prospectus and the prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and the information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until we sell all of the securities:

1. Cedar's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, SEC File Number: 0-14510.
2. The description of Cedar's common stock which is contained in Item 1 of our registration statement on Form 8-A, as amended, filed October 1, 2003 pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, SEC File Number: 0-14510.
3. The information contained in the section Investment Policies and Policies With Respect to Certain Activities contained in the Registration Statement on Form S-11 filed on August 20, 2003, as amended, SEC File Number: 333-108091.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at our principal executive offices at the following address:

Investor Relations

Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc.
44 South Bayles Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 767-6492
<http://www.cedarshoppingcenters.com>

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. Do not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of these documents.

Table of Contents

THE COMPANY

We were organized in 1984 and elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, in 1986. We are a fully integrated, self-administered and self-managed real estate company. We acquire, own, manage, lease and redevelop primarily community and neighborhood shopping centers located primarily in Pennsylvania. As of April 1, 2004, we owned 25 properties totaling approximately 4.0 million square feet of gross leasable area, or GLA.

We conduct our business through Cedar Shopping Centers Partnership, L.P., or the operating partnership, a Delaware limited partnership. We own approximately a 97% interest in the operating partnership.

Our principal executive offices are located at 44 South Bayles Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050, our telephone number is (516) 767-6492 and our website address is www.cedarshoppingcenters.com.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Your investment in the securities involves risks. In consultation with your own financial and legal advisors, you should carefully consider, among other factors, the matters described below before deciding whether an investment in the securities is suitable for you.

Risks Related to Our Properties and Our Business

All of our properties are located in the Northeast, primarily in eastern Pennsylvania, which exposes us to greater economic risks than if we owned properties in several geographic regions.

Any adverse economic or real estate developments in the Northeast resulting from the region's regulatory environment, business climate, fiscal problems or weather, could adversely impact our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow, the per share trading price of our common stock, and our ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and to make distributions to our stockholders. We cannot assure you of the continued growth of the Northeast economy, the national economy or our further growth rate.

At December 31, 2003, we had approximately \$162.0 million of consolidated debt of which our share was approximately \$125.3 million, a portion of which was variable rate debt, which may impede our operating performance and put us at a competitive disadvantage.

Required repayments of debt and related interest can adversely affect our operating performance. At December 31, 2003, we had approximately \$162.0 million of outstanding consolidated indebtedness of which our share was approximately \$125.3 million. Approximately \$51.7 million of this consolidated debt bore interest at a variable rate of which our share was approximately \$49.5 million. Failure to hedge effectively against interest rate changes may adversely affect results of operations.

We also intend to incur additional debt in connection with future acquisitions of real estate. We may borrow new funds to acquire properties. In addition, we may incur or increase our mortgage debt by obtaining loans secured by some or all of the real estate properties we acquire. We also may borrow funds if necessary to satisfy any requirement that we make distributions to stockholders.

Our substantial debt may harm our business and operating results by:

requiring us to use a substantial portion of our funds from operations to pay interest, which reduces the amount available for distributions;

placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt;

making us more vulnerable to economic and industry downturns and reducing our flexibility in responding to changing business and economic conditions; and

limiting our ability to borrow more money for operations, capital or to finance acquisitions in the future.

In addition to the risks discussed above and those normally associated with debt financing, including the risk that our cash flow will be insufficient to meet required payments of principal and interest, we also are subject to the risk that we will not be able to refinance the existing indebtedness on our properties (which, in most cases, will not have been fully amortized at maturity), or that the terms of any refinancing we could obtain would not be as favorable as the terms of our existing indebtedness. If we are not successful in refinancing this debt when it becomes due, we may be forced to dispose of properties on disadvantageous terms, which might adversely affect our ability to service other debt and to meet our other obligations. In addition to the above risks associated with our debt financing, the terms of certain of our joint venture partnership agreements provide for minimum priority cumulative returns to the joint venture partners. To the extent that these specified minimum returns are not achieved, our equity interest in these partnerships can be negatively affected.

Table of Contents

Any tenant bankruptcies or leasing delays we encounter, particularly with respect to our anchor tenants, could seriously harm our operating results and financial condition.

Substantially all our revenues are derived from rental income from our properties. At any time, our tenants may experience a downturn in their business that may weaken their financial condition or become insolvent. As a result, our tenants may delay lease commencement, fail to make rental payments when due or declare bankruptcy. We are subject to the risk that these tenants may be unable to make their lease payments or may decline to extend a lease upon its expiration. Any tenant bankruptcies, leasing delays or failure to make rental payments when due could result in the termination of the tenant's lease and material losses to us and may harm our operating results.

Our business may be seriously harmed if any anchor tenant decides not to renew its lease or vacates a property and prevents us from re-leasing that property by continuing to pay base rent for the balance of the term. In addition to the loss of rental payments from the anchor tenant, a lease termination by an anchor tenant or a failure by that anchor tenant to occupy the premises could result in lease terminations or reductions in rent by other tenants in the same shopping center whose leases permit cancellation or rent reduction under these circumstances.

Any bankruptcy filings by or relating to one of our tenants or a lease guarantor would bar all efforts by us to collect pre-bankruptcy debts from that tenant, the lease guarantor or their property, unless we receive an order permitting us to do so from the bankruptcy court. A tenant or lease guarantor bankruptcy could delay our efforts to collect past due balances under the relevant leases, and could ultimately preclude full collection of these sums. If a lease is assumed by the tenant in bankruptcy, all pre-bankruptcy balances due under the lease must be paid to us in full. However, if a lease is rejected by a tenant in bankruptcy, we would have only a general unsecured claim for damages. Any unsecured claim we hold may be paid only to the extent that funds are available and only in the same percentage as is paid to all other holders of unsecured claims. It is possible that we may recover substantially less than the full value of any unsecured claims we hold, which may harm our financial condition.

Since 2000, we have incurred net operating losses and if we are not able to achieve and maintain profitability, the market price of our common stock could decrease.

Since 2000 we have incurred net operating losses. We had net losses from operations of \$147,000, \$468,000 and \$21,351,000 for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002 and 2003, respectively. In 2003, approximately \$20.8 million of these losses were one-time transaction costs associated with our public offering completed in October 2003. If we are not able to achieve and maintain profitability, which will depend largely on our ability to substantially increase revenues, reduce fixed operating costs and interest charges on outstanding indebtedness, and limit the growth of overhead and direct expenses, the market price of our common stock could decrease and our business and operations could be negatively impacted.

We may not be successful in identifying suitable acquisitions that meet our criteria, which may impede our growth; if we do identify suitable acquisition targets, we may not be able to consummate such transactions on favorable terms.

Integral to our business strategy is our ability to expand through acquisitions, which requires us to identify suitable acquisition candidates or investment opportunities that meet our criteria and are compatible with our growth strategy. We analyze potential acquisitions on a property-by-property and market-by-market basis. We may not be successful in identifying suitable real estate properties or other assets that meet our acquisition criteria or in consummating acquisitions or investments on satisfactory terms. Failure to identify or consummate acquisitions could reduce the number of acquisitions we complete and slow our growth, which could in turn harm our stock price.

Table of Contents

We face competition for the acquisition of real estate properties, which may impede our ability to make future acquisitions or may increase the cost of these acquisitions.

We compete with many other entities engaged in real estate investment activities for acquisitions of retail shopping centers, including institutional investors, REITs and other owner-operators of shopping centers. These competitors may drive up the price we must pay for real estate properties, other assets or other companies we seek to acquire or may succeed in acquiring those companies or assets themselves. In addition, our potential acquisition targets may find our competitors to be more attractive suitors because they may have greater resources, may be willing to pay more, or may have a more compatible operating philosophy. In addition, the number of entities and the amount of funds competing for suitable investment properties may increase. This will result in increased demand for these assets and therefore increased prices paid for them. If we pay higher prices for properties, our profitability will be reduced.

We have recently experienced and expect to continue to experience rapid growth and may not be able to integrate additional properties into our operations or otherwise manage our growth, which may adversely affect our operating results.

We are currently experiencing a period of rapid growth. Since 2000 and through December 31, 2003, we had acquired properties containing approximately 3.5 million square feet of GLA for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$302.5 million. As a result of the rapid growth of our portfolio, we cannot assure you that we will be able to adapt our management, administrative, accounting and operational systems or hire and retain sufficient operational staff to integrate these properties into our portfolio and manage any future acquisitions of additional properties without operating disruptions or unanticipated costs. Acquisition of any additional properties would generate additional operating expenses that we would be required to pay. As we acquire additional properties, we will be subject to risks associated with managing new properties, including tenant retention and mortgage default. Our failure to successfully integrate any future acquisitions into our portfolio could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

Our current and future joint venture investments could be adversely affected by our lack of sole decision-making authority, our reliance on joint venture partners' financial condition and any disputes that may arise between us and our joint venture partners.

We own some of our properties through joint ventures and in the future we may co-invest with third parties through joint ventures. We may not be in a position to exercise sole decision-making authority regarding the properties owned through joint ventures. Investments in joint ventures may, under certain circumstances, involve risks not present when a third party is not involved, including the possibility that joint venture partners might become bankrupt or fail to fund their share of required capital contributions. Joint venture partners may have business interests or goals that are inconsistent with our business interests or goals and may be in a position to take actions contrary to our policies or objectives. Such investments also may have the potential risk of impasses on decisions, such as a sale, because neither we nor the joint venture partner would have full control over the joint venture. Any disputes that may arise between us and joint venture partners may result in litigation or arbitration that would increase our expenses and prevent our officers and/or directors from focusing their time and effort on our business. Consequently, actions by or disputes with joint venture partners might result in subjecting properties owned by the joint venture to additional risk. In addition, we may in certain circumstances be liable for the actions of our third-party joint venture partners.

Adverse market conditions and competition may impede our ability to renew leases or re-let space as leases expire, which could harm our business and operating results.

The economic performance and value of our real estate assets is subject to all of the risks associated with owning and operating real estate, including risks related to adverse changes in national, regional and local economic and market conditions. Our properties currently are located primarily in the Northeast. The economic condition of each of our markets may be dependent on one or more industries.

Table of Contents

An economic downturn in one of these industry sectors may result in an increase in tenant bankruptcies, which may harm our performance in the affected market. Economic and market conditions also may impact the ability of our tenants to make these payments. If our properties do not generate sufficient income to meet our operating expenses, including future debt service, our income and results of operations would be significantly harmed.

Also, we face competition from similar retail centers within the neighborhood trade areas of each of our centers to renew leases or re-let space as leases expire. In addition, any new competitive properties that are developed within the neighborhood trade areas of our existing properties may result in increased competition for customer traffic and creditworthy tenants. Increased competition for tenants may require us to make capital improvements to properties that we would not have otherwise planned to make. Any unbudgeted capital improvements we undertake may divert away cash that would otherwise be available for distributions to stockholders. Ultimately, to the extent we are unable to renew leases or re-let space as leases expire, it would result in decreased cash flow from tenants and harm our operating results.

Our properties consist of neighborhood and community shopping centers. Our performance therefore is linked to economic conditions in the market for retail space generally.

The market for retail space has been and could be adversely affected by weakness in the national, regional and local economies, the adverse financial condition of some large retailing companies, the ongoing consolidation in the retail sector, the excess amount of retail space in a number of markets, and increasing consumer purchases through catalogues or the Internet. To the extent that any of these conditions occur, they are likely to impact market rents for retail space.

The financial covenants in our loan agreements may restrict our operating or acquisition activities, which may harm our financial condition and operating results.

The mortgages on our properties contain customary negative covenants such as those that limit our ability, without the prior consent of the lender, to further mortgage the applicable property, to enter into leases or to discontinue insurance coverage. Our ability to borrow under our line of credit is subject to compliance with these financial and other covenants, including restrictions on property eligible for collateral and overall restrictions on the amount of indebtedness we can incur. If we breach covenants in our debt agreements, the lender can declare a default and require us to repay the debt immediately and, if the debt is secured, can immediately take possession of the property securing the loan.

Our performance and value are subject to risks associated with real estate assets and with the real estate industry.

Our ability to make expected distributions to our stockholders depends on our ability to generate revenues in excess of expenses, scheduled principal payments on debt and capital expenditure requirements. Events and conditions generally applicable to owners and operators of real property that are beyond our control may decrease cash available for distribution and the value of our properties. These events include:

local oversupply, increased competition or reduction in demand for space;

inability to collect rent from tenants;

vacancies or our inability to rent space on favorable terms;

inability to finance property development, tenant improvements and acquisitions on favorable terms;

increased operating costs, including insurance premiums, utilities and real estate taxes;

costs of complying with changes in governmental regulations;

the relative illiquidity of real estate investments;

Table of Contents

changing submarket demographics; and

changing traffic patterns.

In addition, periods of economic slowdown or recession, rising interest rates or declining demand for real estate, or the public perception that any of these events may occur, could result in a general decline in rents or an increased incidence of defaults under existing leases, which would adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow, per share trading price of our common stock and ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and to make distributions to our stockholders.

Redevelopment activities may be delayed or otherwise may not perform as expected.

We are in the process of redeveloping certain of our properties and expect to redevelop other properties in the future. In connection with any redevelopment of our properties, we will bear certain risks, including the risks of construction delays or cost overruns that may increase project costs and make such project uneconomical, the risk that occupancy or rental rates at a completed project will not be sufficient to enable us to pay operating expenses or earn the targeted rate of return on investment, and the risk of incurrence of predevelopment costs in connection with projects that are not pursued to completion. In addition, consents may be required from various tenants in order to redevelop a center. In case of an unsuccessful redevelopment project, our loss could exceed our investment in the project.

We may be restricted from re-leasing space based on existing exclusivity lease provisions with some of our tenants.

In many cases, our tenant leases contain provisions giving the tenant the exclusive right to sell particular types of merchandise or provide specific types of services within the particular retail center, or limit the ability of other tenants within that center to sell that merchandise or provide those services. When re-leasing space after a vacancy by one of these other tenants, these provisions may limit the number and types of prospective tenants for the vacant space. The failure to re-lease space or to re-lease space on satisfactory terms could harm our operating results.

Potential losses may not be covered by insurance.

We carry comprehensive liability, fire, flood, extended coverage and rental loss insurance covering all of the properties in our portfolio under a blanket policy. We believe the policy specifications and insured limits are appropriate and adequate given the relative risk of loss, the cost of the coverage and industry practice. We do not carry insurance for generally uninsured losses such as loss from riots, war or acts of God. Some of our policies, such as those covering losses due to terrorism and floods, are insured subject to limitations involving large deductibles or co-payments and policy limits that may not be sufficient to cover losses. If we experience a loss that is uninsured or that exceeds policy limits, we could lose the capital invested in the damaged properties as well as the anticipated future cash flows from those properties. In addition, if the damaged properties are subject to recourse indebtedness, we would continue to be liable for the indebtedness, even if these properties were irreparably damaged.

Future terrorist attacks in the United States could harm the demand for, and the value of, our properties.

Future terrorist attacks in the U.S., such as the attacks that occurred in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2001, and other acts of terrorism or war could harm the demand for and the value of our properties. Terrorist attacks could directly impact the value of our properties through damage, destruction, loss or increased security costs, and the availability of insurance for such acts may be limited or may cost more.

To the extent that our tenants are impacted by future attacks, their ability to continue to honor obligations under their existing leases with us could be adversely affected. Additionally, certain tenants have termination rights in respect of certain casualties. If we receive casualty proceeds, we may not be

Table of Contents

able to reinvest such proceeds profitably or at all, and we may be forced to recognize taxable gain on the affected property.

Rising operating expenses could reduce our cash flow and funds available for future distributions.

Our properties and any properties we buy in the future are and will be subject to operating risks common to real estate in general, any or all of which may negatively affect us. If any property is not fully occupied or if rents are being paid in an amount that is insufficient to cover operating expenses, then we could be required to expend funds for that property's operating expenses. The properties will be subject to increases in real estate and other tax rates, utility costs, operating expenses, insurance costs, repairs and maintenance and administrative expenses.

For the year ended December 31, 2003 Giant Food represented 12% of our total revenues.

At December 31, 2003, seven of our properties had a Giant Food supermarket as an anchor tenant. Ahold N.V., a Netherlands corporation and Giant Food's ultimate parent company, generally guarantees the Giant Food leases. During 2003, published reports indicated there have been accounting irregularities at certain of Ahold's U.S. and foreign operations, which do not necessarily include the supermarket stores or the Giant Food supermarket affiliates. Ahold's debt rating was downgraded in 2003, which may adversely affect the resulting value of our properties having such tenancies.

We could incur significant costs related to government regulation and private litigation over environmental matters.

Under various federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations, an owner or operator of real estate may be required to investigate and clean up hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum product releases at such property and may be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage and for investigation and clean up costs incurred by such parties in connection with contamination. The cost of investigation, remediation or removal of such substances may be substantial, and the presence of such substances, or the failure to properly remediate such substances, may adversely affect the owner's ability to sell or rent such property or to borrow using such property collateral. In connection with the ownership, operation and management of real properties, we are potentially liable for removal or remediation costs, as well as certain other related costs, including governmental fines and injuries to persons and property.

We may incur significant costs complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and similar laws.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, or the ADA, all public accommodations must meet federal requirements related to access and use by disabled persons. Although we believe that our properties substantially comply with present requirements of the ADA, we have not conducted an audit or investigation of all of our properties to determine our compliance. If one or more of our properties is not in compliance with the ADA, then we would be required to incur additional costs to bring the property into compliance. Additional federal, state and local laws also may require modifications to our properties or restrict our ability to renovate our properties. We cannot predict the ultimate amount of the cost of compliance with the ADA or other legislation. If we incur substantial costs to comply with the ADA and any other legislation, our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow, per share trading price of our common stock, and our ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and make distributions to our stockholders could be adversely affected.

We may incur significant costs complying with other regulations.

Our properties are subject to various federal, state and local regulatory requirements, such as state and local fire and life safety requirements. If we fail to comply with these various requirements, we might incur governmental fines or private damage awards. We believe that our properties are currently in material compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements. However, we do not know whether

Table of Contents

existing requirements will change or whether future requirements will require us to make significant unanticipated expenditures that will adversely impact our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow, the per share trading price of our common stock, and our ability to satisfy our debt service obligations and make distributions to our stockholders.

Our charter and Maryland law contain provisions that may delay, defer or prevent a change of control transaction and depress our stock price.

Our charter contains a 9.9% ownership limit. Our charter, subject to certain exceptions, authorizes our directors to take such actions as are necessary and desirable relating to qualification as a REIT and to limit any person to beneficial ownership of no more than 9.9% of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Our board of directors, in its sole discretion, may exempt a proposed transferee from the ownership limit. However, our board of directors may not grant an exemption from the ownership limit to any proposed transferee whose direct or indirect ownership in excess of 9.9% of the value of our outstanding shares of our common stock could jeopardize our status as a REIT. These restrictions on transferability and ownership will not apply if our board of directors determines that it is no longer in our best interests to attempt to qualify as, or to be, a REIT. The ownership limit may delay or impede a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for our common stock or otherwise be in the best interest of our stockholders.

We could authorize and issue stock and units without stockholder approval. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to authorize additional shares of our common stock or preferred stock, issue authorized but unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock, issue units and to classify or reclassify any unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock and to set the preferences, rights and other terms of such classified or unclassified shares. Although our board of directors has no such intention at the present time, it could establish a series of preferred stock that could, depending on the terms of such series, delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for our common stock or otherwise be in the best interest of our stockholders.

Certain provisions of Maryland law could inhibit changes in control. Certain provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law, or MGCL, may have the effect of inhibiting a third party from making a proposal to acquire us or of impeding a change of control under circumstances that otherwise could provide the holders of shares of our common stock with the opportunity to realize a premium over the then-prevailing market price of such shares, including:

business combination provisions that, subject to limitations, prohibit certain business combinations between us and an interested stockholder (defined generally as any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of our shares or an affiliate thereof) for five years after the most recent date on which the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, and thereafter imposes special appraisal rights and special stockholder voting requirements on these combinations; and

control share provisions that provide that our control shares (defined as shares that, when aggregated with other shares controlled by the stockholder, entitle the stockholder to exercise one of three increasing ranges of voting power in electing directors) acquired in a control share acquisition (defined as the direct or indirect acquisition of ownership or control of control shares) have no voting rights except to the extent approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding all interested shares.

We have opted out of these provisions of the MGCL. However, our board of directors may, by resolution, elect to opt in to the business combination provisions of the MGCL and we may, by amendment to our bylaws, opt in to the control share provisions of the MGCL in the future.

Table of Contents

If we are not qualified as a REIT, our distributions will not be deductible by us, and our income will be subject to taxation, reducing our earnings available for distribution.

We have elected since 1986 to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or Code. A REIT will generally not be subject to federal income taxation on that portion of its income that qualifies as REIT taxable income, to the extent that it distributes at least 90% of its taxable income to its shareholders and complies with certain other requirements. Under applicable provisions of the Code governing REITs, a REIT, among other things, may not own more than ten percent in value or voting power of a corporation other than a qualifying taxable REIT subsidiary. During the course of our preparation of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2003, it was determined that we indirectly owned more than 10% of one company with an equity value of approximately \$8,000, for which we had inadvertently failed to file a timely election to be treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary. We have filed with the Internal Revenue Service an election to treat such entity as a taxable REIT subsidiary retroactive to June 2002 when it was formed, and have filed a request for a ruling to permit late filing of such election. Based on an opinion of counsel, we believe that we will receive a favorable ruling and that the likelihood of an unfavorable ruling is remote.

Distribution requirements could adversely affect our liquidity.

We generally must distribute annually at least 90% of our net taxable income, excluding any net capital gain, in order to be qualified as a REIT. We intend to make distributions to our stockholders to comply with the requirements of the Code. However, differences in timing between the recognition of taxable income and the actual receipt of cash could require us to sell assets or borrow funds on a short-term or long-term basis to meet the 90% distribution requirement of the Code. Certain of our assets generate substantial mismatches between taxable income and available cash. Such assets include operating real estate that has been financed through financing structures that require some or all of available cash flows to be used to service borrowings. As a result, the requirement to distribute a substantial portion of our net taxable income could cause us to: (a) sell assets in adverse market conditions, (b) borrow on unfavorable terms or (c) distribute amounts that would otherwise be invested in future acquisitions, capital expenditures or repayment of debt in order to comply with REIT requirements.

Further, amounts distributed will not be available to fund investment activities. If we fail to obtain debt or equity capital in the future, it could limit our ability to grow, which could have a material adverse effect on the value of our common stock.

Dividends payable by REITs do not qualify for the reduced tax rates under recently enacted tax legislation.

Recently enacted tax legislation reduces the maximum tax rate for dividends payable to individuals from 38.6% to 15% (through 2008). Dividends payable by REITs, however, are generally not eligible for the reduced rates. Although this legislation does not adversely affect the taxation of REITs or dividends paid by REITs, the more favorable rates applicable to regular corporate dividends could cause investors who are individuals to perceive investments in REITs to be relatively less attractive investments in the stock of non-REIT corporations that pay dividends, which could adversely affect the value of the stock of REITs.

In addition, the relative attractiveness of investments in real estate companies or real estate in general may be adversely affected by the newly favorable tax treatment given to corporate dividends, which could affect the value of our real estate assets negatively.

Our success depends on key personnel whose continued service is not guaranteed.

We depend on the efforts of key personnel, particularly Mr. Ullman, our chairman, chief executive officer and president. The loss of services of key personnel could materially and adversely affect our operations because of diminished relationships with lenders, existing and prospective tenants and industry personnel.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to this Offering

Shares of our common stock have been thinly traded in the past.

Although a trading market for our common stock exists, the trading volume has not been significant and there can be no assurance that an active trading market for our common stock will be sustained in the future. As a result of the thin trading market or float for our stock, the market price for our common stock may fluctuate significantly more than the stock market as a whole. Without a large float, our common stock is less liquid than the stock of companies with broader public ownership and, as a result, the trading prices of our common stock may be more volatile. In addition, in the absence of an active public trading market, an investor may be unable to liquidate his investment in us. Trading of a relatively small volume of our common stock may have a greater impact on the trading price for our stock than would be the case if our public float were larger. We cannot predict the prices at which our common stock will trade in the future.

Market interest rates may have an effect on the value of our common stock.

One of the factors that will influence the price of our common stock will be the dividend yield on the common stock (as a percentage of the price of our common stock) relative to market interest rates. An increase in market interest rates, which are currently at low levels relative to historical rates, may lead prospective purchasers of our common stock to expect a higher dividend yield and higher interest rates would likely increase our borrowing costs and potentially decrease funds available for distribution. Thus, higher market interest rates could cause the market price of our common stock to go down.

Future sales of shares of our common stock could lower the price of our shares.

We may, in the future, sell additional shares of our common stock in subsequent public offerings. Additionally, shares of our common stock underlying options will be available for future sale upon exercise of those options. Any sales of a substantial number of our shares in the public market, or the perception that such sales might occur, may cause the market price of our shares to decline.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the sale of the securities will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include the repayment of existing indebtedness, the development or acquisition of additional properties as suitable opportunities arise and the renovation, expansion and improvement of our existing properties. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain further details on the use of net proceeds.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

General

Cedar is authorized to issue 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$.01 par value per share. No shares of preferred stock are issued and outstanding.

The statements below describing the preferred stock are in all respects subject to and qualified by reference to the applicable provisions of our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and any applicable articles supplementary to the Articles of Incorporation designating terms of a series of preferred stock.

The issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power, dividend rights and other rights of holders of common stock. Issuance of preferred stock could impede, delay, prevent or facilitate a merger, tender offer or change in our control. Although the Board of Directors is required to make a determination as to the best interests of our stockholders when issuing preferred stock, the Board could act in a manner that would discourage an acquisition attempt or other transaction that some, or a majority, of the stockholders might believe to be in our best interests or in which stockholders might receive a premium for their shares over the then prevailing market price. Management believes that the availability

Table of Contents

of preferred stock will provide us with increased flexibility in structuring possible future financing and acquisitions and in meeting other needs that might arise.

Terms

Subject to the limitations prescribed by the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Directors can fix the number of shares constituting each series of preferred stock and the designations and powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, including such provisions as may be desired concerning voting, redemption, dividends, dissolution or the distribution of assets, conversion or exchange, and such other subjects or matters as may be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors. When issued, the preferred stock will be fully paid and nonassessable by us. The preferred stock will have no preemptive rights.

Reference is made to the prospectus supplement relating to the preferred stock offered thereby for specific terms, including:

- (1) the title and stated value of the preferred stock;
- (2) the number of shares of the preferred stock offered, the liquidation preference per share and the offering price of the preferred stock;
- (3) the dividend rate(s), period(s) and/or payment date(s) or method(s) of calculation thereof applicable to the preferred stock;
- (4) the date from which dividends on the preferred stock shall accumulate, if applicable;
- (5) the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any, for the preferred stock;
- (6) the provision for a sinking fund, if any, for the preferred stock;
- (7) the provision for redemption, if applicable, of the preferred stock;
- (8) any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange;
- (9) the terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which the preferred stock will be convertible into our common stock, including the conversion price, or the manner of calculation thereof;
- (10) whether interests in the preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares;
- (11) any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations or restrictions of the preferred stock;
- (12) a discussion of federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;
- (13) the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;
- (14) any limitations on issuance of any series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs; and
- (15) any limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer, in each case as may be appropriate to be qualified as a REIT.

Rank

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, the preferred stock will, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or our winding up, rank:

- (a) senior to all classes or series of our common stock;
- (b) senior to all equity securities ranking junior to the preferred stock;

Table of Contents

- (c) equal with all equity securities issued by us, if the terms of such securities specifically provide for equal treatment;
- (d) junior to all equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities rank senior to the preferred stock.

The term "equity securities" excludes convertible debt securities.

Dividends

Holders of the preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when and if declared by our Board of Directors, out of assets legally available for payment, cash dividends at rates and on dates set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each such dividend will be payable to holders of record as they appear on our share transfer books on the applicable record dates. Our Board of Directors will fix the record dates for dividend payments.

As provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, dividends on any series of the preferred stock may be cumulative or non-cumulative. Cumulative dividends will be cumulative from and after the date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. If our Board of Directors fails to declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of the preferred stock for which dividends are non-cumulative, then the holders of such series of the preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend for the dividend period ending on such dividend payment date. We will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for such dividend period, whether or not dividends on such series are declared payable on any future dividend payment date.

If preferred stock of any series is outstanding, our Board of Directors will not declare, pay or set apart for payment dividends on any of our capital stock of any other series ranking, as to dividends, equally with or junior to the preferred stock outstanding for any period unless:

- (a) for preferred stock with cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay, full cumulative dividends on the preferred stock through the then current dividend period; and
- (b) for preferred stock lacking a cumulative dividend, we have declared and paid or declared and set aside a sum sufficient to pay full dividends for the then current dividend period;

When dividends are not paid in full, or when a sum sufficient for such full payment is not set apart, upon preferred stock of any series and the shares of any other series of preferred stock ranking equally as to dividends with the preferred stock of such series, all dividends declared upon preferred stock of such series and any other series of preferred stock ranking equally as to dividends with such preferred stock shall be declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share of preferred stock of such series and such other series of preferred stock shall in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends per share on the preferred stock of such series, which shall not include any accumulation of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such preferred stock lacks a cumulative dividend, and such other series of preferred stock bear to each other. No interest, or sum of money instead of interest, shall be payable for any dividend payment or payments on preferred stock of such series which may be in arrears.

Except as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, unless we have paid dividends through the then current dividend period, including dividend payments in arrears if dividends are cumulative, for such series of preferred stock or unless our Board of Directors has declared such dividends and has set aside a sum sufficient for such payment, our Board of Directors shall not declare dividends, other than in shares of common stock or other capital shares ranking junior to the preferred stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation, or pay or set aside for payment or declare or make any other distribution upon the common stock, or any other of our capital shares ranking junior to or equally with the preferred stock of such series as to dividends or upon liquidation. Additionally, we shall not redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for any consideration, or any moneys to be paid or made available for a

Table of Contents

sinking fund for the redemption of any such shares, any shares of common stock, or any other of our capital shares ranking junior to or equally with the preferred stock of such series as to dividends or upon liquidation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we may convert such shares into or exchange such shares for other of our capital shares ranking junior to the preferred stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation.

Redemption

If the applicable prospectus supplement so provides, the preferred stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or redemption at our option, as a whole or in part, in each case upon the terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in such prospectus supplement.

The prospectus supplement applicable to a series of preferred stock that is subject to mandatory redemption will specify:

- (a) the number of shares of such preferred stock that shall be redeemed by us in each year,
- (b) the year such redemption will commence,
- (c) the redemption price per share, together with an amount equal to all accrued and unpaid dividends thereon to the date of redemption,
- (d) whether the redemption price is payable in cash or property.

If the redemption price for preferred stock of any series is payable only from the net proceeds of the issuance of our capital shares, the terms of such preferred stock may provide that, if we have not issued capital shares or to the extent the net proceeds from any issuance are insufficient to pay in full the aggregate redemption price then due, such preferred stock shall automatically be converted into our capital shares pursuant to conversion provisions specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We cannot redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire shares of a series of preferred stock unless:

- (a) for preferred stock with cumulative dividends, we have declared and paid, or declared and set apart a sum sufficient to pay, full cumulative dividends on the preferred stock through the then current dividend period; and
- (b) for preferred stock lacking a cumulative dividend, we have declared and paid or declared and set aside a sum sufficient to pay full dividends for the then current dividend period;

The foregoing shall not prevent the purchase or acquisition of preferred stock of such series to preserve our REIT status or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding preferred stock of such series.

If fewer than all of the outstanding shares of preferred stock of any series are to be redeemed, we will determine the number of shares to be redeemed. We may redeem the shares on a pro rata basis from the holders of record of such shares in proportion to the number of such shares held or for which redemption is requested by such holder with adjustments to avoid redemption of fractional shares, or by lot.

We will mail notice of redemption 30 to 60 days prior to the redemption date to each holder of record of preferred stock of any series to be redeemed at the address shown on our share transfer books. Each notice shall state:

- (a) the redemption date;
- (b) the number of shares and series of the preferred stock to be redeemed;
- (c) the redemption price;
- (d) the place or places where certificates for such preferred stock are to be surrendered for payment of the redemption price;

Table of Contents

- (e) that dividends on the shares to be redeemed will cease to accrue on such redemption date; and
- (f) the date upon which the holder's conversion rights, if any, as to such shares shall terminate.

If we are to redeem fewer than all the shares of preferred stock of any series, the notice we mail to each holder of preferred stock shall specify the number of shares of preferred stock to be redeemed from each holder. If we have given notice of redemption of any preferred stock and if we have set aside, in trust for the benefit of the holders of any preferred stock called for redemption, the funds necessary for such redemption, then from and after the redemption date dividends will cease to accrue on the preferred stock to be redeemed. Additionally all rights of the holders of the redeemable shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price.

Liquidation Preference

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, then the holders of each series of preferred stock shall be entitled to receive out of our assets legally available for distribution to shareholders liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference per share, plus an amount equal to all dividends accrued and unpaid on such series of preferred stock. Such preferred shareholders will receive these distributions before any distribution or payment shall be made to the holders of any common stock or any other class or series of our capital shares ranking junior to the preferred stock in the distribution of assets upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of preferred stock will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets. If our available assets are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all outstanding preferred stock and the corresponding amounts payable on all shares of other classes or series of our capital shares ranking equally with the preferred stock in the distribution of assets, then the holders of the preferred stock and all other such classes or series of capital shares shall share on a pro rata basis in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be entitled.

If liquidating distributions have been made in full to all holders of preferred stock, our remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other classes or series of capital shares ranking junior to the preferred stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, according to their rights and preferences and in each case according to their number of shares. For such purposes, our consolidation or merger with or into any other corporation, trust or entity, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our property or business, shall not be deemed to constitute our liquidation, dissolution or winding up.

Voting Rights

Holders of the preferred stock will not have any voting rights, except as set forth below or as otherwise from time to time required by law or as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Whenever dividends on any shares of preferred stock are in arrears for six or more consecutive quarterly periods, the holders of such shares of preferred stock, voting separately as a class with all other series of preferred stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable, will be entitled to vote for the election of two additional directors at a special meeting called by the holders of record of ten percent (10%) of any series of preferred stock so in arrears or at the next annual meeting of stockholders, and at each subsequent annual meeting until (a) if such series of preferred stock has a cumulative dividend, we have paid or our Board of Directors has declared and set aside a sum sufficient for payment of all dividends accumulated on such shares of preferred stock for the past dividend periods and the then current dividend period or (b) if such series of preferred stock lacks a cumulative dividend, we have fully paid or our Board of Directors has declared and set aside a sum sufficient for payment of four consecutive quarterly dividends. In such case, two directors will be added to our Board of Directors.

Unless provided otherwise for any series of preferred stock, so long as any shares of preferred stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least

Table of Contents

two-thirds of the shares of each series of preferred stock outstanding at the time, given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting with such series voting separately as a class, (a) authorize or create, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any class or series of capital stock ranking prior to such preferred stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up or reclassify any of our authorized capital stock into such shares, or create, authorize or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares; or (b) amend, alter or repeal the provisions of our Articles of Incorporation or the designating amendment for such series of preferred stock, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to materially and adversely affect any right, preference, privilege or voting power of such series of preferred stock or the holders thereof. With respect to the occurrence of any of the events set forth in (b) above so long as the preferred stock remains outstanding with the terms thereof materially unchanged, the occurrence of any such event shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting power of holders of preferred stock. Additionally, any increase in the amount of the authorized preferred stock or the creation or issuance of any other series of preferred stock, or any increase in the amount of authorized shares of such series or any other series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the preferred stock of such series with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of such series of preferred stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

Conversion Rights

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the terms and conditions, if any, upon which any series of preferred stock is convertible into shares of common stock. Such terms will include the number of shares of common stock into which the shares of preferred stock are convertible, the conversion price, or manner of calculation thereof, the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders of the preferred stock or us, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of such series of preferred stock.

Shareholder Liability

Maryland law provides that no shareholder, including holders of preferred stock, shall be personally liable for our acts and obligations and that our funds and property shall be the only recourse for such acts or obligations.

Restrictions on Ownership

To qualify as a REIT under the Code, not more than 50% in value of our outstanding capital shares may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals as defined in the Code to include certain entities, during the last half of a taxable year. Therefore, the designating amendment for each series of preferred stock may contain provisions restricting the ownership and transfer of the preferred stock. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify any additional ownership limitation relating to a series of preferred stock.

Registrar and Transfer Agent

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the Registrar and Transfer Agent for the preferred stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

General

We may issue receipts for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fractional interest of a share of a particular series of preferred stock, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Shares of preferred stock of each series represented by the depositary shares will be deposited under a separate deposit agreement between us, the depositary named therein and the holders of the depositary receipts. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each depositary receipt owner will be entitled, in proportion to the fractional interest of a share of a particular series of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares evidenced by such depositary receipt, to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented thereby.

Depositary receipts issued pursuant to the applicable deposit agreement will evidence the depositary shares. Immediately following our issuance and delivery of the preferred stock to the depositary, we will cause the depositary to issue, on our behalf, the depositary receipts. Upon request, we will provide you with copies of the applicable form of deposit agreement and depositary receipt.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the preferred stock to the record holders of depositary receipts evidencing the related depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary receipts owned by the holders.

If there is a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary receipts entitled thereto. If the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution, the depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from such sale to the holders.

Withdrawal of Stock

Upon surrender of the depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the depositary, unless the related depositary shares have previously been called for redemption, the holders thereof will be entitled to delivery, to or upon such holders' order, of the number of whole or fractional shares of the preferred stock and any money or other property represented by the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipts. Holders of depositary receipts will be entitled to receive whole or fractional shares of the related preferred stock on the basis of the proportion of preferred stock represented by each depositary share as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Thereafter, holders of such shares of preferred stock will not be entitled to receive depositary shares for the preferred stock. If the depositary receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of depositary shares in excess of the number of depositary shares representing the number of shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the depositary will deliver to the holder a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

Provided we shall have paid in full to the depositary the redemption price of the preferred stock to be redeemed plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon to the redemption date, whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem as of the same redemption date the number of depositary shares representing shares of the preferred stock so redeemed. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the redemption price and any other amounts per share payable with respect to the preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected as nearly as may be practicable without creating fractional depositary shares, pro rata, or by any other equitable method we determine.

From and after the date fixed for redemption, all dividends in respect of the shares of preferred stock so called for redemption will cease to accrue, the depositary shares called for redemption will no

Table of Contents

longer be deemed to be outstanding and all rights of the holders of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares so called for redemption will cease, except the right to receive any moneys payable upon such redemption and any money or other property to which the holders of such depositary receipts were entitled to receive upon such redemption upon surrender to the depositary of the depositary receipts representing the depositary shares.

Voting of the Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in such notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares that represent such preferred stock. Each record holder of depositary receipts evidencing depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares. The depositary will vote the amount of preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions, and we will agree to take all reasonable action that may be deemed necessary by the depositary in order to enable the depositary to do so. If the depositary does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary receipts evidencing such depositary shares, it will abstain from voting the amount of preferred stock represented by such depositary shares. The depositary shall not be responsible for any failure to carry out any instruction to vote, or for the manner or effect of any such vote made, as long as any such action or non-action is in good faith and does not result from the depositary's negligence or willful misconduct.

Liquidation Preference

Upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of each depositary receipt will be entitled to the fraction of the liquidation preference accorded each share of preferred stock represented by the depositary share evidenced by such depositary receipt, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Conversion of Preferred Stock

Except with respect to certain conversions in order to be qualified as a REIT, the depositary shares are not convertible into our common stock or any other of our securities or property. Nevertheless, if the applicable prospectus supplement so specifies, the holders of the depositary receipts may surrender their depositary receipts to the depositary with written instructions to the depositary to instruct us to cause conversion of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares evidenced by such depositary receipts into whole shares of common stock, other shares of our preferred stock or other shares of our capital stock, and we have agreed that upon receipt of such instructions and any amounts payable in respect thereof, we will cause the conversion of the depositary shares utilizing the same procedures as those provided for delivery of preferred stock to effect such conversion. If the depositary shares evidenced by a depositary receipt are to be converted in part only, the depositary will issue a new depositary receipt for any depositary shares not to be converted. No fractional shares of common stock will be issued upon conversion, and if such conversion will result in a fractional share being issued, we will pay an amount in cash equal to the value of the fractional interest based upon the closing price of the common stock on the last business day prior to the conversion.

Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

By agreement, we and the depositary at any time can amend the form of depositary receipt and any provision of the deposit agreement. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depositary receipts or that would be materially and adversely inconsistent with the rights granted to holders of the related preferred stock will be effective only if the existing holders of at least two-thirds of the depositary shares have approved the amendment. No amendment shall impair the right, subject to certain exceptions in the deposit agreement, of any holder of depositary receipts to

Table of Contents

surrender any depositary receipt with instructions to deliver to the holder the related preferred stock and all money and other property, if any, represented thereby, except in order to comply with law. Every holder of an outstanding depositary receipt at the time an amendment becomes effective shall be deemed, by continuing to hold the depositary receipt, to consent and agree to the amendment and to be bound by the deposit agreement as amended thereby.

Upon 30 days prior written notice to the depositary, we may terminate the deposit agreement if (a) such termination is necessary to be qualified as a REIT or (b) a majority of each series of preferred stock affected by such termination consents to such termination. Upon the termination of the deposit agreement, the depositary shall deliver or make available to each holder of depositary receipts, upon surrender of the depositary receipts held by such holder, such number of whole or fractional shares of preferred stock as are represented by the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipts together with any other property held by the depositary with respect to the depositary receipt. If the deposit agreement is terminated to preserve our status as a REIT, then we will use our best efforts to list the preferred stock issued upon surrender of the related depositary shares on a national securities exchange.

The deposit agreement will automatically terminate if (a) all outstanding depositary shares shall have been redeemed, (b) there shall have been a final distribution in respect of the related preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and such distribution shall have been distributed to the holders of depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares representing such preferred stock or (c) each share of the related preferred stock shall have been converted into our capital stock not so represented by depositary shares.

Charges of Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the deposit agreement. In addition, we will pay the fees and expenses of the depositary in connection with the performance of its duties under the deposit agreement. However, holders of depositary receipts will pay certain other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges. The holders will also pay the fees and expenses of the depositary for any duties, outside of those expressly provided for in the deposit agreement, the holders request to be performed.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so. We may at any time remove the depositary, any such resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary. A successor depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of \$50,000,000 or more.

Miscellaneous

The depositary will forward to holders of depositary receipts any reports and communications from us which are received by the depositary with respect to the related Preferred Stock.

We and the depositary will not be liable if either of us is prevented from or delayed in, by law or any circumstances beyond its control, performing its obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and the depositary's obligations under the deposit agreement will be limited to performing the duties thereunder in good faith and without negligence, in the case of any action or inaction in the voting of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares, gross negligence or willful misconduct. If satisfactory indemnity is furnished, we and the depositary will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary receipts, depositary shares or shares of preferred stock represented thereby. We and the depositary may rely on written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting shares of preferred stock represented by depositary receipts for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed in good faith to be competent to give such information, and on documents believed in good faith to be genuine and signed by a proper party.

Table of Contents

In the event the depositary shall receive conflicting claims, requests or instructions from any holders of depositary receipts, on the one hand, and us, on the other hand, the depositary shall be entitled to act on our claims, requests or instructions.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

General

Cedar's authorized capital stock includes 50 million shares of common stock, \$.06 par value per share. For each outstanding share of common stock held, the holder is entitled to one vote on all matters presented to stockholders for a vote. Cumulative voting is not permitted. Holders of the common stock do not have preemptive rights. At April 15, 2004, there were 16,456,011 shares of common stock outstanding.

All shares of common stock issued and sold will be duly authorized, fully paid, and non-assessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of common stock if and when declared by our Board of Directors. Dividends will be paid out of funds legally available for dividend payment. We have paid quarterly dividends beginning with a dividend for the portion of the quarter from the closing of our public offering in October 2003.

Under Maryland law, stockholders are generally not liable for our debts or obligations. If we are liquidated, subject to the right of any holders of preferred stock to receive preferential distributions, each outstanding share of common stock will be entitled to participate pro rata in the assets remaining after payment of, or adequate provision for, all of our known debts and liabilities.

Restrictions on Ownership

In order to qualify as a REIT under the Code, not more than 50% in value of our outstanding common stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Code, during the last half of a taxable year and the common stock must be beneficially owned by 100 or more persons during 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. To satisfy the above ownership requirements and certain other requirements for qualification as a REIT, our Articles of Incorporation contain a provision restricting the ownership or acquisition of shares of common stock.

Registrar and Transfer Agent

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company is the Registrar and Transfer Agent for the common stock.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

General

We may issue, together with other securities or separately, warrants to purchase our common stock or preferred stock. We will issue the warrants under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a warrant agent, or as shall be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants of the series being offered and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms, where applicable, of warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

the title of warrants;

the designation, amount and terms of the securities for which the warrants are exercisable and the procedures and conditions relating to the exercise of the warrants;

Table of Contents

the designation and terms of the other securities, if any, with which the warrants are to be issued and the number of warrants issued with such security;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the aggregate number of warrants;

any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of securities receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;

if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be separately transferable;

if applicable, a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the exercise of the warrants;

any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence, and the date on which the right will expire;

the maximum or minimum number of warrants which may be exercised at any time; and

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any.

Pursuant to this prospectus we also may issue warrants to underwriters or agents as additional compensation in connection with a distribution of our securities.

Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase for cash the number of shares of preferred stock or common stock at the exercise price as will in each case be set forth in, or be determinable as set forth in, the applicable prospectus supplement. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void.

Warrants may be exercised as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to those warrants. Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the purchased securities. If less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS

We may issue stock purchase contracts, which are contracts obligating holders to purchase from or sell to us, and obligating us to purchase from or sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of our common stock at a future date or dates. The price per share of common stock may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula contained in the stock purchase contracts. We may issue stock purchase contracts in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish.

Table of Contents

The prospectus supplement may contain, where applicable, the following information about the stock purchase contracts issued under it:

whether the stock purchase contracts obligate the holder to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, our common stock and the nature and amount of common stock, or the method of determining that amount;

whether the stock purchase contracts are to be prepaid or not;

whether the stock purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance or level of our common stock;

any acceleration, cancellation, termination or other provisions relating to the settlement of the stock purchase contracts; and

whether the stock purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any stock purchase contracts. The preceding description and any description of stock purchase contracts in the applicable prospectus supplement does not purport to be complete and is subject to and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the stock purchase contract agreement and, if applicable, collateral arrangements and depository arrangements relating to such stock purchase contracts.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

We may issue units comprised of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or at any time before a specified date.

The applicable prospectus supplement may describe:

the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;

any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units; and

whether the units will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any units. The preceding description and any description of units in the applicable prospectus supplement does not purport to be complete and is subject to and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the unit agreement and, if applicable, collateral arrangements and depository arrangements relating to such units.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities to one or more underwriters for public offering and sale by them or may sell the securities to investors directly or through agents. We will name, in the applicable prospectus supplement, any such underwriter or agent involved in the offer and sale of the securities.

Underwriters may offer and sell the securities at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at prices related to the prevailing market prices at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. We may, from time to time, authorize underwriters acting as our agents to offer and sell the securities upon the terms and conditions as are set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. In connection with the sale of securities, underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting

Table of Contents

discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of securities for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement any underwriting compensation we pay to underwriters or agents in connection with the offering of securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled, under agreements entered into with us, to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

If the applicable prospectus supplement so indicates, we will authorize dealers acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase securities from them at the public offering price set forth in such prospectus supplement pursuant to Delayed Delivery Contracts (Contracts) providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such prospectus supplement. Each Contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of securities sold pursuant to Contracts shall be equal to, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom Contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions, and other institutions but will in all cases be subject to our approval. Contracts will not be subject to any conditions except (a) the purchase by an institution of the securities covered by its Contracts shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which such institution is subject, and (b) if the securities are being sold to underwriters, we shall have sold to such underwriters the total principal amount of the securities less the principal amount thereof covered by Contracts.

In the ordinary course of business, certain of the underwriters and their affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with and perform services for us.

LEGAL MATTERS

Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP of New York, New York will pass upon the validity of the issuance of the securities offered hereby for us.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, have audited our consolidated financial statements and schedule included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, as set forth in their report, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements and schedule are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's report, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may inspect and copy any document that we file at the public reference rooms maintained by the SEC in Washington, D.C., New York, New York and Chicago, Illinois. Any documents we file may also be available at the SEC's site on the World Wide Web located at <http://www.sec.gov>. For a fee you can obtain the documents by mail from the Public Reference Section of the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549.

We have filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement.

Table of Contents

2,500,000 Shares

**Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc.
Common Stock**

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

**Merrill Lynch & Co.
Raymond James**

November 30, 2004
