REGENCY CENTERS CORP Form DEF 14A March 21, 2008 Table of Contents

# **UNITED STATES**

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant x Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

- " Preliminary Proxy Statement
- " Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- x Definitive Proxy Statement
- " Definitive Additional Materials
- " Soliciting Material Pursuant to 240.14a-12

# **REGENCY CENTERS CORPORATION**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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#### (Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x No fee required.

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  - (1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

# **REGENCY CENTERS CORPORATION**

# NOTICE AND PROXY STATEMENT

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

#### TO BE HELD MAY 6, 2008

# TO THE HOLDERS OF COMMON STOCK:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the annual meeting of shareholders of Regency Centers Corporation will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at 11:00 A.M., eastern time, in The River Room, Salon I of the River Club, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor of Independent Square, One Independent Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

The meeting will be held for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect a board of directors to serve until the 2009 annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors have been elected and qualified.
- 2. To reapprove the performance goals under our Long-Term Omnibus Plan.
- 3. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2008.

4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment. The shareholders of record at the close of business on February 26, 2008 will be entitled to vote at the annual meeting.

We hope you will be able to attend the meeting, but in any event we would appreciate your submitting your proxy as promptly as possible. You may vote via the Internet, or by telephone, as instructed on the accompanying proxy. If you received or requested a copy of the proxy card by mail, you may submit your vote by mail in the postage-paid envelope that accompanies it. **We encourage you to vote via the Internet or by telephone.** These methods are convenient and save us significant postage and processing charges. If you attend the meeting, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

J. Christian Leavitt

Senior Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

Dated: March 21, 2008

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# **REGENCY CENTERS CORPORATION**

One Independent Drive, Suite 114

Jacksonville, Florida 32202

# PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF

# SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD MAY 6, 2008

This proxy statement and the accompanying form of proxy are first being sent to our shareholders on or about March 21, 2008 in connection with the solicitation by our board of directors of proxies to be used at our 2008 annual meeting of shareholders. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at 11:00 A.M., eastern time, in The River Room, Salon I of the River Club, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor of Independent Square, One Independent Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

Our board of directors has designated Martin E. Stein, Jr., Mary Lou Fiala and Bruce M. Johnson, and each or any of them, as proxies to vote the shares of common stock solicited on its behalf. If you sign and return the accompanying form of proxy, you may nevertheless revoke it at any time insofar as it has not been exercised by (1) giving written notice to our Corporate Secretary, (2) delivering a later dated proxy, or (3) attending the meeting and voting in person. The shares represented by your proxy will be voted unless the proxy is mutilated or otherwise received in such form or at such time as to render it not votable. Proxies will be tabulated by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.

If the meeting is adjourned for any reason, at any subsequent reconvening of the meeting all proxies may be voted in the same manner as the proxies would have been voted at the original convening of the meeting (except for any proxies that have been properly revoked or withdrawn).

# NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS

In accordance with regulations recently adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, instead of mailing a printed copy of our proxy materials, including our annual report to shareholders, to each shareholder of record, we may now furnish these shareholder materials on the Internet. On or about March 15, 2008, we mailed to our shareholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access this proxy statement and our annual report and vote online. If you received the Notice by mail, you will not automatically receive a printed copy of our proxy materials or annual report. Instead, the Notice instructs you as to how you may access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials. The Notice also instructs you as to how you may submit your proxy on the Internet or by telephone. If you received the Notice by mail and would like to receive paper copies of our shareholder materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials included in the Notice.

# INTERNET ACCESS OR ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS

If you have previously signed up to receive shareholder materials, including proxy statements and annual reports, by mail, you may choose to receive these materials by accessing the Internet or via electronic delivery in the future, which can help us achieve a substantial reduction in our printing and mailing costs as well as be environmentally friendly. If you choose to receive your proxy materials by accessing the Internet, then before next year s annual meeting, you will receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials when the proxy materials and annual report are available over the Internet. If you choose instead to receive your proxy materials via electronic delivery, you will receive an email containing the proxy materials.

If your shares are registered in your own name (instead of through a broker or other nominee), sign up to receive proxy materials in the future by accessing the Internet or via electronic delivery at:

#### www.proxyvote.com

Your election to receive your proxy materials by accessing the Internet or by electronic delivery will remain in effect for all future shareholder meetings unless you revoke it before the meeting by sending a written request addressed to Diane Ortolano at our principal executive offices at One Independent Drive, Suite 114, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

If you hold your shares in an account at a brokerage firm or bank participating in a street name program, you can sign up for electronic delivery of proxy materials in the future by contacting your broker.

# HOUSEHOLDING

The Securities and Exchange Commission s rules permit us to deliver a single set of annual meeting materials to one address shared by two or more of our shareholders. This delivery method is referred to as householding and can result in significant cost savings. To take advantage of this opportunity, we have delivered only one proxy statement and annual report to multiple shareholders who share an address, unless we received contrary instructions from the impacted shareholders prior to the mailing date. We agree to deliver promptly, upon written or oral request, a separate copy of the Notice or annual meeting materials, as requested, to any shareholder at the shared address to which a single copy of those documents was delivered. If you prefer to receive separate copies of the proxy statement or annual report, contact Diane Ortolano at our principal executive offices at One Independent Drive, Suite 114, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

If you are currently a shareholder sharing an address with another shareholder and wish to receive only one copy of future Notices, proxy statements and annual reports for your household, please contact Diane Ortolano at our principal executive offices at One Independent Drive, Suite 114, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

# VOTING ELECTRONICALLY OR BY TELEPHONE

If your shares are registered in your own name (instead of through a broker or other nominee), you can vote your shares on the Internet by following the instructions at the Internet voting website at <u>www.proxyvote.com</u>. Please carefully follow the directions on your proxy card. If you vote via the Internet you may be required to bear costs associated with electronic access, such as usage charges from Internet access providers and telephone companies.

To vote by telephone, you should dial (toll-free) 1-800-690-6903; you will then be prompted to enter the control number printed on your proxy card and to follow subsequent instructions.

The giving of a proxy via the Internet or by telephone will not affect your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the annual meeting or to change your vote electronically or by telephone.

We reserve the right to cancel the electronic voting or telephone voting program at any time.

If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm or bank participating in a street name program, you may already have been offered the opportunity to vote using the Internet. A number of brokerage firms and banks participate in a program that offers Internet voting options for shares held in street name.

# **VOTING SECURITIES**

The record of shareholders entitled to vote was taken at the close of business on February 26, 2008. At such date, we had outstanding and entitled to vote 69,589,326 shares of common stock, \$.01 par value. Each share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote. Holders of a majority of the outstanding common stock must be present in person or represented by proxy to constitute a quorum at the annual meeting.

The following table shows information relating to the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of February 26, 2008, except as otherwise disclosed in the notes below, of:

each person known to us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our common stock,

each director and nominee,

each of the executive officers named in the summary compensation table elsewhere in this proxy statement, and

all directors and executive officers as a group.

Except as otherwise indicated, the shareholders listed exercise sole voting and dispositive power over the shares. No shares have been pledged as security by directors, nominees or executive officers excepted as noted below.

# Amount and Nature of Shares Beneficially Owned<sup>(1)</sup>

Name	Number of Shares Owned <sup>(2)</sup>	Right to Acquire <sup>(3)</sup>	Percent of Class
Deutsche Bank AG	11,007,530 <sup>(4)</sup>	-	15.8%
Taunusanlage 12			
D-60325 Frankfurt am Main			
Federal Republic of Germany			
Morgan Stanley	9,186,576 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	13.2%
1585 Broadway			
New York, NY 10036			
ING Groep N.V.	8,803,684 <sup>(6)</sup>		12.7%
Amstelveenseweg 500			
1081 KL Amsterdam			
P.O. Box 810			
1000 AV Amsterdam			
The Netherlands			
Barclays Global Investors, NA	4,282,346 <sup>(7)</sup>	-	6.2%
45 Fremont Street			
San Francisco, CA 94105	(0)		
The Vanguard Group, Inc.	4,226,527 <sup>(8)</sup>	-	6.1%
100 Vanguard Boulevard			
Malvern, PA 19355	4 400 004(9)	100.050	1.00/
Martin E. Stein, Jr.	1,190,361 <sup>(9)</sup>	168,856	1.9% *
Mary Lou Fiala Bruce M. Johnson	233,944 <sup>(10)</sup> 213,973 <sup>(11)</sup>	97,194 74,173	*
Brian M. Smith	57,086 <sup>(12)</sup>	103,157	
Raymond L. Bank	34,623	19,418	*
C. Ronald Blankenship	10,080	5,336	
A. R. Carpenter	46,755	11,524	*
J. Dix Druce, Jr.	18,712	6,049	*
Douglas S. Luke	43,546 <sup>(13)</sup>	14,276	*
John C. Schweitzer	20,002 <sup>(14)</sup>	5,336	*
Thomas G. Wattles	19,218 <sup>(15)</sup>	5,336	<i>.</i>
Terry N. Worrell	47,746 <sup>(16)</sup>	5,336	*
All directors and executive officers	1,836,046 <sup>(9)(15)</sup>	515,991	3.5%

as a group (a total of 12 persons)

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\*Less than one percent

- <sup>(1)</sup> Information presented in this table and related notes has been obtained from the beneficial owner or from reports filed by the beneficial owner with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- <sup>(2)</sup> Excludes shares that may be acquired by directors or executive officers through:

the vesting of restricted stock or stock rights awards; or

stock option exercises.

<sup>(3)</sup> Shares that can be acquired through stock option exercises or the vesting of stock rights awards within 60 days after the date of this proxy statement.

<sup>(4)</sup> Information is as of December 31, 2007 and is based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on January 30, 2008 by Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates listed below. According to the information provided in the Schedule 13G, each of the entities has voting and dispositive power over the shares shown as follows:

	Sole Voting Power	Shared Voting Power	Sole Dispositive Power
Deutsche Bank AG	3,338,101	64	5,503,701
RREEF America, L.L.C.	3,094,426	-	5,238,526
Deutsche Bank Trust Corp. Americas	375	64	19,175
Deutsche Investment Management Americas	243,300	-	246,000

<sup>(5)</sup> 

Information is as of December 31, 2007 and is based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008 by Morgan Stanley and its affiliate Morgan Stanley Investment Management, Inc. According to the information provided in the Schedule 13G, each of the entities has voting and dispositive power over the shares shown as follows:

	Sole Voting Power	Shared Voting Power	Sole Dispositive Power
Morgan Stanley	3,315,403	450	5,063,195
Morgan Stanley Investment Management, Inc.	2,652,577	450	4,123,381

(6) Information is as of December 31, 2007 and is based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008 by ING Groep N.V. and its affiliate ING Clarion Real Estate Securities, L.P. According to the information provided in the Schedule 13G, each of the entities has voting and dispositive power over the shares shown as follows:

	Sole Voting Power	Shared Voting Power	Sole Dispositive Power
ING Groep N.V.	4,686,892	-	4,686,892
ING Clarion Real Estate Securities, L.P.	2,089,807	4,400	4,116,792

<sup>(7)</sup> Information is as of December 31, 2007 and is based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 6, 2008 by Barclay Global Investors, NA and its affiliates listed below. According to the information provided in the Schedule 13G, each of the entities has voting and dispositive power over the shares shown as follows:

	Sole Voting Power	Shared Voting Power	Sole Dispositive Power
Barclay Global Investors, NA	1,362,550	-	1,871,432
Barclays Global Fund Advisors	2,164,545	-	216,545
Barclays Global Investors, Ltd.	142,658	-	151,158
Barclays Global Investors Japan Limited	95,211	-	95,211

<sup>(8)</sup> 

Information is as of December 31, 2007 and is based on a report on Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 12, 2008 by The Vanguard Group, Inc. According to the information provided in the Schedule 13G, The Vanguard Group, Inc. has sole voting power over 28,225 shares and sole dispositive power over 4,226,527 shares.

(9)

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Includes 57,995 shares held in Regency s non-qualified deferred compensation plan. Also includes 169,338 shares expected to be pledged to a bank as security for a line of credit. Also includes the following shares over which Mr. Stein is deemed to have shared voting and investment power:

160,263 shares held by The Regency Group (Nevada) Limited Partnership, the sole general partner of which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Regency Group, Inc. All of the outstanding stock of The Regency Group, Inc. is owned by The Regency Square Group II (Nevada) Limited Partnership, the sole general partner of which is a corporation all of the outstanding stock of which is owned by Mr. Stein and members of his family.

307,147 shares held by The Regency Group II. Mr. Stein is a general partner of The Regency Group II and a trustee of a trust that is also a general partner.

108,235 shares held by Regency Square II. Mr. Stein is a general partner of Regency Square II and a trustee of a trust that is also a general partner.

4,000 shares held for the benefit of Mr. Stein by the Wellhouse Trust. Mr. Stein has investment power with respect to such shares.

6,801 shares held by Mr. Stein as custodian for his children.

- <sup>(10)</sup> Includes 25,826 shares held in Regency s non-qualified deferred compensation plan.
- <sup>(11)</sup> Includes 4,864 shares held in Regency s non-qualified deferred compensation plan.
- <sup>(12)</sup> Includes 34,127 shares held in Regency s non-qualified deferred compensation plan.
- <sup>(13)</sup> Includes 12,679 shares pledged as security for a secured line of credit.
- <sup>(14)</sup> Includes 2,443 shares pledged as security for a margin account.
- <sup>(15)</sup> Includes 7,000 shares held in a trust. Mr. Wattles has investment power over these shares.

<sup>(16)</sup> Includes 7,500 shares held in two trusts. Mr. Worrell has investment power over these shares. **Stock Ownership Policy for Officers and Directors** 

Our board of directors has adopted a stock ownership policy for our senior officers and outside directors in order to encourage them to focus on creating long-term shareholder value. The policy sets stock ownership targets for officers as a multiple of base salary. For example, the target for the chief executive officer is five times his annual base salary. The target for outside directors is the greater of five times their annual retainer fees or \$250,000 (exclusive of fees for committee service or attendance fees). The targets are to be achieved by directors and executive officers over a five-year accumulation period. The stock ownership policy also requires the chief executive officer, the chief operating officer, the chief financial officer, the chief investment officer and the board of directors:

to retain the after-tax value of our shares acquired on the exercise of stock options or on the vesting of stock awards for one year after exercise or vesting, and

to retain 60% of that value so long as they remain an officer or director. Compliance with the policy is measured by using the higher of the trading price of the shares on the date of acquisition or the 30-day average before the measurement date. Any options, restricted stock or stock rights awards granted to a participant while he

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or she is not in compliance with these guidelines will vest over five rather than four years or such longer period as the compensation committee determines, in its discretion.

# PROPOSAL ONE: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

# **Majority Voting Policy**

Our articles of incorporation provide for the number of directors to be fixed pursuant to the bylaws, subject to a minimum of three and a maximum of fifteen. Our bylaws provide that the number of directors may not be increased or decreased by more than one without a vote of the shareholders. We currently have eleven directors.

Our board of directors has nominated all eleven of its members to stand for re-election at the 2008 meeting. All nominees were elected as directors by shareholders at the 2007 annual meeting. All directors elected at the meeting will serve until the 2009 annual meeting and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Directors will be elected by a plurality of votes cast by shares entitled to vote at the meeting. However, under a policy adopted by our board of directors, if in an uncontested election more votes are withheld from a director than are voted for the director, he or she will be required to resign within three days after certification of the vote. Our nominating and corporate governance committee (or, if votes were withheld from a majority of the members of the nominating and corporate governance committee, then a committee appointed by and from among disinterested, independent directors) will promptly consider the resignation and recommend to the board whether to accept or reject the resignation. The director who submitted the resignation may not participate in the decision.

Factors that the committee and board will consider under this policy include:

the stated reasons why votes were withheld from the director and whether those reasons can be cured;

the director s length of service, qualifications and contributions as a director;

New York Stock Exchange listing requirements, and

our corporate governance guidelines.

Rejection of the resignation may be conditioned on curing the reasons underlying the withheld votes.

The board will act on the resignation no later than 60 days after the date of the annual meeting. We will disclose the board s decision in a Form 8-K filed with the SEC within four business days of the decision that will provide a full explanation of the process by which the board reached its decision and the reasons for its decision.

Under Florida law, we must amend our articles of incorporation in order to provide that directors be elected by a majority as opposed to a plurality of the votes cast. Our nominating and corporate governance committee intends to consider such an amendment for consideration at a future annual meeting of shareholders.

#### **Independent Directors**

Our board of directors has determined that Messrs. Raymond L. Bank, C. Ronald Blankenship, A. R. Carpenter, J. Dix Druce, Douglas S. Luke, John C. Schweitzer, Thomas G. Wattles and Terry N. Worrell, being a majority of our directors, are independent as defined by

sections 303A.02(a) and (b) of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. In determining independence, the following commercial or charitable relationships will not be considered to be material relationships that would impair a director s independence:

- if our director or his or her immediate family member is an executive officer of another company that does business with us and our annual payments to the other company are less than 1% of the annual consolidated revenues of the other company;
- (2) if our director or his or her immediate family member is an executive officer of another company which is indebted to us, or to which we are indebted, and the total amount of either company s indebtedness to the other is less than 1% of the total consolidated assets of the other company; and
- (3) if our director serves as an officer, director or trustee of a charitable organization, and our discretionary charitable contributions to the organization are less than 1% of that organization s total annual charitable receipts (our automatic matching of employee charitable contributions will not be included in the amount of our contributions for this purpose).

The board will annually review all commercial and charitable relationships of directors and determine whether directors meet these categorical independence tests. In making its determination with respect to independence for the directors identified above as independent, the board did not consider any transactions, relationships or arrangements involving these directors that are not disclosed in this proxy statement.

During 2007, none of our independent directors served as an executive officer of any tax exempt organization to which we made contributions.

Our board of directors has adopted corporate governance guidelines, including a code of business conduct and ethics for our directors, officers and employees. The corporate governance guidelines and code of conduct are posted on our website at <u>www.regencycenters.com</u>. Copies may also be obtained in printed form by contacting Thomas Paul, Vice President-Internal Audit, at (904) 598-7000.

# Nominees

The accompanying proxy will be voted, if authority to do so is not withheld, for the election as directors of each of the board s nominees. Each nominee is presently available for election. If any nominee should become unavailable, which is not now anticipated, the persons voting the accompanying proxy may, in their discretion, vote for a substitute.

Our board of directors recommends a vote for the election of each of its nominees. Proxies solicited by the board will be so voted unless shareholders specify in their proxies a contrary choice.

Information concerning all nominees for director, based on data furnished by them, is set forth below.

# MARTIN E. STEIN, JR.

(First elected to the board in 1993)

Mr. Stein, age 55, is our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. He served as our President from its initial public offering in October 1993 until December 31, 1998. Mr. Stein also served as President of our predecessor real estate division since 1981, and Vice President from 1976 to 1981. He is a director and member of the compensation and corporate governance committees of Patriot Transportation Holding, Inc., a publicly held transportation and real estate company, and Stein Mart, Inc., a publicly held upscale discount retailer. Mr. Stein also serves as Chairman of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts and is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, the Urban Land Institute and the Real Estate Roundtable.

# MARY LOU FIALA

(First elected to the board in 1997)

Mrs. Fiala, age 56, became our President and Chief Operating Officer in January 1999. Before joining us, she was Managing Director-Security Capital U.S. Realty Strategic Group from March 1997 to January 1999. Mrs. Fiala was Senior Vice President and Director of Stores, New England-Macy s East/ Federated Department Stores from 1994 to March 1997. From 1976 to 1994, Mrs. Fiala held various merchandising and store operations positions with Macy s/Federated Department Stores. Mrs. Fiala is a director of Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. and Stir Crazy, Inc. She is also a member of the board of trustees of the International Council of Shopping Centers.

# **BRUCE M. JOHNSON**

(First elected to the board in 2004)

Mr. Johnson, age 60, has been our Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer since July 1993. From 1979 to October 1993, he served as Executive Vice President of our predecessor. Prior to joining Regency, Mr. Johnson was Vice President of Barnett Winston Trust, an equity and mortgage real estate investment trust. Mr. Johnson was a director of Columbia Equity Trust, Inc., an owner and operator of commercial office properties in the greater Washington, DC area, until its merger in February 2007. He also serves as Chairman of Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital, a private not-for-profit rehabilitation hospital, and sits on the Board and the Executive Committee of its private parent company, Brooks Health Systems.

# **RAYMOND L. BANK**

(First elected to the board in 1997)

Mr. Bank, age 54, was a founder and President of Merchant Partners, a venture capital firm focusing on retail, direct marketing, and consumer service companies from 1994 through 2004. He also serves as President of Raymond L. Bank & Associates, Inc., a firm investing in and advising marketing-driven companies in the retail, direct marketing and services sectors, since 1991.

# C. RONALD BLANKENSHIP

(First elected to the board in 2001)

Mr. Blankenship, age 58, has been Co-Chairman of Verde Group since June 2003. He was Vice Chairman of Security Capital Group Incorporated from May 1998 until June 2003. He was Chief Operating Officer of Security Capital from 1998 to May 2002 and Managing Director from 1991 until May 1998. Prior to June 1997, he was the Chairman of Archstone Communities Trust. Mr. Blankenship was formerly a trustee of ProLogis Trust and was formerly a director of BelmontCorp, InterPark Holdings Incorporated, Storage USA, Inc. and Macquarie Capital Partners, LLC. He also served as Interim Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and director of Homestead Village Incorporated from May 1999 until November 2001.

# A. R. CARPENTER

(First elected to the board in 1993)

Mr. Carpenter, age 66, retired from CSX Corporation as Vice Chairman, a position he held from July 1999 to February 2001. From 1962 until February 2001, he held a variety of positions with CSX, including President and Chief Executive Officer (from 1992 to July 1999) and Executive Vice President-Sales and Marketing (from 1989 to 1992) of CSX Transportation, Inc. Mr. Carpenter is a director of PSS World Medical, Inc. and Stein Mart, Inc.

# J. DIX DRUCE, JR.

(First elected to the board in 1993)

Mr. Druce, age 60, has been President and Chairman of the Board of National P.E.T. Scan, LLC since June 2000. From 1988 until 2000, he served as President and Chairman of the Board of Life Service Corp., Inc., a life insurance management company, and President and director of American Merchants Life Insurance Company and its parent, AML Acquisition Company, from October 1992 until the companies sale in 2000. He was President and director (Chairman from May 1989 to July 1991) of National Farmers Union Life Insurance Company from 1987 to 1991, and President and director of Loyalty Life Insurance Company and NFU Acquisition Company from 1987 to 1991.

# DOUGLAS S. LUKE

(First elected to the board in 1993)

Mr. Luke, age 66, is President and Chief Executive Officer of HL Capital, Inc., a personal management and investment company. From 1991 to 1998 Mr. Luke was President and Chief Executive Officer of WLD Enterprises, Inc., a Ft. Lauderdale, Florida-based diversified private investment and management company with interests in securities, real estate and operating businesses. From 1987 to 1990 he was Managing Director of Rothschild Inc./Rothschild Ventures. He is a director of MeadWestvaco Corporation, a diversified packaging and chemicals manufacturing company.

#### JOHN C. SCHWEITZER

(First elected to the board in 1999)

Mr. Schweitzer, age 63, is President of Westgate Corporation, which holds investments in real estate and venture capital operations. Mr. Schweitzer is a trustee of Archstone Smith Communities Trust, and a director of J.P. Morgan Chase Bank of Texas-Austin and KLRU Austin Public Television. He previously served as a member of Pacific Retail Trust s board of

trustees before its merger into Regency in February 1999. Mr. Schweitzer also served as a director or officer of a number of public companies and financial institutions, including Franklin Federal Bancorp, Elgin Clock Company, El Paso Electric Company, MBank El Paso, the Circle K Corporation, Homestead Village Incorporated and Enerserv Products.

# THOMAS G. WATTLES

(First elected to the board in 2001)

Mr. Wattles, age 56, has been Chairman of DCT Industrial Trust, a publicly held industrial property REIT, since March 2003 and Principal of Black Creek Group, a real estate investment management firm, since February 2003. He served as Managing Director of Security Capital from 1991 to 2002 and as a trustee of ProLogis Trust from 1993 to May 2002. He was a director of ProLogis predecessor from its formation in 1991, and was Non-Executive Chairman of ProLogis from March 1997 to May 1998. Mr. Wattles was Co-Chairman and Chief Investment Officer of ProLogis and its former REIT manager from November 1993 to March 1997, and director of the former REIT manager from June 1991 to March 1997.

# **TERRY N. WORRELL**

(First elected to the board in 1999)

Mr. Worrell, age 63, is a private investor in commercial properties and other business ventures. Mr. Worrell is a director of NL Industries, Inc., an international producer of titanium dioxide pigments. Mr. Worrell was a member of Pacific Retail Trust s board of trustees before its merger into Regency in February 1999. From 1974 to 1989 he was President and CEO of Sound Warehouse of Dallas, Inc. prior to its purchase by Blockbuster Music.

#### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, an officer, director or 10% shareholder must file a Form 4 reporting the acquisition or disposition of our equity securities with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than the end of the second business day after the day the transaction occurred unless certain exceptions apply. Transactions not reported on Form 4 must be reported on Form 5 within 45 days after the end of the company s fiscal year. To our knowledge, based solely on a review of the copies of these reports furnished to us and written representations that no other reports were required, the officers, directors, and greater than 10% beneficial owners timely complied with all applicable Section 16(a) filing requirements during 2007, except as described below.

On May 3, 2006, each of Raymond Bank, Ron Blankenship, Pete Carpenter, Dix Druce, Doug Luke, John Schweitzer, Tom Wattles and Terry Worrell received a stock rights award for 2,000 shares. Through inadvertence, these grants were reported late.

#### **Executive Officers**

Regency s executive officers are:

Name (age)	Title
Martin E. Stein, Jr. (55)	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Mary Lou Fiala (56)	President and Chief Operating Officer
Bruce M. Johnson (60)	Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer
Brian M. Smith (53)	Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer

For information with respect to Messrs. Stein and Johnson and Ms. Fiala, please see the information in the board of directors listing on the preceding pages.

**Brian M. Smith** has been our Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer since September 2005. From March 1999 to September 2005 he served as Managing Director of Investments for our Pacific Mid-Atlantic and Northeast divisions. Prior to joining us, Mr. Smith was Managing Director Pacific Investments for Pacific Retail Trust from January 1997 to February 1999, at which time PRT was acquired by Regency. Mr. Smith started his real estate career at Trammell Crow Company, where he was a partner in the firm, managing director and member of the National Retail Executive Committee.

# **Meetings of Board of Directors**

Our board held four regular meetings during 2007. All directors attended at least 75% of all meetings of the board and board committees on which they served during 2007.

Our independent directors meet quarterly in conjunction with the regular board meetings. The independent directors have elected John C. Schweitzer as lead director. As lead director, Mr. Schweitzer presides at the independent directors meetings. See Shareholder Proposals and Communications with the Board of Directors for information on how to communicate with Mr. Schweitzer or any of the other independent directors.

We do not have a formal policy requiring directors to attend annual meetings. However, because the annual meeting generally is held on the same day as a regular board meeting, we anticipate that directors will attend the annual meeting unless, for some reason, they are unable to attend the board meeting on the same date. All of our directors attended the 2007 annual meeting.

Our board of directors has established five standing committees: an audit committee, a compensation committee, a nominating and corporate governance committee, an investment committee and an executive committee, which are described below. Members of these committees are elected annually at the regular board meeting held in conjunction with the annual shareholders meeting. The charter of each committee is available on our website at <u>www.regencycenters.com</u> or in printed form by contacting Thomas Paul, Vice President Internal Audit at (904) 598-7000.

# **Standing Committees**

**Audit Committee.** The audit committee, which has been established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act, presently is composed of J. Dix Druce, Jr. (Chairman), Raymond L. Bank, A. R. Carpenter and Thomas G. Wattles, all of whom are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. No member of the audit committee serves on the audit committees of more than three public companies. The audit committee met seven times during 2007. The principal responsibilities of and functions to be performed by the audit committee are established in the audit committee charter was adopted by the board of directors and is reviewed annually by the audit committee. See Audit Committee Report for a description of the audit committee s responsibilities.

Our board of directors has determined that Messrs. Druce, Bank, Carpenter and Wattles are independent as defined by Sections 303A.02(a) and (b) of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards and meet the financial literacy requirements of the New York Stock Exchange. Our board of directors also has determined that Messrs. Druce, Carpenter and Wattles are audit committee financial experts as defined in Regulation S-K 407(d)(5) of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Compensation Committee.** The compensation committee presently is composed of John C. Schweitzer (Chairman), C. Ronald Blankenship, A. R. Carpenter and Douglas S. Luke, all of whom are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. The compensation committee held four meetings related to reviewing 2007 annual performance and determining 2007 compensation, to establish the 2008 incentive compensation plan, to discuss leadership development and succession planning, and to review and approve modifications to our executive compensation plans, including amended and restated severance and change of control agreements discussed elsewhere in this proxy statement. This committee has the responsibility of approving the compensation arrangements for senior management, including annual bonus and long-term compensation. It also recommends to the board of directors adoption of any compensation plans in which officers and directors are eligible to participate, and makes grants of equity awards under our Long-Term Omnibus Plan.

**Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.** The nominating and corporate governance committee, which is presently composed of A. R. Carpenter (Chairman), Raymond L. Bank and John C. Schweitzer, met once during 2007. All members of the nominating and corporate governance committee are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. The purpose of the nominating and corporate governance committee is:

to assist our board in establishing criteria and qualifications for potential board members;

to identify high quality individuals who have the core competencies and experience to become members of our board and to recommend to the board the director nominees for the next annual meeting of shareholders;

to establish corporate governance practices in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and consistent with the highest standards, and recommend to the board the corporate governance guidelines applicable to us;

to lead the board in its annual review of the board s performance and establish appropriate programs for director development and education; and

to recommend nominees for each committee of the board.

The nominating and corporate governance committee will consider written recommendations from shareholders for nominees for director. Shareholders wishing to submit names for consideration should submit the following to the Corporate Secretary, at our address set forth on page 1 of this proxy statement:

Biographical information about the candidate and a statement about his or her qualifications;

Any other information required to be disclosed about the candidate under the Securities and Exchange Commission s proxy rules (including the candidate s written consent to being named in the proxy statement and to serve as a director, if nominated and elected);

The names and addresses of the shareholder(s) recommending the candidate for consideration and the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned by each.

Shareholders should submit recommendations by November 15, 2008 as described under the caption Shareholder Proposals and Communications with the Board of Directors below.

The committee will apply the same criteria to all candidates it considers, including any candidates submitted by shareholders. These criteria include independence, personal integrity, leadership skills, strategic thinking, willingness to make a time commitment, and breadth of knowledge about matters affecting us and our industry. In addition, the committee standing for election at the 2008 annual meeting will look for skills and experience that will complement the board s existing make-up.

The committee evaluates each incumbent director to determine whether he or she should be nominated to stand for re-election, based on the types of criteria outlined above as well as the director s contributions to the board during their current term. All nominees standing for election at the 2008 annual meeting are incumbent directors.

A non-employee director must submit his or her resignation to the committee upon a job change, in order to permit the committee to determine if the director s new position creates any conflicts of interest. Directors may not stand for re-election after reaching age 75, unless the board, with committee input, elects to waive the mandatory retirement age.

When vacancies develop, the committee will solicit input regarding potential new candidates from a variety of sources, including existing directors and senior management. If the committee deems it appropriate, it may engage a third-party search firm. The committee will evaluate potential candidates based on their biographical information and qualifications and also may arrange personal interviews of qualified candidates by one or more committee members, other board members and senior management.

**Investment Committee.** The investment committee presently is composed of Thomas G. Wattles (Chairman), C. Ronald Blankenship, Martin E. Stein, Jr. and Terry N. Worrell. This committee was formed to review and approve our capital allocation strategy, to approve investments and dispositions exceeding certain thresholds and to review our investment and disposition programs and the performance of in-process developments. The investment committee met six times during 2007.

**Executive Committee.** The executive committee presently is composed of Martin E. Stein, Jr. (Chairman) or Mary Lou Fiala, if Mr. Stein is unavailable, and any two other directors who qualify as independent directors, as defined by the New York Stock Exchange, and who are available to meet when committee action is required. The executive committee did not meet during 2007. The executive committee is authorized by the resolutions establishing the committee to handle ministerial matters requiring board approval. The executive committee may not perform functions reserved under Florida law or the rules of the New York Stock Exchange for the full board of directors and, in addition, may not declare dividends.

# AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Our management is responsible for our internal controls and financial reporting process; the purpose of the audit committee is to assist the board of directors in its general oversight of our financial reporting, internal controls and audit functions. The audit committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors. A copy of the charter can be found on the Company s website at <u>www.regencycenters.com</u>. The four directors who serve on the audit committee have no financial or personal ties to us (other than director compensation and equity ownership as described in this proxy statement) and are all financially literate and independent for purposes of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. That is, the board of directors has determined that none of the audit committee members have a relationship with us that may interfere with the member s independence from us and our management.

The audit committee met with management seven times during the year to consider and discuss the adequacy of our internal controls and the objectivity of its financial reporting; in addition, the audit committee was on call as needed by management and KPMG LLP, the Company s independent registered public accountants, to meet with or discuss any issues arising during the course of the year. The audit committee met privately with both KPMG LLP and the internal auditors, each of whom has unrestricted access to the audit committee.

The audit committee has reviewed and discussed the consolidated financial statements with management and the independent registered public accountants. Management is responsible for the preparation, presentation and integrity of our financial statements; accounting and financial reporting principles; establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)); establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)); evaluating the effectiveness of disclosure controls and procedures; evaluating the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, internal control over financial statements and expressing an opinion on the conformity of those financial statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, as well as expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting.

The audit committee supervises the relationship between us and our independent registered public accountants, including making decisions about their appointment or removal, reviewing the scope of their audit services, approving non-audit services, and confirming their independence. The audit committee has discussed with the KPMG LLP the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standard No. 61, Communication with Audit Committees, including the quality of our accounting principles, reasonableness of significant judgments and the clarity of disclosures in the financial statements. In addition, the audit



committee discussed with KPMG LLP matters relating to its independence, including a review of audit and non-audit fees and the written disclosures and letter from KPMG LLP to the committee required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, Independence Discussions with Audit Committees.

In addition, the committee reviewed key initiatives and programs aimed at maintaining and strengthening the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures. As part of this process, the committee continues to monitor the scope and adequacy of our internal auditing program, and to review staffing levels and steps taken to maintain the effectiveness of internal procedures and controls.

Based on these reviews and discussions, the audit committee recommended to the board of directors and the board of directors approved that the audited financial statements be included in Regency s annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

J. Dix Druce, Jr., Chairman

Raymond L. Bank

A. R. Carpenter

Thomas G. Wattles

#### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### **Compensation Program Objectives**

Regency s compensation program is designed to attract, motivate, and retain executives who are capable of achieving the company s key strategic goals. We compensate our executives through a mix of base salary, annual cash incentives and long-term equity compensation, with an emphasis on the role of incentives in contributing to the total. Our compensation programs are designed to be competitive with comparable employers and to align the interests of management with shareholders by awarding incentives for the achievement of specific key objectives.

#### **Oversight of Compensation**

The compensation committee of our board of directors is responsible for implementing Regency s executive pay philosophy, evaluating compensation against the market and the philosophy, and approving the material terms of executive compensation arrangements, such as incentive plan participants, award opportunities, goals, and compensation earned under incentive plans. The committee is composed entirely of independent directors as defined by the New York Stock Exchange. The committee evaluates the performance of the CEO and determines his compensation based on this evaluation.

With respect to the other named executive officers, the committee considers the CEO s input as to performance evaluation and recommended compensation arrangements. This compensation is subject to the final approval of the committee.

Management and the committee rely upon outside advisors to ascertain competitive pay levels, evaluate pay program design, and assess evolving technical constraints. During 2007 the committee engaged Towers Perrin to evaluate competitive pay practices, assist in the refinement of Regency s performance share plan, value Regency s equity awards, and evaluate the terms of its change-in-control agreements.

#### **Targeted Level of Compensation**

We rely on information prepared by Towers Perrin using the compensation survey of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT) and the peer group analysis described below to evaluate pay levels for our named executive officers. The consultant to the compensation committee analyzes competitive total direct compensation at the peer REITs and real estate companies listed below, as disclosed in their proxy statements for prior years. We evaluate the appropriateness of the group annually and make adjustments accordingly. Three REITs considered in the past are no longer considered, based on merger and acquisition activity. To make up for their loss, we have added a comparably-size health care REIT.

> AMB Property AvalonBay Communities Developers Diversified Realty Duke Realty Equity One Federal Realty Investment Trust

Heritage Properties Trust<sup>(1)</sup> Inland Real Estate Kimco Realty Liberty Property Trust Macerich Co. New Plan Excel Realty Trust<sup>(1)</sup> Pan Pacific Retail Properties<sup>(1)</sup> The St. Joe Company United Dominion Realty Trust Ventas Inc.<sup>(2)</sup> Weingarten Realty Investors

<sup>(1)</sup> Dropped for comparison purposes in 2007 because of a merger or other business combination.

<sup>(2)</sup> Added in late 2007 to make up for the loss of the REITs in note 1 above.

We also use other published compensation surveys from CEL & Associates, Watson Wyatt, William Mercer and other consulting firms to benchmark pay data for officers other than our named executive officers.

Regency s compensation philosophy is to set base salaries within a range around the competitive median and target total direct compensation that is meaningfully above the median for higher levels of performance. Although base salaries are generally targeted around the median, the actual salary of an executive may be above or below the median based on factors unique to that executive, such as experience or competency, the availability of meaningful peer data for the executive or year-to-year changes in peer group salaries.

Total direct compensation, which adds annual cash incentives and the expected value of long-term incentives, is targeted in the range of the 75th percentile for high levels of performance. These high levels of performance are consistent with Regency s strategic plan and are expected to generate total shareholder returns better than the peer average over time. The company will pay higher incentives for exceptional performance, and in the case of Brian Smith, our chief investment officer, the company targets total direct compensation in the top decile for exceptional performance, due to the extraordinary current and future value added by development program he heads and the strong competition for talent in this area.

#### **Elements of Compensation**

In allocating compensation, we believe the compensation of senior levels of management should be predominantly performance-based since these levels of management have the greatest ability to influence corporate performance. The table below summarizes the allocation of the 2007 target compensation opportunity for our named executive officers and other senior management based upon the three primary elements of compensation (base salary, annual cash incentive, and long-term incentives).

# Relative Size of Three Key Elements of Target Compensation Opportunity

Element	Average of Named Executive Officers <sup>(1)</sup>	Average of Regency Senior Management	Average of All Other Regency Executives
Base salary	18%	20%	60%
Annual incentives	22%	35%	20%
Long term incentives	60%	45%	20%

# <sup>(1)</sup> Opportunity at high performance level.

Targeted pay opportunity levels align with the market in each individual pay element as defined in our pay-for-performance philosophy. The elements of compensation are discussed in more detail below.

#### Base Salary

Base salary is fixed compensation payable every two weeks and is a standard market practice intended to compensate for basic daily responsibilities assigned to the position. Base salaries are reviewed annually. The following factors are considered in determining salary adjustments: market competitiveness in relation to Regency s performance and capital structure, the roles and responsibilities of the executives, their contributions to the company s business, an analysis of job requirements and the executives prior experience and accomplishments.

Our named executive officers received base salary increases ranging from 4% to 9% for 2007. Base salary increases for 2007 for Mr. Johnson and Mr. Smith were 9.1% and 7.7%, respectively, which were higher than for other employees, including the other named executive officers, due to the responsibilities and exceptional performance levels of these two individuals. Base salary increases for 2008 (4.2% to 4.6%) for the named executive officers other than Mr. Stein were in line with increases for other employees. Mr. Stein s base salary for 2008 was increased by 10% in order to prevent him from falling into the lower quartile. His raise places his base salary at the 32<sup>nd</sup> percentile of the peer group, which is still significantly below the median.

# Annual Cash Incentive Overview

Regency pays an annual cash incentive based on achievement of key corporate objectives. All of the named executive officers are rewarded based on absolute growth in funds from operations (FFO) per share, as defined below, measured over a three year period. Management and the compensation committee believe that FFO per share growth is a key metric because shareholders of REITs closely monitor this metric and because FFO per share growth should contribute to long-term successes for shareholders. Regency considers FFO to be an accurate benchmark for our peer group and a meaningful performance measurement for the company because it excludes various items in net income, such as gains on sales of operating properties, that do not relate to or are not indicative of the operating performance of the ownership, management and development of real estate. We use a rolling three-year measurement period in order to avoid year-to-year distortions that could be caused by, for example, an unusual change due to acquisition activity in a prior year.

In addition to FFO per share, a portion of the incentive compensation of our chief investment officer is based on the performance of the investment group, specifically the net value created from developments and acquisitions, as defined below. Management and the committee believe that net value creation warrants rewarding given the importance of generating new developments for the long-term prospects for Regency.

The following table shows the allocation of the annual cash incentive to the different performance measures.

# Weighting of Annual Cash Incentive Opportunity

Named Executive Officer	FFO per Share	Net Value Creation from Developments and Acquisitions
Mr. Stein	100%	0%
Ms. Fiala	100%	0%
Mr. Johnson	100%	0%
Mr. Smith	52%	48%

The definitions of the performance measures are as follows:

**FFO per Share** - FFO is defined by NAREIT generally as net income (computed in accordance with GAAP), (1) excluding real estate depreciation and amortization and gains and losses from sales of operating properties (other than gains and losses from the sale of development properties or land), (2) after adjustment for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures computed on the same basis as item 1, and (3) excluding items classified by GAAP as extraordinary along with significant non-recurring events.

**Net Value Creation from Developments and Acquisitions** - The net future value of development starts (stabilized net operating income estimated for each project divided by the prevailing market cap rate less the project s net project costs) less G&A allocable to the investment group and dead deal costs, plus the net future value from acquisitions (a 5% profit margin based on the total dollar amount of the acquisition).

Award opportunities under the annual cash incentive plan are consistent with the pay philosophy in that they provide above-median award opportunities for achievement of Regency s high performance expectations. We pre-establish a range of goals and corresponding payout opportunities. The maximum possible awards are capped. The following table shows the performance criteria for FFO per share growth for cash awards that could be earned under our 2007 incentive plan:

2005 2007 FFO/Share Growth Rate	Performance Level	% of Opportunity Earned
10%	Exceptional	100%
9%		90%
8%	High	80%
7%		70%
6%		60%
5%	Median	50%
3.75%		37.5%
2.5%	Threshold	25%

We also provided for a cash award to Mr. Smith based on net future value created from development starts and acquisitions in 2007. The following table shows the performance criteria for this portion of the cash award he could earn under our 2007 incentive plan:

Net Value Created	Performance Level	% of Opportunity Earned
\$150 million	Exceptional	100%
\$140 million		90%
\$130 million	High	80%
\$120 million		70%
\$110 million		60%
\$100 million	Median	50%
\$75 million	Threshold	25%

Annual Cash Incentive 2007 Results v. 2007 Incentive Plan Goals

The cash incentive awards actually made to our named executive officers based on the above performance criteria are shown in the summary compensation table under the column Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation. The following table compares actual performance in 2007 against the range of minimum and maximum possible awards:

	Threshold	Exceptional	2007 Performance	% of Maximum Award Earned
FFO per share	2.5%	10%	9.4% <sup>(1)</sup>	95%
Net value creation from development starts and acquisitions	\$75 million	\$150 million	\$184 million	100%

<sup>(1)</sup> For the three-year performance period 2005-2007. *Discretionary Awards in 2007* 

As reported last year, the compensation committee granted discretionary stock rights awards in January 2007 to our chief investment officer and CFO totaling \$362,500 and \$150,000, respectively, for their 2006 performance. These grants are shown in the awards tables elsewhere in this proxy statement. These awards, along with a discretionary cash bonus to Mr. Smith of \$262,500, were made in recognition of the substantial contribution Mr. Smith has made to the expansion of our development program and the extraordinary amount of work performed by Mr. Johnson in closing our Open End Fund in 2006.

Our chief investment officer received a special discretionary award in January 2008 totaling \$350,000, of which \$175,000 was paid in cash and \$175,000 was paid as a stock rights award that vests 25% per year over the next four years. This discretionary award was made to recognize Mr. Smith s work in 2007 in leading the growth in the investment group s capability to effectively manage an investment program that is expected to create significant additional value in future years. The compensation committee took into consideration the strong competition for talent in both public and private development companies. Regency believes Mr. Smith is one of the top investment executives in the shopping center business, so we choose to pay accordingly to retain such talent.

# Long-Term Incentives Overview

The compensation committee strongly believes that providing executives with an opportunity to increase their ownership of common stock aligns their interests with shareholders. We maintain our Long-Term Omnibus Plan for the purpose of granting various types of equity awards, including stock rights awards, to provide incentives for management to increase stockholder value and thereby align the interests of management with the interests of our stockholders. In addition, the multi-year nature of the performance and vesting periods provides an incentive for executives to stay with the company.

Our compensation committee has authority to determine eligible participants, the types of awards and the terms and conditions of awards. Award opportunities under the Long-Term Omnibus Plan are consistent with the pay philosophy in that they provide above-median award opportunities for achievement of Regency s high performance expectations. The plan uses two different stock-based awards in order to promote stock ownership among the participants and to emphasize the importance of total shareholder return. Contingent share awards, or performance share award opportunities, are awarded to our named executive officers, subject to the achievement of select performance goals as described below. Other executives receive restricted share awards as described below.

Our practice is to determine the dollar amount of equity compensation that we want to provide and then to grant the number of shares based on the fair market value at the date of committee action.

When reviewing preliminary recommendations and in connection with approving the terms of a given incentive plan period, management and the compensation committee review and consider the accounting implications of a given award, including the estimated compensation expense, the periods over which that expense will be incurred and/or dilutive considerations with respect to FFO per share.

# Long Term Incentives: Performance Shares

Performance goals are established for a three-year performance period. Following the end of the period, performance versus goals is considered, awards are determined, and the corresponding number of shares vest. Dividend equivalents will vest when the underlying share award vests and will be paid in shares as if dividends paid on unvested shares at the same rate as paid on our common stock were reinvested annually. No shares will be earned if the minimum performance levels are not achieved.

Performance share opportunities awarded to our named executive officers in 2005 and 2006 for the 2005-2007 and 2006-2008 performance periods, respectively, are described in notes (4) and (5) to the table for outstanding equity awards at fiscal year-end 2007 that is included elsewhere in this proxy statement. Performance share opportunities awarded in 2007 can be earned based on performance against goals over the 2007-2009 period. Corporate measures used to determine the vesting of performance share awards are FFO per share growth and relative total shareholder return. Regency has long believed that FFO per share growth is a key driver of success, hence its prominence in the performance share awards. Relative total shareholder return is used because it measures our overall success against the total shareholder return, including dividends, of a relevant group of peers. Regency s total shareholder return is compared to that of the following peer companies (a subset of shopping center REITs within the broad peer group listed above):

Developers Diversified Realty Equity One Federal Realty Investment Trust Inland Real Estate Kimco Realty Corp New Plan Excel Realty Trust, and Weingarten Realty Investors

Two-thirds of the performance share opportunity award for Messrs. Stein and Johnson and Ms. Fiala (and 50% of the performance share award for Mr. Smith) is tied to compounded FFO per share growth. We emphasize FFO per share growth because our named executive officers have more control over FFO per share growth than shareholder return, which is subject to external factors, such as stock market fluctuations. The remaining third of the performance share award (25% in the case of Mr. Smith) is subject to relative total shareholder return success as described below. In addition, 25% of the performance award for Mr. Smith, our chief investment officer, is tied to net value realized from developments and acquisitions measured at the end of the three-year performance period, as further described below.

The following table shows the performance criteria for compounded FFO per share growth for performance share awards covering the three-year performance period of 2007 through 2009. Percentage growth is measured as FFO per share in excess of \$3.88 per share.

2007 2009 Compounded FFO/Share Growth Rate	Performance Level	% of Opportunity Earned
10%	Exceptional	100%
9%		90%
8%	High	80%
7%	-	70%
6%		60%
5%	Median	50%
3.75%		37.5%
2.5%	Threshold	25%

The following table shows the performance criteria for relative total shareholder return for performance share awards for the three-year performance period of 2007 through 2009. Total shareholder return is based on the closing price of our common stock as of the end of the year in question and assumes the reinvestment of cash dividends on each applicable ex-dividend date. Relative shareholder return is our rank compared against the total shareholder return for our peer group of shopping center REITs listed above.

Rank in Peer Group	Performance Level	% of Opportunity Earned
Top 12.5%	Exceptional	100%
Top 25%		90%
Top 37.5%	High	80%
Top 50%	Median	50%
Top 62.5%		37.5%
Top 75%	Threshold	25%

In the case of Mr. Smith, 25% of his performance share opportunity is based on the performance of our investment group. Net value realized will be measured using a formula described above under Elements of Compensation Annual Cash Incentive Overview. A threshold award of 25% will be earned if the net value realized by Regency s investment group in 2007 is at least \$75 million, measured at the end of the three-year performance period ended December 31, 2009, and 100% will be earned if the net value realized is at least \$150 million.

The following table sets forth additional information about the performance criteria tied to the investment group:

Net Value Realized	Performance Level	% of Opportunity Earned
\$150 million	Exceptional	100%
\$140 million		90%
\$130 million	High	80%
\$120 million		70%
\$110 million		60%
\$100 million	Median	50%
\$75 million	Threshold	25%

The performance share awards made for the 2008-2010 period differ in how our total shareholder returns are evaluated. Continued mergers and acquisitions have reduced the number of comparable REITs (in property type and size) for use within a comparative measure. Beginning in 2008 we will compare our performance to the Morgan Stanley Shopping Center REIT index. Our performance goals will be established based on performance within a range (+/- 300 basis points) around the index.

#### Long Term Incentive: Restricted Shares / Stock Rights Awards

A restricted share award is a grant of stock that vests after certain conditions are met. Restricted shares are used to motivate and retain employees as well as promote employee stock ownership. The restricted share awards we are currently granting to most officers are time-based and vest equally over a four-year period. We refer to them as stock rights awards because we do not issue the shares until the vesting conditions have been satisfied. Generally, we make time-based stock rights awards to officers below the named executive officer level, because we want the equity compensation of our named executive officers to be tied primarily to specific performance objectives. As previously mentioned, we made discretionary stock rights awards in 2007 and 2008 to our chief investment officer and in 2007 to our CFO. We paid these bonuses in the form of time-based awards as opposed to outright stock grants in order to encourage these two executives to remain with Regency.

#### Long Term Incentive: Stock Options

We currently grant performance shares and stock rights awards rather than stock options as part of our compensation package. For our named executive officers, these awards are tied to specific performance criteria established for both the current year and future three year periods based upon the attainment of objectives that are integral to Regency s trategic plan. Since we grant fewer shares with these types of awards than we would have granted in the form of options, stock grants also reduce dilution to approximately one-third of the rate we would experience in granting options.

Some employees hold outstanding stock option grants awarded in prior years that expire as late as 2015. All stock options were granted with an exercise price equal to the stock s fair market value at the date of grant. All stock options granted have ten-year lives, contain vesting terms of one to five years from the date of grant. Some have dividend equivalent rights. The options that expire in 2015 were granted in 2005 as part of a reload exchange program in which almost all reload rights that were part of existing options were exchanged for new options without reload rights or for stock rights awards.

#### Retirement: 401(k) & Profit-Sharing Plan

To provide employees with the opportunity to save for retirement on a tax-deferred basis, Regency sponsors a 401(k) plan pursuant to which Regency matches employee contributions at 100% up to \$3,600 for 2007. In addition, if Regency achieves a stated FFO target for the year, the company will make a profit-sharing contribution equal to 0.5% times FFO. The pool of funds is distributed pro-rata to all eligible employees based upon a salary cap of \$50,000. If we do not meet this performance objective, no profit-sharing contribution is made. We are strongly committed to encouraging all employees to save for retirement. We review our company match, employee participation levels and communication programs throughout the year to ensure that this benefit remains competitive with comparable companies as well as the national average.

#### Retirement: Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan

We sponsor a non-qualified deferred compensation plan that allows senior executives and directors to defer compensation that would otherwise be paid. The plan gives eligible employee participants who would otherwise be limited by federal law in the amounts they could contribute to our 401(k) plan the ability to save beyond those limits by providing another savings vehicle. Our non-qualified deferred compensation plan works together with the qualified 401(k) plan to

assist executives in building a foundation for their retirement. We believe this is an attractive benefit for highly paid employees and that most companies offer executives some type of executive retirement benefit above and beyond the qualified plan limits. We have the right to make contributions to the participants accounts, but we have never done so. See Executive Compensation Summary of Our Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plans for additional information about this plan and a predecessor plan that we maintain.

# Compensation on Termination of Employment

Each of our named executive officers has a severance and change of control agreement. We believe these agreements are important for retention purposes, as many companies with which we compete offer severance compensation, particularly in connection with a change of control. We do not believe that any of our executive officers have accumulated sufficient individual wealth that they will not be concerned with losing their positions, including as the result of a change of control Accordingly, our named executive officers have the right to receive enhanced severance compensation, including the vesting of unvested equity awards, if they are terminated without cause or they leave for good reason within two years after a change of control. We believe that such compensation gives our named executive officers incentive (1) to stay with the company despite the possibility of losing employment after a change of control and (2) to focus on obtaining the best possible value for shareholders in a change of control transaction.

Effective January 1, 2008, we amended the severance and change of control agreements with all our officers, which otherwise would have renewed for an additional five-year term, to make them more shareholder friendly and to address changes in the tax laws, including new regulations under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code relating to deferred compensation. For example, for most officers we eliminated the gross-up for federal and state income taxes and excise taxes for excess parachute payments, as defined in Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code. Their change of control compensation will be scaled back to just below that which would otherwise trigger excise taxes. We retained the gross-up for excise taxes, but not for federal or state income taxes, for Brian Smith, but only until the fifth anniversary date of his last promotion (or September 19, 2010), and only if his total change of control compensation would exceed the Section 280G limit by more than 10%. Because of his promotion, his five-year base for the computation of parachute payments does not fully reflect his current compensation. Based on evolving practices of other companies, we changed the formula for cash bonuses on termination to a multiple of the officer s average cash bonus over the previous three years, as opposed to the greater of the most recent cash bonus or the target cash bonus for the year of termination. This formula ties the cash bonus on termination to a longer performance period and reduces the possibility of distortion based on a one-year measurement period. We also provide for the payment, if approved by the compensation committee, of any annual cash bonus accrued for the year through the date of termination because that amount is likely to have actually been earned.

In amending the agreements, we were sensitive to avoiding morale issues that would result from any wholesale elimination of existing benefits. Accordingly, the amended and restated agreements retain the same multiples of base compensation and annual cash bonus on termination of employment as the prior agreements, with the exception of Brian Smith, whose severance multiple was increased from 1.0x to 1.5x in recognition of his promotion to chief investment officer since the date of his original agreement. Our compensation committee will evaluate the current agreements again in light of best practices as part of the next renewal cycle. We reduced the term of the agreements from five to three years, to expedite that review.

Like the agreements they replaced, the amended and restated agreements provide for compensation on a change of control only on a double trigger, i.e., only if a change of control occurs and the officer is terminated without cause or leaves for good reason within two years after the change of control. However, like the agreements they replaced, the amended and restated agreements provide for the vesting and cash-out of unvested stock options and stock rights awards on a single trigger i.e., on a change of control, if Regency or the surviving company in a business combination transaction is not a public company after the change of control. Performance shares, as opposed to time vesting awards, will entitle the executive to receive a cash payment at the end of the performance period based on the fair market value of our stock immediately before the change of control, plus interest, provided that the officer remains employed by the surviving company until that date. The cash-out feature is based on our belief that the illiquid equity in a private company does not provide as meaningful an incentive as equity in a public company.

For additional information on compensation on termination of employment, including death, disability and retirement, see Executive Compensation Compensation on Termination of Employment.

# **Other Policies**

Our executive officers are subject to stock ownership guidelines. See Voting Securities Stock Ownership Policy for Officers and Directors.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 subjects incentive compensation and stock sale profits of our CEO and CFO to forfeiture in the event of an accounting restatement resulting from any non-compliance, as a result of misconduct, with any financial reporting requirement under securities laws. The compensation committee has not adopted any additional forfeiture provisions for incentive compensation.

Because all our employees are employed by our operating partnership and not by Regency itself, we believe they are not subject to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, which limits the deductibility of compensation paid by corporations to executives named in their summary compensation tables to the extent it exceeds \$1 million per executive. Nevertheless, our annual cash incentive awards are designed to comply with the requirements of Section 162(m). However, for business reasons, some elements of our compensation for our named executive officers would not meet Section 162(m) s requirements, if they are found to apply to us. For example, most awards we grant include dividend equivalent units, or DEUs. DEUs are an important component of increases in shareholder value for REITs, which must distribute 90% of their REIT taxable income to shareholders. Our compensation committee therefore believes it is important to include DEUs are part of our equity-based awards even if they do not comply with Section 162(m) s requirements.

# **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

For the year ended December 31, 2007, our compensation committee:

reviewed and discussed the compensation discussion and analysis with our management; and

based on this review and discussion, recommended to our board of directors that the compensation discussion and analysis be included in this proxy statement. John C. Schweitzer, Chairman

John C. Schweitzer, Chainna

C. Ronald Blankenship

A. R. Carpenter

Douglas S. Luke

#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

# **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table summarizes the compensation of our chief executive officer, our chief financial officer and each of our other executive officers for 2006 and 2007. We refer to these individuals as our named executive officers.

# SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE FOR 2007

Name and Principal Position	Year <sup>(1)</sup>	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Option Awards (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	lı C	on-Equity ncentive Plan Compen- sation (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	Change in Pension Value and Non- qualified Deferred Compen- sation Earnings <sup>(5)</sup>	All Other Compen- sation (\$) <sup>(6)</sup>	Total (\$)
Martin E. Stein, Jr. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2007 2006	\$ 600,000 \$ 575,000	\$ \$	\$ 3,040,984 \$ 2,794,244	\$ 323,684 \$ 323,684	\$ \$	926,250 855,000	·	\$ 61,959 \$ 426,775	\$ 4,952,877 \$ 4,974,703
Mary Lou Fiala President and Chief Operating Officer	2007 2006	\$ 432,000 \$ 415,000		\$ 2,105,316 \$ 1,752,606	\$ 166,122 \$ 166,122	\$ \$	541,500 495,000		\$ 18,996 \$ 178,218	\$ 3,263,934 \$ 3,006,946
Bruce M. Johnson Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer	2007 2006	\$ 360,000 \$ 330,000		\$ 1,564,745 \$ 1,117,292	\$ 118,594 \$ 118,594	\$ \$	427,500 360,000	·	\$ 37,596 \$ 136,910	\$ 2,508,435 \$ 2,062,796
Brian M. Smith Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer	2007 2006	\$ 350,000 \$ 325,000	\$ 175,000 \$ 262,500	\$ 1,942,549 \$ 1,678,424	\$ 33,496 \$ 33,496					