# FEBRUARY 2024 HI DESERT REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

#### **Hi Desert Communities**

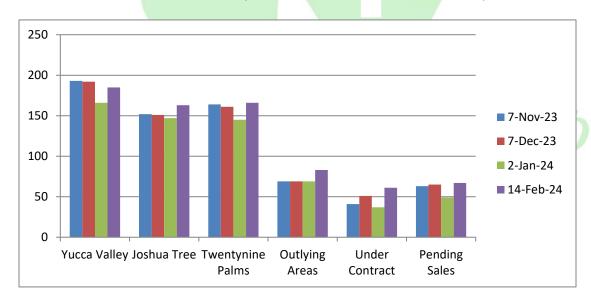
**By Bob Armstrong Real Estate Broker** 

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This monthly report is an attempt to provide you with mathematical information about the current real estate market in the Hi Desert communities of Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Twentynine Palms, and surrounding areas. I do my best to keep my opinion out of the information. If you want my opinion, just ask! I also post market information on my Facebook Fan Page (<a href="www.facebook.com/desertrealestate">www.facebook.com/desertrealestate</a>). All information included on this Update is gathered from the California Regional Multiple Listing Service (CRMLS) which is the predominate service in the area. *Numbers in parenthesis represent change from last month*.

### **INVENTORY**

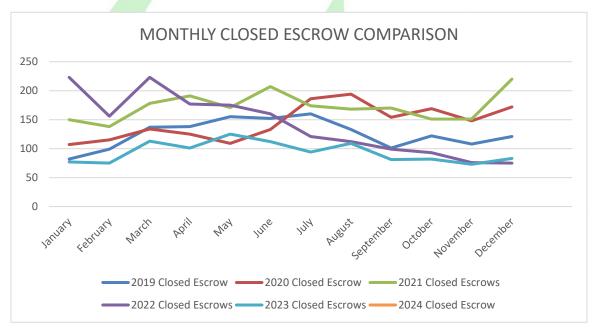
At this writing (February 14, 2024) we have 597 (+70) residential homes actively for sale in our area ranging from a low price of \$33,000 to a high of \$18,000,000. There are 61 (+24) properties in "Active Under Contract" status (some major contingencies but in escrow). There are 67 (+18) properties in a Pending sale (waiting on escrow to close). Of the active listings, 185 in the Yucca Valley zip code of 92284 (+19). 163 in the Joshua Tree zip code of 92252 (+16) and 166 in Twentynine Palms 92277 (+21).



#### MONTHLY CLOSED ESCROW AND INVENTORY COMPARISON BY YEAR

Last month, in January, we closed escrow on 57 residential properties. In comparison, last year we closed escrow on 75 residential properties in our Hi Desert communities. Below are two, line graphs of inventory and closed escrow by month for the 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.





## WHAT IS AVERAGE?

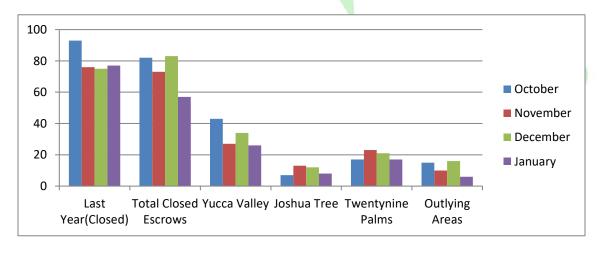
Our Hi Desert communities offer a variety of custom housing. When I refer, in this Update, to "average" just what is the definition for that month? Below is a table showing what was average for the month covered in this report (and the previous month). For the month of January 2024 our average is defined as-

COMMUNITY	Average Sold Price	Average Lot Size (sq ft)	Lot Size (sq Square		Average Bathrooms	Avg Price per sq ft
Yucca Valley	\$411,673	71,996	1,432	3	2	\$315.36
YV last month	\$397,718	62,654	1,512	3	2	\$286.66
Joshua Tree	465,188	79,562	1,263	2	2	\$351.44
JT last month	542,542	69,950	1,377	3	2	\$374.40
29 Palms	\$247,824	65,273	1,242	3	2	\$221.35
29 last month	\$225,340	75,222	1,049	2		\$212.33

## LAST MONTHS CLOSED ESCROW INFORMATION

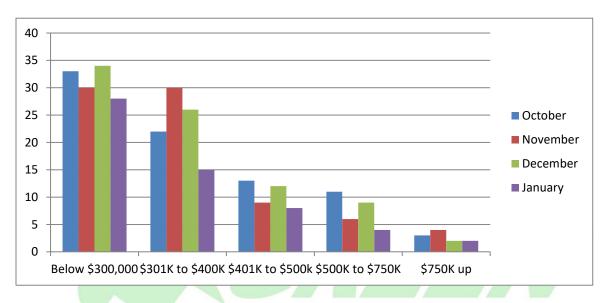
#### **Number of Closed Escrows:**

Last month (January 2024) in our Hi Desert communities of Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, and Twentynine Palms plus outlying areas we closed escrow on 57 homes (-26). 46% of the sold homes were in Yucca Valley, 14% were in Joshua Tree, and 30% were in Twentynine Palms, 10% were from the smaller communities that surround our larger ones.



#### **CLOSED ESCROWS BY PRICE RANGE:**

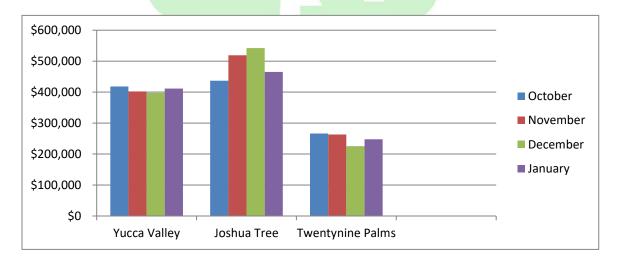
Of the 57 escrows closed in January, 28 were under \$300,000 (-06). 15 were between \$300k and \$400k (-11). **75% of homes sold under \$400k**. 8 homes sold between \$400k and \$500k (-04). 04 homes sold between \$500k and \$750k (-05). 2 houses sold over \$750k (+/-0). This month the highest value home sold at \$1,650,000 and is located on Mars St. in north Joshua Tree.



## **HOUSING STATISTICS**

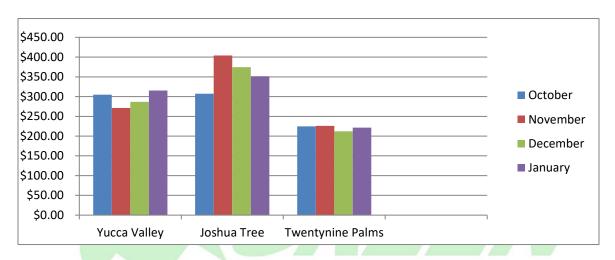
#### **AVERAGE PRICE OF CLOSED ESCROWS:**

In January, homes that closed escrow in Yucca Valley sold at an average price of \$411,673 (+\$13,955), Joshua Tree averaged \$465,188 (-\$77,354), Twentynine Palms averaged \$225,340 (+\$22,484).



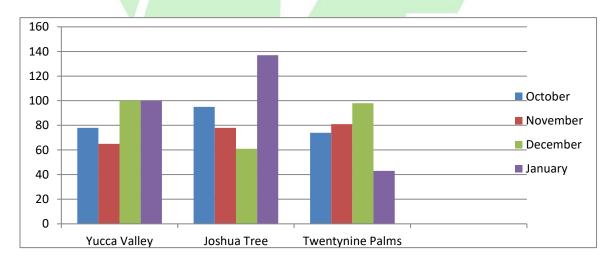
#### PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT OF CLOSED ESCROWS:

In January, homes that closed escrow in Yucca Valley sold for \$315.36 per square foot (+\$28.70), Joshua Tree sold for \$351.44 per square foot (-\$22.96), Twentynine Palms sold for \$212.33 per square foot (+\$9.02). The most expensive home sold by square foot this month is in Yucca Valley. This home has 410 square feet, on almost a 5 acre parcel, sold for \$950.98 per square foot, and is on Aberdeen Dr. The least expensive home sold was \$118.88 per square foot. This home is located in Twentynine Palms on Gorgonio Dr.



#### **Average Days on Market:**

The average days on market for sold homes in Yucca Valley in January was 100 (+/- 0), Joshua Tree was 137 (+76), Twentynine Palms was 43 (-55).

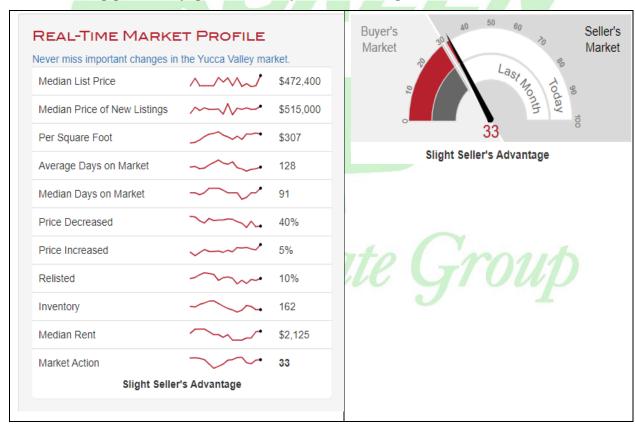


#### MARKET CONDITIONS

I am sharing with you the Altos Market Trend Report. This is a weekly report provided to me that can shed light on the health of our market. I use the same week of each month that I prepare my Monthly Market Update to help inform you of the trends in our market. The Market Action Index (MAI) answers the question "How's the Market?" by measuring the current rate of sale versus the amount of the inventory. Index above 30 implies Seller's Market conditions. Below 30, conditions favor the buyer. Watch for changes in MAI. If the MAI resumes its climb, prices will likely follow suit. If the MAI drops consistently or falls into the Buyer's zone, watch for downward pressure on prices.

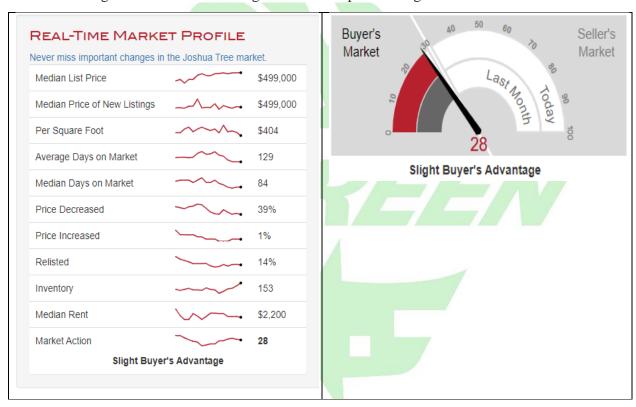
#### **YUCCA VALLEY:**

This week the median list price for Yucca Valley, CA 92284 is \$472,400 with the market action index hovering around 33. This is about the same as last month's market action index of 33. Inventory has held steady at or around 162. The market remains in a relative stasis in terms of sales to inventory. Prices have not been moving higher for several weeks. However, inventory is sufficiently low to keep us in the Seller's Market zone so watch changes in the MAI. If the market heats up persistently, prices are likely to resume an upward climb.



#### **JOSHUA TREE:**

This week the median list price for Joshua Tree, CA 92252 is \$499,000 with the market action index hovering around 28. This is about the same as last month's market action index of 28. Inventory has increased to 153. The market has shown some evidence of slowing recently. Both prices and inventory levels are relatively unchanged in recent weeks. Watch the Market Action Index for changes as it can be a leading indicator for price changes.



#### **TWENTYNINE PALMS**

This week the median list price for Twentynine Palms, CA 92277 is \$297,000 with the market action index hovering around 31. This is an increase over last month's market action index of 30. Inventory has increased to 143. While the Market Action Index shows some strengthening in the last few weeks, prices have not seemed to move from their plateau. Should the upward trend in sales relative to inventory continue, expect prices to resume an upward climb in tandem with the MAI.

REAL-TIME MARKE		Buyer's Seller Market Market	
Median List Price  Median Price of New Listings	~~~·	\$297,000 \$282,500 \$256	Lassi Month to a
Per Square Foot  Average Days on Market  Median Days on Market	~~~	147	Slight Seller's Advantage
Price Decreased  Price Increased	~~~	34%	
Relisted	~~~	12% 143	
Median Rent  Market Action		\$1,775 <b>31</b>	7/-/-/
	r's Advantage	1EEN	

If you would like to better understand the math and dynamics of our local market, text, email, or call and let's discuss your questions and concerns. I can find a winning strategy for you in any market.

Sincerely,

## Bob Armstrong

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GREEN Real Estate Group