## Group led by OneRepublic singer buys Las Vegas office building



By Eli Segall Las Vegas Review-Journal January 18, 2018 - 1:29 pm

OneRepublic frontman Ryan Tedder is known for belting out such hits as "Apologize" and "Stop and Stare."

Now, the pop-rock star is plowing millions into a seemingly random line of business: Las **Vegas' office market**.

Tedder led a group that acquired a four-story, roughly 105,000-square-foot building at Rainbow Boulevard and Post Road in the southwest valley, according to New York broker Keith Kantrowitz, who represented the buyers and invested in the deal.

Backed by a \$23.1 million bank loan, Tedder's group shelled out \$33 million: \$32.35 million for the building and \$650,000 for a 1.9-acre parking lot across Post, property records show.



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The sale, by WGH Partners, closed Jan. 11.

Compared to other types of commercial real estate in town, Las Vegas' office market has been slowest to recover from the recession. It still grapples with a high vacancy rate, but Tedder's purchase comes amid tight availability for higher-quality space in the <u>southwest</u> valley and a rising tally of office-building sales in Southern Nevada.

**Tedder's steel-frame, "Class A" building at** 6325 S. Rainbow Blvd. – part of the <u>Rainbow Sunset Pavilion</u> office and retail park – is 100 percent occupied. Tenants include Wells Fargo Bank, New York Life Insurance Co. and sportsbook operator William Hill.

When WGH acquired the building out of foreclosure after the market crashed, it was less than 10 percent occupied with one tenant, according to Sun Commercial Real Estate owner Cathy Jones, who represented the bank that sold it as well as WGH in last week's deal.

In a phone interview, Kantrowitz said he represents "a lot of Hollywood people" who look around for investments to generate income after they retire. He said the Rainbow building caught his group's attention because of the construction quality, the tenants, and the close proximity to the 215 Beltway.

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He said he has represented this group on other projects and that Tedder is the Rainbow building's majority owner.

<u>Tedder</u>, OneRepublic's lead singer, is also a <u>Grammy-winning</u> songwriter and producer who has worked with Taylor Swift, Adele, Beyoncé, U2 and others, according to his band's PR firm, Edge Publicity.

Tedder wasn't available for comment, said Evie Ranscombe, a publicist with Edge.

The Rainbow building was constructed in 2007. U.S. Bank foreclosed by early 2011 and sold the building, along with a nearby 1.5-acre lot, later that year to WGH for \$10.5 million, property records show.

In 2012, WGH acquired the 1.9-acre lot that it sold to Tedder last week, records show.

WGH co-founder Benjy Garfinkle said the building has been near full occupancy for the last few years. As he sees it, the market is "underserved" with Class A space, and he's looking to build more.

Garfinkle said he has designs for a four-story, 100,000-square-foot, steel-and-glass building that he wants to develop in the southwest. He doesn't have tenants lined up, nor has he finalized a project site, but he said that if he could line up a sizeable tenant, he could break ground in nine months.

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Jones, of Sun Commercial, noted the office market has been slow to bounce back from the recession, but business has picked up.

"It's been a good, steady turnaround," she said.

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