

## **Real Estates Bullets #26**

Hello to our **7,768 familiar faces** from last week, and a **warm welcome** to all our **new readers**!

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## Bullets #26:

## Charlie Munger Last Real Estate Warning

In honor of the recent passing of Southern California's own **Charlie Munger**, here is a summary of a <u>Yahoo Finance</u> article discussing one of the <u>last market</u> warnings that Charlie issued that **revolved around commercial real estate**:

- Charlie Munger, <u>Warren Buffett's late business partner</u>, warned about a potential crisis in the **commercial real estate sector**.
- Munger expressed concern about the hollowing out of downtown areas in the U.S. and worldwide, <u>foreseeing significant and unpleasant</u> <u>consequences</u> for commercial real estate.
- McKinsey's report indicates a <u>decline in foot traffic</u> and office attendance, with demand for office space predicted to be **nearly 20%** lower in 2030 compared to 2019.
- Munger highlighted issues in the U.S. banking sector, citing "bad loans" in commercial real estate, which could be exacerbated by higher interest rates and lower rental income.
- Berkshire Hathaway is avoiding commercial real estate and instead focusing on residential property development.
- The company **has invested in homebuilders** like D.R. Horton, Lennar, and NVR, <u>anticipating a potential boom</u> in homebuilding.
- The National Association of Realtors reports a housing shortage of 5.5 to 6.8 million units, making the residential property development sector attractive.
- Berkshire's avoidance of commercial real estate is attributed to it being more beneficial for taxable investors than for corporations like Berkshire.
- Retail investors can participate in the residential property development space through publicly listed homebuilders or the S&P SPDR Homebuilder ETF (XHB).

Full Article



Real Estate and Development

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