

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC
Form 8-K
December 19, 2013

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 19, 2013

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC.
ESSEX PORTFOLIO, L.P.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

001-13106 (Essex Property Trust, Inc.)
333-44467-01 (Essex Portfolio, L.P.)
(Commission File Number)

Maryland (Essex Property Trust, Inc.)

77-0369576 (Essex Property Trust,
Inc.)

California (Essex Portfolio, L.P.)

77-0369575 (Essex Portfolio, L.P.)

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

925 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, California 94303
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(650) 494-3700
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☒ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01. Other Events

Essex Property Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation (“Essex”), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “Merger Agreement”) with BRE Properties, Inc., a Maryland corporation (“BRE”) and Bronco Acquisition Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation (“Merger Sub”), dated December 19, 2013. Essex and BRE issued a joint press release on December 19, 2013 announcing the execution of the Merger Agreement. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

In addition, Essex and BRE will host a conference call on Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 7:00 am Pacific Time (10:00 am Eastern Time) regarding the proposed transaction during which they will discuss a presentation to analysts and investors. The slides to be used in connection with this analyst and investor presentation are attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and are incorporated herein by reference.

The information required by Item 1.01, including a copy of the Merger Agreement, will be filed in a separate Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Joint Press Release issued by Essex Property Trust, Inc. and BRE Properties, Inc. on December 19, 2013.
99.2	Joint Investor Presentation.

Forward Looking Statements

This Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements which are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about the industry and markets in which Essex and BRE operate and beliefs of and assumptions made by Essex management and BRE management, involve uncertainties that could significantly affect the financial results of Essex or BRE or the combined company. Words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “estimates,” variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements, which generally are not historical in nature. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the anticipated benefits of the business combination transaction involving Essex and BRE, including future financial and operating results, and the combined company’s plans, objectives, expectations and intentions. All statements that address operating performance, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will occur in the future — including statements relating to expected synergies, improved liquidity and balance sheet strength — are forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Although we believe the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained and therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted in such forward-looking statements. Some of the factors that may affect outcomes and results include, but are not limited to: (i) national, regional and local economic climates, (ii) changes in financial markets and interest rates, or to the business or financial condition of either company or business, (iii) changes in market demand for rental apartment homes and competitive pricing, (iv) risks associated with

acquisitions, including the integration of the combined companies' businesses, (v) maintenance of real estate investment trust ("REIT") status, (vi) availability of financing and capital, (vii) risks associated with achieving expected revenue synergies or cost savings, (viii) risks associated with the companies' ability to consummate the merger on the terms described or at all and the timing of the closing of the merger, and (ix) those additional risks and factors discussed in reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") by Essex and BRE from time to time, including those discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in their respective most recently filed reports on Forms 10-K and 10-Q. Neither Essex nor BRE undertakes any duty to update any forward-looking statements appearing in this document.

Additional Information About This Transaction.

In connection with the proposed transaction, Essex expects to file with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 that will include a joint proxy statement of Essex and BRE that also constitutes a prospectus of Essex. Essex and BRE also plan to file other relevant documents with the SEC regarding the proposed transaction. **INVESTORS ARE URGED TO READ THE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IF AND WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.** You may obtain a free copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus (if and when it becomes available) and other relevant documents filed by Essex and BRE with the SEC at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Copies of the documents filed by Essex with the SEC will be available free of charge on Essex's website at www.essexpropertytrust.com or by contacting Essex Investor Relations at 650-494-3700. Copies of the documents filed by BRE with the SEC will be available free of charge on BRE's website at www.breproperties.com or by contacting BRE Investor Relations at 415-445-3745.

Essex and BRE and their respective directors and executive officers and other members of management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. You can find information about Essex's executive officers and directors in Essex's definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on April 1, 2013. You can find information about BRE's executive officers and directors in BRE's definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on March 11, 2013. Additional information regarding the interests of such potential participants will be included in the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents filed with the SEC if and when they become available. You may obtain free copies of these documents from Essex or BRE using the sources indicated above.

This document shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 19, 2013

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST, INC.

/s/ Michael T. Dance

Name:

Michael T. Dance

Title:

Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer

ESSEX PORTFOLIO, L.P.

By: Essex Property Trust, Inc., its General Partner

/s/ Michael T. Dance

Name:

Michael T. Dance

Title:

Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit Index

Exhibits
Number

Description

99.1

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99.2

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