

The home stretch

From signing to moving in, buyers at some big downtown projects find timeliness is not of the essence

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Congratulations! You've made the decision to buy a new condominium and you've been approved for a mortgage.

Everything is running smoothly. You assume you're on a fast-track to homeownership.

Then it happens. The builder of your new loft condo announces that there will be "an unavoidable delay." You won't be able to move in on the day originally promised.

The fallout from such delays can hit buyers hard. Some may have to scramble for interim lodging, others may need storage for their furniture, still others may have to reapply for a mortgage. At the very least, the inconvenience generates major stress.

Delays can happen in any construction pro-

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