

# WHAT'S NEXT HIGHLIGHTS

# Cosmetics retailers expand in Ximen

Vacancy rates at Ximen and Taipei Railway Station dropped in Q3, while those in Zhongxiao and Zhongshan/Nanjing rose. Apart from a rental level drop in Zhongxiao, on the whole other hubs saw rental levels remain stable.

POYA entered Ximen in Q3 and Watsons expanded, demonstrating the continued growth of cosmetics retailers. Away from Hanzhong Street, there are now seven cosmetics stores on Chengdu Road, which has become the new key ground for cosmetics retailers. The 'FAVtory' food court in Zhongshan/Nanjing closed in Q3, and leasing of its sizable space will be an indicator to the area's future growth. Gucci, Prada and Coach have recently withdrawn from Zhongshan/Nanjing. Players in the luxury industry have changed their strategy, and the boutique street image of Zhongshan North Road has faded.

Vacancy rates in the most and least trendy sections in Zhongxiao have greatly diverged. PUMA has expanded in the trendy area, while F&B stores 'ICE MONSTER' and 'Boost Juice Bars' have exited from the more unfashionable sections. With many units vacant in Q2 still on the market, the vacancy rate in Zhongxiao rose 1.4 percent points q-o-q to 11.5%.

### Financial sector turns to creative experiences

The financial sector has turned to innovative storefronts and formats to provide new services and experiences. For example, Cathay Life Insurance opened a center including a Starbucks, Yuanta Financial Holdings opened a branch offering cultural and creative imagery at Huashan 1914 Creative Park, and KGI Bank has partnered with creative brands and rising artists to offer a combined bank and gallery experience in Zhongshan.

# Ximen to see steady growth despite China travel ban

The travel ban imposed by China in August, with the consequent drop in Chinese tourists, will impact Taiwan's tourism market. However, overall tourist volumes since the beginning of 2019 have risen 12% y-o-y, with numbers from Japan, Korea and Thailand soaring. We expect Ximen, supported by diverse foreign tourism, to be resilient to the ban and to see steady rent growth.

#### **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

Q1 2019 Q2 2019 2019-2020 Forecast

GDP Growth CPI Growth 1.8% 0.3% 2.4% 0.8%



Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics

### SALES OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Period 2018 2019 Growth Cumulative Sales of General Merchandise 691.0 720.9 from Jan to Jul (NT\$ bn) 2018 2019 Sales of General Merchandise 99.2 105.3 in Jul (NT\$ bn)



- Convenience Stores
- Department Stores
- Supermarkets

\*Jul of 2019

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Source: Department of Statistics, Ministry of Economic Affairs



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# TAIPEI RETAIL MARKETBEAT OCTOBER 2019

#### PRIME RETAIL VACANCY AND AVERAGE RENTS IN Q3 2019

RETAIL HUB	VACANCY RATE	RENTAL RANGE (NTD/PING/MO)	RENTAL RANGE (USD/SF/MO)	12-MONTH OUTLOOK
Zhongxiao	11.5%	9,000~16,000	8.1~14.3	•
Taipei Railway Station	2.6%	10,000~12,000	9.0~10.7	
Zhongshan / Nanjing	5.8%	7,000~12,000	6.3~10.7	
Ximen	1.5%	18,000~22,000	16.1~19.7	

Note: Only storefronts in prime retail hubs are taken into account. All data is based on gross floor area unless otherwise specified. Rentals are exclusive of management fees or other expenses.

Area Unit Conversion: 1 ping = 35.58 sq ft = 3.3 sq m

Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 31.3742 TWD as of August 23, 2019

#### SIGNIFICANT OPENINGS IN Q3 2019

RETAIL HUB	LOCATION	TENANT	AREA (ping)
Zhongxiao	Section 4, Zhongxiao East Road	PUMA	66.1
Zhongshan / Nanjing	Nanjing West Road	CHARLES & KEITH	39.9
Zhongshan / Nanjing	Section 1, Zhongshan North Road	KGI BANK	91.0
Ximen	Chengdu Road	Watsons	76.7 (1~3F)
Ximen	Kunming Street	POYA	358.3 (1~3F)

#### SIGNIFICANT RETAIL PROJECTS - UNDER CONSTRUCTION / DECORATION

PROJECT	DISTRICT	OPENING TIME	GFA (ping)
FEDS XINYI	Xinyi District, Taipei City	Q4 2019	13,000
Honhui Plaza	Xinzhuang District, New Taipei City	Q2 2020	25,600
Mitsui Shopping Park LaLaport Nangang	Nangang, Taipei City	2021	61,900