

Ref: 16-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mark Mulhern

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

919-875-6682

Highwoods Announces Addition to Management Team

Brendan Maiorana Named Vice President of Finance and Investor Relations

RALEIGH, NC – April 20, 2016 – Highwoods Properties, Inc. (NYSE:HIW) today announced that Brendan Maiorana, currently Senior Equity Research Analyst for Office REITs at Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, has accepted the position of Vice President of Finance and Investor Relations and will start on May 2, 2016. He will report directly to Mark Mulhern, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Ed Fritsch, President and CEO of Highwoods, stated, "We are extremely fortunate to have Brendan joining our leadership team. With his strong real estate and finance background, first developed at EY and then strengthened throughout the last eleven years covering REITs at Wells Fargo Securities, Brendan's skill set is ideal for this role. He is very familiar with Highwoods, having covered us since joining Wells Fargo. We firmly believe he will be a good fit, add significant expertise to our team and will hit the ground running."

Maiorana spent the last eleven years in Equity Research at Wells Fargo Securities, starting as an Associate Equity Research Analyst. Prior to that, he spent four years at Ernst & Young LLP as a senior auditor. He is a graduate of Rutgers University with a BS in accounting and has an MBA from the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School. Brendan, with his wife and three children, will relocate to the Triangle area from Baltimore.

About Highwoods

Highwoods Properties, Inc. (NYSE:HIW), headquartered in Raleigh, is a publicly-traded (REIT) and a member of the S&P MidCap 400 Index. Highwoods is a fully-integrated office REIT that owns, develops, acquires, leases and manages properties primarily in the best business districts (BBDs) of Atlanta, Greensboro, Memphis, Nashville, Orlando, Pittsburgh, Raleigh, Richmond, and Tampa. For more information about Highwoods, please visit our website at www.highwoods.com.