

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**WELLSFORD/WHITEHALL GROUP, LLC
ENTERS INTO CONTRACT TO SELL SIX OFFICE BUILDINGS**

NEW YORK, January 7, 2003—Wellsford Real Properties, Inc. (AMEX: WRP) announced today that Wellsford/Whitehall Group, L.L.C. (“WWG” or the “Venture”), has entered into a contract to sell a portfolio of six properties for approximately \$134.8 million, subject to closing adjustments. The properties which aggregate approximately 956,000 square feet are located in New Jersey and Maryland. The sale is expected to close in the first quarter of 2003. Net cash receipts in excess of mortgage payment requirements will be retained by WWG as a reserve for debt reductions and other Venture purposes.

WRP is a real estate merchant banking firm headquartered in New York City, which acquires, develops, finances and operates real properties and organizes and invests in private and public real estate companies. WRP has a 32.59% interest in WWG.

Whitehall is a private equity fund managed by The Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

Certain statements in this press release constitute “forward-looking statements” under federal securities laws and involve known and unknown risk, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results to be materially different from any future results implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors may include, among others: the inability to actually close the aforementioned transaction; the inability to close the transaction under terms similar to those currently negotiated; and the inability to realize overall gains from the sale of such assets.

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