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South Florida Real Estate: The Best Hedge Against Inflation

American homeowners with fixed long-term low debt cost (such as a 30-year fixed mortgage) versus rising wages are in the best position as this country faces rising inflation.

Homeowners undergo strict restrictions to receive 30-year fixed loans. There are no exotic loan debt structures post 2010. The cash flow of homeowners is so much better vs pre-2010. Look at the New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax report for mortgage originations by credit score. Of all home mortgages originated in first quarter of 2021, 73 percent went to borrowers with a credit score above 760. This was a record high for the period since 2003.

The power of owning a home

ceilings and incredible bones.

with rising inflation

With inflation rising nationally, it's important to remember that housing is a great asset and hedge against inflation. Home values traditionally keep up with inflation. If you can secure a fixed mortgage rate for 30 years, the amount you pay for your home may not increase although the value of it might.

When you buy real estate, you make a down payment of perhaps 20 percent. The home price rises by the rate of inflation times the cost of the house, not by the cost of your down payment. So, if inflation doubles the value of the house, it may have quadrupled the value of your down payment. It's even better if you took out a fixed rate mortgage because you made a payment that

appliances, and a remodeled master

bath

dropped in inflation-adjusted dollars.

Renting is different as inflation could lead to higher rental prices. If the cost of appliances, carpets, paint, etc. go up that means the cost of maintaining rental homes is up and landlords can raise rents. Like with buying a home, supply and demand play a significant role in rental prices. High demand and low inventory mean prices will go up.

More investment in vacation homes, commercial real estate

Rising inflation could also lead to more buyers purchasing vacation homes in places like South Florida. Buyers want that second property, a tangible asset, as a hedge against inflation.

Commercial real estate is another

good hedge against inflation because it generates cash flow. Landlords can raise rents along with rising inflation. Some leases have automatic consumer price index adjustments built in. Higher revenues also correlate to higher property values.

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