

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

☒ Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

☐ Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Howard Christopher B.</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC.</u> <u>4040 WILSON BOULEVARD STE 1000</u> (Street) <u>ARLINGTON</u> <u>VA</u> <u>22203</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES INC [AVB]</u> 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/17/2026</u> 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ☒ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) ☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	08/17/2026		D ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾		7,596.0349 ⁽³⁾	D	(1)(2)	0	D	

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Explanation of Responses:

1. Pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 20, 2026 (the "Merger Agreement"), by and among AvalonBay Communities, Inc., a Maryland corporation ("AVB"), Equity Residential, a Maryland real estate investment trust ("EQR"), ERP Operating Limited Partnership, an Illinois limited partnership, and Canopy Merger Sub LLC, a Maryland limited liability company ("Merger Sub"), AVB and EQR combined in a merger of equals on August 17, 2026, with AVB merging with and into Merger Sub, with Merger Sub surviving as a wholly owned subsidiary of EQR (the "Merger"). In connection with the Merger, EQR changed its name to Vivmark Residential.
2. At the effective time of the Merger (the "Effective Time"), each issued and outstanding deferred stock unit held by the Reporting Person was automatically converted into the right to receive 2.793 (the "Exchange Ratio") common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share ("EQR Common Shares"), of EQR. On August 14, 2026, the closing price of AVB Common Stock was \$184.06 per share and the closing price of EQR Common Shares was \$65.97 per share.
3. This total includes deferred stock units.

Christopher B. Howard by Edward
M. Schulman pursuant to a Power
of Attorney dated as of May 20,
2021

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.