

AT A GLANCE NOODLES & COMPANY INVESTOR PRESENTATION

### Disclaimer

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this presentation are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements discuss our current expectations and projections relating to our financial condition, results of operations, plans, objectives, future performance and business. These statements may be preceded by, followed by or include the words "may," "might," "will," "objective," "intend," "should," "could," "can," "would," "expect," "believe," "design," "estimate," "predict," "potential," "plan" or the negatives thereof and other words and terms of similar meaning. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve a number of known and unknown risks, assumptions, trends, uncertainties and factors that are beyond our control, including without limitation, those identified in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2023 filed on March 9, 2023 and our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, under the sections titled "Risk Factors," "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations." Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, estimated or projected. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations and projections about future events. Although Noodles & Company ("we" or the "Company") believes that our assumptions made in connection with the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that the assumptions and expectations will prove to be correct. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this document. We undertake no obligations to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements in this presentation, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise other than as required under the federal securities laws.

### **Note Regarding Non-GAAP Measures**

In this presentation, we include certain supplemental financial measures, including EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, restaurant contribution, and restaurant contribution margin, which are neither required by nor presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. ("GAAP"). The presentation of this financial information is not intended to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for, or to be superior to, the financial information prepared and presented in accordance with GAAP. We use these non-GAAP financial measures for financial and operational decision making and as a means to evaluate period-to-period comparisons. We believe that they provide useful information about operating results, enhance the overall understanding of past financial performance and future prospects and allow for greater transparency with respect to key metrics used by management in its financial and operational decision making. You are cautioned, however, that these measures, as we calculate them, are not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. In addition, these measures have limitations as analytical tools and should be considered only in conjunction with our financial results reported under GAAP, and not in isolation. See the Appendix for a reconciliation of each non-GAAP financial measure included in this presentation to its directly comparable GAAP measurement. For more information on why management considers these non-GAAP financial measures to be important indicators of our operational strength and performance, as well as the limitations on these measures as an analytical tool, please see our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2023 filed on March 9, 2023 and our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, under the sections titled "Key Measures" We Use to Evaluate Our Performance." Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EPS are forward-looking non-GAAP measures. Quantitative reconciling information for these measures is unavailable without unreasonable efforts. The corresponding GAAP measures (net income and earnings per share, respectively) are not accessible on a forward-looking basis and such information is likely to be significant to an investor



### **Investment Highlights**

# HIGHLY DIFFERENTIATED CONCEPT ...

### **OUR BRAND**

Fast Casual Leader in a Consumer Favorite: Noodles and Pasta

### **OUR MENU**

Innovative, Varied and Cooked Fresh-to-Order Winning with Today's Consumer

# ACCELERATED GROWTH OBJECTIVES ...

### **GROW OUR AVERAGE UNIT VOLUMES**

Data Driven Guest Engagement Drives Digital Opportunities and Brand Awareness

### **EXPAND OUR RESTAURANT LEVEL MARGINS**

Contracted Lower Commodity Prices, and Labor Management through Efficiency Initiatives

### **ACCELERATE OUR UNIT GROWTH**

Fast Growing Pipeline of Infill and New Market Locations Targeting 30% Cash on Cash Return Coupled with New Franchise Strategy









# A BRAND UNLIKE ANY OTHER.

# Welcome to Noodles & Company

Noodles and Pasta are one of America's favorite foods – a staple of diets across the globe and the ultimate comfort food to bring family and friends together.

From our menu to our service to the way we do business, we infuse Uncommon Goodness into everything we do. Uncommon Goodness is our collective commitment to bring a fresh, unexpected human twist that betters something for someone.

Fresh, inventive, and made-to-order by our caring team members, we offer kids to adults the ability to experience a world of flavors - however, whenever, and wherever they would like to. From healthy to indulgent, and familiar to new, Noodles & Company truly has something for everyone.



### **OUR BRAND History**

# We Built a Strong Foundation for Accelerated Growth

2019

Reimagined mobile app and

**Launched National delivery** 

**Rewards platform** 

2021

2020

**Tortelloni menu introduction** 

Steamer introduction

Franchise Initiative launched

Loyalty program reached 4 million members

**Expanded Noodles native** delivery and curbside pickup

Rolled out "Kitchen of the Future" initiative to improve labor efficiency

Launched Group Ordering,

**Expanded inclusion & diversity** 

**Bolstered company and** franchise teams



**Apple Pay and Order Status** 



New executive leadership – **CFO and CMO** 



efforts



3

Introduced lower carb, higher protein option - LEANguini

2022



**Refranchised 15 California** locations with 40 unit franchise agreement



**Uncommon Goodness** brand launch



Largest year of unit growth since 2016



**Strengthened balance sheet** with flexible credit facility to support growth

2018



Introduced healthy-noodle option – zucchini noodles ("zoodles")



**Expanded off-prem model to** include Quick Pick-Up



Invested in advanced labor management technology



















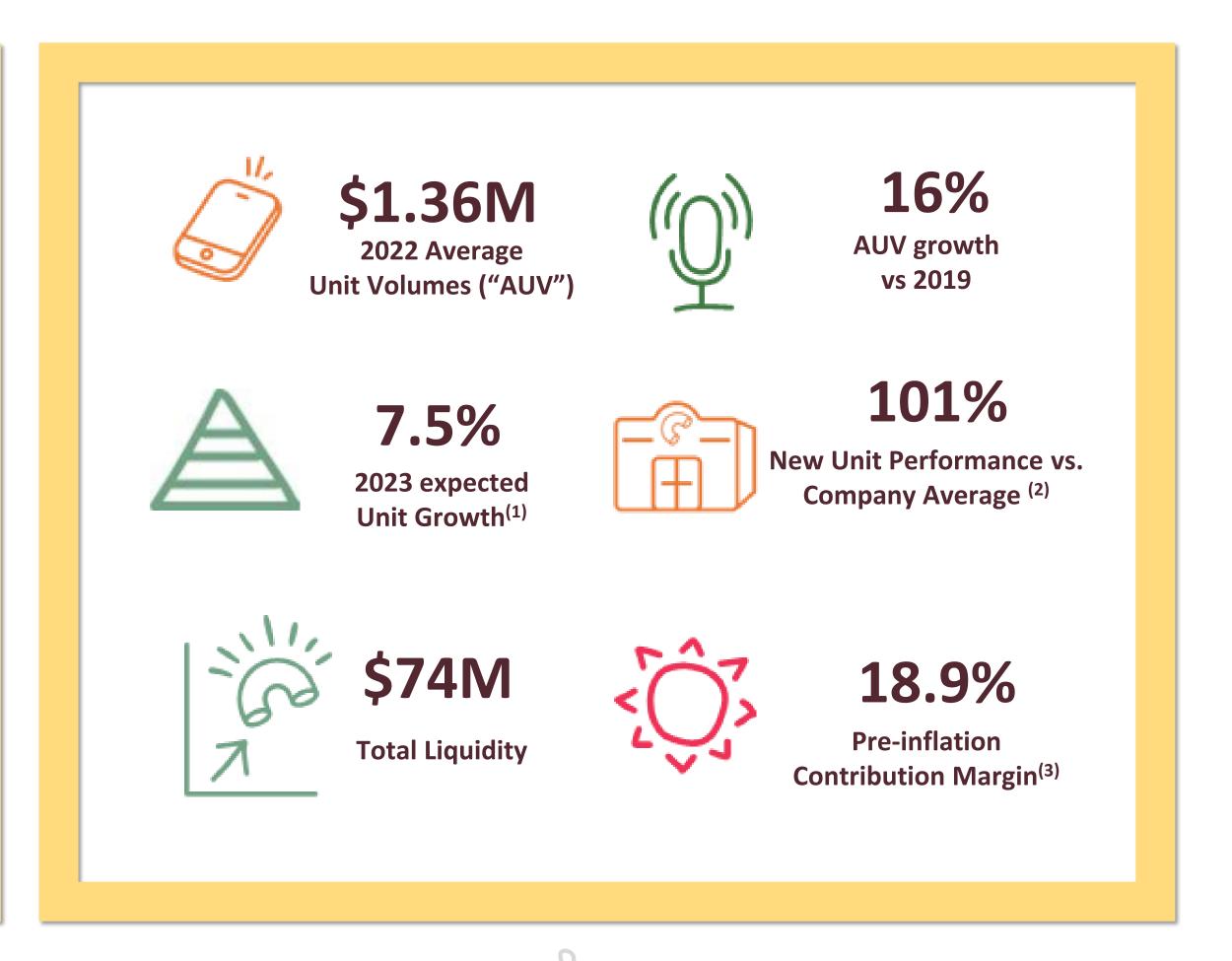


**INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS** 

# A Growing Market Presence

# \$509M 461 2022 Total **Total Locations** Revenue 54% 2022 Rewards **Digital Mix** member growth **Total Loyalty Guests States**

# Robust Economic Model Poised for Growth



INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOODLES & COMPANY INVESTOR PRESENTATION

### **OUR BRAND Footprint**

# Broad and National Footprint with Both Infill and New Market Opportunities

 Presence in 31 States and significant infill opportunities in existing markets

- Contiguous company new market growth
- January 2022 sale of California to Warner Foods franchise (previously company owned)

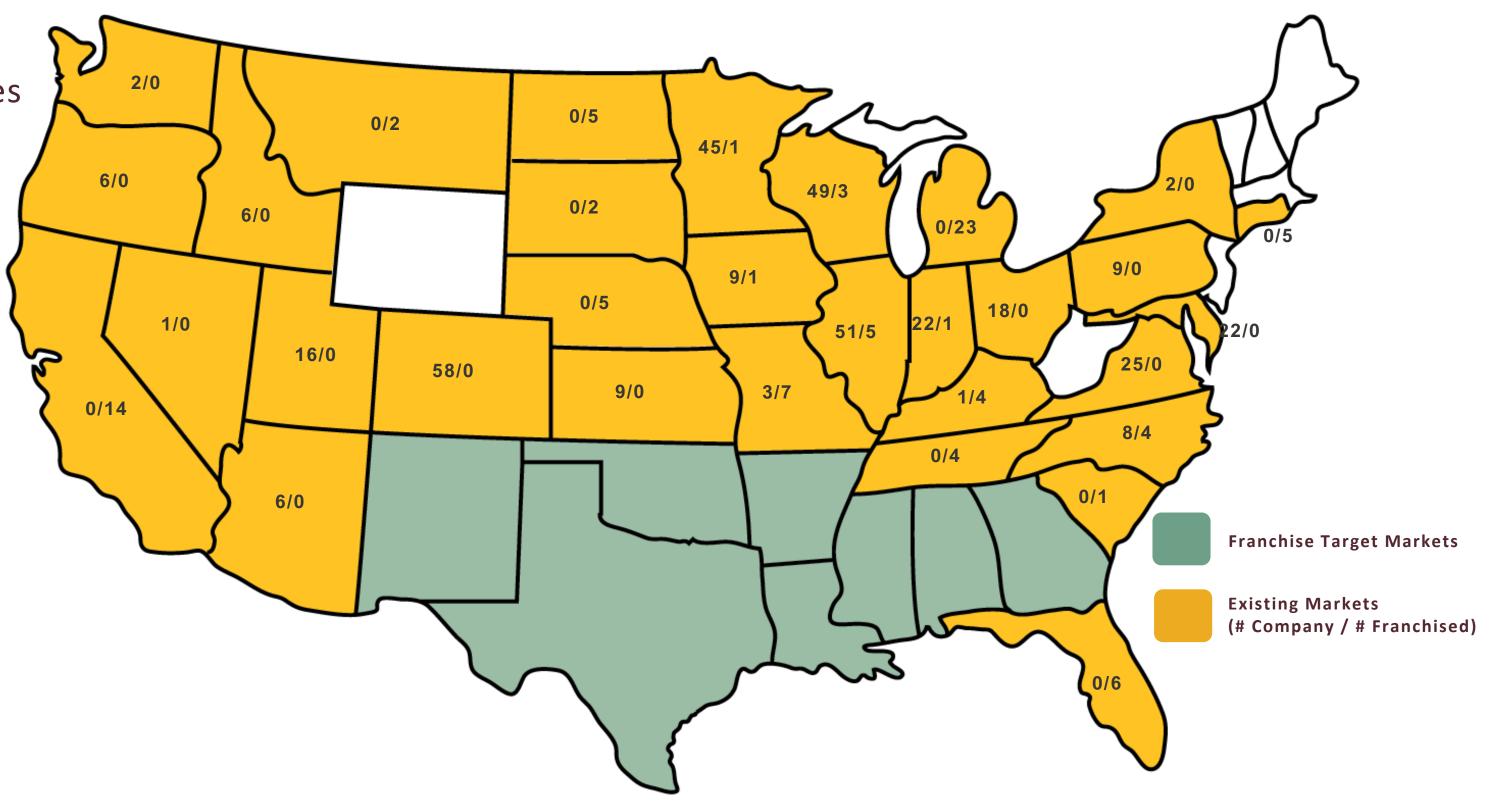


368
COMPANY

**RESTAURANTS** 



FRANCHISED RESTAURANTS



1,500+ National Unit Potential

As of 1/3/2023



INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOODLES & COMPANY INVESTOR PRESENTATION

### **OUR MENU Variety**

# Unique offering of a consumer favorite

- Only national fast casual chain delivering world flavors through noodles and pasta
- Proprietary sauces and innovative approach to cooking provide high barrier to entry
- High-quality food experience offering a variety of options to meet a broad range of lifestyle needs, with strength in both lunch and dinner









### **OUR MENU Travels Well**

# Best in Class Digital & Off-Premise Experience

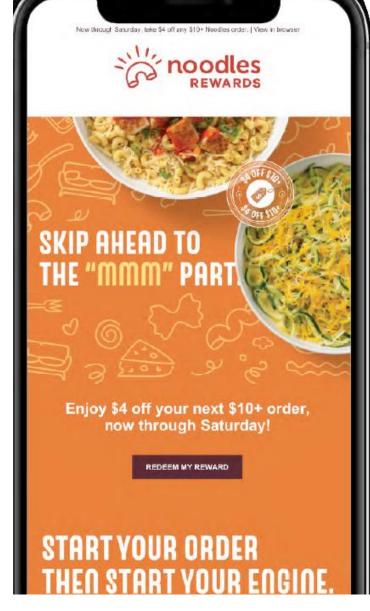


54%

2022 Digital
Sales Mix

- A leader in fast casual restaurant digital sales
- Food travels extremely well and supports off-premise experience
- Speed and price point matches a wide range of dining occasions















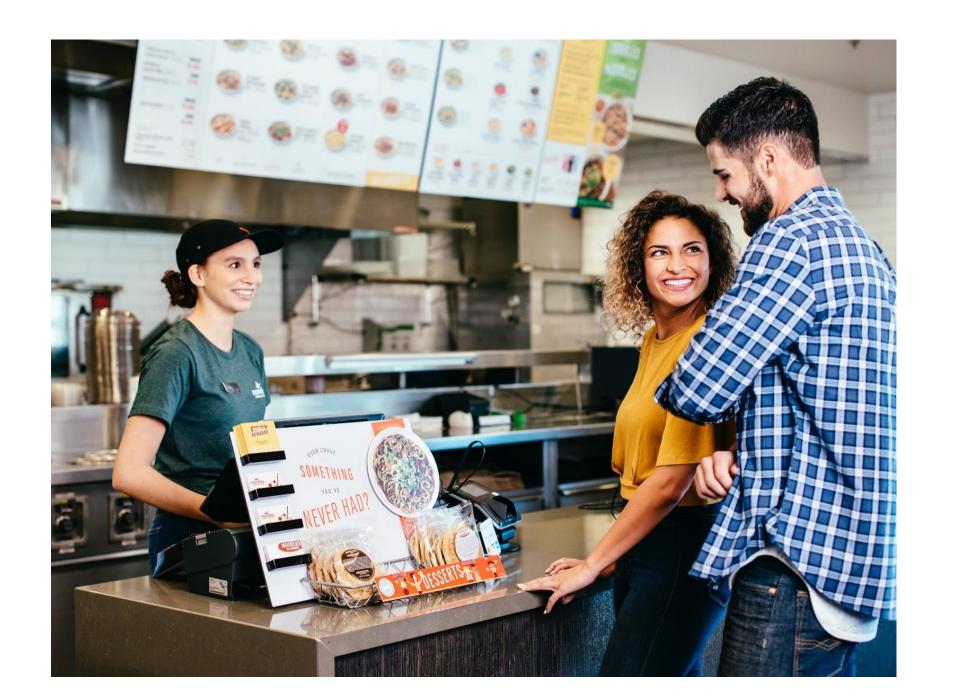


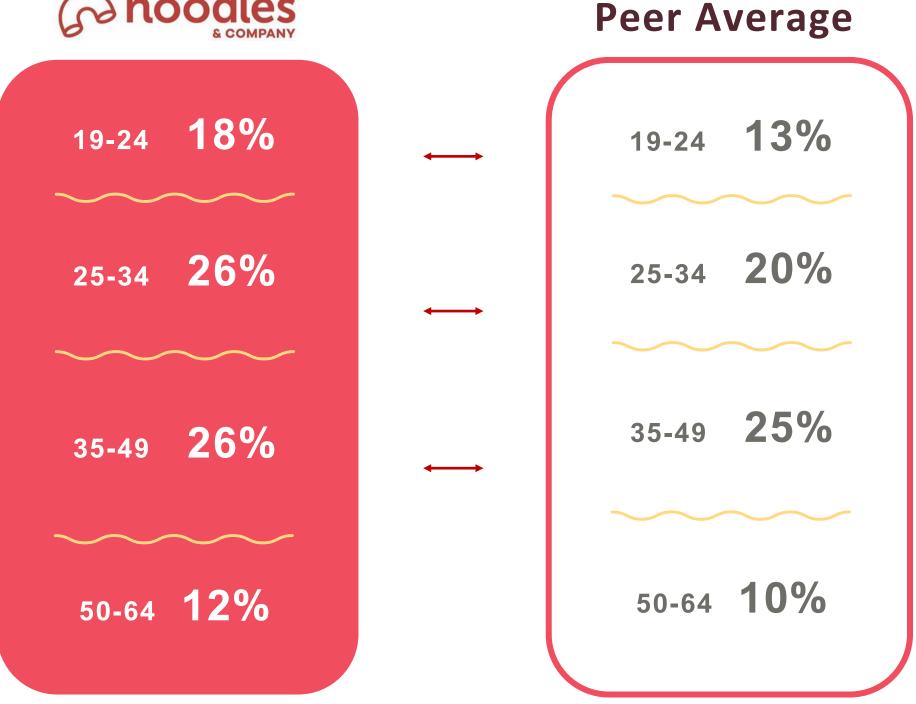
### **OUR MENU** is Winning with Today's Consumer

### Attractive target market with broad appeal

- Particular strength with millennial families and young adults
- Data driven guest insights to predict guest behavior and drive frequency

# Age Distribution of Customers (Noodles & Company vs Peers) Peer A



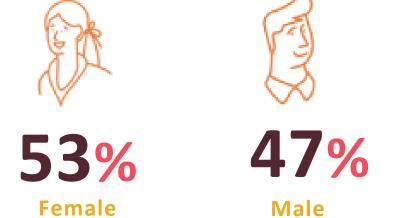


# Household Distribution (vs Fast Casual Peers)

2+ Family with Household children

83.5% 48% +800bps

### **Gender Distribution**



# **Income Distribution** (vs Fast Casual Peers)

<\$100k >\$100k **55% 44%** 
Vs. 62% 
Vs. 38%

# Having a Positive Impact as We Execute our Growth Plan

Since 1995, our mission has been to always nourish and inspire every team member, guest, and community we serve. Everything we do is driven by our core values: We Care, We Are Passionate, We Show Pride, We Love Life.

From our menu to our service to the way we do business, we add a fresh, unexpected, human perspective that sets us apart from anyone else. It's not just what we do, it's how we do it.







### **FOOD**

Impact through innovation

Commitment to clean ingredients

Promoting healthy lifestyles

Animal welfare practices

Food safety

Vendor spotlight



### **PEOPLE**

Our Values

Awards & Partnerships

Inclusion & Diversity

Compensation & Benefits

Development & Career Path

We Care About Each Other



### **PLANET**

Commitment to Planet

Responsible Packaging

Waste Reduction

Plant-Based Options

Energy & Water Conservation



# COMMUNITY

**Nourishing Communities** 

National Philanthropy

Local Partnerships

Nourishing Our Backyard

**WE CARE** 



WE ARE PASSIONATE



**WE SHOW PRIDE** 



**WE LOVE LIFE** 





### **Growth Opportunities**

# Accelerating Towards the Premier Restaurant Growth Story

Grow our Average Unit Volumes

**Target:** \$1.50M

~34% of units already >\$1.50M AUV\*

4Q'22 AUV of \$1.38M

**Expand our Restaurant Level Margins** 

Target:

20%

Clear visibility into significant expansion in 2023 and beyond



Accelerate our Unit Growth

Target:

7 - 10%

4.2% unit growth in 2022 ~7.5% unit growth in 2023

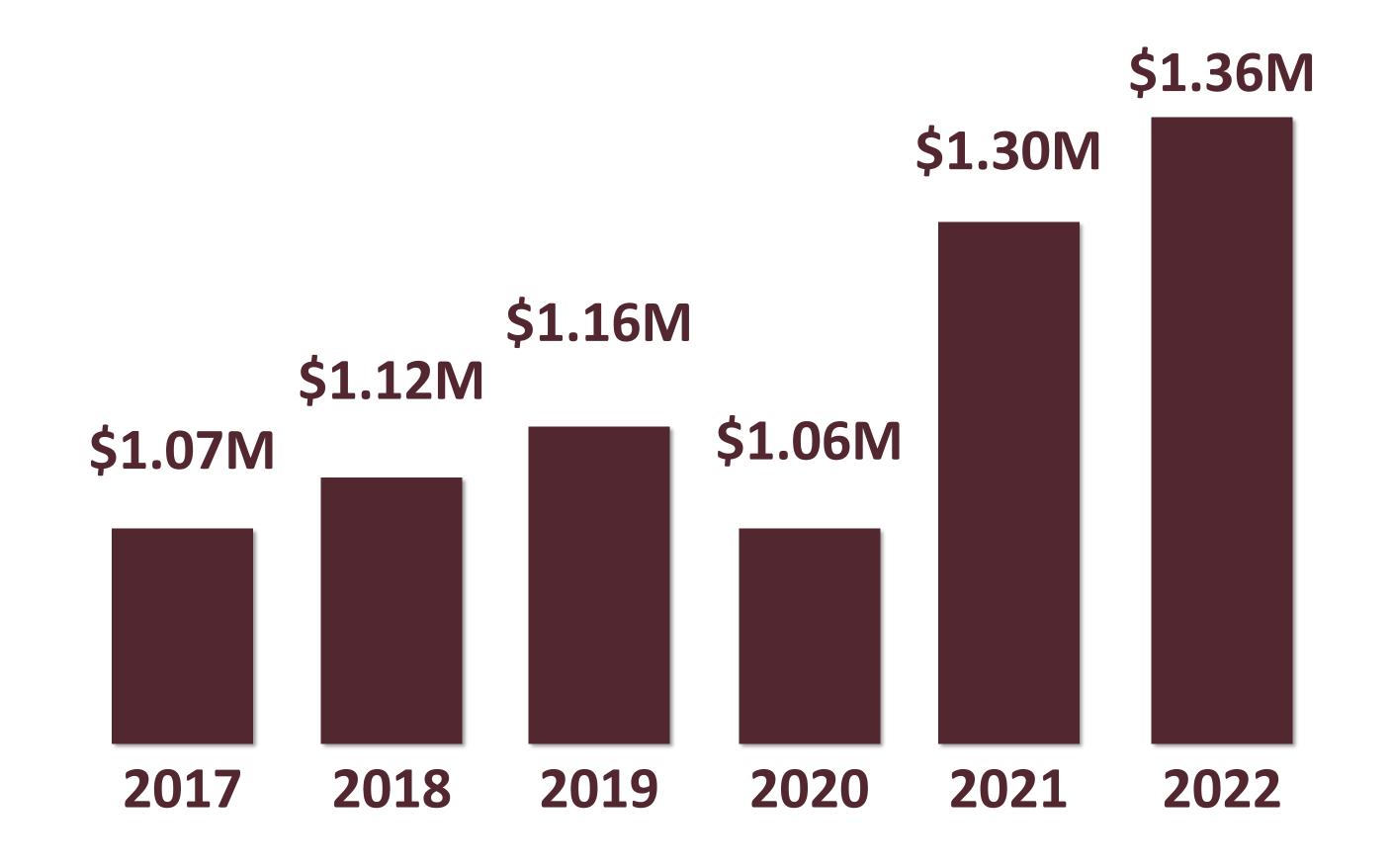
\* 4Q 2022. AUV is annualized.





### **Grow our AUVs**

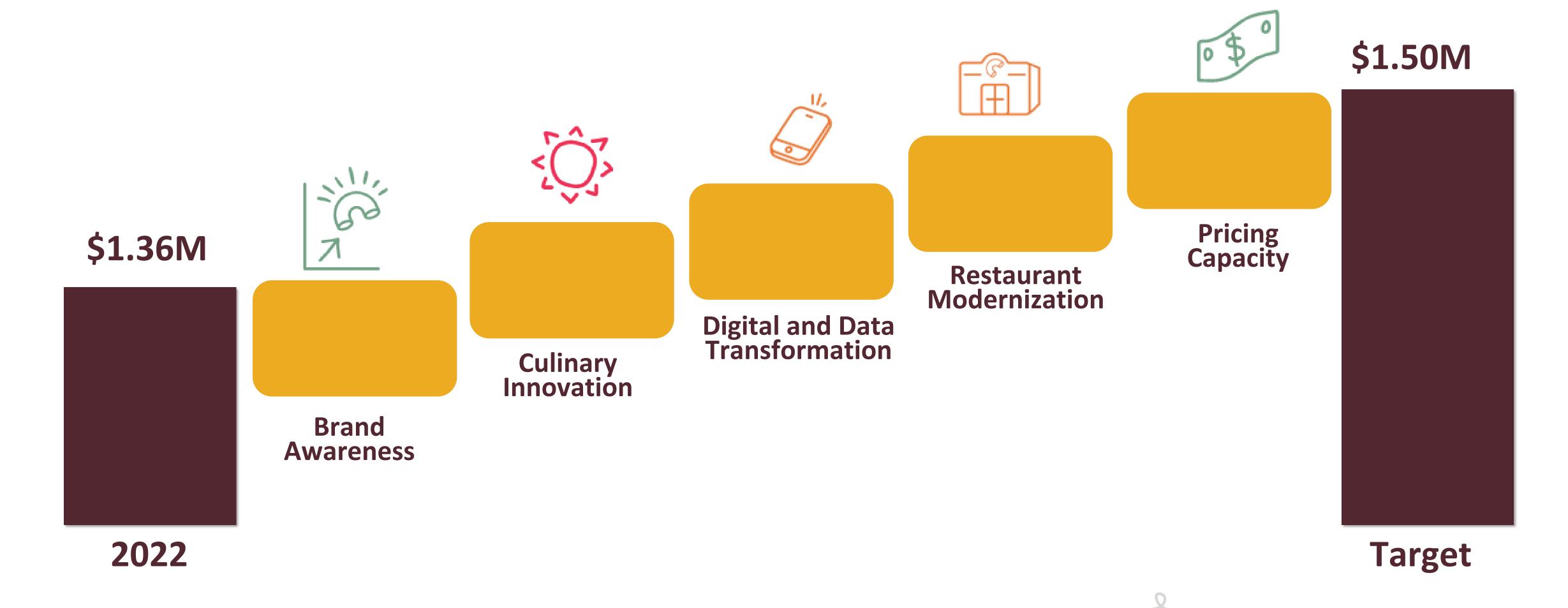
# Historical Average Unit Volume growth supports pathway to \$1.50M





### **Grow our AUVs**

# Clear Path to Continued AUV Expansion



### **Brand Awareness – Uncommon Goodness**

From our menu, to our service, to the way we do business, we infuse Uncommon Goodness into everything we do.



### **Culinary Innovation**

# Innovative Approach to Culinary Drives Guest Frequency & Trial

- Differentiated brand attributes attributed to food taste, quality, and menu variety
- Broadened reach through introduction of healthier alternatives, representing ~14% product mix in 2022
- Menu innovation drives increase in frequency and higher guest repurchasing

### **2018/19 Zoodles**

Introduced first healthy noodle option.

Prepped in-house and available to
substitute in any noodles dish



### 2020/21 Tortelloni

Highest performing dish in company history. Extremely strong taste of food scores



### **2022 LEANguini**

First-of-its-kind and proprietary health-based pasta with same taste and texture as a traditional noodle

**Lower Net Carbs / Higher Protein** 





### Digital and Data Transformation – Data Driven Guest Analytics

# Rewards Program Driving Strong Brand Engagement

- Ability to target and personalize communications based on advanced understanding of guest behaviors
- Utilization of data to influence guest behaviors, resulting in growth in guest frequency

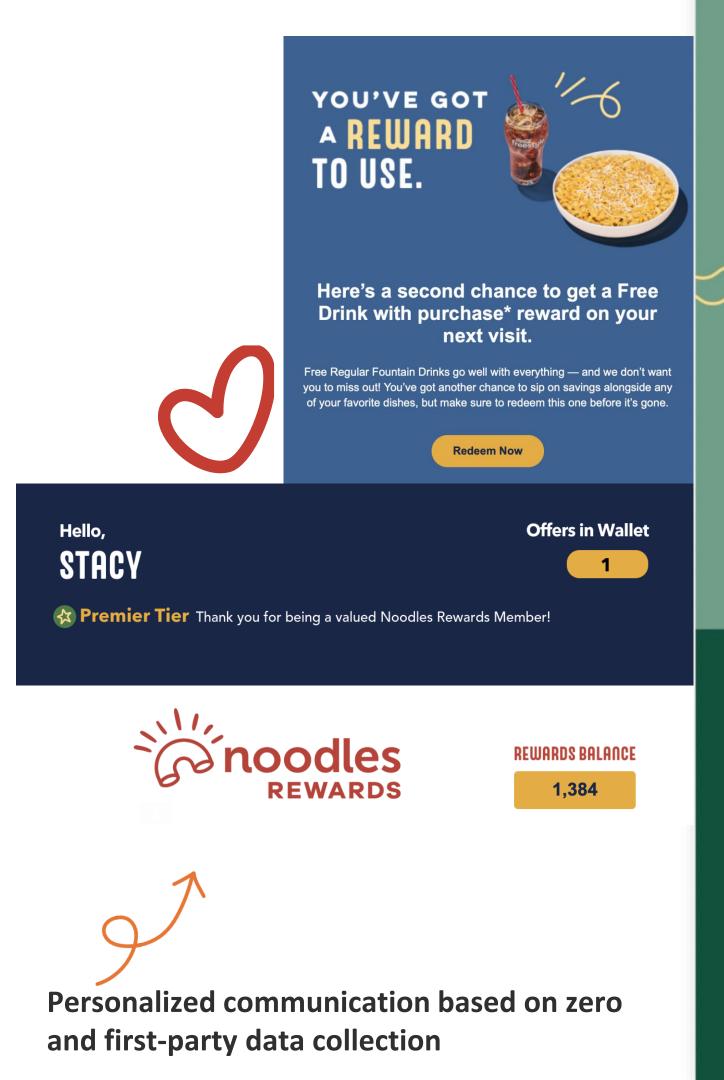


SPEND OF REWARDS MEMBERS VS. NON-REWARDS MEMBERS













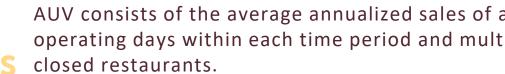
### **Digital and Data Transformation – Digital Channel Mix**

# Strong Retention in Digital Sales Even as In-Restaurant Sales Return

- Digital sales growth has proven long-standing with continued expansion opportunity, driven by demand for convenience and inherent variety in food
- Digital conversion rate optimization contributing to maintaining digital sales while in-restaurant sales grow

New digital ordering experience showcases menu variety and cimplifies ordering process

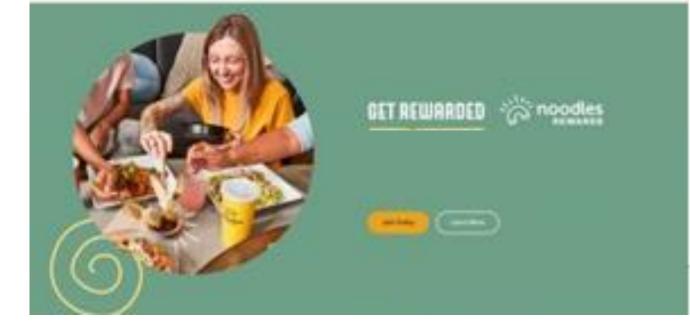
		I	I	I	simplifies ordering process
_		Digital	In-Restaurant	Total	
	2022	\$740	\$620	\$1,360	
-					
	2021	\$736	\$565	\$1,300	1/_
_		<b>40</b>	6040	64 4 CO	
	2019	\$255	\$913	\$1,168	



Digital channel includes Online ordering, curbside (at select locations) and delivery. In-restaurant includes dine-in and To Go. AUV consists of the average annualized sales of all restaurants for a given time period. AUV is calculated by dividing restaurant revenue by the number of operating days within each time period and multiplying by the number of operating days we have in a typical year. AUV normalizes for the impact of temporarily







INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOODLES & COMPANY INVESTOR PRESENTATION

### Restaurant Modernization – Investment in Digital Menu Boards

# Launched Digital Menu board rollout to all restaurants in 2023

- As of March 2023, ~15% of restaurants include digital menu boards at our point of sale, our welcome wall, on our quick pick-up stations
- Expectation to roll out to all remaining restaurants in 2023





Showcase key menu features



Targeted guest communciations by market and daypart



Enhanced pricing capabilities



Increased flexibility for culinary testing and menu simplification

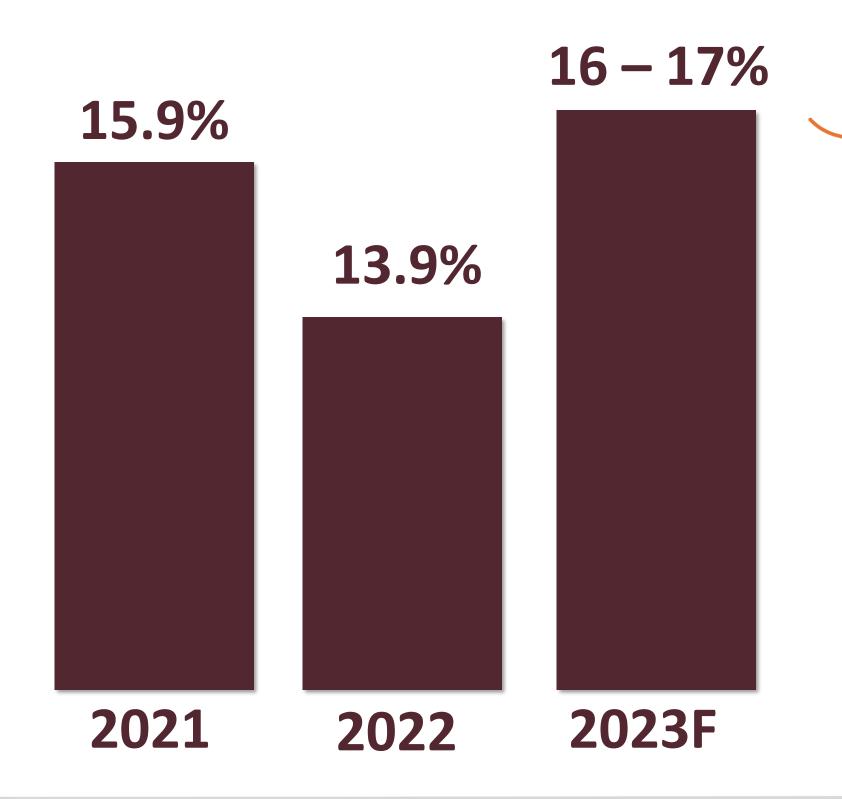




### Margin expansion

# Historical contribution margin expansion supports pathway to 20%

- **2021** peak quarters include 18.9% during 2Q'22 and 18.1% during 3Q'22
- 2022 250 basis point Cost of Goods Sold headwind driven by food inflation, predominantly chicken prices
- 2023 Guidance assumes a more normalized commodity environment, modest wage inflation and no material pricing increases



### **2023 Contribution Margin Guidance of 16 – 17%**

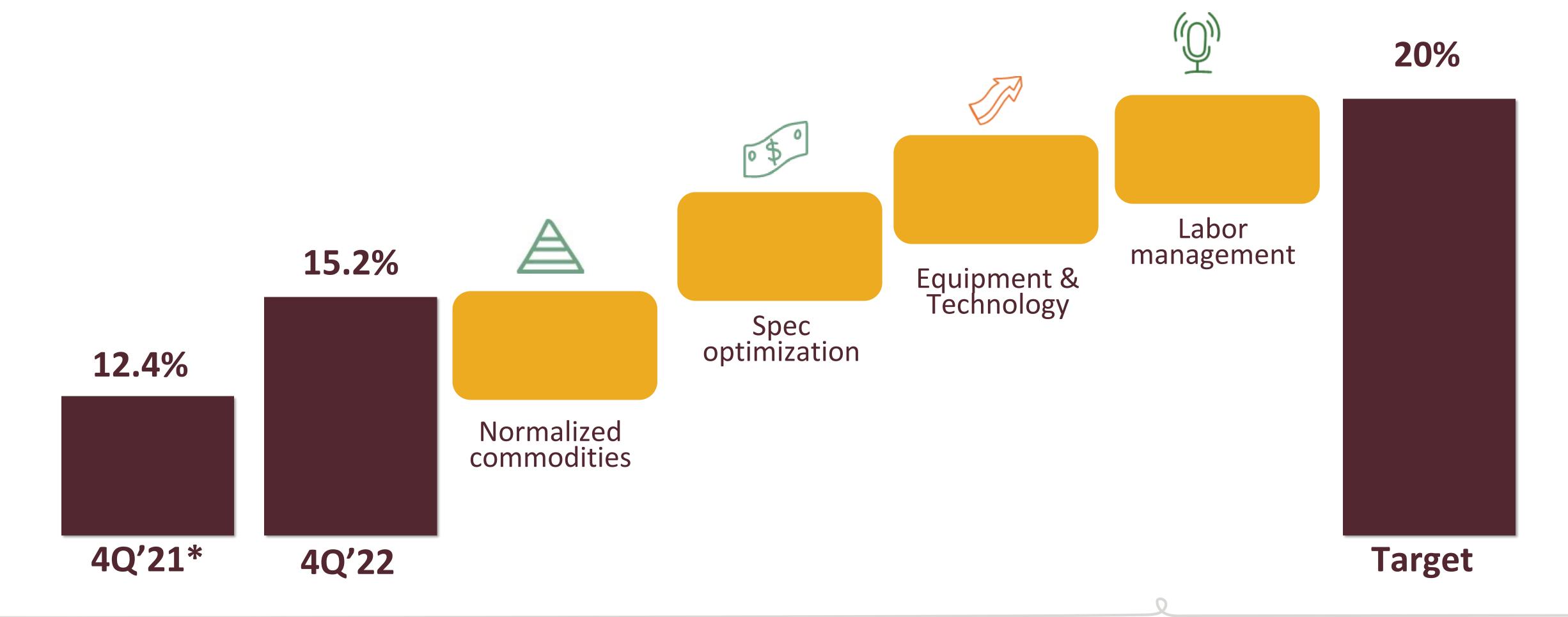
- Cost of Goods Sold 2% deflation, with Cost of Goods Sold margin in the high 25% area (compared to 27.7% in 2022) driven by fixed and formula based pricing contracts
- Cost of Labor Modest but elevated labor inflation during 2023; as a percentage of sales, fairly consistent to slightly higher than 2022
- Restaurant level expenses As a percentage of sales, similar to 2022
- Occupancy Expense Improvement vs 2022 driven by sales leverage





### Margin expansion

# Significant Margin Expansion Opportunity



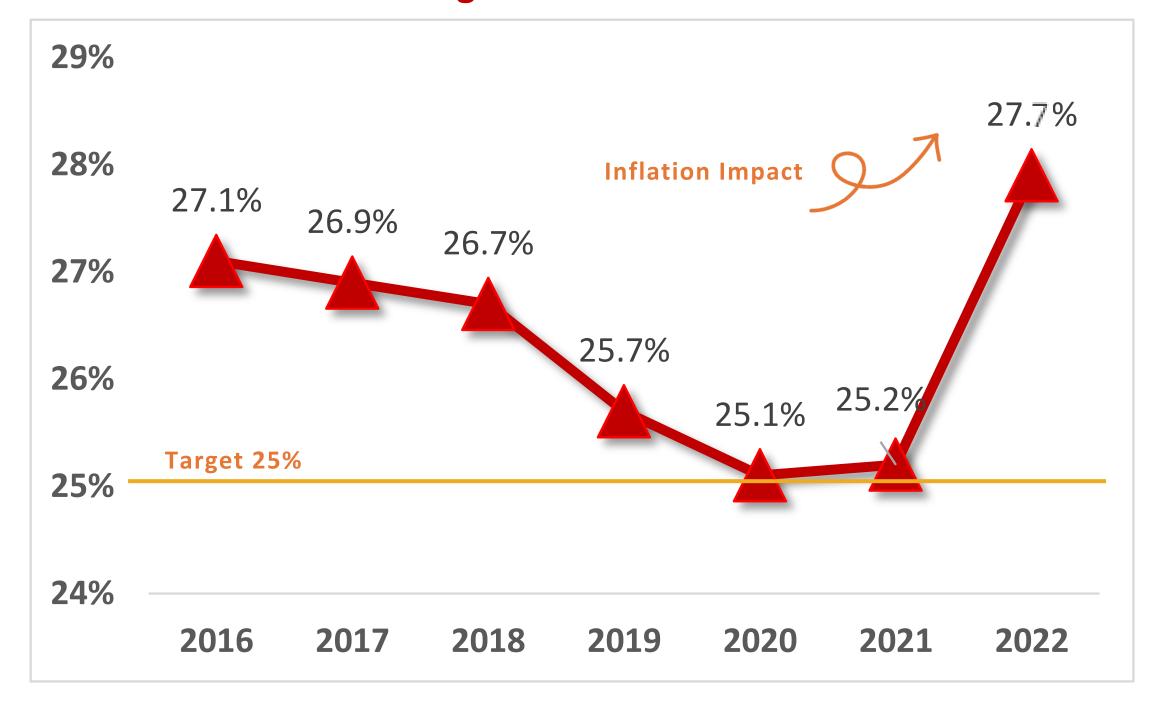


### Normalized Commodities and Spec Optimization

# Anticipated Normalization of Commodities Playing Out

- Outsized commodity inflation driven by chicken prices (13% of COGS)
- Market normalization anticipated to drive \$10 million of EBITDA in 2023 compared to 2022
- Pricing power flexed to mitigate elevated costs of food

### **Cost of Goods Sold Margin**



### **COGS Basket mix**

Protein 25% (chicken 13%)

Sauces 20% Pasta 11%

Produce 10%

Other 14% (dairy 8%)

Non-food 20%

3Q'22\*

\$5.15<sub>/lbs</sub>

Average landed cost of chicken

2023

~\$3.50 /lbs

Full year contracted landed cost of chicken

~200 basis point COGS benefit by 2023



\* 3Q'22 represents peak chicken prices.

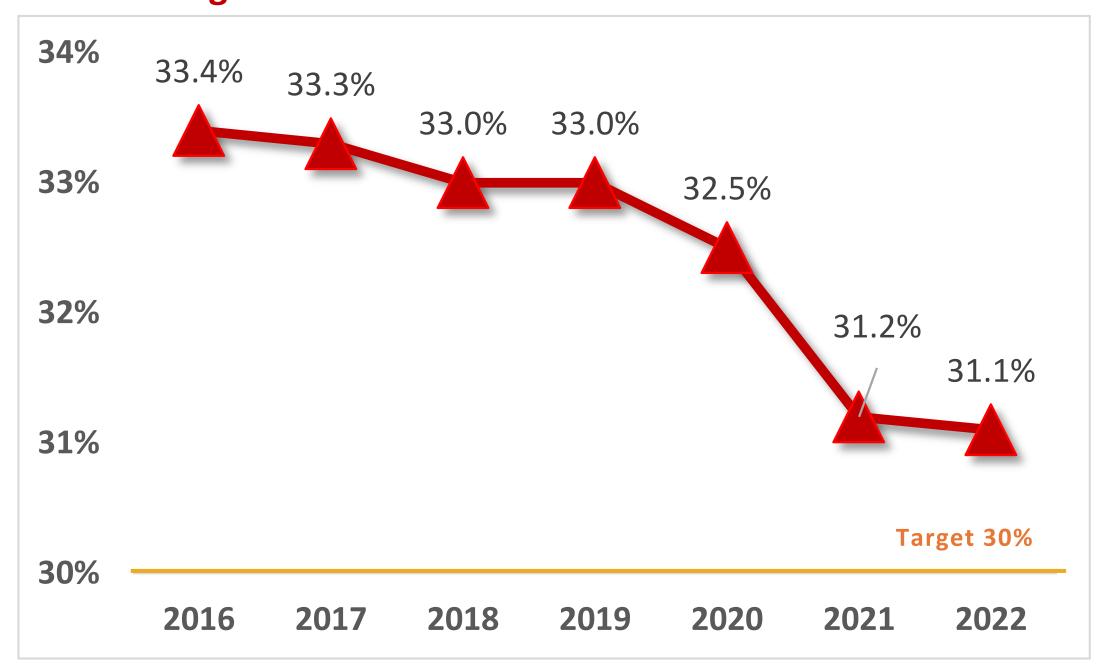
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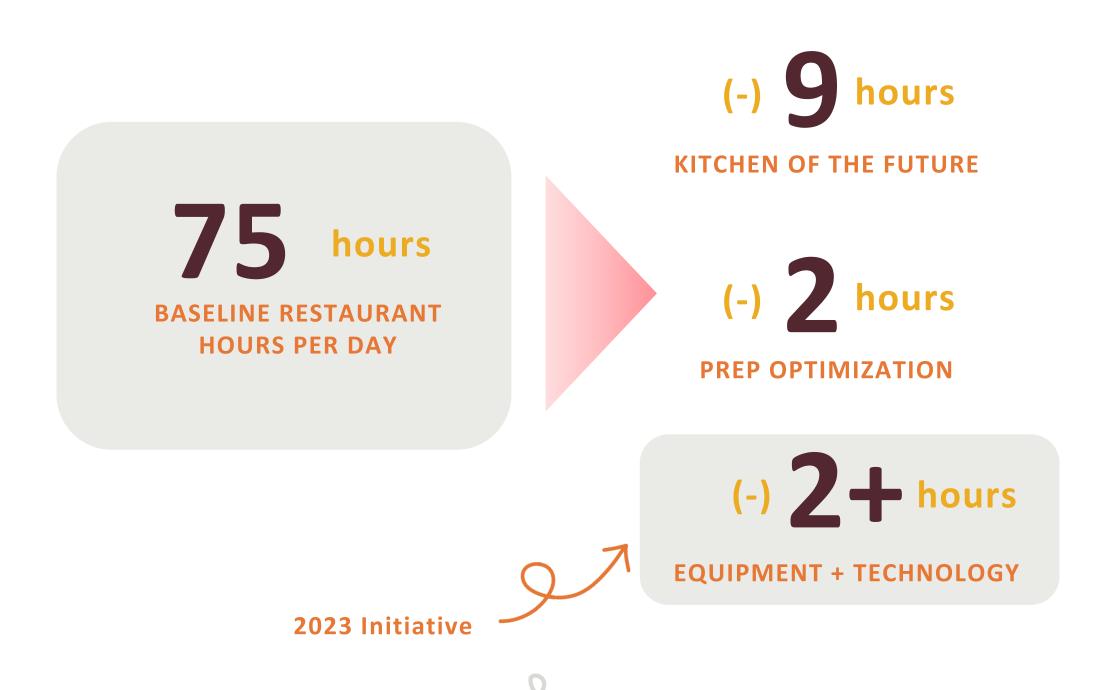
### Labor Management and Equipment & Technology

# Strategic Investment to Improve Labor Efficiencies Offsets Wage Inflation

- 2021 Kitchen of the Future initiative complete, removing 9 hours of labor per restaurant per day, including installing steamers in all restaurants
- 2022 Prep optimization removes 2 hours of labor per restaurant per day, including pre-cooked and pre-prepped ingredients
- 2023 Hired third party Profitality (same partner as Kitchen of the Future) to evaluate time tracking, equipment and technology initiative

### **Labor Margin**

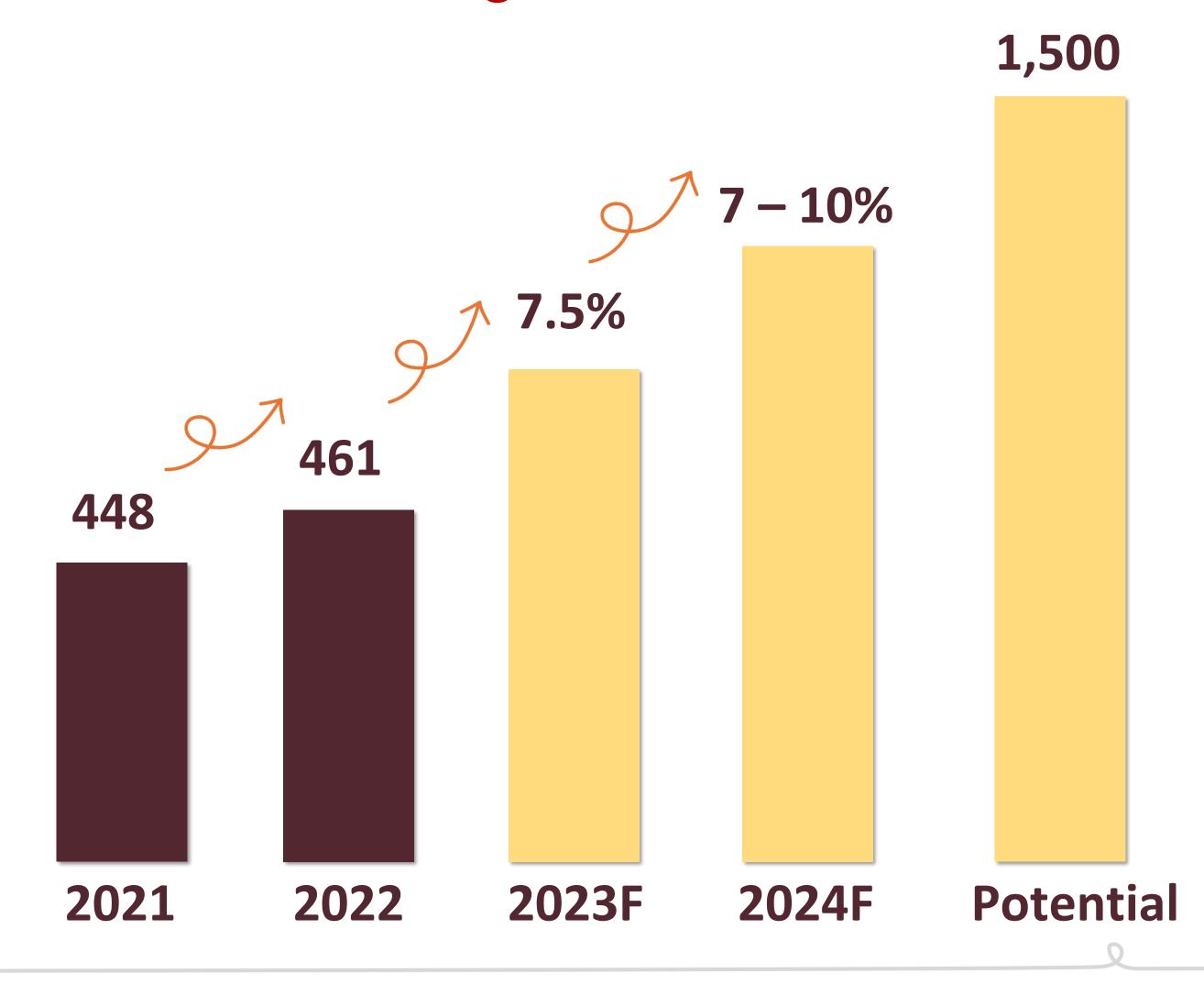






### **Unit Growth**

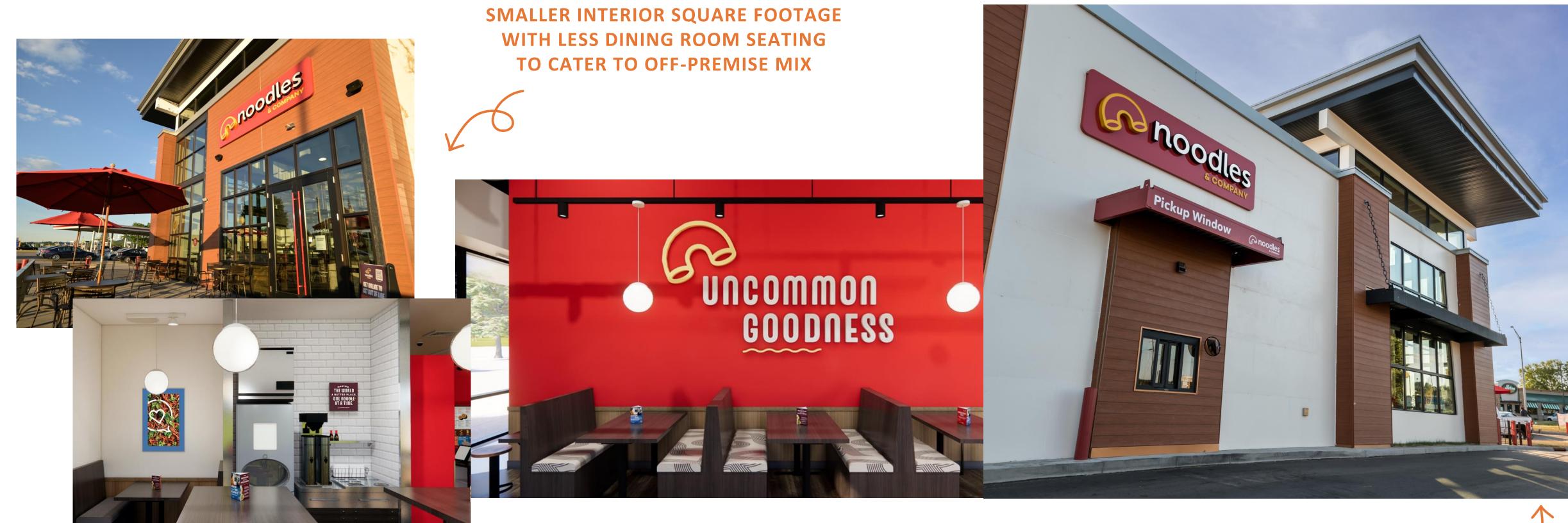
# 2022 momentum fuels near-term unit growth acceleration





### Smaller, off-premise oriented prototype

# New Unit Prototype Features Smaller Square Footage and Order Ahead Pick-up Windows



UNCOMMON GOODNESS BRAND POSITIONING PROMINENTLY FEATURED

ORDER AHEAD PICK-UP WINDOW ADDS INCREMENTAL SALES LIFT OF UP TO 10-20%





### **Unit Growth**

# Company Unit Growth with >30% Cash-on-Cash Returns

- 19 new units in 2022, predominantly infill and Company owned
- 70%+ include pick-up window
- Target 30% Cash on Cash return

### **Strong New Unit Performance**

Classes of 2019/2020 reached maturity in 2022

\$ 1.39 M

4Q'22 New

% of Company Average





### New Unit Economic Model

<b>Size</b> (Sq. Ft)	2,000
Target Net Development Cost**	\$900K*
Year 1 AUV	~90% COMPANY AVG**
Maturation	3 Years**
Annual Cash Flow (post-maturation)	\$250K
Cash on Cash Return	30%+



<sup>\*</sup> Net development cost excludes inflation realized during 2022 and 2023 openings to-date.

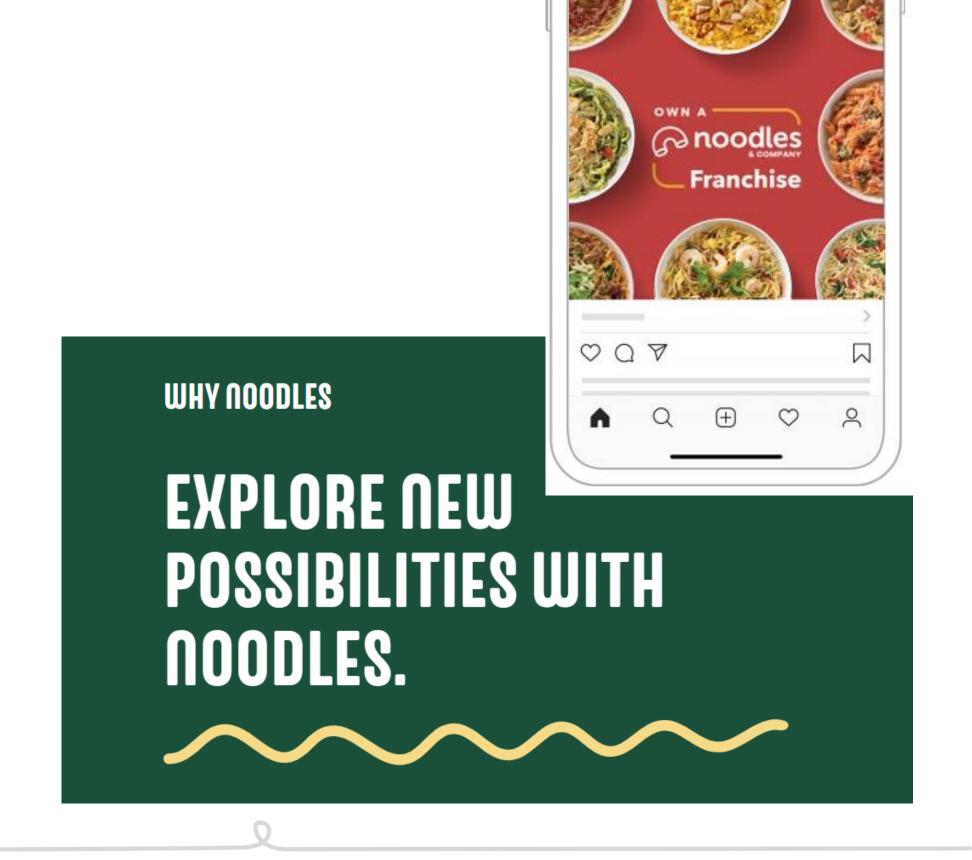
INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOODLES & COMPANY INVESTOR PRESENTATION

### **Unit Growth**

# Franchising Poised for Growth

- Currently 20% of system
- Opportunity to increase franchise mix through new market development & strategic refranchising
- Attractive economic and operating model for franchisees
  - Low build-out cost relative to most QSR / casual dining models
  - Strong cash on cash returns, inclusive of ~55% prime costs
  - Infrastructure to support growth & quickly achieve scale
  - Concept's digital, off-premise and menu strengths on trend
- Strong pipeline of new franchisees supporting unit growth
- Recognized by Entrepreneur Magazine for:
  - "50 Franchise Companies Doing the Most to Champion Diversity"
  - "50 Franchise CMO's Who Are Changing the Game"





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# Restaurant Contribution Margin Reconciliation

	Quarter Ended											
	Q4 2022	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	Q1 2022	Q4 2021	Q3 2021	Q2 2021	Q1 2021	Q4 2020	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q1 2020
Income (loss) from operations	\$1,836	\$1,529	\$1,878	(\$6,075)	(\$4,348)	\$5,320	\$6,210	(\$1,365)	(\$3,372)	\$722	(\$12,525)	(\$4,854)
Less: Franchising and Royalty Fees	\$2,984	\$2,743	\$2,793	\$2,601	\$2,017	\$2,032	1,934	1,833	1,838	1,569	136	1,632
Plus: General and Administrative	\$13,723	\$11,596	\$12,744	\$11,840	\$11,441	\$12,187	12,978	10,929	11,461	10,827	10,034	10,554
Depreciation and Amortization	\$5,958	\$5,826	\$5,763	\$5,721	\$5,599	\$5,571	5,576	5,587	5,436	5,541	5,397	5,335
Pre-opening	\$564	\$337	\$353	\$408	\$319	\$125	163	58	60	239	71	73
Restaurant impairments, closure costs and asset disposal	\$1,132	\$1,672	\$1,971	\$1,389	\$2,980	\$1,126	390	1,231	2,557	369	2,558	1,056
Restaurant Contribution	\$20,229	\$18,217	\$19,916	\$10,682	\$13,974	\$22,297	\$23,383	\$14,607	\$14,304	\$16,129	\$5,399	\$10,532
Restaurant Contribution margin	15.2%	14.4%	15.5%	9.7%	12.4%	18.1%	18.9%	13.6%	13.6%	15.4%	6.7%	10.7%

Note: Restaurant contribution and restaurant contribution margin are non-GAAP measures that are neither required by, nor presented in accordance with GAAP. Restaurant contribution represents restaurant revenue less restaurant operating costs which are cost of sales, labor, occupancy and other restaurant operating costs. Restaurant contribution margin represents restaurant contribution as a percentage of restaurant revenue. The calculation of these measures may not be comparable to similar measures reported by other companies. The presentation of restaurant contribution and restaurant contribution margin is not intended to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for, or to be superior to, the financial information prepared and presented in accordance with GAAP. Management believes that restaurant contribution and restaurant contribution margin are important tools for investors and other interested parties because they are widely-used metrics within the restaurant industry to evaluate restaurant-level productivity, efficiency and performance. Management also uses restaurant contribution and restaurant contribution margin as metrics to evaluate the profitability of incremental sales at our restaurants, restaurant performance across periods and restaurant financial performance compared with competitors.

