

## MANAGER DIRECTED PORTFOLIOS

# **Greenspring Income Opportunities Fund** Institutional Shares

(Trading Symbol: GRIOX)

**Retail Shares** 

(not currently offered)

### STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

December 15, 2021

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") provides general information about the Greenspring Income Opportunities Fund (the "Fund"), a series of Manager Directed Portfolios (the "Trust"). This SAI is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Fund's current prospectus, dated December 15, 2021 (the "Prospectus"), as supplemented and amended from time to time.

You may obtain a copy of the Fund's Prospectus and/or the annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders (when available) at no charge by contacting the Fund by calling (833) 574-7469, or visit the Fund's website at www.greenspringfunds.com.

#### **Greenspring Income Opportunities Fund**

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Fund is a mutual fund that is a diversified, separate series of Manager Directed Portfolios (the "Trust"). The Trust is registered as an open-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on April 4, 2006. Effective July 1, 2016, the Trust changed its name from The Roxbury Funds to Manager Directed Portfolios. The Declaration of Trust permits the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board") to establish series of shares, each of which constitutes a series separate and distinct from the shares of the other series. The Fund has established Institutional Shares and Retail Shares. Retail Shares are not currently offered for sale.

Corbyn Investment Management, Inc. (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser to the Fund.

### **INVESTMENT POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND ASSOCIATED RISKS**

The following information supplements the information concerning the Fund's investment objective, policies and limitations found in the Prospectus.

#### **Investment Objectives**

The Fund seeks to provide a high level of current income and the potential for capital appreciation through a total return approach to investing. The Fund's investment objectives may be changed without the approval of the Fund's shareholders upon approval by the Board and 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

#### **Diversification Status**

The Fund is diversified. Under applicable federal laws, to qualify as a diversified fund, the Fund, with respect to 75% of its total assets, may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in any one issuer and may not hold more than 10% of the voting securities of any one such issuer. The remaining 25% of the Fund's total assets does not need to be "diversified" and may be invested in securities of a single issuer, subject to other applicable laws. The diversification of the Fund's holdings is measured at the time the Fund purchases a security. However, if the Fund purchases a security and holds it for a period of time, the security may become a larger percentage of the Fund's total assets due to movements in the financial markets. If the market affects several securities held by the Fund, the Fund may have a greater percentage of its assets invested in securities of fewer issuers. Because the Fund is diversified, it is less subject to the risk that Fund performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities despite the Fund qualifying as a diversified fund under applicable federal laws. The Fund's classification as a diversified fund is a fundamental policy and cannot be changed without the prior approval of the Fund's shareholders, as described under "Investment Limitations," below.

#### General Market Risks

U.S. and international markets have experienced significant volatility in recent years. The securities markets have experienced reduced liquidity, price volatility, credit downgrades, increased likelihood of default and valuation difficulties, all of which may increase the risk of investing in securities held by the Fund.

**Market and Regulatory Risk.** Events in the financial markets and economy may cause volatility and uncertainty and affect performance. Such adverse effects on performance could include a decline in the value and liquidity of securities held by the Fund, unusually high and unanticipated levels of redemptions, an increase in portfolio turnover, a decrease in net asset value ("NAV"), and an increase in Fund expenses. It may also be unusually difficult to identify both investment risks and opportunities, in which case investment objectives may not be met. Market events may affect a single issuer, industry, sector, or

the market as a whole. Traditionally liquid investments may experience periods of diminished liquidity. During a general downturn in the financial markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value and the Fund may lose value, regardless of the individual results of the securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests. It is impossible to predict whether or for how long such market events will continue, particularly if they are unprecedented, unforeseen or widespread events or conditions. Therefore, it is important to understand that the value of your investment may fall, sometimes sharply and for extended periods, and you could lose money.

Governmental and regulatory actions, including tax law changes, may also impair portfolio management and have unexpected or adverse consequences on particular markets, strategies, or investments. Policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries are affecting many aspects of financial regulation and may in some instances contribute to decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time. In addition, economies and financial markets throughout the world are becoming increasingly interconnected. As a result, whether or not the Fund invests in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to countries experiencing economic and financial difficulties, the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments may be negatively affected.

#### **Investment Strategies and Related Risks**

**Bank Obligations.** Bank obligations in which the Fund may invest include certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances and fixed time deposits, as described below.

*Bankers' Acceptances.* Bankers' acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange, normally drawn by an importer or exporter to pay for specific merchandise, which are "accepted" by a bank, meaning, in effect, that the bank unconditionally agrees to pay the face value of the instrument on maturity.

*Certificates of Deposit.* Certificates of deposit are certificates evidencing the indebtedness of a commercial bank to repay funds deposited with it for a definite period of time (usually from 14 days to one year) at a stated or variable interest rate. Variable rate certificates of deposit provide that the interest rate will fluctuate on designated dates based on changes in a designated base rate (such as the composite rate for certificates of deposit established by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York).

*Time Deposits.* Fixed time deposits are bank obligations payable at a stated maturity date and bearing interest at a fixed rate. Fixed time deposits may be withdrawn on demand by the investor, but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties which vary depending upon market conditions and the remaining maturity of the obligation. There are no contractual restrictions on the right to transfer a beneficial interest in a fixed time deposit to a third party, although there is no market for such deposits. The Fund will not invest in fixed time deposits which: (1) are not subject to prepayment or (2) provide for withdrawal penalties upon prepayment (other than overnight deposits) if, in the aggregate, more than 15% of its net assets would be invested in such deposits, repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days and other illiquid assets.

**Borrowing.** The Fund may borrow money to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time. This means that, in general, the Fund may borrow money from banks on a secured basis in an amount up to one-third of the Fund's total assets. The Fund will not borrow to leverage the Fund in an attempt to enhance investment returns.

The 1940 Act requires the Fund to maintain continuous asset coverage of not less than 300% with respect to all borrowings. This coverage allows the Fund to borrow for such purposes an amount (when taken together with any borrowings for temporary or emergency purposes as described below) equal to as much as 50% of the value of its net assets (not including such borrowings). If such asset coverage should

decline to less than 300% due to market fluctuations or other reasons, the Fund may be required to dispose of some of its portfolio holdings within three days in order to reduce the Fund's debt and restore the 300% asset coverage, even though it may be disadvantageous from an investment standpoint to dispose of assets at that time.

**Commercial Paper.** The Fund may invest in commercial paper. Commercial paper consists of short-term (up to 270 days) unsecured promissory notes issued by corporations in order to finance their current operations.

Convertible Securities. The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities include fixed income securities that may be exchanged or converted into a predetermined number of shares of the issuer's underlying common stock or other equity security at the option of the holder during a specified period. Convertible securities may take the form of convertible preferred stock, convertible bonds or debentures, units consisting of "usable" bonds and warrants or a combination of the features of several of these securities. The investment characteristics of each convertible security vary widely, which allows convertible securities to be employed for a variety of investment strategies. The Fund will exchange or convert convertible securities into shares of underlying common stock when, in the opinion of the Adviser, the investment characteristics of the underlying common stock or other equity security will assist the Fund in achieving its investment objectives. The Fund may also elect to hold or trade convertible securities. In selecting convertible securities, the Adviser evaluates the investment characteristics of the convertible security as a fixed income instrument, and the investment potential of the underlying equity security for capital appreciation. In evaluating these matters with respect to a particular convertible security, the Adviser considers numerous factors, including the economic and political outlook, the value of the security relative to other investment alternatives, trends in the determinants of the issuer's profits, and the issuer's management capability and practices. Convertible securities are senior to common stock in an issuer's capital structure but are subordinated to any senior debt securities. Consequently, the issuer's convertible securities generally may be viewed as having more risk than its senior debt securities but less risk than its common stock.

The Fund may invest in contingent securities structured as contingent convertible securities, also known as "CoCos." Contingent convertible securities are hybrid debt securities typically issued by non-U.S. banks and are designed to behave like bonds in times of economic health and either convert into equity at a predetermined share price or are written down in value based on the specific terms of the individual security if a pre-specified trigger event occurs. Unlike traditional convertible securities, the conversion of a contingent convertible security from debt to equity is "contingent" and will occur only in the case of a trigger event. Trigger events vary by instrument and are defined by the documents governing the contingent convertible security. Trigger events may include a decline in the issuer's capital below a specified threshold level, increase in the issuer's risk weighted assets, the share price of the issuer falling to a particular level for a certain period of time and certain regulatory events.

Contingent convertible securities are subject to the credit, interest rate, high yield security, foreign security, and market risks associated with bonds and equities, and to the risks specific to convertible securities in general. Contingent convertible securities are also subject to additional risks specific to their structure including conversion risk. Because trigger events are not consistently defined among contingent convertible securities, this risk is greater for contingent convertible securities that are issued by banks with capital ratios close to the level specified in the trigger event.

In addition, coupon payments on contingent convertible securities are discretionary and may be cancelled by the issuer at any point, for any reason, and for any length of time. Due to the uncertainty surrounding coupon payments, contingent convertible securities may be volatile and their price may decline rapidly in the event that coupon payments are suspended. CoCos are a newer form of instrument and the regulatory environment for these instruments continues to evolve. Because the market for CoCos is evolving, it is uncertain how the larger market for contingent convertible securities would react to a trigger event or coupon suspension applicable to a single issuer.

**Debt Securities.** The market value of the fixed income investments in which the Fund invests will change in response to interest rate changes and other factors. During periods of declining interest rates, the values of outstanding fixed income instruments generally rise. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the values of such instruments generally decline. Moreover, while instruments with longer maturities tend to produce higher yields, the prices of longer maturity securities are also subject to greater market fluctuations as a result of changes in interest rates. Changes by recognized agencies in the rating of any fixed income instrument, or the rating determined by the Adviser, and in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal also affect the value of these investments. Changes in the value of these instruments will not necessarily affect cash income derived from these securities but will affect the Fund's NAV. Additional information regarding fixed income instruments is described below.

*Duration*. Duration is a measure of the expected change in the value of a fixed income instrument for a given change in interest rates. For example, if interest rates changed by one percent, the value of an instrument having an effective duration of two years generally would vary by two percent. Duration takes the length of the time intervals between the present time and time that the interest and principal payments are scheduled, or in the case of a callable bond, expected to be received, and weighs them by the present values of the cash to be received at each future point in time.

*Variable and Floating Rate Instruments.* Variable and floating rate instruments involve certain obligations that may carry variable or floating rates of interest and may involve a conditional or unconditional demand feature. Such instruments bear interest at rates which are not fixed, but which vary with changes in specified market rates or indices. The interest rates on these instruments may be reset daily, weekly, quarterly, or some other reset period, and may not accurately reflect existing market interest rates. A demand instrument with a demand notice exceeding seven days may be considered illiquid if there is no secondary market for such instrument.

*Corporate Debt Securities.* Corporate debt securities are fixed income securities issued by businesses to finance their operations, although corporate debt instruments may also include bank loans to companies. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations that are Rule 144A securities, which are not registered under the federal securities laws. The Fund will generally only invest in highly liquid corporate bond securities issued under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. Rule 144A securities are privately issued securities that may be traded among Qualified Institution Buyers (or "QIBs").

Notes, bonds, debentures and commercial paper are the most common types of corporate debt securities, with the primary difference being their maturities and secured or unsecured status. Commercial paper has the shortest term and is usually unsecured.

The broad category of corporate debt securities includes debt issued by domestic or foreign companies of all kinds, including those with small-, mid- and large-capitalizations. Corporate debt may be rated investment-grade or below investment-grade and may carry variable or floating rates of interest.

Because of the wide range of types and maturities of corporate debt securities, as well as the range of creditworthiness of its issuers, corporate debt securities have widely varying potentials for return and risk profiles. For example, commercial paper issued by a large established domestic corporation that is rated investment-grade may have a modest return on principal but carries relatively limited risk. On the other hand, a long-term corporate note issued by a small foreign corporation from an emerging market country that has not been rated may have the potential for relatively large returns on principal but carries a relatively high degree of risk.

Corporate debt securities carry both credit risk and interest rate risk. Credit risk is the risk that the Fund could lose money if the issuer of a corporate debt security does not pay interest or repay principal when it is due. Some corporate debt securities that are rated below investment-grade are generally considered speculative because they present a greater risk of loss, including default, than higher quality debt securities. The credit risk of a particular issuer's debt security may vary based on its priority for repayment. For example, higher ranking (senior) debt securities have a higher priority than lower ranking (subordinated) securities. This means that the issuer might not make payments on subordinated securities while continuing to make payments on senior securities. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy, holders of higher-ranking senior securities may receive amounts otherwise payable to the holders of more junior securities. Ratings agencies provide ratings on debt securities based on their analyses of information they deem relevant. Ratings are essentially opinions or judgments of the credit quality of an issuer and may prove to be inaccurate. In addition, there may be a delay between events or circumstances adversely affecting the ability of an issuer to pay interest and/or repay principal and an agency's decision to downgrade a security. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of certain corporate debt securities will tend to fall when interest rates rise. In general, corporate debt securities with longer terms tend to fall more in value when interest rates rise than corporate debt securities with shorter terms.

High-Yield Bonds. High-yield bonds (also known as "junk bonds") generally offer a higher current yield than that available for higher-grade issues. However, lower-rated securities involve higher risks, in that they are especially subject to adverse changes in general economic conditions and in the industries in which the issuers are engaged, to changes in the financial condition of the issuers and to price fluctuations in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of interest and principal and increase the possibility of default. In addition, the market for lower-rated debt securities has expanded rapidly in recent years, and its growth paralleled a long economic expansion. At times in recent years, the prices of many lower-rated debt securities declined substantially, reflecting an expectation that many issuers of such securities might experience financial difficulties. As a result, the yields on lower-rated debt securities rose dramatically, but such higher yields did not reflect the value of the income stream that holders of such securities expected, but rather, the risk that holders of such securities could lose a substantial portion of their value as a result of the issuers' financial restructuring or default. There can be no assurance that such declines will not recur. The market for lower-rated debt issues generally is thinner and less active than that for higher quality securities, which may limit the Fund's ability to sell such securities at fair value in response to changes in the economy or financial markets. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may also decrease the values and liquidity of lower-rated securities, especially in a thinly traded market. Changes in the rating of a fixed income security may affect the value of these investments. The Fund will not necessarily dispose of a security when its rating is reduced below its rating at the time of purchase. However, the Adviser will monitor the investment to determine whether continued investment in the security will assist in meeting the Fund's investment objectives.

*Yankee Bonds.* Yankee bonds are subject to the same risks as other debt issues, notably credit risk, market risk, currency and liquidity risk. Other risks include adverse political and economic developments; the extent and quality of government regulations of financial markets and institutions; the imposition of foreign withholding taxes; and the expropriation or nationalization of foreign issuers.

*Zero-Coupon Securities.* Zero-coupon securities make no periodic interest payments but are sold at a deep discount from their face value. The buyer recognizes a rate of return determined by the gradual appreciation of the security, which is redeemed at face value on a specified maturity date. The discount varies depending on the time remaining until maturity, as well as market interest rates, liquidity of the security, and the issuer's perceived credit quality. If the issuer defaults, the holder may not receive any

return on its investment. Because zero-coupon securities bear no interest and compound semiannually at the rate fixed at the time of issuance, their value generally is more volatile than the value of other fixed income securities. Since zero-coupon bondholders do not receive interest payments, when interest rates rise, zero-coupon securities fall more dramatically in value than bonds paying interest on a current basis. When interest rates fall, zero-coupon securities rise more rapidly in value because the bonds reflect a fixed rate of return. An investment in zero-coupon and delayed interest securities may cause the Fund to recognize income and make required distributions to shareholders before it receives any cash payments on its investment. As a result, the Fund may have to dispose of its portfolio investments under disadvantageous circumstances in order to generate sufficient cash to satisfy the distribution requirements for maintaining its status as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

**Equity Securities.** Equity securities represent ownership interests, or the rights to acquire ownership interests, in an issuer and include common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, rights and warrants, with different types of equity securities providing different voting and dividend rights and priority if the issuer becomes bankrupt. The value of equity securities varies in response to many factors, including the activities and financial condition of individual companies, the business market in which individual companies compete and general market and economic conditions. Equity securities fluctuate in value, often based on factors unrelated to the value of the issuer of the securities, and such fluctuations can be significant.

*Common Stocks.* Common stock represents a proportionate share of the ownership of a company and its value is based on the success of the company's business, any income paid to stockholders, the value of its assets, and general market conditions. In addition to the general risks set forth above, investments in common stocks are subject to the risk that in the event a company in which the Fund invests is liquidated, the holders of preferred stock and creditors of that company will be paid in full before any payments are made to the Fund as a holder of common stock. It is possible that all assets of that company will be exhausted before any payments are made to the Fund.

*Preferred Stocks.* Preferred stocks are also units of ownership in a company. Preferred stocks normally have preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and the liquidation of the company. However, in all other respects, preferred stocks are subordinated to the liabilities of the issuer. Unlike common stocks, preferred stocks are generally not entitled to vote on corporate matters. Types of preferred stocks include adjustable-rate preferred stock, fixed dividend preferred stock, perpetual preferred stock, and sinking fund preferred stock.

Generally, the market values of preferred stock with a fixed dividend rate and no conversion element vary inversely with interest rates and perceived credit risk.

*Rights and Warrants.* A right is a privilege granted to existing shareholders of a corporation to subscribe to the shares of a new issue of common stock before it is issued. Rights normally have a short life of usually two to four weeks, are freely transferable and entitle the holder to buy the new common stock at a lower price than the public offering price. Warrants are securities that are usually issued together with a debt security or preferred stock and that give the holder the right to buy proportionate amount of common stock at a specified price. Warrants are freely transferable and are traded on major exchanges. Unlike rights, warrants normally have a life that is measured in years and entitles the holder to buy common stock of a company at a price that is usually higher than the market price at the time the warrant is issued. Corporations often issue warrants to make the accompanying debt security more attractive.

An investment in rights and warrants may entail greater risks than certain other types of investments. Generally, rights and warrants do not carry the right to receive dividends or exercise voting rights with respect to the underlying securities, and they do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuer. In addition, their value does not necessarily change with the value of the underlying securities, and they cease to have value if they are not exercised on or before their expiration date. Investing in rights and warrants increases the potential profit or loss to be realized from the investment as compared with investing the same amount in the underlying securities.

*Tracking Stocks.* The Fund may invest in tracking stocks. A tracking stock is a separate class of common stock whose value is linked to a specific business unit or operating division within a larger company and which is designed to "track" the performance of such business unit or division. The tracking stock may pay dividends to shareholders independent of the parent company. The parent company, rather than the business unit or division, generally is the issuer of tracking stock. However, holders of the tracking stock may not have the same rights as holders of the company's common stock.

*Large-Cap Companies*. To the extent the Fund invests in the equity securities of large-sized companies, it will be exposed to the risks of larger-sized companies. Larger, more established companies may be unable to respond quickly to new competitive challenges such as changes in consumer tastes or innovative smaller competitors. Also, large-cap companies are sometimes unable to attain the high growth rates of successful, smaller companies, especially during extended periods of economic expansion.

*Small- and Medium-Sized Companies.* To the extent the Fund invests in the equity securities of small- and medium-sized companies, it will be exposed to the risks of smaller-sized companies. Small- and medium-sized companies may have narrower markets for their goods and/or services and may have more limited managerial and financial resources than larger, more established companies. Furthermore, such companies may have limited product lines, services, markets, or financial resources or may be dependent on a small management group. In addition, because these stocks may not be well-known to the investing public, do not have significant institutional ownership or are typically followed by fewer security analysts, there will normally be less publicly available information concerning these securities compared to what is available for the securities of larger companies. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, can decrease the value and liquidity of securities held by the Fund. As a result, small- and medium-sized company performance can be more volatile and they may face greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility of the Fund's portfolio.

**ETFs.** ETFs are pooled investment vehicles whose ownership interests are purchased and sold on a securities exchange. ETFs may be structured investment companies, depositary receipts or other pooled investment vehicles. As shareholders of an ETF, the Fund will bear its pro rata portion of any fees and expenses of the ETFs. Although shares of ETFs are traded on an exchange, shares of certain ETFs may not be redeemable to the ETF. In addition, ETFs may trade at a price below their net asset value (also known as a discount). The ETFs in which the Fund invests are subject to the risks applicable to the types of securities and investments used by the ETFs.

**Exchange-Traded Notes.** The Fund may invest in exchange-traded notes ("ETNs"). ETNs generally are senior, unsecured, unsubordinated debt securities issued by a sponsor, such as an investment bank. ETNs are traded on exchanges and the returns are linked to the performance of market indexes. In addition to trading ETNs on exchanges, investors may redeem ETNs directly with the issuer on a periodic basis, typically in a minimum amount of 50,000 units, or hold the ETNs until maturity. The value of an ETN may be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in the underlying market, changes in the applicable interest rates, and economic, legal, political or geographic events that affect the referenced market. Because ETNs are debt securities, they are subject to credit risk. If the issuer has financial difficulties or goes bankrupt, the Fund may not receive the return it was promised. If a rating agency lowers an issuer's credit rating, the value of the ETN may decline and a lower credit rating reflects a greater risk that the issuer will default on its obligation. There may be restrictions on the Fund's right to redeem its investment in an ETN. There are no periodic interest

payments for ETNs, and principal is not protected. The Fund's decision to sell its ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market.

**Foreign Investments and Currencies.** The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers that are publicly traded in the U.S. The Fund may also invest in American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs"), and Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"), and may purchase and sell foreign currency.

*Depositary Receipts.* ADRs, EDRs, and GDRs are securities representing securities of foreign issuers. A purchaser of unsponsored depositary receipts may not have unlimited voting rights and may not receive as much information about the issuer of the underlying securities as with a sponsored depositary receipt. Generally, ADRs, in registered form, are denominated in U.S. dollars and are designed for use in the U.S. securities markets. ADRs are receipts typically issued by a U.S. bank or trust company evidencing ownership of the underlying securities. For purposes of the Fund's investment policies, ADRs are deemed to have the same classification as the underlying securities they represent. Thus, an ADR representing ownership of a corporate bond will be treated as a corporate bond.

*Political and Economic Factors.* Individual foreign economies of certain countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency, diversification and balance of payments position. The internal policies of certain foreign countries may not be as stable as those of the United States. Governments in certain foreign countries also continue to participate to a significant degree, through ownership interest or regulation, in their respective economies. Action by these governments could include restrictions on foreign investment, nationalization, expropriation of goods or imposition of taxes, and could have a significant effect on market prices of securities and payment of interest. The economies of many foreign countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by the trade policies and economic conditions of their trading partners. Enactment by these trading partners of protectionist trade legislation could have a significant adverse effect upon the securities markets of such countries.

The United Kingdom (UK) withdrew from the European Union (EU) on January 31, 2020 following a June 2016 referendum referred to as "Brexit." Although the UK and EU have made a trade deal that was entered into force on May 1, 2021, certain post-EU arrangements were outside the scope of the negotiating mandate and remain unresolved and subject to further negotiation and agreement. There is significant market uncertainty regarding Brexit's ramifications, and the range of possible political, regulatory, economic and market outcomes are difficult to predict. The uncertainty surrounding the UK's economy, and its legal, political, and economic relationship with the remaining member states of the EU, may cause considerable disruption in securities markets, including increased volatility and illiquidity, as well as currency fluctuations in the British pound's exchange rate against the U.S. dollar.

*Currency Fluctuations*. The Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies. Accordingly, a change in the value of any such currency against the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding change in the U.S. dollar value of the Fund's assets denominated in that currency. Such changes will also affect the Fund's income. The value of the Fund's assets may also be affected significantly by currency restrictions and exchange control regulations enacted from time to time.

*Market Characteristics*. Foreign securities in which the Fund invests will be purchased in over-thecounter markets or on exchanges located in the countries in which the principal offices of the issuers of the various securities are located, if that is the best available market. Foreign exchanges and markets may be more volatile than those in the U.S. While growing in volume, they usually have substantially less volume than U.S. markets, and the Fund's foreign securities may be less liquid and more volatile than U.S. securities. Moreover, settlement practices for transactions in foreign markets may differ from those in U.S. markets, and may include delays beyond periods customary in the United States. Foreign security trading practices, including those involving securities settlement where Fund assets may be released prior to receipt of payment or securities, may expose the Fund to increased risk in the event of a failed trade or the insolvency of a foreign broker-dealer.

*Legal and Regulatory Matters*. Certain foreign countries may have less supervision of securities markets, brokers and issuers of securities, and less financial information available from issuers, than is available in the U.S.

*Taxes.* The interest and dividends payable on certain of the Fund's foreign portfolio securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes, thus reducing the net amount of income available for distribution to Fund shareholders.

*Costs*. To the extent that the Fund invests in foreign securities, its expense ratio is likely to be higher than those of investment companies investing only in domestic securities, because the cost of maintaining the custody of foreign securities is higher.

*Public Health Threats.* Various countries throughout the world are vulnerable economically to the impact of a public health crisis, which could depress consumer demand, reduce economic output, and potentially lead to market closures, travel restrictions, and quarantines, all of which would negatively impact the country's economy and could affect the economies of its trading partners.

*Emerging Markets*. The Fund may invest in securities that may be located in developing or emerging markets, entail additional risks, including: less social, political and economic stability; smaller securities markets and lower trading volume, which may result in less liquidity and greater price volatility; national policies that may restrict the Fund's investment opportunities, including restrictions on investments in issuers or industries, or expropriation or confiscation of assets or property; and less developed legal structures governing private or foreign investment.

**Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may not knowingly invest more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities. An illiquid security is a security which the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the security. The Adviser makes the day to day determinations of liquidity pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program, monitor the liquidity of securities held by the Fund and report periodically on the Fund's liquidity to the Board. If the limitations on illiquid securities are exceeded, other than by a change in market values, the condition will be reported by the Adviser to the Board. Illiquid securities include securities issued by private companies and restricted securities (securities where the disposition of which is restricted under the federal securities laws). Rule 144A securities may be treated as liquid securities if they meet the criteria in the Fund's liquidity risk management program. External market conditions may impact the liquidity of portfolio securities and may cause the Fund to sell or divest certain illiquid securities in order to comply with its limitation on holding illiquid securities, which may result in realized losses to the Fund.

Restricted securities may be sold only in privately negotiated transactions or in a public offering with respect to which a registration statement is in effect under the Securities Act. Where registration is required, the Fund may be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expenses and a considerable period may elapse between the time of the decision to sell a security and the time the Fund may be permitted to sell a security under an effective registration statement. If, during such a period, adverse market conditions were to develop, the Fund might obtain a less favorable price than that which prevailed when it decided to sell. Restricted securities will be priced at fair value using procedures adopted by the Board.

**Inflation-Protected Debt Securities.** The Fund may invest in inflation-protected debt securities or inflation-indexed bonds. Obligations of the U.S. Treasury, commonly known as TIPS (and comparable securities issued by governments of other countries), are inflation-protected obligations designed to provide inflation protection to investors. TIPS are income-generating instruments whose interest and principal payments are adjusted for inflation. The inflation adjustment is tied to the consumer price index ("CPI"), and TIPS' principal payments are adjusted according to changes in the CPI. As inflation rises, both the principal value and the interest payments increase, which can provide investors with a hedge against inflation, as it helps preserve the purchasing power of an investment. Because of this inflation adjustment feature, inflation-protected bonds typically have lower yields than conventional fixed-rate bonds.

**Investment Company Securities.** The Fund may invest in investment company securities, including ETFs, issued by open-end investment companies to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder. Generally, the Fund may not purchase shares of an investment company if (a) such a purchase would cause the Fund to own in the aggregate more than 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of the investment company, (b) such a purchase would cause the Fund to have more than 5% of its total assets invested in the investment company, or (c) more than 10% of the Fund's total assets would be invested in investment companies. As a shareholder in an investment company, the Fund would bear its pro rata portion of the investment company's expenses, including advisory fees, in addition to its own expenses. Although the 1940 Act restricts investment companies may be permitted to invest in other investment companies, registered investment companies may be permitted to invest in other investment companies beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1) as permitted by the 1940 Act and the "fund of funds" rules promulgated thereunder.

The Fund may rely on Section 12(d)(1)(F) to invest in unaffiliated ETFs and other investment companies in excess of the 5% and 10% limits described below in accordance with the limits of the exemption.

Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act provides that the provisions of Section 12(d)(1) shall not apply to securities purchased or otherwise acquired by a fund if: (i) immediately after such purchase or acquisition not more than 3% of the total outstanding shares of such investment company is owned by a fund and all affiliated persons of a fund; and (ii) a fund has not offered or sold, and is not proposing to offer or sell its shares through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price that includes a sales load of more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$ %. Rule 12d1-3 under the 1940 Act provides that a fund relying on Section 12(d)(1)(F) may offer or sell any securities it issues through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public offering price that includes a sales load of more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$ % if any sales charges and service fees charged do not exceed the limits set forth in FINRA Rule 2830.

If the Fund invests in investment companies, including ETFs, pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(F) it must comply with the following voting restrictions: when such Fund exercises voting rights, by proxy or otherwise, with respect to investment companies owned by the Fund, the Fund will either seek instruction from the Fund's shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies and vote in accordance with such instructions, or vote the shares held by the Fund in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such security. In addition, an investment company purchased by the Fund pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(F)shall not be required to redeem its shares in an amount exceeding 1% of such investment company's total outstanding shares in any period of less than thirty days. In addition to the advisory and operational fees the Fund bears directly in connection with their own operation, the Fund also bears its pro rata portion of the advisory and operational expenses of each other investment company.

The Fund may also rely on Rule 12d1-4 of the 1940 Act, which provides an exemption from Section 12(d)(1) that allows a registered investment company to invest all of its assets in other registered investment company satisfies certain conditions specified in the Rule, including, among other conditions, that the registered investment company and its advisory group

will not control (individually or in the aggregate) an acquired fund (*e.g.*, hold more than 25% of the outstanding voting securities of an acquired fund that is a registered open-end management investment company).

**Initial Public Offerings.** The Fund may purchase shares in initial public offerings ("IPOs"). Because IPO shares frequently are volatile in price, the Fund may hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of the Fund's portfolio and may lead to increased expenses to the Fund, such as brokerage commissions and transaction costs. By selling shares, the Fund may realize taxable short-term capital gains that, to the extent not offset by losses, will be distributed to the shareholders and taxable to them at ordinary income rates. Investing in IPOs increases risk because IPO shares are frequently volatile in price. As a result, their performance can be more volatile and they face greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility of the Fund's portfolio.

**Master Limited Partnerships ("MLPs").** MLPs are limited partnerships in which the ownership units are publicly traded. MLP units are registered with the SEC and are freely traded on a securities exchange or in the OTC market. MLPs often own several properties or businesses (or own interests) that are related to real estate development and oil and gas industries, but they also may finance motion pictures, research and development and other projects. Generally, a MLP is operated under the supervision of one or more managing general partners. Limited partners are not involved in the day-to-day management of the partnership.

The risks of investing in a MLP are generally those involved in investing in a limited partnership as opposed to a corporation. However, state law governing partnerships is often less restrictive than state law governing corporations. Accordingly, there may be fewer protections afforded investors in a MLP than investors in a corporation. Additional risks involved with investing in a MLP are risks associated with the specific industry or industries in which the MLP invests, such as the risks of investing in real estate, or oil and gas industries.

MLPs are generally treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. When the Fund invests in the equity securities of an MLP or any other entity that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the Fund will be treated as a partner in the entity for tax purposes. Accordingly, in calculating the Fund's taxable income, it will be required to take into account its allocable share of the income, gains, losses, deductions, and credits recognized by each such entity, regardless of whether the entity distributes cash to the Fund. Distributions from such an entity to the Fund are not generally taxable unless the cash amount (or, in certain cases, the fair market value of marketable securities) distributed to the Fund exceeds the Fund's adjusted tax basis in its interest in the entity. In general, the Fund's allocable share of such an entity's net income will increase the Fund's adjusted tax basis in its interest in the entity, and distributions to the Fund from such an entity and the Fund's allocable share of the entity's net losses will decrease the Fund's adjusted basis in its interest in the entity, but not below zero. The Fund may receive cash distributions from such an entity in excess of the net amount of taxable income the Fund is allocated from its investment in the entity. In other circumstances, the net amount of taxable income the Fund is allocated from its investment in such an entity may exceed cash distributions received from the entity. Thus, the Fund's investments in such an entity may lead the Fund to make distributions in excess of its earnings and profits, or the Fund may be required to sell investments, including when not otherwise advantageous to do so, in order to satisfy the distribution requirements applicable to RICs under the Code.

Depreciation or other cost recovery deductions passed through to the Fund from any investments in MLPs in a given year will generally reduce the Fund's taxable income, but those deductions may be recaptured in the Fund's income in one or more subsequent years. When recognized and distributed, recaptured income will generally be taxable to the Fund's shareholders at the time of the distribution at ordinary income tax rates, even though those shareholders might not have held Shares at the time the deductions were taken, and even though those shareholders may not have corresponding economic gain on their

shares at the time of the recapture. To distribute recaptured income or to fund redemption requests, the Fund may need to liquidate investments, which may lead to additional taxable income.

**Money Market Funds.** The Fund may invest in the securities of money market funds, within the limits prescribed by the 1940 Act.

**Mortgage-Related Securities.** Mortgage-related securities are interests in pools of residential or commercial mortgage loans, including mortgage loans made by savings and loan institutions, mortgage bankers, commercial banks and others. Pools of mortgage loans are assembled as securities for sale to investors by various governmental, government-related and private organizations. See "Mortgage Pass-Through Securities." The Fund may also invest in debt securities which are secured with collateral consisting of mortgage-related securities (see "Collateralized Mortgage Obligations").

Further, recent legislative action and any future government actions may significantly alter the manner in which the mortgage-related securities market functions. Each of these factors could ultimately increase the risk that the Fund could realize losses on mortgage-related securities.

**Mortgage Pass-Through Securities.** Interests in pools of mortgage-related securities differ from other forms of debt securities, which normally provide for periodic payment of interest in fixed amounts with principal payments at maturity or specified call dates. Instead, these securities provide a monthly payment which consists of both interest and principal payments. In effect, these payments are a "pass-through" of the monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on their residential or commercial mortgage loans, net of any fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of such securities. Additional payments are caused by repayments of principal resulting from the sale of the underlying property, refinancing or foreclosure, net of fees or costs which may be incurred. Some mortgage-related securities (such as securities issued by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA") are described as "modified pass-through." These securities entitle the holder to receive all interest and principal payments owed on the mortgage pool, net of certain fees, at the scheduled payment dates regardless of whether or not the mortgagor actually makes the payment.

The rate of pre-payments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility of a mortgagerelated security, and may have the effect of shortening or extending the effective duration of the security relative to what was anticipated at the time of purchase. To the extent that unanticipated rates of prepayment on underlying mortgages increase the effective duration of a mortgage-related security, the volatility of such security can be expected to increase.

Agency Mortgage-Related Securities. The principal governmental guarantor of mortgage-related securities is GNMA. GNMA is a wholly owned U.S. Government corporation within the Department of Housing and Urban Development. GNMA is authorized to guarantee, with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, the timely payment of principal and interest on securities issued by institutions approved by GNMA (such as savings and loan institutions, commercial banks and mortgage bankers) and backed by pools of mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration (the "FHA"), or guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (the "VA").

Government-related guarantors (*i.e.*, not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government) include the Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA") and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC"). FNMA is a government-sponsored corporation. FNMA purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by FNMA are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by FNMA, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. FHLMC was created by Congress in 1970 for the purpose of increasing the availability of mortgage credit for residential housing. It is a government-sponsored

corporation that issues Participation Certificates ("PCs"), which are pass-through securities, each representing an undivided interest in a pool of residential mortgages. FHLMC guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

On September 6, 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency ("FHFA") placed FNMA and FHLMC into conservatorship and they remain in such status as of the date of this Statement of Additional Information. The U.S. government also took steps to provide additional financial support to FNMA and FHLMC. No assurances can be given that the U.S Treasury initiatives with respect to FNMA and FHLMC will be successful.

Under the Federal Housing Finance Regulatory Reform Act of 2008 (the "Reform Act"), which was included as part of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, FHFA, as conservator or receiver, has the power to repudiate any contract entered into by FNMA or FHLMC prior to FHFA's appointment as conservator or receiver, as applicable, if FHFA determines, in its sole discretion, that performance of the contract is burdensome and that repudiation of the contract promotes the orderly administration of FNMA's or FHLMC's affairs. The Reform Act requires FHFA to exercise its right to repudiate any contract within a reasonable period of time after its appointment as conservator or receiver.

FHFA, in its capacity as conservator, has indicated that it has no intention to repudiate the guaranty obligations of FNMA or FHLMC because FHFA views repudiation as incompatible with the goals of the conservatorship. However, in the event that FHFA, as conservator or if it is later appointed as receiver for FNMA or FHLMC, were to repudiate any such guaranty obligation, the conservatorship or receivership estate, as applicable, would be liable for actual direct compensatory damages in accordance with the provisions of the Reform Act. Any such liability could be satisfied only to the extent of FNMA's or FHLMC's assets available therefor.

In the event of repudiation, the payments of interest to holders of FNMA or FHLMC mortgage-backed securities would be reduced if payments on the mortgage loans represented in the mortgage loan groups related to such mortgage-backed securities are not made by the borrowers or advanced by the servicer. Any actual direct compensatory damages for repudiating these guaranty obligations may not be sufficient to offset any shortfalls experienced by such mortgage-backed security holders.

Further, in its capacity as conservator or receiver, FHFA has the right to transfer or sell any asset or liability of FNMA or FHLMC without any approval, assignment or consent. Although FHFA has stated that it has no present intention to do so, if FHFA, as conservator or receiver, were to transfer any such guaranty obligation to another party, holders of FNMA or FHLMC mortgage-backed securities would have to rely on that party for satisfaction of the guaranty obligation and would be exposed to the credit risk of that party. In addition, certain rights provided to holders of mortgage-backed securities issued by FNMA and FHLMC under the operative documents related to such securities may not be enforced against FHFA, or enforcement of such rights may be delayed, during the conservatorship or any future receivership. The operative documents for FNMA and FHLMC mortgage-backed securities may provide (or with respect to securities issued prior to the date of the appointment of the conservator may have provided) that upon the occurrence of an event of default on the part of FNMA or FHLMC, in its capacity as guarantor, which includes the appointment of a conservator or receiver, holders of such mortgagebacked securities have the right to replace FNMA or FHLMC as trustee if the requisite percentage of mortgage-backed securities holders consent. The Reform Act prevents mortgage-backed security holders from enforcing such rights if the event of default arises solely because a conservator or receiver has been appointed. The Reform Act also provides that no person may exercise any right or power to terminate, accelerate or declare an event of default under certain contracts to which FNMA or FHLMC is a party, or obtain possession of or exercise control over any property of FNMA or FHLMC, or affect any contractual

rights of FNMA or FHLMC, without the approval of FHFA, as conservator or receiver, for a period of 45 or 90 days following the appointment of FHFA as conservator or receiver, respectively.

Collateralized Bond Obligations, Collateralized Loan Obligations, and Other Collateralized Debt Obligations. The Fund may invest in each of collateralized bond obligations ("CBOs"), collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs"), other collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs") and other similarly structured securities. CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are types of asset-backed securities. A CBO is a trust which is often backed by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment-grade fixed income securities. The collateral can be from many different types of fixed income securities such as high yield debt, residential privately issued mortgage-related securities, commercial privately issued mortgage-related securities, trust preferred securities and emerging market debt. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment-grade or equivalent unrated loans. Other CDOs are trusts backed by other types of assets representing obligations of various parties. CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs may charge management fees and administrative expenses.

For CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs, the cash flows from the trust are split into two or more portions, called tranches, varying in risk and yield. The riskiest portion is the "equity" tranche which bears the bulk of defaults from the bonds or loans in the trust and serves to protect the other, more senior tranches from default in all but the most severe circumstances. Since they are partially protected from defaults, senior tranches from a CBO trust, CLO trust or trust of another CDO typically have higher ratings and lower yields than their underlying securities, and can be rated investment-grade. Despite the protection from the equity tranche, CBO, CLO or other CDO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default and disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, as well as aversion to CBO, CLO or other CDO securities as a class.

The risks of an investment in a CBO, CLO or other CDO depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the instrument in which the Fund invests. Normally, CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are privately offered and sold, and thus, are not registered under the securities laws. As a result, investments in CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs may be characterized by the Fund as illiquid securities, however, an active dealer market may exist for CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs allowing them to qualify for Rule 144A transactions. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed income securities discussed elsewhere in this SAI and the Fund Prospectus (e.g., fixed income risk and credit risk), CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs carry additional risks including, but are not limited to, (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments, (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default, (iii) the risk that the Fund may invest in CBOs, CLOs or other CDOs that are subordinate to other classes, and (iv) the possibility that the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

*Collateralized Mortgage Obligations ("CMOs").* A CMO is a debt obligation of a legal entity that is collateralized by mortgages and divided into classes. Similar to a bond, interest and prepaid principal is paid, in most cases, on a monthly basis. CMOs may be collateralized by whole mortgage loans or private mortgage bonds, but are more typically collateralized by portfolios of mortgage pass-through securities guaranteed by GNMA, FHLMC, or FNMA, and their income streams.

CMOs are structured into multiple classes, often referred to as "tranches," with each class bearing a different stated maturity and entitled to a different schedule for payments of principal and interest, including pre-payments. Actual maturity and average life will depend upon the pre-payment experience of the collateral. In the case of certain CMOs (known as "sequential pay" CMOs), payments of principal received from the pool of underlying mortgages, including pre-payments, are applied to the classes of

CMOs in the order of their respective final distribution dates. Thus, no payment of principal will be made to any class of sequential pay CMOs until all other classes having an earlier final distribution date have been paid in full.

In a typical CMO transaction, a corporation ("issuer") issues multiple series (e.g., A, B, C, Z) of CMO bonds ("Bonds"). Proceeds of the Bond offering are used to purchase mortgages or mortgage pass-through certificates ("Collateral"). The Collateral is pledged to a third party trustee as security for the Bonds. Principal and interest payments from the Collateral are used to pay principal on the Bonds in the order of A, B, C, Z. The Series A, B, and C Bonds all bear current interest. Interest on the Series Z Bond is accrued and added to principal and a like amount is paid as principal on the Series A, B, or C Bond currently being paid off. When the Series A, B, and C Bonds are paid in full, interest and principal on the Series Z Bond begins to be paid currently. CMOs may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-backed or asset-backed securities.

As CMOs have evolved, some classes of Bonds have become more common. For example, the Fund may invest in parallel-pay and planned amortization class ("PAC") CMOs and multi-class pass-through certificates. Parallel-pay CMOs and multi-class pass-through certificates are structured to provide payments of principal on each payment date to more than one class. These simultaneous payments are taken into account in calculating the stated maturity date or final distribution date of each class, which, as with other CMO and multi-class pass-through structures, must be retired by its stated maturity date or final distribution date but may be retired earlier. PACs generally require payments of a specified amount of principal on each payment date. PACs are parallel-pay CMOs with the required principal amount on such securities having the highest priority after interest has been paid to all classes. Any CMO or multiclass pass-through structure that includes PAC securities must also have support tranches-known as support bonds, companion bonds or non-PAC bonds-which lend or absorb principal cash flows to allow the PAC securities to maintain their stated maturities and final distribution dates within a range of actual prepayment experience. These support tranches are subject to a higher level of maturity risk compared to other mortgage-related securities, and usually provide a higher yield to compensate investors. If principal cash flows are received in amounts outside a pre-determined range such that the support bonds cannot lend or absorb sufficient cash flows to the PAC securities as intended, the PAC securities are subject to heightened maturity risk.

Adjustable Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities. Adjustable rate mortgage-backed securities ("ARMBSs") have interest rates that reset at periodic intervals. Acquiring ARMBSs permits the Fund to participate in increases in prevailing current interest rates through periodic adjustments in the coupons of mortgages underlying the pool on which ARMBSs are based. Such ARMBSs generally have higher current yield and lower price fluctuations than is the case with more traditional fixed income debt securities of comparable rating and maturity. In addition, when prepayments of principal are made on the underlying mortgages during periods of rising interest rates, the Fund can reinvest the proceeds of such prepayments at rates higher than those at which they were previously invested. Mortgages underlying most ARMBSs, however, have limits on the allowable annual or lifetime increases that can be made in the interest rate that the mortgagor pays. Therefore, if current interest rates rise above such limits over the period of the limitation, the Fund, when holding an ARMBS, does not benefit from further increases in interest rates. Moreover, when interest rates are in excess of coupon rates (i.e., the rates being paid by mortgagors) of the mortgages, ARMBSs behave more like fixed income securities and less like adjustable rate securities and are subject to the risks associated with fixed income securities. In addition, during periods of rising interest rates, increases in the coupon rate of adjustable rate mortgages generally lag current market interest rates slightly, thereby creating the potential for capital depreciation on such securities.

*Municipal Securities.* The Fund may invest in debt obligations issued by or on behalf of states, possessions and territories of the U.S., including political subdivisions (such as counties, cities, towns and

school and other districts), agencies and authorities thereof (collectively, "municipal securities"). Municipal obligations are issued by such governmental entities to obtain funds for various public purposes, including the construction of a wide range of public facilities, the refunding of outstanding obligations, the payment of general operating expenses and the extension of loans to public institutions and facilities, not-for-profit organizations, businesses and developers. Yields on municipal securities are the product of a variety of factors, including the general conditions of the money market and of the municipal bond and municipal note markets, the size of a particular offering, the maturity of the obligation and the rating of the issue. Although the interest on municipal securities may be exempt from federal income tax if received by an individual, dividends paid by the Fund to its shareholders are not expected to be tax-exempt unless at least 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets at the end of each quarter of its taxable year consist of qualified municipal securities. A brief description of some typical types of municipal securities follows:

*General Obligation Securities.* General obligation bonds are supported by the issuer's full faith and credit and taxing authority. The issuer must levy and collect taxes sufficient to pay principal and interest on the bonds. However, in some cases the issuer's authority to levy additional taxes may be limited by its charter or state law.

*Revenue or Special Obligation Bonds.* Revenue bonds are payable solely from specific income or revenues received by the issuer, often from its operation of a governmental enterprise or authority such as an electric or water utility, sewer system, parks, hospitals or other health authority, bus, train, subway, highway, airport or other transportation system, or housing authority. Some revenue bonds may be issued for other public purposes, such as financing the development of an industrial park or commercial district or construction of a new stadium, parking structure or stadium. The revenues may consist of specific taxes, assessments, tolls, fees, or other types of municipal revenues. Although issued by municipal authorities, revenue bonds are generally not secured by the taxing power of the municipality but by the revenues of the authority derived from payments by users of the services or owners and operators of the facility financed with the proceeds of the bonds. Bonds or other obligations of housing financing authorities may have various forms of security, such as reserve funds, insured or subsidized mortgages and net revenues from projects, but they are not backed by a pledge of the issuer's credit. The credit quality of revenue bonds is usually related to the credit standing of the enterprise being financed but can, if applicable, be tied to the credit worthiness of an institution which provides a guarantee, letter of credit or other credit enhancement for the bond issue.

*Municipal Lease Obligations*. Municipal lease obligations may take the form of a lease, an installment purchase or a conditional sale contract issued by state and local governments and authorities to acquire land, equipment and facilities. Usually, the Fund will purchase a participation interest in a municipal lease obligation from a bank or other financial intermediary. The participation interest gives the holder a prorata, undivided interest in the total amount of the obligation. These obligations typically are not fully backed by the municipality's credit, and their interest may become taxable if the lease is assigned. If the funds are not appropriated for the following year's lease payments, the lease may terminate, with the possibility of default on the lease obligation and significant loss to the Fund. Finally, the lease may be illiquid.

*Anticipation Notes.* Anticipation notes are securities issued in anticipation of the receipt of taxes, grants, bond proceeds, or other municipal revenues. These may be in the form of bond anticipation notes, tax anticipation notes, tax and revenue anticipation notes, and revenue anticipation notes. For example, many municipalities collect property taxes once a year. Such municipalities may issue tax anticipation notes at the end of their fiscal year, either with collected taxes or proceeds from newly issued notes or bonds. Bond

anticipation notes are notes that are intended to be refinanced through a subsequent offering of longer term bonds.

Industrial Development Bonds ("IDBs") and Private Activity Bonds ("PABs"). IDBs and PABs are specific types of revenue bonds issued on or on behalf of public authorities to finance various privately operated facilities such as educational, hospital or housing facilities, local facilities for water supply, gas, electricity, sewage or solid waste disposal, and industrial or commercial facilities. PABs generally are IDBs issued after April 15, 1986. These obligations are included within the term "municipal bonds" if the interest paid on them is exempt from federal income tax in the opinion of the bond issuer's counsel. IDBs and PABs are in most cases revenue bonds and thus are not payable from the unrestricted revenues of the issuer. The credit quality of the IDBs and PABs is usually directly related to the credit standing of the user of the facilities being financed, or some form of credit enhancement such as a letter of credit or insurance.

*Resource Recovery Bonds.* Resource recovery bonds are affected by a number of factors, which may affect the value and credit quality of these revenue or special obligations. These factors include the viability of the project being financed, environmental protection regulations and project operator tax incentives.

*Tax-Exempt Commercial Paper and Short-Term Municipal Notes.* Tax-exempt commercial paper and short-term municipal notes provide for short-term capital needs and usually have maturities of one year or less. They include tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes and construction loan notes.

*Construction Loan Notes.* Construction loan notes are sold to provide construction financing. After successful completion and acceptance, many projects receive permanent financing through the FHA by way of Fannie Mae or GNMA.

*Put Bonds.* Put bonds are municipal bonds which give the holder the right to sell the bond back to the issuer or a third party at a specified price and exercise date, which is typically well in advance of the bond's maturity date.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs").** Equity REITs invest primarily in real property and earn rental income from leasing those properties. They also may realize gains or losses from the sale of properties. Equity REITs generally exercise some degree of control over the operational aspects of their real estate investments, lease terms and property maintenance and repair. Mortgage REITs invest primarily in mortgages and similar real estate interests and receive interest payments from the owners of the mortgaged properties and are paid interest by the owners of the financed properties. Hybrid REITs invest both in real property and in mortgages.

A REIT generally is not taxed on income distributed to its shareholders if it complies with certain federal income tax requirements relating primarily to its organization, ownership, assets and income and, further, if it distributes at least 90 percent of its taxable income to shareholders each year. Consequently, REITs tend to focus on income-producing real estate investments.

The Fund's investments in REITs may be adversely affected by deteriorations of the real estate rental market, in the case of REITs that primarily own real estate, or by deteriorations in the creditworthiness of property owners and changes in interest rates in the case of REITs that primarily hold mortgages. Equity and mortgage REITs also are dependent upon specialized management skills, may not be diversified in their holdings and are subject to the risks of financing projects. REITs also may be subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers and self-liquidation. Under certain circumstances, a REIT may fail to qualify for pass-through tax treatment, which would subject the REIT to federal income taxes and adversely affect the Fund's return on its investment in the REIT. In general, qualified REIT dividends that an investor receives directly from a REIT are automatically eligible for the 20% qualified business

income deduction. The IRS has issued final Treasury Regulations that permit a dividend or part of a dividend paid by a regulated investment company and reported as a "section 199A dividend" to be treated by the recipient as a qualified REIT dividend for purposes of the 20% qualified business income deduction, if certain holding period and other requirements have been satisfied by the recipient with respect to its Fund shares.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with counterparties that are deemed to present acceptable credit risks. A repurchase agreement is a transaction in which the Fund purchases securities or other obligations from a bank or securities dealer (or its affiliate) and simultaneously commits to resell them to a counterparty at an agreed-upon date or upon demand and at a price reflecting a market rate of interest unrelated to the coupon rate or maturity of the purchased obligations. The Fund maintains custody of the underlying obligations prior to their repurchase, either through its regular custodian or through a special "tri-party" custodian or sub-custodian that maintains separate accounts for both the Fund and its counterparty. Thus, the obligation of the counterparty to pay the repurchase price on the date agreed to or upon demand is, in effect, secured by such obligations.

Repurchase agreements carry certain risks not associated with direct investments in securities, including a possible decline in the market value of the underlying obligations. If their value becomes less than the repurchase price, plus any agreed-upon additional amount, the counterparty must provide additional collateral so that at all times the collateral is at least equal to the repurchase price plus any agreed-upon additional amount to be received upon repurchase of the obligations and the price that was paid by the Fund upon acquisition is accrued as interest and included in its net investment income. Repurchase agreements involving obligations other than U.S. Government securities (such as commercial paper and corporate bonds) may be subject to special risks and may not have the benefit of certain protections in the event of the counterparty's insolvency. If the seller or guarantor becomes insolvent, the Fund may suffer delays, costs and possible losses in connection with the disposition of collateral.

**Reverse Repurchase Agreements.** The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements, which involve the sale of securities held by the Fund subject to its agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon date or upon demand and at a price reflecting a market rate of interest. Reverse repurchase agreements are subject to the Fund's limitation on borrowings and may be entered into only with banks or securities dealers or their affiliates. While a reverse repurchase agreement is outstanding, the Fund will maintain the segregation, either on its records or with the Trust's custodian, of cash or other liquid securities, marked-to-market daily, in an amount at least equal to its obligations under the reverse repurchase agreement.

Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the buyer of the securities sold by the Fund might be unable to deliver them when that Fund seeks to repurchase. If the buyer of securities under a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, the buyer or trustee or receiver may receive an extension of time to determine whether to enforce the Fund's obligation to repurchase the securities, and the Fund's use of the proceeds of the reverse repurchase agreement may effectively be restricted pending such decision.

**U.S. Government Obligations.** The Fund may invest in debt securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. Although not all obligations of agencies and instrumentalities are direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. Government may provide support for payment of the interest and principal on these obligations directly or indirectly. This support can range from securities supported by the full faith and credit of the United States, such as GNMA securities, to securities that are supported solely or primarily by the creditworthiness of the issuer, such as securities of the FNMA, FHLMC, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Federal Farm Credit Banks and Federal Home Loan Banks. In the case of obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S., the Fund must

look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment and may not be able to assert a claim against the U.S. itself in the event the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitments. Whether backed by full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury or not, U.S. Government obligations are not guaranteed against price movements due to fluctuating interest rates.

Some of the securities issued directly by the U.S. Treasury include Treasury bills (having maturities of one year or less when issued); Treasury notes (having maturities of one to ten years when issued); Treasury bonds (having maturities of more than 10 years when issued); and TIPS. While U.S. Treasury securities have little credit risk, they are subject to price fluctuations prior to their maturity.

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** The Fund may, without limit, invest in U.S. Government securities, commercial paper and other money market instruments, money market funds, cash or cash equivalents in response to adverse market conditions, as a temporary defensive position. The result of this action may be that the Fund will be unable to achieve its investment objective.

**Portfolio Turnover.** The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund's portfolio securities. For purposes of this calculation, portfolio securities exclude all securities having a maturity when purchased of one year or less. High portfolio turnover may result in increased brokerage costs to the Fund and also adverse tax consequences to the Fund's shareholders.

# **DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

The Fund has policies and procedures in place regarding the disclosure of Fund portfolio holdings designed to allow disclosure of portfolio holdings information where it is deemed appropriate for the Fund's operations or it is determined to be useful to the Fund's shareholders without compromising the integrity or performance of the Fund. Except when there are legitimate business purposes for selective disclosure of the Fund's holdings, the Fund will not provide or permit others to provide information about the Fund's holdings on a selective basis.

The Fund provides portfolio holdings information as required in regulatory filings and shareholder reports, discloses portfolio holdings information as required by federal or state securities laws, and may disclose portfolio holdings information in response to requests by governmental authorities. Regulatory filings with portfolio holdings information are made approximately 60 days after the end of each fiscal quarter.

The Fund may, but is not required to, disclose some of the Fund's portfolio holdings information on the Fund's website, at a shareholder meeting, or in other communications made available to all shareholders. Such portfolio holdings disclosures may include the Fund's complete portfolio holdings, the number of securities the Fund holds, a summary schedule of investments, the Fund's top ten holdings, or a percentage breakdown of the Fund's investments by country, sector and industry, or particular holdings. The Adviser may not selectively disclose such information unless all of the information is disclosed by one of the above methods to all shareholders.

The Fund may disclose information relating to the Fund's portfolio holdings to:

- certain "independent reporting agencies" recognized by the SEC to be acceptable agencies for the reporting of industry statistical information;
- service providers subject to a duty of confidentiality who require access to the information: (i) in order to fulfill their contractual duties relating to the Fund; (ii) to facilitate the transition of a newly hired investment adviser prior to the commencement of its duties; (iii) to facilitate the review of the Fund by a ranking or ratings agency; or (iv) for the purpose of due diligence regarding a merger or acquisition.

The Fund may also disclose such information in accordance with ongoing arrangements with certain third parties, as discussed below. In addition, such disclosures may be made by the Adviser's trading desk to broker-dealers in connection with the purchase or sale of securities on behalf of the Fund. Finally, the Fund may disclose such information in such other limited circumstances as the Board or a committee thereof deems appropriate, subject to a confidentiality agreement and trading restrictions.

In order to mitigate conflicts between the interests of Fund shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the Adviser or principal underwriter, or any affiliated person of the Fund, the Adviser, or principal underwriter, on the other, the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer must approve a non-public disclosure of portfolio holdings, other than the ongoing arrangements described below, which have been approved by the Board. The Trust's Chief Compliance Officer must report all such arrangements to disclose portfolio holdings information to the Board on a quarterly basis, which will review such arrangements and terminate them if it determines such disclosure arrangements are not in the best interests of shareholders. Before any non-public disclosure of information about the Fund's holdings, the Chief Compliance Officer will require the recipient of such non-public portfolio holdings information to agree, or provide proof of an existing duty, to keep the information confidential and to agree not to trade directly or indirectly based on the information or to use the information to form a specific recommendation about whether to invest in the Fund or any other security. Under no circumstances may the Trust, the Adviser, or their affiliates, receive any consideration or compensation for disclosing portfolio holdings information.

Each of the following third parties have been approved to receive Fund holdings information: (i) U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Fund Services"), the Fund's administrator, transfer agent and fund accounting agent; (ii) the Fund's independent public accounting firm; (iii) financial printers, solely for the purpose of preparing Fund reports or regulatory filings; (iv) U.S. Bank N.A., the Fund's custodian in connection with its custody of the Fund's assets; (v) Godfrey & Kahn, S.C., Trust counsel; (vi) proxy voting services retained by the Fund, (vii) the Adviser; and (viii) the following data aggregators and ranking and ratings services: Lipper Analytical Services, Inc., Morningstar Inc., and Standard & Poor's, all of which currently receive such information 15 calendar days following the end of month-end; (ix) data vendors utilized in connection with the liquidity classifications of the Fund's investments pursuant to Rule 22e-4 of the 1940 Act; and (x) disclosures made to the middle-or back-office services providers to the Adviser who need to know such information to provide such services to the Adviser. Information may be provided to these parties at any time under conditions of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on the Fund's non-public holdings. "Conditions of Confidentiality" include confidentiality items included in written agreements, implied by the nature of the relationship or required by fiduciary or regulatory principles. The Adviser and other service providers have established procedures to ensure that the Fund's portfolio holdings information is only disclosed in accordance with these policies. Except for the foregoing, the Trust has no ongoing arrangements to disclose portfolio holdings information with respect to the Fund.

### **INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS**

The Fund has adopted the investment limitations set forth below. Limitations which are designated as fundamental policies may not be changed without the affirmative vote of the lesser of: (i) 67% or more of the shares of the Fund present at a shareholders meeting if holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund are present in person or by proxy; or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund. Except with respect to the asset coverage requirement under Section 18(f)(1) of the 1940 Act with respect to borrowing, if any percentage restriction on investment or utilization of assets is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a later change in percentage resulting from a change in the market values of the Fund or its assets or redemptions of shares will not be considered a violation of the limitation. The asset coverage requirement under Section 18(f)(1) of the 1940 Act with respect to borrowings is an ongoing requirement.

As a matter of fundamental policy, the Fund will not:

- purchase the securities of any one issuer, if as a result, more than 5% of the Fund's total assets would be invested in the securities of such issuer, or the Fund would own or hold 10% or more of the outstanding voting securities of that issuer, provided that: (1) the Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets without regard to these limitations; (2) these limitations do not apply to securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities; and (3) repurchase agreements fully collateralized by U.S. Government obligations will be treated as U.S. Government obligations;
- 2. invest 25% or more of its net assets, calculated at the time of purchase and taken at market value, in securities of issuers in any one industry (other than securities issued by the U.S. Government or its agencies, or securities of other investment companies);
- 3. borrow money, provided that the Fund may borrow money for temporary purposes in amounts not exceeding one-third of its total assets (including the amount borrowed);
- 4. make loans to other persons, except by: (1) purchasing debt securities in accordance with its investment objective, policies and limitations; (2) entering into repurchase agreements; or (3) engaging in securities loan transactions;
- 5. underwrite any issue of securities, except to the extent that the Fund may be considered to be acting as underwriter in connection with the disposition of any portfolio security;
- 6. purchase or sell real estate, provided that the Fund may invest in obligations secured by real estate or interests therein or obligations issued by companies that invest in real estate or interests therein, including real estate investment trusts;
- 7. purchase or sell physical commodities, provided that the Fund may invest in, purchase, sell or enter into financial options and futures, forward and spot currency contracts, swap transactions and other derivative financial instruments; or
- 8. issue senior securities, except to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.

With regard to the statement that the restriction set forth in item (2) above does not apply to securities issued by other investment companies, the SEC staff has maintained that a fund should consider the underlying investments of investment companies in which the fund is invested when determining concentration of the fund, and takes this into account in determining its compliance with the restriction provided in item (2).

With regard to the restriction set forth in item (8) above, the 1940 Act permits a fund to enter into options, futures contracts, forward contracts, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements provided that these types of transactions are covered in accordance with SEC positions. Under SEC staff interpretations of the 1940 Act, such derivative transactions will not be deemed "senior securities" if a fund segregates or earmarks assets on the fund's records or otherwise covers its obligations to limit the fund's risk of loss, such as through offsetting positions.

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years and such change may continue. In particular, new Rule 18f-4 (the "Derivatives Rule"), adopted by the SEC on October 28, 2020, replaces the asset segregation regime of Investment Company Act Release No. 10666 (Release 10666) with a new framework for the use of derivatives by registered funds. The Derivatives Rule provides an exception for a fund that limits its derivatives exposure to 10% of its net assets, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions. On August 19, 2022, the SEC will rescind Release 10666 and withdraw staff letters and similar guidance addressing a fund's use of derivatives and require funds to satisfy the requirements of the Derivatives Rule. Unless the Fund elects to comply early with the Derivatives Rule, the Fund may continue to engage in certain asset segregation practices in accordance with Release 10666 and related staff letters and guidance until August 19, 2022.

### **MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND**

#### **Trustees and Officers**

The business and affairs of the Trust are managed under the oversight of the Board, subject to the laws of the State of Delaware and the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust. The Board is currently comprised of four trustees who are not interested persons of the Trust within the meaning of the 1940 Act (the "Independent Trustees"). The Trustees are responsible for deciding matters of overall policy and overseeing the actions of the Trust's service providers. The officers of the Trust conduct and supervise the Trust's daily business operations.

Name, Year of Birth and Address <sup>(1)</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust and Length of Time Served <sup>(2)</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>(3)</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
~		INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES		
Gaylord B. Lyman (Born 1962)	Trustee and Audit Committee Chairman, since April 2015	Senior Portfolio Manager, Affinity Investment Advisors, LLC, since 2017; Managing Director of Kohala Capital Partners, LLC, (2011 – 2016).	9	None
Scott Craven Jones (Born 1962)	Trustee since July 2016 and Lead Independent Trustee since May 2017	Managing Director, Carne Global Financial Services (US) LLC (a provider of independent governance and distribution support for the asset management industry), since 2013; Interim Managing Director, Park Agency, Inc., since 2020.	9	Trustee, Madison Funds, since 2019 (18 portfolios); Trustee, XAI Octagon Floating Rate & Alternative Income Term Trust, since 2017 (2 portfolios); Director, Guestlogix Inc. (a provider of ancillary- focused technology to the travel industry) (2015 – 2016).
Lawrence T. Greenberg (Born 1963)	Trustee since July 2016	Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, The Motley Fool Holdings, Inc., since 1996; Venture Partner and General Counsel, Motley Fool Ventures LP, since 2018; Adjunct Professor, Washington College of Law, American University, since 2006; General Counsel, Motley Fool Asset Management, LLC (2008 – 2018); Manager, Motley Fool Wealth Management, LLC (2013 – 2018).	9	None
James R. Schoenike (Born 1959)	Trustee since July 2016 <sup>(4)</sup>	Distribution Consultant since 2018; President and CEO, Board of Managers, Quasar Distributors, LLC (2013 – 2018).	9	None

<sup>(1)</sup> The address of each Trustee as it relates to the Trust's business is c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services, 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

- <sup>(2)</sup> Each Trustee serves during the continued lifetime of the Trust until he dies, resigns, is declared bankrupt or incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction, or is removed.
- (3) The Trust currently has eight active portfolios. As of the date of this SAI, one portfolio of the Trust (the Dakota Emerging Markets Fund) has been registered but has not yet commenced operations.
- <sup>(4)</sup> Prior to January 1, 2021, Mr. Schoenike was considered to be an "interested person" of the Fund by virtue of his previous position as President of Quasar Distributors, LLC.

As of the date of this SAI, no Independent Trustee nor any of his immediate family members (*i.e.*, spouse or dependent children) serves as an officer or director or is an employee of the Adviser or Distributor, or any of their respective affiliates, nor is such person an officer, director or employee of any company controlled by or under common control with such entities.

Name, Year of Birth and Address	Position(s) Held with the Trust and Length of Time Served <sup>(3)</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During the Past Five Years			
	OFFICERS				
Scott M. Ostrowski <sup>(1)</sup> (Born 1980)	President and Principal Executive Officer, since August 10, 2021	Senior Vice President, Compliance and Administration, Fund Services, since 2006			
Alyssa M. Bernard <sup>(1)</sup> (Born 1988)	Vice President and Secretary, since August 20, 2019 <sup>(4)</sup>	Vice President, Compliance and Administration, Fund Services, since 2021; Assistant Vice President, Compliance and Administration, Fund Services, 2018-2021; Attorney, Mutual Fund Disclosure, Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., 2017-2018; Attorney, Corporate Governance, American Century Companies, Inc., 2014-2017			
Justin Dausch <sup>(2)</sup> (Born 1989)	Chief Compliance Officer and Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer, since January 1, 2020	Director, Vigilant, since 2017; Compliance Associate, HSBC (investment banking company), 2015-2017			
Matthew J. McVoy <sup>(1)</sup> (Born 1980)	Vice President, Treasurer, and Principal Financial Officer, since July 1, 2016 <sup>(4)</sup>	Assistant Vice President, Compliance and Administration, Fund Services, since 2005			
Colton W. Scarmardo <sup>(1)</sup> (Born 1997)	Assistant Treasurer, since May 11, 2021	Fund Administrator, Compliance and Administration, Fund Services, since 2019; Business Administration Student, 2015-2019			

<sup>(1)</sup> The mailing address of this officer is: 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

- <sup>(2)</sup> The mailing address of this officer is: 223 Wilmington West Chester Pike, Suite 216, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317.
- <sup>(3)</sup> Each officer is elected annually and serves until his or her successor has been duly elected and qualified.
- <sup>(4)</sup> Mr. McVoy and Ms. Bernard have served as Vice Presidents of the Trust, in addition to their other positions held with the Trust, since May 11, 2021.

#### Leadership Structure and Responsibilities of the Board and the Committee

The Board has selected Scott Craven Jones to serve as Lead Independent Trustee. The position of Chairman of the Board is vacant and, as Lead Independent Trustee, Mr. Jones acts as Chairman. Mr. Jones' duties include presiding at meetings of the Board and serving as Chairman during executive sessions of the Independent Trustees; interfacing with management to address significant issues that may arise between regularly scheduled Board and Committee meetings; acting as a liaison with the Trust's service providers, officers, legal counsel, and other Trustees between meetings; helping to set Board meeting agendas; and performing other functions as requested by the Board from time to time.

The Board meets as often as necessary to discharge its responsibilities. Currently, the Board conducts regular quarterly meetings and may hold special in-person or telephonic meetings as necessary to address specific issues that require attention prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board also relies on professionals, such as the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm and legal counsel, to assist the Trustees in performing their oversight responsibilities.

The Board has established one standing committee – the Audit Committee. The Board may establish other committees or nominate one or more Trustees to examine particular issues related to the Board's oversight responsibilities, from time to time. The Audit Committee meets regularly to perform its delegated oversight functions and reports its findings and recommendations to the Board. For more information on the Committee, see the section "Audit Committee," below.

The Board has determined that the Trust's leadership structure is appropriate because it allows the Board to effectively perform its oversight responsibilities.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Mr. Lyman serves as the chairman of the Committee. Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee has the responsibility, among others, to (1) select the Trust's independent auditors; (2) review and pre-approve the audit and non-audit services provided by the independent auditors; (3) review the scope of the audit and the results of the audit of the Fund's financial statements; and (4) review with such independent auditors the adequacy of the Trust's internal accounting and financial controls. Mr. Lyman and Mr. Jones serve as the Audit Committee's "audit committee financial experts." Because the Fund is new, the Audit Committee has not met with respect to the Fund as of the date of this SAI.

#### Trustee Experience, Qualifications, Attributes and/or Skills

The following is a brief discussion of the experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills that led to the Board's conclusion that each individual identified below is qualified to serve as a Trustee of the Trust. In determining that a particular Trustee was qualified to serve as a Trustee, the Board has considered a variety of criteria, none of which was controlling. The Board believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the advisers, other service providers, counsel and independent auditors, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties, support the conclusion that each Trustee is qualified to serve as a Trustee of the Trust. Many Trustee attributes involve intangible elements, such as intelligence, work ethic, the ability to work together, the ability to communicate effectively and the ability to exercise judgment, ask incisive questions, manage people and develop solutions to problems.

Mr. Schoenike has been a trustee of the Trust since July 2016. He was employed by various subsidiaries of U.S. Bancorp from 1990 to 2018 and has decades of experience in the securities industry. In 2000, Mr. Schoenike founded Quasar and established Quasar as a FINRA member broker-dealer dedicated to underwriting and distributing mutual funds, of which he served as President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Schoenike previously participated in the FINRA securities arbitration program as an industry arbitrator. Mr. Schoenike previously served as Chairman of the Board from July 2016 to December 2020.

Mr. Lyman has been a trustee of the Trust since April 2015, serves as Chairman of the Audit Committee and has been designated as an audit committee financial expert for the Trust. Mr. Lyman has over 15 years of experience in the investment management industry. He has served as Senior Portfolio Manager of Affinity Investment Advisors, LLC, an investment adviser, since 2017. Prior to that, he served as the Managing Director and portfolio manager of Kohala Capital Partners, an investment adviser, from 2011 to 2016. He also previously served as a vice president and portfolio manager of Becker Capital Management, Inc., an investment adviser. Mr. Lyman has an MBA from the Anderson School of Management at UCLA and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. Mr. Jones has been a trustee of the Trust since July 2016, has served as Lead Independent Trustee since May 2017, serves on the Audit Committee, and has been designated as an audit committee financial expert for the Trust. He has over 25 years of experience in the asset management industry as an independent director, attorney and executive, holding various roles including Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer, with asset class experience ranging from municipal bonds to hedge funds. Mr. Jones currently is a trustee of two other registered investment companies and is a Managing Director of Carne Global Financial Services (US) LLC where his work includes director and risk oversight positions with investment advisers and serving as an independent director of private funds. Mr. Jones also currently serves as interim Managing Director of Park Agency Inc., a family office. Prior to that, he was an advisor to Wanzenburg Partners and served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer to Aurora Investment Management. He has a Juris Doctorate degree from Northwestern University School of Law and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation.

Mr. Greenberg has been a trustee of the Trust since July 2016 and serves on the Audit Committee. Mr. Greenberg has over 20 years of experience in the securities industry. He has been Chief Legal Officer and Senior Vice President of The Motley Fool Holdings, Inc. since 1996. He also served as General Counsel to Motley Fool Asset Management, LLC from 2008 to 2018 and as Manager of Motley Fool Wealth Management, LLC from 2013 to 2018. He has been a Venture Partner of and General Counsel to Motley Fool Ventures LP since 2018. Mr. Greenberg is a Director of The Motley Fool Holdings, Inc.'s wholly-owned subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Singapore, and Germany. Mr. Greenberg also has directorship experience through his service on the board of a private technology company. He has a Master's degree and a Juris Doctorate degree from Stanford University.

#### **Risk Oversight**

The Board performs its risk oversight function for the Trust through a combination of (1) direct oversight by the Board as a whole and the Board committee, and (2) indirect oversight through the investment advisers and other service providers, Trust officers and the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer. The Trust is subject to a number of risks, including but not limited to investment risk, compliance risk, operational risk and reputational risk. Day-to-day risk management with respect to the Fund is the responsibility of the investment advisers or other service providers (depending on the nature of the risk) that carry out the Trust's investment management and business affairs. Each of the investment advisers and the other service providers have their own independent interest in risk management and their policies and methods of risk management will depend on their functions and business models and may differ from the Trust's and each other's in the setting of priorities, the resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls.

The Board provides risk oversight by receiving and reviewing on a regular basis reports from the investment advisers and other service providers, receiving and approving compliance policies and procedures, periodic meetings with the Fund's portfolio managers to review investment policies, strategies and risks, and meeting regularly with the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer to discuss compliance reports, findings and issues. The Board also relies on the investment advisers and other service providers, with respect to the day-to-day activities of the Trust, to create and maintain procedures and controls to minimize risk and the likelihood of adverse effects on the Trust's business and reputation.

Board oversight of risk management is also provided by the Board's Audit Committee. The Audit Committee meets with the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm to ensure that the Fund's audit scope includes risk-based considerations as to the Fund's financial position and operations.

The Board may, at any time and in its discretion, change the manner in which it conducts risk oversight. The Board's oversight role does not make the Board a guarantor of the Fund's investments or activities.

#### **Security and Other Interests**

As of the date of this SAI, no Trustees of the Trust beneficially owned shares of the Fund.

Furthermore, as of the date of this SAI, neither the Independent Trustees, nor members of their immediate families, owned securities beneficially or of record, in the Adviser, the Distributor, or any of their affiliates. Accordingly, neither the Independent Trustees, nor members of their immediate family, have a direct or indirect interest or relationships, or been involved in any transactions, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Adviser, the Distributor or any of their affiliates.

#### Compensation

For their services as Independent Trustees, the Independent Trustees receive from the Trust an annual retainer in the amount of \$25,000; a per meeting fee of \$1,750 for each regular quarterly Board meeting attended; a per meeting fee of \$1,750 for each Board or committee meeting attended in addition to the four regular Board meetings, the special investment advisory agreement review meeting, and the four regular Audit Committee meetings; and reimbursement for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board or committee meetings. The Lead Independent Trustee receives an additional \$2,500 annual retainer and the Audit Committee Chair receives an additional \$1,500 annual retainer.

Because the Fund is new, the following compensation figures represent estimates for the Fund's fiscal period ending September 30, 2022:

Independent Trustee	Estimated Aggregate Compensation from the Fund <sup>(1)</sup>	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Trust Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Estimated Total Compensation from the Fund and the Trust <sup>(3)</sup> Paid to Trustees:
Gaylord Lyman <sup>(2)</sup>	\$3,722	None	None	\$33,500
Lawrence Greenberg	\$3,556	None	None	\$32,000
Scott Craven Jones <sup>(4)</sup>	\$3,833	None	None	\$34,500
James R. Schoenike	\$3,556	None	None	\$32,000

<sup>(1)</sup> Trustees' fees and expenses are allocated among the Fund and the other series comprising the Trust.

<sup>(2)</sup> Audit Committee chairman.

<sup>(3)</sup> As of the date of this SAI, the Trust currently has nine operational portfolios and one portfolio that has been registered but has not yet commenced operations.

<sup>(4)</sup> Lead Independent Trustee.

### **CODES OF ETHICS**

The Trust and the Adviser have each adopted codes of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. These codes of ethics are designed to prevent affiliated persons of the Trust and the Adviser from engaging in deceptive, manipulative or fraudulent activities in connection with securities held or to be acquired by the Fund (which may also be held by persons subject to the codes of ethics). Each code of ethics permits personnel subject to that code of ethics to invest in securities for their personal investment accounts, subject to certain limitations, including limitations related to securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund. The Distributor (as defined below) relies on the principal underwriters exception under Rule 17j-1(c)(3) from the requirement to adopt a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 because the Distributor is not affiliated with the Trust or the Adviser, and no officer, director, or general partner of the Distributor serves as an officer, director, or general partner of the Trust or the Adviser.

The Trust and the Adviser's codes of ethics may be found on the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov in the exhibits to the Fund's registration statement on Form N-1A.

### **PROXY VOTING**

The Fund invests primarily in fixed income securities and does not expect to receive proxy solicitations or vote proxies for such securities. In the event that the Fund is solicited to vote a proxy, the Board has adopted proxy voting procedures, and thereunder delegated the responsibility for exercising the voting rights associated with the securities purchased and/or held by the Fund to the Adviser, subject to the Board's continuing oversight in accordance with the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the "Voting Policies") and Proxy Voting Guidelines ("Voting Guidelines") adopted by Adviser. Pursuant to the Voting Policies and Voting Guidelines, the Adviser will vote all proxies as it judges in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Voting Guidelines are attached to this SAI as <u>Appendix A</u>.

The Adviser's Chief Compliance Officer will identify any conflicts that exist between the interests of the Adviser and the Fund. This examination will include a review of the relationship of the firm with the issuer of each security to determine if the issuer is a client of the Adviser or has some other relationship with the Adviser or one of its clients. In such instances, the Adviser will submit a separate report to the Board indicating the nature of the potential conflict of interest and how the determination of such vote was achieved.

The Fund's proxy voting record for the twelve-month period ended June 30 of each year, if applicable, will be available by August 31 of the same year (i) without charge, upon request, by calling (833) 574-7469 and (ii) on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

## **CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF SECURITIES**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of the Fund or acknowledges the existence of control. A controlling person possesses the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted for shareholder vote by the Fund. As of the date of this SAI, there were no principal shareholders or control persons of the Fund. Further, as of the date this SAI, the Trustees and officers as a group owned beneficially (as the term is defined in Section 13(d) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) less than 1% of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

## **INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES**

#### **Investment Adviser**

Corbyn Investment Management, Inc. located at 2330 West Joppa Road, Suite 108, Lutherville, Maryland 21093, serves as the investment adviser to the Fund and is an SEC-registered investment adviser. Corbyn was organized in 1973 and provides investment management services for its clients. The Corbyn Investment Management Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust (the "Plan") may be deemed to control Corbyn by virtue of its ownership of approximately 26% of Corbyn's outstanding voting securities. The Plan is a qualified, defined contribution employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, designed to invest primarily in the common stock of Corbyn, the sponsoring employer. Charles vK. Carlson is the Trustee of the Plan and owns approximately 42% of Corbyn's common stock (30% directly and 12% through the Plan). The Plan Committee, which is composed of three members, including Messrs. Carlson and Michael Fusting, has voting power over the Corbyn shares held by the Plan, except with respect to certain extraordinary transactions as to which Plan participants may direct voting. As of September 30, 2021, the Adviser had approximately \$990.1 million in assets under management.

Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, and the Adviser (the "Advisory Agreement"), the Adviser manages the Fund. The Advisory Agreement has an initial term of two years and continues in effect from year to year thereafter if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees or by a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The Advisory Agreement may be terminated on 60 days' written notice without penalty: (i) by vote of the Board; (ii) by the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund; or (iii) by the Adviser. The Advisory Agreement will also terminate automatically in the event of its assignment as defined in the 1940 Act.

Under the terms of the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser, with respect to the Fund, agrees to: (a) direct the investments of the Fund, subject to and in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies and limitations set forth in the Prospectus and this SAI; (b) purchase and sell for the Fund securities and other investments consistent with the Fund's objective and policies; (c) supply office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary for servicing the investments of the Fund; (d) pay the salaries of all personnel of the Fund and the Adviser performing services relating to research, statistical and investment activities on behalf of the Fund; (e) make available and provide such information as the Fund and/or its administrator may reasonably request for use in the preparation of its registration statement, reports and other documents required by any applicable federal, foreign or state statutes or regulations; and (f) make its officers and employees available to the Board and officers of the Trust for consultation and discussion regarding the management of the Fund and its investment activities. Additionally, the Adviser agrees to create and maintain all necessary records in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the various functions performed by it and not otherwise created and maintained by another party pursuant to a contract with the Fund.

The Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall not be liable for any act or omission in the course of, or connected with, rendering services under the Advisory Agreement or for any losses that may be sustained in the purchase, holding or sale of any security or the making of any investment for or on behalf of the Fund, except to the extent of a loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard on its part in the performance of its obligations and duties under the agreement.

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser is entitled to receive an annual investment advisory fee, paid monthly, comprising 0.60% of the average daily net assets of the Fund.

Pursuant to a contractual operating expense limitation agreement, the Adviser has agreed to waive a portion of its advisory fee and/or reimburse expenses to ensure the total amount of the Fund's operating expenses (excluding any front-end or contingent deferred loads, Rule 12b-1 plan fees, shareholder servicing plan fees, taxes, leverage (i.e., any expenses incurred in connection with borrowings made by the Fund), interest (including interest incurred in connection with bank and custody overdrafts), brokerage commissions and other transactional expenses, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, dividends or interest on short positions, acquired fund fees and expenses or extraordinary expenses such as litigation (collectively, "Excludable Expenses")) does not exceed 0.75%% of the Fund's average daily net assets. To the extent the Fund incurs Excludable Expenses, Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement may exceed 0.75%%. The Adviser may request recoupment of previously waived fees and paid expenses from the Fund for up to three years from the date such fees and expenses were waived or paid, subject to the operating expense limitation agreement, if such reimbursement will not cause the Fund to exceed the lesser of: (1) the expense limitation in place at the time of the waiver and/or expense payment; or (2) the expense limitation in place at the time of the recoupment. The Fund must pay its current ordinary operating expenses before the Adviser is entitled to any recoupment of management fees and/or expenses. This operating expense limitation agreement is in effect through at least December 15, 2024, and may be terminated only by, or with the consent of, the Board of Trustees.

### **SERVICE PROVIDERS**

#### Fund Administrator, Transfer Agent and Fund Accountant

Fund Services, located at 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, acts as the Fund's administrator pursuant to an administration agreement between Fund Services and the Trust. Fund Services provides certain administrative services to the Fund, including, among other responsibilities, coordinating the negotiation of contracts and fees with, and the monitoring of performance and billing of, the Fund's independent contractors and agents; preparing for signature by an officer of the Trust all of the documents required to be filed for compliance by the Trust and the Fund with applicable laws and regulations excluding those of the securities laws of various states; arranging for the computation of performance data, including NAV and yield; responding to shareholder inquiries; and arranging for the maintenance of books and records of the Fund, and providing, at its own expense, office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out its duties. In this capacity, Fund Services does not have any responsibility or authority for the management of the Fund, the determination of investment policy, or for any matter pertaining to the distribution of Fund shares. As compensation for its services, Fund Services receives from the Fund a combined fee for fund administration and fund accounting services based on the Fund's current average daily net assets. Fund Services is also entitled to be reimbursed for certain out-of-pocket expenses. Fund Services also acts as fund accountant ("Fund Accountant"), transfer agent ("Transfer Agent") and dividend disbursing agent under separate agreements with the Trust.

The Fund is new and the Adviser has not paid the Administrator any fees for administrative services to the Fund as of the date of this SAI.

#### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

BBD, LLP, located at 1835 Market Street, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm to the Fund providing services which include: (1) auditing the annual financial statements for the Fund; and (2) the review of the annual federal income tax returns filed on behalf of the Fund.

#### Legal Counsel

Godfrey & Kahn, S.C., 833 East Michigan Street, Suite 1800, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, serves as counsel to the Trust and the Independent Trustees.

#### Custodian

U.S. Bank National Association (the "Custodian"), located at 1555 North River Center Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53212, an affiliate of Fund Services, serves as the custodian of the Fund's assets pursuant to a custody agreement between the Custodian and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund. The Custodian charges fees on a transactional basis plus out-of-pocket expenses. The Custodian maintains custody of securities and other assets of the Fund, delivers and receives payments for securities sold, receives and pays for securities purchased, and collects income from investments. The Custodian does not participate in decisions relating to the purchase and sale of securities by the Fund. The Custodian and its affiliates may participate in revenue sharing arrangements with service providers of mutual funds in which the Fund may invest.

#### **Compliance Services**

Vigilant Compliance, LLC ("Vigilant") provides compliance services to the Fund pursuant to a service agreement between Vigilant and the Trust. Under this service agreement, Vigilant also provides an individual to serve as Chief Compliance Officer to the Trust, subject to the approval and oversight of the Board. The Board has approved Mr. Dausch as Chief Compliance Officer of the Trust.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF SHARES**

Quasar Distributors, LLC, a subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC, (the "Distributor"), located at 111 E. Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 2200, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, acts as the Fund's distributor. Pursuant to an agreement between the Distributor and the Trust (the "Distribution Agreement"), the Distributor serves as the Fund's principal underwriter, provides certain administration services, and promotes and arranges for the sale of the Fund's shares. The offering of the Fund's shares is continuous, and the Distributor distributes the Fund's shares on a best efforts basis. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of FINRA.

The Distribution Agreement continues in effect only if its continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust on behalf of the Fund on 60 days' written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund or by vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Distributor upon 60 days' written notice to the Trust. The Distribution Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its "assignment" (as defined in the 1940 Act).

#### **Shareholder Servicing Plan**

The Fund has adopted a Shareholder Servicing Plan on behalf of its Institutional Shares and Retail Shares to pay for shareholder support services from the Fund's assets pursuant to a shareholder servicing agreement in an amount not to exceed 0.10% of average daily net assets of the Fund attributable to Institutional Shares and Retail Shares, respectively. Under the plan, the Fund may pay shareholder servicing fees to shareholder servicing agents who have entered into written shareholder servicing agreements with the Fund and perform shareholder servicing functions and maintenance of shareholder accounts on behalf of Institutional Shares or Retail Shares shareholders. Such services include: (1) establishing and maintaining accounts and records relating to shareholders who invest in the class; (2) aggregating and processing purchase and redemption requests and transmitting such orders to the transfer agent; (3) providing shareholders with a service that invests the assets of their accounts in shares of the Fund pursuant to specific or pre-authorized instructions; (4) processing dividend and distribution

payments from the Fund on behalf of shareholders; (5) providing information periodically to shareholders as to their ownership of shares or about other aspects of the operations of the Fund; (6) responding to shareholder inquiries concerning their investment; (7) providing sub-accounting with respect to shares of the Fund beneficially owned by shareholders or the information necessary for sub-accounting; (8) forwarding shareholder communications (such as proxies, shareholder reports, annual and semi-annual financial statements and dividend, distribution and tax notices); and (9) providing similar services as may reasonably be requested. Retail Shares are not currently offered.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

**Other Accounts Managed.** The following table provides additional information about other accounts managed by the Portfolio Managers jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund as of September 30, 2021.

Name of Portfolio Manager and Type of Account	Total Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in millions)	Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in millions)
Charles vK. Carlson				
Registered Investment Companies	1	\$166.0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	1	\$12.2	0	\$0
Other Accounts	738	\$811.9	0	\$0
Michael Pulcinella				
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	1	\$12.2	0	\$0
Other Accounts	539	\$627.2	0	\$0
George Truppi				
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

**Material Conflicts of Interest**. Material conflicts of interest that may arise in connection with a portfolio managers' management of the Fund's investments and investments of other accounts managed include material conflicts between the investment strategy of the Fund and the investment strategy of the other accounts managed by the portfolio managers, and conflicts associated with the allocation of investment opportunities between the Fund and other accounts managed by the portfolio managers. The Adviser maintains investment, trade allocation, and account valuation (including fair valuation) policies and procedures to address such conflicts of interest.

**Compensation.** The following is a description of portfolio manager compensation as of the date of this SAI. The Portfolio Managers are compensated by the Adviser in the form of a fixed salary. The Portfolio Managers are also eligible for a bonus, which is based on the overall profitability of the Adviser and is not based on the performance of any accounts. Mr. Carlson and Mr. Pulcinella each maintain an equity interest in the Adviser and may receive additional income proportionate to their respective equity in the Adviser.

**Ownership of Securities.** As the Fund is newly formed, as of the date of this SAI, the Portfolio Managers did not beneficially own Shares.

## **BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES**

The Adviser places all portfolio transactions on behalf of the Fund, selects broker-dealers for such transactions, allocates brokerage fees in such transactions and, where applicable, negotiates commissions and spreads on transactions. The Adviser has a fiduciary duty to the Fund to obtain best execution, on an overall basis, for any securities transactions. In selecting brokers and dealers, the Adviser seeks to obtain the overall best execution, taking into account a number of factors, including for example: price, clearance, settlement, reputation, financial strength and stability, efficiency of execution and error resolution, block trading and block positioning capabilities, special execution capabilities, willingness to execute related or unrelated difficult transactions in the future, order of call, online access to computerized data regarding clients' accounts, the availability of stocks to borrow for short trades, the competitiveness of commission rates in comparison to other brokers satisfying the Adviser's other selection criteria and other matters involved in the receipt of brokerage services.

Fixed income and convertible securities are bought and sold through broker-dealers acting on a principal basis. These trades are not charged a commission, but rather are marked up or marked down by the executing broker-dealer. However, the Adviser attempts to ascertain whether the overall price of a security is reasonable through the use of market quotes and analysis.

The Fund may at times invest in securities of its regular broker-dealers or the parent of its regular broker-dealers. The Fund did not hold any securities of its regular broker-dealers as of the date of this SAI.

The Fund pays "soft dollars" brokerage commissions through the Fund's trading activity in compliance with the "safe harbor" of Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Under "soft dollar" arrangements, one or more of the brokerage firms provide or pay the costs of certain research services, or other items for the benefit of the Fund. In recognition of research services provided to it, the Fund may pay a higher brokerage commission to a broker than it may have been charged by another brokerage firm in executing the same transaction. These soft dollar arrangements may benefit the Fund and the Adviser by reducing expenses. Additionally, these research services may be used by the Adviser in servicing all of its accounts and not all of these research services may be used by the Adviser in connection with the Fund. Nonetheless, the Adviser believes that soft dollar arrangements generally enhance the Adviser's ability to obtain research, optimal execution and other benefits on behalf of the Fund. The Fund is new and had not paid any commissions related to soft dollars as of the date of this SAI.

**Brokerage Commissions.** The Fund is new and had not paid any brokerage commissions as of the date of this SAI.

Allocation of Portfolio Transactions. Some of the Adviser's other clients have investment objectives and programs similar to that of the Fund, which may result in the Adviser purchasing or selling securities simultaneously with the Fund. Consequently, the demand for securities being purchased or the supply of securities being sold may increase, and this could have an adverse effect on the price of those securities. It is the policy of the Adviser not to favor one client over another in placing orders. In the event of a simultaneous transaction, purchases or sales are averaged as to price, transaction costs are allocated between the Fund and other clients participating in the transaction on a pro rata basis and purchases and sales are normally allocated between the Fund and the other clients as to amount according to a formula determined prior to the execution of such transactions.

# **DESCRIPTION OF SHARES, VOTING RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES**

The Fund has two classes of shares – Institutional Shares and Retail Shares. Retail Shares are not currently offered. The shares of the Fund, when issued and paid for in accordance with the Prospectus, will be fully paid and non-assessable shares, with equal voting rights and no preferences as to conversion, exchange, dividends, redemption or any other feature.

Shares of the Fund entitle holders to one vote per share and fractional votes for fractional shares held. Shares have non-cumulative voting rights with respect to election of Trustees, do not have preemptive or subscription rights and are transferable. Each class takes separate votes on matters affecting only that class. For example, a change in the 12b-1 fee for a class would be voted upon only by shareholders of that class.

The Fund does not hold annual meetings of shareholders. A meeting of shareholders for the purpose of voting upon the question of removal of any Trustee may be called upon the demand of shareholders owning not less than 10% of the Trust's outstanding shares. Except when a larger quorum is required by the applicable provisions of the 1940 Act, forty percent (40%) of the shares entitled to vote on a matter constitutes a quorum at a meeting of shareholders. Generally, subject to the 1940 Act and the specific provisions of the Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust, as amended (the "Declaration of Trust"), when a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of the shares voted will decide any questions, except only a plurality vote is necessary to elect Trustees.

The Fund may involuntarily redeem a shareholder's shares if the shareholder owns shares of the Fund having an aggregate NAV of less than a minimum value determined from time to time by the Trustees. In addition, the Trust may call for the redemption of shares of any shareholder or may refuse to transfer or issue shares to any person to the extent that the same is necessary to comply with applicable law or advisable to further the purpose for which the Trust was established, including circumstances involving frequent or excessive trading in shares of the Fund. The Declaration of Trust also provides that if an officer or agent of the Trust has determined that a shareholder has engaged in frequent and excessive trading in shares of the Fund, the Trust may require the shareholder to redeem his or her shares.

The Trust may cause, to the extent consistent with applicable law: (a) the Trust or one or more of its series to be merged into or consolidated with another trust, series of another trust or other person; (b) the shares of the Trust or any of its series to be converted into beneficial interests in another trust or series thereof; (c) the shares to be exchanged for assets or property under or pursuant to any state or federal statute to the extent permitted by law; or (d) a sale of assets of the Trust or one or more of its series. Such merger or consolidation, share conversion, share exchange or sale of assets must be authorized by a majority of the shares voted when a quorum is present, provided that in all respects not governed by statute or applicable law, the Trustees have power to prescribe the procedure necessary or appropriate to accomplish a merger or consolidation, share conversion, share exchange, or sale of assets, including the power to create one or more separate trusts to which all or any part of the assets, liabilities, profits or losses of the Trust may be transferred and to provide for the conversion of shares of the Trust or any of its series into beneficial interests in such separate business trust or trusts or series thereof.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, the Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees may, without the vote or consent of shareholders, cause to be organized or assist in organizing a corporation or corporations under the laws of any jurisdiction, or any other trust, partnership, limited liability company, association or other organization, or any series or class of any thereof, to acquire all or a portion of the Trust property (or all or a portion of the Trust property held with respect to the Fund or allocable to a particular class) or to carry on any business in which the Trust directly or indirectly has any interest (any of the foregoing, a "Successor Entity"), and to sell, convey and transfer Trust property to any such Successor Entity in exchange for the shares or securities thereof or otherwise, and to lend money to, subscribe for the shares or securities of, and enter into any contracts with any such Successor Entity in which the Trust holds or is about to acquire shares or any other interest. The Trustees may also, without

the vote or consent of shareholders, cause a merger or consolidation between the Trust and any Successor Entity if and to the extent permitted by law. However, the Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees shall provide written notice to affected shareholders of each such transaction. Such transactions may be effected through share-for-share exchanges, transfers or sales of assets, in-kind redemptions and purchases, exchange offers, or any other method approved by the Trustees.

The Declaration of Trust provides that no shareholder shall have the right to bring or maintain any court action, proceeding or claim in the right of the Trust or the Fund or a class thereof to recover a judgment in its favor unless (a) shareholders holding at least ten percent (10%) of the outstanding shares of the Trust, the Fund or class, as applicable, join in the bringing of such court action, proceeding or claim; and (b) the bringing or maintenance of such court action, proceeding or claim is otherwise in accordance with Section 3816 of the Delaware Statutory Trust Act, subject to certain additional requirements.

The Declaration of Trust provides that by virtue of becoming a shareholder of the Fund, each shareholder will be held to have expressly assented and agreed to the terms of the Declaration of Trust, the By-Laws of the Trust and the resolutions of the Board.

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trust will indemnify and hold harmless each Trustee and officer of the Trust and each former Trustee and officer of the Trust (each hereinafter referred to as a "Covered Person") from and against any and all claims, demands, costs, losses, expenses, and damages whatsoever arising out of or related to such Covered Person's performance of his or her duties as a Trustee or officer of the Trust or otherwise relating to any act, omission, or obligation of the Trust, if, as to liability to the Trust or its investors, it is finally adjudicated that the Covered Person was not liable by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the Covered Person's offices. In the case of settlement, such indemnification will be provided if it has been determined by a court or other body approving the settlement or other disposition, or by a reasonable determination, based upon a review of readily available facts (as opposed to a full trial type inquiry), by vote of a majority of Independent Trustees of the Trust, or in a written opinion of independent counsel, that such officers or Trustees have not engaged in willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties. Rights to indemnification or insurance cannot be limited retroactively.

The Declaration of Trust further provides that: (i) the appointment, designation or identification of a Trustee as chairperson of the Board or a member or chairperson of a committee of the Trustees, an expert on any topic or in any area (including an audit committee financial expert), or the lead Independent Trustee, or any other special appointment, designation or identification of a Trustee, shall not impose on that individual any duty, obligation or liability that is greater than the duties, obligations and liability imposed on that person as a Trustee in the absence of the appointment, designation or identification (except with respect to duties expressly imposed pursuant to the By-Laws of the Trust, a committee charter or a Trust policy statement); (ii) no Trustee who has special skills or expertise, or is appointed, designated or identified shall be held to a higher standard of care by virtue thereof; and (iii) no appointment, designation or a Trustee's rights or entitlement to indemnification.

# PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES

**Purchase of Shares**. Information regarding the purchase of shares is discussed in the "Purchase of Shares" section of the Prospectus.

There may be special distribution requirements for a retirement account, such as required distributions or mandatory federal income tax withholding. For more information, call (833) 574-7469. You may be charged a \$15 annual account maintenance fee for each retirement account, up to a maximum of \$30 annually, and a \$25 fee for transferring assets to another custodian or for closing a retirement account.

**Redemption of Shares**. Information regarding how to redeem shares of the Fund is discussed in the "Redemption of Shares" section of the Prospectus.

You may sell (redeem) your shares on any Business Day. Redemptions are effected at the NAV next determined after the Transfer Agent has received your redemption request. It is the responsibility of the financial intermediary to transmit redemption orders and credit their customers' accounts with redemption proceeds on a timely basis. The Fund's name, your account number, the number of shares or dollar amount you would like redeemed and the signatures by all of the shareholders whose names appear on the account registration should accompany any redemption requests. The Transfer Agent will normally mail or send your redemption proceeds to the bank you indicated on the next Business Day following receipt by the Transfer Agent of redemption instructions, but never later than 7 days following such receipt. Wires are subject to a \$15 fee paid by you, but you do not incur any charge when proceeds are sent via the ACH system. If you purchased your shares through a financial intermediary you should contact the financial intermediary for information relating to redemptions.

If shares to be redeemed represent a recent investment made by check or ACH transfer, the Fund reserves the right not to make the redemption proceeds available until they have reasonable grounds to believe that the check or ACH transfer has been collected (which could take up to 10 days). Shareholders can avoid this delay by utilizing the wire purchase option. To ensure proper authorization before redeeming Fund shares, the Transfer Agent may require additional documents such as, but not restricted to, stock powers, trust instruments, death certificates, appointments as fiduciary, certificates of corporate authority and waivers of tax required in some states when settling estates.

When shares are held in the name of a corporation, other organization, trust, fiduciary or other institutional investor, the Transfer Agent requires, in addition to the stock power, certified evidence of authority to sign the necessary instruments of transfer. These procedures are for the protection of shareholders and should be followed to ensure prompt payment. Redemption requests must not be conditional as to date or price of the redemption. Proceeds of the redemption will be sent within seven days of acceptance of shares tendered for redemption. Delay may result if the purchase check or electronic funds transfer has not yet cleared, but the delay will be no longer than required to verify that the purchase amount has cleared, and the Fund will act as quickly as possible to minimize delay.

The value of shares redeemed may be more or less than the shareholder's cost, depending on the NAV at the time of redemption. Redemption of shares may result in tax consequences (gain or loss) to the shareholder, and the proceeds of a redemption may be subject to backup withholding.

A shareholder's right to redeem shares and to receive payment therefore may be suspended when: (a) the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is closed other than customary weekend and holiday closings; (b) trading on the NYSE is restricted; (c) an emergency exists as a result of which it is not reasonably practicable to dispose of the Fund's securities or to determine the value of the Fund's net assets; or (d) ordered by a governmental body having jurisdiction over the Fund for the protection of the Fund's shareholders, provided that applicable rules and regulations of the SEC (or any succeeding governmental authority) shall govern as to whether a condition described in (b), (c) or (d) exists. In case of such suspension, shareholders may withdraw their requests for redemption or may receive payment based on the NAV of the Fund next determined after the suspension is lifted.

The Fund reserves the right, if conditions exist which make cash payments undesirable, to honor any request for redemption by making payment in whole or in part with readily marketable securities (redemption "in-kind") chosen by the Fund and valued in the same way as they would be valued for purposes of computing the NAV of the Fund. If payment is made in securities, a shareholder may incur transaction expenses in converting these securities into cash. The Fund has elected, however, to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act, as a result of which the Fund is obligated to redeem shares

solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of the net assets of the Fund for any one shareholder during any 90-day period. This election is irrevocable unless the SEC permits its withdrawal.

**Pricing of Shares**. The price of the Fund's shares is based on its NAV. The Transfer Agent determines the NAV per share of the Fund as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) on each day that the NYSE is open for business (each, a "Business Day"). The NAV is calculated by adding the value of all securities and other assets in the Fund, deducting its liabilities, and dividing the balance by the number of outstanding shares in the Fund. The price at which a purchase or redemption is effected is based on the next calculation of NAV after the order is received by an authorized financial institution or the Transfer Agent and under no circumstances will any order be accepted for purchase or redemption after the NAV calculation. Shares will only be priced on Business Days. In addition, foreign securities held by the Fund may trade on weekends or other days when the Fund does not calculate NAV. As a result, the market value of these investments may change on days when shares of the Fund cannot be bought or sold.

The Fund values its assets based on current market values when such values are available. These prices normally are supplied by an independent pricing service. Debt securities, including short-term debt instruments having a maturity of less than 60 days, are valued at the evaluated mean price supplied by an approved pricing service. Pricing services may use various valuation methodologies including matrix pricing and other analytical pricing models as well as market transactions and dealer quotations. In the absence of prices from a pricing service, the securities will be priced in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Board.

The Board has delegated the day-to-day functions of determining the value of securities not otherwise valued by a pricing service to the Trust's Valuation Committee.

### DISTRIBUTIONS

Distributions, if any, from the Fund's investment company taxable income are declared daily and paid to its shareholders on a monthly basis, as described in the Prospectus. Any net capital gain (the excess of net long-term capital gain over the net short-term capital loss) realized by the Fund, after deducting any available capital loss carryovers, will be distributed annually.

# **TAXATION OF THE FUND**

**General.** The following summarizes certain additional U.S. federal income tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that are not described in the Prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders, and the discussions here and in the Prospectus are not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning. Changes in income tax laws, potentially with retroactive effect, could impact the Fund's investments or the tax consequences to you of investing in the Fund. There may be other federal, state, foreign or local tax considerations applicable to a particular investor. Potential investors should consult their tax advisers with specific reference to their own tax situations.

The discussions of the federal tax consequences in the Prospectus and this SAI are based on the Code and the regulations issued under it, and court decisions and administrative interpretations as in effect on the date of this SAI. Future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions may significantly change the taxation of the Fund's investments or the tax consequences to investors as described in the Prospectus and SAI, and any such changes or decisions may be retroactive.

The Fund intends to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1, of the Code. As a regulated investment company, the Fund generally is exempt from federal income tax on its investment company taxable income and net capital gain that it distributes to

shareholders. To qualify for treatment as a regulated investment company, the Fund must meet three important tests each year.

First, in each taxable year, the Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, certain payments with respect to securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stock or securities or foreign currencies, other income derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, or net income derived from interests in qualified publicly-traded partnerships.

Second, generally, at the close of each quarter of the Fund's taxable year, at least 50% of the value of the Fund's assets must consist of cash and cash items, U.S. Government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies and securities of other issuers with such other securities limited, in respect to any one issuer, to an amount not greater in value than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets and to not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer; and no more than 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested in the securities of (1) any one issuer (other than U.S. Government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies); (2) two or more issuers that the Fund controls and which are engaged in the same, similar, or related trades or businesses; or (3) one or more qualified publicly-traded partnerships.

Third, the Fund must distribute an amount equal to at least the sum of 90% of the Fund's investment company taxable income (net investment income and the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss) and 90% of its net tax-exempt interest income, if any, for the year.

The Fund intends to comply with these requirements. However, there can be no assurance that the Fund will satisfy all requirements to be taxed as a regulated investment company. If the Fund were to fail to make sufficient distributions, it could be liable for corporate income tax and for excise tax in respect of the shortfall or, if the shortfall is large enough, the Fund could be disqualified as a regulated investment company. If for any taxable year the Fund were not to qualify as a regulated investment company, all of its taxable income would be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for distributions to shareholders. In that event, shareholders would recognize dividend income on distributions to the extent of the Fund's then-current and accumulated earnings and profits, and certain corporate shareholders could be eligible for the dividends-received deduction.

The Code imposes a nondeductible 4% excise tax on regulated investment companies that fail to distribute each year an amount equal to specified percentages of their ordinary taxable income and capital gain net income (excess of capital gains over capital losses). The Fund intends to make sufficient distributions or deemed distributions each year to avoid liability for this excise tax.

Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA"), the Fund may be required to withhold a generally nonrefundable 30% tax on (i) distributions of investment company taxable income and (ii) distributions of net capital gain and the gross proceeds of a sale or redemption of Fund shares paid to (A) certain "foreign financial institutions" unless such foreign financial institution agrees to verify, monitor, and report to the Internal Revenue Services ("IRS") the identity of certain of its account holders, among other items (or unless such entity is otherwise deemed compliant under the terms of an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and the entity's country of residence), and (B) certain "non-financial foreign entities" unless such entity certifies to the Fund that it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or provides the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of each substantial U.S. owner, among other items. In December 2018, the IRS and Treasury Department released proposed Treasury Regulations that would eliminate FATCA withholding on Fund distributions of net capital gain and the gross proceeds from a sale or redemption of Fund shares. Although taxpayers are entitled to rely on these proposed Treasury Regulations until final Treasury Regulations are issued, these proposed Treasury Regulations have not been finalized, may not be finalized in their proposed form, and are potentially

subject to change. This FATCA withholding tax could also affect the Fund's return on its investments in foreign securities or affect a shareholder's return if the shareholder holds its Fund shares through a foreign intermediary. You are urged to consult your tax adviser regarding the application of this FATCA withholding tax to your investment in the Fund and the potential certification, compliance, due diligence, reporting, and withholding obligations to which you may become subject in order to avoid this withholding tax.

Foreign taxpayers are generally subject to withholding tax at a flat rate of 30% on U.S.-source income that is not effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the U.S. This withholding rate may be lower under the terms of a tax convention.

Except in the case of certain exempt shareholders, if a shareholder does not furnish the Fund with the shareholder's correct Social Security Number or other taxpayer identification number and certain certifications or the Fund receives notification from the IRS requiring backup withholding, the Fund is required by federal law to withhold federal income tax from the shareholder's distributions and redemption proceeds at a rate set under Section 3406 of the Code for U.S. residents.

**Taxation of Certain Investments.** The tax principles applicable to transactions in certain financial instruments such as futures contracts and options that may be engaged in by the Fund, and investments in passive foreign investment companies ("PFICs"), are complex and, in some cases, uncertain. Such transactions and investments may cause the Fund to recognize taxable income prior to the receipt of cash, thereby requiring the Fund to liquidate other positions, or to borrow money, so as to make sufficient distributions to shareholders to avoid corporate-level tax. Moreover, some or all of the taxable income recognized may be ordinary income or short-term capital gain, so that the distributions may be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income.

In addition, in the case of any shares of a PFIC in which the Fund invests, the Fund may be liable for corporate-level tax on any ultimate gain or distributions on the shares if the Fund fails to make an election to recognize income annually during the period of its ownership of the shares.

Interest and dividends received by the Fund from foreign sources may be subject to income, withholding or other taxes imposed by foreign countries and U.S. possessions that would reduce the yield on Fund securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate these foreign taxes, however, and many foreign countries do not impose taxes on capital gains realized on investments held by foreign investors. If more than 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of stock and securities of foreign corporations, it will be eligible to, and may, file an election with the IRS that would, in effect, pass through to the shareholders any foreign and U.S. possessions income taxes paid by the Fund. Pursuant to the election, the Fund would treat those taxes as distributions paid to its shareholders and each shareholder would be required to (i) include in gross income, and treat as paid by the shareholder, his or her proportionate share of those taxes paid by the Fund, (ii) treat his or her share of those taxes and of any distribution paid by the Fund that represents income sourced from foreign countries or U.S. possessions as his own income from those sources, and (iii) either deduct the taxes deemed paid by the shareholder in computing his or her taxable income or, alternatively, use the foregoing information in calculating the foreign tax credit against his or her federal income tax. If the Fund makes this election, it will report to its shareholders shortly after each taxable year their respective share of income from sources within, and taxes paid to, foreign countries and U.S. possessions.

The Fund maintains its accounts and calculates its income in U.S. dollars. In general, gain or loss (i) from the disposition of foreign currencies and forward currency contracts, (ii) from the disposition of foreign-currency-denominated debt securities that are attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the date the securities are acquired and their disposition date, and (iii) attributable to fluctuations in exchange

rates between the time the Fund accrues interest or other receivables or expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time the Fund actually collects those receivables or pays those liabilities, will be treated as ordinary income or loss.

The Fund is required to report to certain shareholders and the IRS the cost basis of shares acquired by such shareholders on or after January 1, 2012 ("covered shares") when such shareholders sell or redeem such shares. These requirements do not apply to shares held through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an IRA, or to shares held by tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, corporations (other than S corporations), banks, credit unions, and certain other entities and governmental bodies. Shares acquired before January 1, 2012 ("non-covered shares") are treated as if held in a separate account from covered shares. The Fund is not required to determine or report a shareholder's cost basis in non-covered shares and is not responsible for the accuracy or reliability of any information provided for non-covered shares.

A cost basis method is the method by which the Fund determines which specific covered shares are deemed to be sold or redeemed when a shareholder sells or redeems less than its entire holding of Fund shares and has made multiple purchases of Fund shares on different dates at differing net asset values. A shareholder who wants to use the average basis method for determining basis with respect to covered shares must elect to do so in writing (and not over the telephone). If a Fund shareholder fails to affirmatively elect the average basis method, then basis determination will be made in accordance with the Fund's default method, which is the "highest cost" method. If a shareholder wishes to use a different acceptable method for basis determination (*e.g.*, a specific identification method other than "highest cost"), the shareholder may elect to do so. The default cost basis method applied by the Fund or the alternate method elected by a shareholder may not be changed after the settlement date of a sale or redemption of Fund shares.

The cost basis of a share is generally its purchase price adjusted for distributions, returns of capital, and other corporate actions. Cost basis is used to determine whether the sale or redemption of a share results in a gain or loss. If you sell or redeem covered shares during any year, then the Fund will report the gain/ loss, cost basis, and holding period of such shares to the IRS and you on Form 1099.

If you hold Fund shares through a financial intermediary (or another nominee), please contact that broker or nominee with respect to the reporting of cost basis and available elections for your account.

You are encouraged to consult your tax adviser regarding the application of these cost basis reporting rules and, in particular, which cost basis calculation method you should elect.

Additional Tax Information Concerning REITs and MLPs. The Fund may invest in entities treated as REITs or MLPs for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, for purposes of the Qualifying Income Requirement described above, income derived from a partnership will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership that would be qualifying income if realized directly by the Fund. However, 100% of the net income derived from an interest in a "qualified publicly traded partnership" (generally, a partnership (i) interests in which are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof, and (ii) that generally derives less than 90% of its income from the qualifying income described in the Qualifying Income Requirement) will be treated as qualifying income. In addition, although in general the passive loss rules of the Code do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to a RIC with respect to items attributable to an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership.

The Fund may invest in certain MLPs which may be treated as "qualified publicly traded partnerships." Income from qualified publicly traded partnerships is qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Requirement, but the Fund's investment in one or more of such "qualified publicly traded partnerships" is limited under the Diversification Requirement to no more than 25% of the value of the

Fund's assets. The Fund will monitor its investments in such qualified publicly traded partnerships to ensure compliance with the Qualifying Income Requirement and the Diversification Requirement. MLPs and other partnerships that the Fund may invest in will deliver Form K-1s to the Fund to report its share of income, gains, losses, deductions and credits of the MLP or other partnership. These Form K-1s may be delayed and may not be received until after the time that the Fund issues its tax reporting statements. As a result, the Fund may at times find it necessary to reclassify the amount and character of its distributions to you after it issues you your tax reporting statement.

"Qualified publicly traded partnership income" within the meaning of Section 199A(e)(4) of the Code is eligible for a 20% deduction by non-corporate taxpayers. Qualified publicly traded partnership income is generally income of a "publicly traded partnership" that is not treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is effectively connected with such entity's trade or business, but does not include certain investment income. A "publicly traded partnership" for purposes of this deduction is not necessarily the same as a "qualified publicly traded partnership" as defined for the purpose of the immediately preceding paragraphs. This deduction, if allowed in full, equates to a maximum effective tax rate of 29.6% (37% top rate applied to income after 20% deduction). The Tax Act does not contain a provision permitting a RIC, such as the Fund, to pass the special character of this income through to its shareholders. Currently, direct investors in entities that generate "qualified publicly traded partnership will enjoy the lower rate, but investors in RICs that invest in such entities will not. It is uncertain whether future technical corrections or administrative guidance will address this issue to enable the Fund to pass through the special character of "qualified publicly traded partnership income" to shareholders.

The Fund may invest in REITs. Investments in REIT equity securities may require the Fund to accrue and distribute income not yet received. To generate sufficient cash to make the requisite distributions, the Fund may be required to sell securities in its portfolio

(including when it is not advantageous to do so) that it otherwise would have continued to hold. The Fund's investments in REIT equity securities may at other times result in the Fund's receipt of cash in excess of the REIT's earnings; if the Fund distributes these amounts, these distributions could constitute a return of capital to the Fund's shareholders for federal income tax purposes. Dividends paid by a REIT, other than capital gain distributions, will be taxable as ordinary income up to the amount of the REIT's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Capital gain dividends paid by a REIT to the Fund will be treated as long-term capital gains by the Fund and, in turn, may be distributed by the Fund to its shareholders as a capital gain distribution. Dividends received by the Fund from a REIT generally will not constitute qualified dividend income or qualify for the dividends received deduction. If a REIT is operated in a manner such that it fails to qualify as a REIT, an investment in the REIT would become tax at the regular corporate rate without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders and the dividends would be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income (or possibly as qualified dividend income) to the extent of the REIT's current and accumulated earnings and profits.

REITs in which the Fund invests often do not provide complete and final tax information to the Fund until after the time that the Fund issues a tax reporting statement. As a result, the Fund may at times find it necessary to reclassify the amount and character of its distributions to you after it issues your tax reporting statement. When such reclassification is necessary, you will be sent a corrected, final Form 1099-DIV to reflect the reclassified information. If you receive a corrected Form 1099-DIV, use the information on this corrected form, and not the information on the previously issued tax reporting statement, in completing your tax returns.

The Tax Act treats "qualified REIT dividends" (*i.e.*, ordinary REIT dividends other than capital gain dividends and portions of REIT dividends designated as qualified dividend income eligible for capital gain tax rates) as eligible for a 20% deduction by non-corporate taxpayers. This deduction, if allowed in

full, equates to a maximum effective tax rate of 29.6% (37% top rate applied to income after 20% deduction). Pursuant to final treasury regulations, distributions by the Fund to its shareholders that are attributable to qualified REIT dividends received by the Fund and which the Fund properly reports as "section 199A dividends," are treated as "qualified REIT dividends" in the hands of non-corporate shareholders. A section 199A dividend is treated as a qualified REIT dividend only if the shareholder receiving such dividend holds the dividend-paying RIC shares for at least 46 days of the 91-day period beginning 45 days before the shares become ex-dividend, and is not under an obligation to make related payments with respect to a position in substantially similar or related property. The Fund is permitted to report such part of its dividends as section 199A dividends as are eligible, but is not required to do so.

**Capital Loss Carryforwards.** Capital loss carryforwards can be carried forward indefinitely and will retain their character as long-term or short-term capital losses.

**State and Local Taxes.** Although the Fund expects to qualify as a regulated investment company and to be relieved of all or substantially all federal income taxes, depending upon the extent of its activities in states and localities in which its offices are maintained, in which its agents or independent contractors are located or in which it is otherwise deemed to be conducting business, the Fund may be subject to the tax laws of such states or localities.

**Withholding**. Except in the case of certain exempt shareholders, if a shareholder does not furnish the Fund with its correct Social Security Number or other taxpayer identification number and certain certifications or the Fund receives notification from the IRS requiring backup withholding, the Fund is required by federal law to withhold federal income tax from the shareholder's distributions and redemption proceeds at a rate set under Section 3406 of the Code for U.S. residents.

Distributions (other than long-term capital gain dividends) paid to a foreign taxpayer by the Fund will generally be subject to a U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% unless a lower treaty rate applies. The Fund may, under certain circumstances, report all or a portion of a dividend as an "interest-related dividend" or a "short-term capital gain dividend," which would generally be exempt from this 30% U.S. withholding tax, provided certain other requirements are met.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial Statements and Annual Reports will be available after the Fund has completed a fiscal year of operations. When available, you may request a copy of the Fund's Annual Report at no charge by calling (833) 574-7469, or visit the Fund's website at www.greenspringfunds.com.

#### **APPENDIX A - VOTING POLICIES**

Corbyn Investment Management, Inc.

#### **PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

#### 1. BACKGROUND

Corbyn Investment Management, Inc. ("Corbyn") views seriously its responsibility to exercise voting authority over securities that form a part of the portfolios of its investment advisory clients and its investment company ("Clients"). The act of managing assets of Clients may include the voting of proxies related to such managed assets. Where the power to vote in person or by proxy has been delegated, directly or indirectly, to the investment adviser, the investment adviser has the fiduciary responsibility for (a) voting in a manner that is in the best interests of the Client, and (b) properly dealing with potential conflicts of interest arising from proxy proposals being voted upon.

These proxy voting policies and procedures are designed to ensure that proxies are voted in an appropriate manner and reflect Corbyn's general responsibility to monitor the performance and/or corporate events of companies that are issuers of securities held in managed accounts. The investment advisory agreement entered into with the Client expressly provides that the Adviser shall be responsible to vote proxies received in connection with the Client's account. Any questions about these policies and procedures should be directed to Elizabeth Swam (the "Responsible Party").

#### 2. PROXY VOTING POLICIES

Corbyn will vote proxies related to securities in a manner that is in the best interest of the Client. Corbyn will consider only those factors that relate to the Client's investment, including how its vote will economically impact and affect the value of the Client's investment. Proxy voting policies are summarized as follows:

#### Board of Directors

We will generally support the election of directors that result in a board made up of a majority of independent directors.

We will endeavor to hold directors accountable for the actions of the committees on which they serve. For example, we may withhold votes for nominees who serve on the compensation committee if they approve excessive compensation arrangements or propose equity-based compensation plans that unduly dilute the ownership interests of stockholders.

We will generally support efforts to declassify existing boards, and to block efforts by companies to adopt classified board structures.

#### **Independent Auditors**

We will generally vote against proposed auditors where non-audit fees make up more than 50% of the total fees paid by the company to the audit firm.

We will evaluate on a case-by-case basis instances in which the audit firm has a substantial nonaudit relationship with the company to determine whether we believe independence has been compromised.

#### Equity-Based Compensation Plans

We will generally vote against plans where total potential dilution (including all equity-based plans) exceeds 15% of shares outstanding.

We will generally vote against plans if annual option grants have exceeded 2% of shares outstanding. When assessing a plan's impact on shareholders, other factors such as the nature of the industry and size of the company may be taken into consideration.

We will generally support measures intended to increase long-term ownership by executives. These may include:

-Requiring senior executives to hold a minimum amount of stock in the company. (Often expressed as a certain multiple of the executives' salary)

-Requiring stock acquired through option exercise to be held for a certain period of time.

We will generally support the use of employee stock purchase plans to increase company stock ownership by employees, provided that the shares purchased under the plan are for no less than 85% of their market value.

#### Executive Compensation and Frequency of Vote

We will review the components of compensation for the named executive officers on a case by case basis and determine if the compensation is reasonable based on many underlying factors.

The frequency of voting on executive compensation is required at the minimum of every three years. We will review the underlying factors on a case by case basis, but generally vote for a frequency of vote no less annually.

#### Corporate Structure and Shareholder Rights

We will generally support proposals to remove super-majority (typically from 66.7% to 80%) voting requirements for certain types of proposals. We will vote against proposals to impose super-majority requirements.

We will generally vote for proposals to lower barriers to shareholder action (e.g., limited rights to call special meetings, limited rights to act by written consent)

We will generally vote against proposals for a separate class of stock with disparate voting rights.

#### Corporate and Social Policy Issues

We believe that "ordinary business matters" are primarily the responsibility of management and should be approved solely by the corporation's board of directors. Proposals in this category, initiated primarily by shareholders, typically request that the company disclose or amend certain business practices. We generally will vote against these types of proposals, though we may make exceptions in certain instances where we believe a proposal has substantial economic implications.

In voting on each and every issue, Corbyn will vote in a prudent and timely fashion and only after a careful evaluation of the issue(s) presented on the ballot. Corbyn may also take into consideration

information from other sources, including the portfolio manager, investment professionals, management of the company presenting a proposal, shareholder groups and independent proxy research services.

If the analyst believes that it is in the best interest of the Client, he or she may vote in a manner contrary to established policy. The final decision rests with the Investment Committee consisting of the Portfolio Manager, the analysts and the trader.

In exercising its voting discretion, Corbyn will avoid any direct or indirect conflict of interest raised by such voting decision. Corbyn will provide adequate disclosure to the Client if any substantive aspect or foreseeable result of the subject matter to be voted upon raises an actual or potential conflict of interest to Corbyn or:

• any affiliate of Corbyn. For purposes of these Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures, an affiliate means: (i) any person directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controlling, controlled by or under common control with Corbyn; (ii) any officer, director, principal, partner, employer, or direct or indirect beneficial owner of any 10% or greater equity or voting interest of Corbyn; or (iii) any other person for which a person described in clause (ii) acts in any such capacity;

• any issuer of a security for which Corbyn (or any affiliate of the Adviser) acts as a sponsor, adviser, manager, custodian, distributor, underwriter, broker, or other similar capacity; or

• any person with whom Corbyn (or any affiliate of Corbyn) has an existing, material contract or business relationship that was not entered into in the ordinary course business.

(Each of the above persons being an "Interested Person.")

Corbyn shall keep certain records required by applicable law in connection with its proxy voting activities for Clients and shall provide proxy voting information to Clients upon their written request.

#### **3. PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES**

A. All proxies and ballots received by Corbyn will be logged in upon receipt by the Responsible Party.

B. Proxies are then forwarded to the investment analyst responsible for monitoring the security being voted. That person will cast his or her votes in accordance with the Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures. If a matter is not specifically covered by the Proxy Voting Policies the investment analyst covering the subject security, in consultation with the Portfolio Manager, shall vote the proxy consistent with the general principles of the voting policies and in the clients' best interest. Any non- routine matters are referred to the Portfolio Manager.

C. Prior to executing the vote, the Responsible Party will verify whether an actual or potential conflict of interest with Corbyn or any Interested Person exists in connection with the subject proposal(s) to be voted upon. The determination regarding the presence or absence of any actual or potential conflict of interest shall be adequately documented by the Responsible Party (i.e., comparing the apparent parties affected by the proxy proposal being voted upon against Corbyn's internal list of Interested Persons and, for any matches found, describing the process taken to determine the anticipated magnitude and possible probability of any conflict of interest being present), which shall be reviewed and signed off on by the Responsible Party's direct supervisor who is the Portfolio Manager.

If an actual or potential conflict is found to exist, written documentation shall include:

- the proposal to be voted upon;
- the actual or potential conflict of interest involved;

• Corbyn's vote recommendation (with a summary of material factors supporting the recommended vote); and

• if applicable, the relationship between Corbyn and any Interested Person.

Corbyn may then:

• engage a Non-Interested Party to independently review Corbyn's vote recommendation if the vote recommendation would fall in favor of Corbyn's interest (or the interest of an Interested Person) to confirm that Corbyn's vote recommendation is in the best interest of the Client under the circumstances;

• cast its vote as recommended if the vote recommendation would fall against Corbyn's interest (or the interest of an Interested Person) and such vote recommendation is in the best interest of the Client under the circumstances; or

• abstain from voting if such action is determined by Corbyn to be in the best interest of the Client under the circumstances.

D. The Responsible Party will promptly vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures stated above.

#### 4. RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

Corbyn is required to maintain records of proxies pursuant to Section 204(2) of the Investment Advisers Act and Rule 204-2(c) thereunder. Corbyn will maintain a copy of its Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures, proxy statements received regarding client securities, a record of votes cast and each written request for proxy voting records as well as Corbyn's response to any written request for such records.

In addition, Corbyn will maintain appropriate proxy voting records for investment companies in compliance with applicable regulations under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Corbyn shall provide semi-annual reports to its Board of Directors reflecting proxy votes for the period covered in the report.

### APPENDIX B

#### **RATINGS DEFINITIONS**

#### **<u>S & P Global Ratings Issue Credit Rating Definitions</u>**

An S&P Global Ratings issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects S&P Global Ratings' view of the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and this opinion may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

Issue credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term. Short-term ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. Short-term ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

#### **Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

#### A-1

A short-term obligation rated 'A-1' is rated in the highest category by S&P Global Ratings. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on these obligations is extremely strong.

#### A-2

A short-term obligation rated 'A-2' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is satisfactory.

#### A-3

A short-term obligation rated 'A-3' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken an obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

## B

A short-term obligation rated 'B' is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

#### С

A short-term obligation rated 'C' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

### D

A short-term obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period.

However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

## SPUR (S&P Underlying Rating)

A SPUR is an opinion about the stand-alone capacity of an obligor to pay debt service on a creditenhanced debt issue, without giving effect to the enhancement that applies to it. These ratings are published only at the request of the debt issuer or obligor with the designation SPUR to distinguish them from the credit-enhanced rating that applies to the debt issue. S&P Global Ratings maintains surveillance of an issue with a published SPUR.

### **Dual Ratings**

Dual ratings may be assigned to debt issues that have a put option or demand feature. The first component of the rating addresses the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest as due, and the second component of the rating addresses only the demand feature. The first component of the rating can relate to either a short-term or long-term transaction and accordingly use either short-term or long-term rating symbols. The second component of the rating relates to the put option and is assigned a short-term rating symbol (for example, 'AAA/A-1+' or 'A-1+/A-1'). With U.S. municipal short-term demand debt, the U.S. municipal short-term note rating symbols are used for the first component of the rating (for example, 'SP-1+/A-1+').

The analyses, including ratings, of S&P Global Ratings and its affiliates (together, S&P Global Ratings) are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or make any investment decisions. S&P Global Ratings assumes no obligation to update any information following publication. Users of ratings or other analyses should not rely on them in making any investment decision. S&P Global Ratings' opinions and analyses do not address the suitability of any security. S&P Global Ratings does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P Global Ratings has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, it does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives. Ratings and other opinions may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn at any time.

## **Active Qualifiers**

S&P Global Ratings uses the following qualifiers that limit the scope of a rating. The structure of the transaction can require the use of a qualifier such as a 'p' qualifier, which indicates the rating addresses the principal portion of the obligation only. A qualifier appears as a suffix and is part of the rating.

### 1. Federal deposit insurance limit: 'L' qualifier

Ratings qualified with 'L' apply only to amounts invested up to federal deposit insurance limits.

### 2. Principal: 'p' qualifier

This suffix is used for issues in which the credit factors, the terms, or both that determine the likelihood of receipt of payment of principal are different from the credit factors, terms, or both that determine the likelihood of receipt of interest on the obligation. The 'p' suffix indicates that the rating addresses the principal portion of the obligation only and that the interest is not rated.

### 3. Preliminary ratings: 'prelim' qualifier

Preliminary ratings, with the 'prelim' suffix, may be assigned to obligors or obligations, including financial programs, in the circumstances described below. Assignment of a final rating is conditional on

the receipt by S&P Global Ratings of appropriate documentation. S&P Global Ratings reserves the right not to issue a final rating. Moreover, if a final rating is issued, it may differ from the preliminary rating.

- a. Preliminary ratings may be assigned to obligations, most commonly structured and project finance issues, pending receipt of final documentation and legal opinions.
- b. Preliminary ratings may be assigned to obligations that will likely be issued upon the obligor's emergence from bankruptcy or similar reorganization, based on late-stage reorganization plans, documentation, and discussions with the obligor. Preliminary ratings may also be assigned to the obligors. These ratings consider the anticipated general credit quality of the reorganized or post-bankruptcy issuer as well as attributes of the anticipated obligation(s).
- c. Preliminary ratings may be assigned to entities that are being formed or that are in the process of being independently established when, in S&P Global Ratings' opinion, documentation is close to final. Preliminary ratings may also be assigned to the obligations of these entities.
- d. Preliminary ratings may be assigned when a previously unrated entity is undergoing a wellformulated restructuring, recapitalization, significant financing, or other transformative event, generally at the point that investor or lender commitments are invited. The preliminary rating may be assigned to the entity and to its proposed obligation(s). These preliminary ratings consider the anticipated general credit quality of the obligor, as well as attributes of the anticipated obligation(s), assuming successful completion of the transformative event. Should the transformative event not occur, S&P Global Ratings would likely withdraw these preliminary ratings.
- e. A preliminary recovery rating may be assigned to an obligation that has a preliminary issue credit rating.

#### 4. Termination structures: 't' qualifier

This symbol indicates termination structures that are designed to honor their contracts to full maturity or, should certain events occur, to terminate and cash settle all their contracts before their final maturity date.

#### 5. Counterparty instrument rating: 'cir' qualifier

This symbol indicates a counterparty instrument rating (CIR), which is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an issuer in a securitization structure with respect to a specific financial obligation to a counterparty (including interest rate swaps, currency swaps, and liquidity facilities). The CIR is determined on an ultimate payment basis; these opinions do not take into account timeliness of payment.

#### **Inactive Qualifiers**

Inactive qualifiers are no longer applied or outstanding.

#### 1. Contingent upon final documentation: '\*' inactive qualifier

This symbol indicated that the rating was contingent upon S&P Global Ratings' receipt of an executed copy of the escrow agreement or closing documentation confirming investments and cash flows. Discontinued use in August 1998.

#### 2. Termination of obligation to tender: 'c' inactive qualifier

This qualifier was used to provide additional information to investors that the bank may terminate its obligation to purchase tendered bonds if the long-term credit rating of the issuer was lowered to below an investment-grade level and/or the issuer's bonds were deemed taxable. Discontinued use in January 2001.

#### 3. U.S. direct government securities: 'G' inactive qualifier

The letter 'G' followed the rating symbol when a fund's portfolio consisted primarily of direct U.S. government securities.

#### 4. Public information ratings: 'pi' qualifier

This qualifier was used to indicate ratings that were based on an analysis of an issuer's published financial information, as well as additional information in the public domain. Such ratings did not, however, reflect in-depth meetings with an issuer's management and therefore could have been based on less comprehensive information than ratings without a 'pi' suffix. Discontinued use as of December 2014 and as of August 2015 for Lloyd's Syndicate Assessments.

#### 5. Provisional ratings: 'pr' inactive qualifier

The letters 'pr' indicate that the rating was provisional. A provisional rating assumed the successful completion of a project financed by the debt being rated and indicates that payment of debt service requirements was largely or entirely dependent upon the successful, timely completion of the project. This rating, however, while addressing credit quality subsequent to completion of the project, made no comment on the likelihood of or the risk of default upon failure of such completion.

#### 6. Quantitative analysis of public information: 'q' inactive qualifier

A 'q' subscript indicates that the rating is based solely on quantitative analysis of publicly available information. Discontinued use in April 2001.

#### 7. Extraordinary risks: 'r' inactive qualifier

The 'r' modifier was assigned to securities containing extraordinary risks, particularly market risks, that are not covered in the credit rating. The absence of an 'r' modifier should not be taken as an indication that an obligation would not exhibit extraordinary noncredit-related risks. S&P Global Ratings discontinued the use of the 'r' modifier for most obligations in June 2000 and for the balance of obligations (mainly structured finance transactions) in November 2002.

### **Active Identifiers**

#### 1. Unsolicited: 'unsolicited' and 'u' identifier

The 'u' identifier and 'unsolicited' designation are assigned to credit ratings initiated by parties other than the issuer or its agents, including those initiated by S&P Global Ratings.

#### 2. Structured finance: 'sf' identifier

The 'sf' identifier shall be assigned to ratings on "structured finance instruments" when required to comply with applicable law or regulatory requirement or when S&P Global Ratings believes it appropriate. The addition of the 'sf' identifier to a rating does not change that rating's definition or our opinion about the issue's creditworthiness. For detailed information on the instruments assigned the 'sf' identifier, please see "VII. APPENDIX: Types of Instruments Carrying The 'sf' Identifier"

#### Local Currency and Foreign Currency Ratings

S&P Global Ratings' issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. An issuer's foreign currency rating will differ from its local currency rating when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, vs. obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

#### **Moody's Credit Rating Definitions**

#### Purpose

Since John Moody devised the first bond ratings more than a century ago, Moody's rating systems have evolved in response to the increasing depth and breadth of the global capital markets. Much of the innovation in Moody's rating system is a response to market needs for clarity around the components of credit risk or to demand for finer distinctions in rating classifications.

#### **Rating Symbols**

Gradations of creditworthiness are indicated by rating symbols, with each symbol representing a group in which the credit characteristics are broadly the same. There are nine symbols as shown below, from that used to designate least credit risk to that denoting greatest credit risk:

#### Aaa Aa A Baa Ba B Caa Ca C

Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa.

#### Absence of a Rating

Where no rating has been assigned or where a rating has been withdrawn, it may be for reasons unrelated to the creditworthiness of the issue.

Should no rating be assigned, the reason may be one of the following:

- 1. An application was not received or accepted.
- 2. The issue or issuer belongs to a group of securities or entities that are not rated as a matter of policy.
- 3. There is a lack of essential data pertaining to the issue or issuer.
- 4. The issue was privately placed, in which case the rating is not published in Moody's publications.

Withdrawal may occur if new and material circumstances arise, the effects of which preclude satisfactory analysis; if there is no longer available reasonable up-to-date data to permit a judgment to be formed; if a bond is called for redemption; or for other reasons.

#### **Changes in Rating**

The credit quality of most issuers and their obligations is not fixed and steady over a period of time, but tends to undergo change. For this reason changes in ratings occur so as to reflect variations in the intrinsic relative position of issuers and their obligations.

A change in rating may thus occur at any time in the case of an individual issue. Such rating change should serve notice that Moody's observes some alteration in creditworthiness, or that the previous rating did not fully reflect the quality of the bond as now seen. While because of their very nature, changes are to be expected more frequently among bonds of lower ratings than among bonds of higher ratings. Nevertheless, the user of bond ratings should keep close and constant check on all ratings — both high and low — to be able to note promptly any signs of change in status that may occur.

#### Limitations to Uses of Ratings\*

Obligations carrying the same rating are not claimed to be of absolutely equal credit quality. In a broad sense, they are alike in position, but since there are a limited number of rating classes used in grading thousands of bonds, the symbols cannot reflect the same shadings of risk which actually exist.

As ratings are designed exclusively for the purpose of grading obligations according to their credit quality, they should not be used alone as a basis for investment operations. For example, they have no

value in forecasting the direction of future trends of market price. Market price movements in bonds are influenced not only by the credit quality of individual issues but also by changes in money rates and general economic trends, as well as by the length of maturity, etc. During its life even the highest rated bond may have wide price movements, while its high rating status remains unchanged.

The matter of market price has no bearing whatsoever on the determination of ratings, which are not to be construed as recommendations with respect to "attractiveness". The attractiveness of a given bond may depend on its yield, its maturity date or other factors for which the investor may search, as well as on its credit quality, the only characteristic to which the rating refers.

Since ratings involve judgements about the future, on the one hand, and since they are used by investors as a means of protection, on the other, the effort is made when assigning ratings to look at "worst" possibilities in the "visible" future, rather than solely at the past record and the status of the present. Therefore, investors using the rating should not expect to find in them a reflection of statistical factors alone, since they are an appraisal of long-term risks, including the recognition of many non-statistical factors.

Though ratings may be used by the banking authorities to classify bonds in their bank examination procedure, Moody's ratings are not made with these bank regulations in mind. Moody's Investors Service's own judgement as to the desirability or non-desirability of a bond for bank investment purposes is not indicated by Moody's ratings.

Moody's ratings represent the opinion of Moody's Investors Service as to the relative creditworthiness of securities. As such, they should be used in conjunction with the descriptions and statistics appearing in Moody's publications. Reference should be made to these statements for information regarding the issuer. Moody's ratings are not commercial credit ratings. In no case is default or receivership to be imputed unless expressly stated.

\*As set forth more fully on the copyright, credit ratings are, and must be construed solely as, statements of opinion and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, sell or hold any securities. Each rating or other opinion must be weighed solely as one factor in any investment decision made by or on behalf of any user of the information, and each such user must accordingly make its own study and evaluation of each security and of each issuer and guarantor of, and each provider of credit support for, each security that it may consider purchasing, selling or holding.

### **Short-Term Obligation Ratings**

Ratings assigned on Moody's global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issues by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities. Long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of one year or more and reflect both on the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. Short-term ratings are assigned to obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default.

Moody's employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

## P-1

Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

## P-2

Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**P-3** 

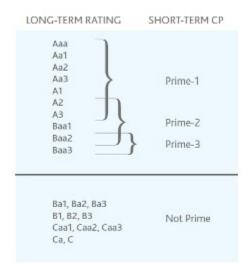
Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

### NP

Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

The following table indicates the long-term ratings consistent with different short-term ratings when such long-term ratings exist.

### SHORT-TERM VS. LONG-TERM RATINGS



## Fitch's National Credit Ratings

National scale ratings are an opinion of creditworthiness relative to the universe of issuers and issues within a single country. They are most commonly used in emerging market countries with sub- or low investment grade sovereign ratings on the international scale.

As creditworthiness can be expressed across the full range of the scale, a national scale can enable greater rating differentiation within a market than the international scale, particularity in highly speculative grade countries where ratings tend to cluster around the often low sovereign rating due to higher risks associated with a more volatile operating environment.

A "+" or "-" may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA(xxx)' National Rating category, to categories below 'CCC(xxx)', or to Short-Term National Ratings other than 'F1(xxx)'.

National scale ratings are assigned on the basis that the "best credits or issuers" in the country are rated 'AAA' on the national scale. National Ratings are then assessed using the full range of the national scale based on a comparative analysis of issuers rated under the same national scale to establish a relative ranking of credit worthiness.

At any given point in time, there is a certain relationship between National and International Ratings but there is not a precise translation between the scales. Fitch monitors the ratings relationship of issuers rated on both the international and national scales to ensure the consistency of rating relativities across scales. In other words, if issuer "X" is rated higher than issuer "Y" on one scale, issuer "X" cannot be rated lower than issuer "Y" on the other scale.

National Ratings for local issuers exclude the effects of sovereign and transfer risk and exclude the possibility that investors may be unable to repatriate any due interest and principal repayments. Comparisons between different national scales or between an individual national scale and the international rating scale are therefore inappropriate and potentially misleading.

In certain countries, regulators have established credit rating scales to be used within their domestic markets using specific nomenclature. In these countries, the agency's National Rating definitions may be substituted by the regulatory scales. For instance Fitch's National Short Term Ratings of 'F1+(xxx)', 'F1(xxx)', 'F2(xxx)' and 'F3(xxx)' may be substituted by the regulatory scales, e.g. 'A1+', 'A1', 'A2' and 'A3'. The below definitions thus serve as a template, but users should consult the individual scales for each country listed on Fitch's regional websites to determine if any additional or alternative category definitions apply.

Fitch maintains internal mapping tables that document the current relationship between the National and International Local Currency Ratings in each jurisdiction where we maintain a National Rating scale in order to serve as a tool for analysts. Where our National rating coverage exceeds a minimum threshold and there is external demand, these mappings will be published on this site. Presently, publicly available mappings can be accessed here. Fitch currently publishes the mapping tables for Brazil and South Africa.

#### Limitations of the National Rating Scale

Specific limitations relevant to National Rating scale include:

- National scale ratings are only available in selected countries.
- National scale ratings are only directly comparable with other national ratings in the same country. There is a certain correlation between national and global ratings but there is not a precise translation between the scales. The implied vulnerability to default of a given national scale rating will vary over time.
- The value of default studies for National Ratings is limited. Due to the relative nature of national scales, a given national scale rating is not intended to represent a fixed amount of default risk over time. As a result, a default study using only National Ratings may not give an accurate picture of the historical relationship between ratings and default risk. Users should exercise caution in making inferences relating to the relative vulnerability to default of national scale ratings using the historical default experience with International Ratings and mapping tables to link the National and International ratings. As with ratings on any scale, the future will not necessarily follow the past.

### National Short-Term Credit Ratings

**F1(xxx)** Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Under the agency's National Rating scale, this rating is assigned to the lowest default risk relative to others in the same country. Where the liquidity profile is particularly strong, a "+" is added to the assigned rating.

F2(xxx) Indicates a good capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. However, the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

F3(xxx) Indicates an adequate capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

B(xxx) Indicates an uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

C(xxx) Indicates a highly uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

#### **RD**(xxx): Restricted default

Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Applicable to entity ratings only.

D(xxx) Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

#### Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term National Ratings:

The ISO international country code is placed in parentheses immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the National market within which the rating applies. For illustrative purposes, (xxx) has been used.

"+" or "-" may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA(xxx)' Long-Term National Rating category, to categories below 'CCC(xxx)', or to Short-Term National Ratings other than 'F1(xxx).'

#### LONG-TERM RATINGS

#### <u>S & P Global Ratings Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings</u>

Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on S & P Global Ratings analysis of the following considerations:

- Likelihood of payment—the capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;
- Nature of and provisions of the obligation and the promise we impute; and
- Protection afforded by, and relative position of, the obligation in the event of bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

An issue rating is an assessment of default risk, but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default. Junior obligations are typically rated lower than senior obligations, to reflect the lower priority in bankruptcy, as noted above. (Such differentiation may apply when an entity has both senior and subordinated obligations, secured and unsecured obligations, or operating company and holding company obligations.)

### Long-Term Issuer Credit Ratings

### AAA

An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S & P Global Ratings. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

### AA

An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

### A

An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

### BBB

An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

## **BB; B; CCC; CC; and C**

Obligations rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', 'CC', and 'C' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

### BB

An obligation rated 'BB' is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

### B

An obligation rated 'B' is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

### CCC

An obligation rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

### CC

An obligation rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The 'CC' rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but S & P Global Ratings expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

### С

An obligation rated 'C' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared with obligations that are rated higher.

### D

An obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and

where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

### Plus (+) or minus (-)

The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

See active and inactive qualifiers following S & P Global Ratings Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings beginning on pages A-2 and A-3.

#### **Moody's Long-Term Obligation Ratings**

#### **Long-Term Obligation Ratings**

Long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of one year or more and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment. Short-term ratings are assigned to obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

#### Moody's Long-Term Rating Definitions:

Aaa

Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

Aa

Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

A

Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

#### Baa

Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

### Ba

Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

B

Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

### Caa

Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

### Ca

Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

#### С

Obligations rated C are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category. Additionally, a "(hyb)" indicator is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms.\*

\* By their terms, hybrid securities allow for the omission of scheduled dividends, interest, or principal payments, which can potentially result in impairment if such an omission occurs. Hybrid securities may also be subject to contractually allowable write-downs of principal that could result in impairment. Together with the hybrid indicator, the long-term obligation rating assigned to a hybrid security is an expression of the relative credit risk associated with that security.

#### Fitch's National Long-Term Credit Ratings

**AAA**(**xxx**) 'AAA' National Ratings denote the highest rating assigned by the agency in its National Rating scale for that country. This rating is assigned to issuers or obligations with the lowest expectation of default risk relative to all other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

**AA(xxx)** 'AA' National Ratings denote expectations of very low default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union. The default risk inherent differs only slightly from that of the country's highest rated issuers or obligations.

A(xxx) 'A' National Ratings denote expectations of low default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

**BBB**(**xxx**) 'BBB' National Ratings denote a moderate default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

**BB(xxx)** 'BB' National Ratings denote an elevated default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

B(xxx) 'B' National Ratings denote a significantly elevated default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

**CCC(xxx)** 'CCC' National Ratings denote very high default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

**CC(xxx)** 'CC' National Ratings denote default risk is among the highest relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country or monetary union.

C(xxx) A default or default-like process has begun, or the issuer is in standstill, or for a closed funding vehicle, payment capacity is irrevocably impaired. Conditions that are indicative of a 'C' category rating for an issuer include:

a. the issuer has entered into a grace or cure period following non-payment of a material financial obligation;

b. the issuer has entered into a temporary negotiated waiver or standstill agreement following a payment default on a material financial obligation;

c. the formal announcement by the issuer or their agent of a distressed debt exchange; and

d. a closed financing vehicle where payment capacity is irrevocably impaired such that it is not expected to pay interest and/or principal in full during the life of the transaction, but where no payment default is imminent

#### **RD**(xxx): Restricted default.

'RD' ratings indicated that an issuer that in Fitch Ratings' opinion has experienced an uncured payment default on a bond, loan or other material financial obligation but which has not entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other formal winding-up procedure, and which has not otherwise ceased business. This would include:

a. the selective payment default on a specific class or currency of debt;

b. the uncured expiry of any applicable grace period, cure period or default forbearance period following a payment default on a bank loan, capital markets security or other material financial obligation;

c. the extension of multiple waivers or forbearance periods upon a payment default on one or more material financial obligations either in series or in parallel; or

d. execution of a distressed debt exchange on one or more material financial obligations.

D(xxx) 'D' National Ratings denote an issuer or instrument that is currently in default.

#### Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term National Ratings:

The ISO International Country Code is placed in parentheses immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the National market within which the rating applies. For illustrative purposes, (xxx) has been used.

"+" or "-" may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA(xxx)' Long-Term National Rating category, to categories below 'CCC(xxx)', or to Short-Term National Ratings other than 'F1(xxx).'

#### MUNICIPAL NOTE RATINGS

#### **<u>S & P Global Ratings Municipal Short-Term Note Ratings Definitions</u>**

An S & P Global Ratings U.S. municipal note rating reflects S & P Global Ratings' opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S & P Global Ratings analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule—the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment—the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

Note rating symbols are as follows:

### SP-1

Strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation.

### SP-2

Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

### SP-3

Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

## D

'D' is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed exchange offer, or the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions

See active and inactive qualifiers following S & P Global Ratings Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings beginning on page A-2.

### **Moody's US Municipal Short-Term Debt And Demand Obligation Ratings**

### **Short-Term Obligation Ratings**

We use the global short-term Prime rating scale for commercial paper issued by US Municipalities and nonprofits. These commercial paper programs may be backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities, or by an issuer's self-liquidity.

For other short-term municipal obligations we use one of two other short-term rating scales, the Municipal Investment Grade (MIG) and Variable Municipal Investment Grade (VMIG) scales discussed below.

We use the MIG scale for US municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other shortterm obligations, which typically mature in three years or less. Under certain circumstances, we use the MIG scale for bond anticipation notes with maturities of up to five years.

## MIG 1

This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

## MIG 2

This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

## MIG 3

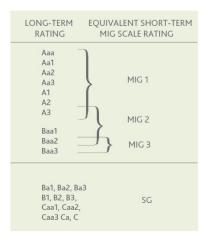
This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

### SG

This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

### Standard Linkage Between the Long-Term and MIG Short-Term Rating Scale

The following table indicates the municipal long-term ratings consistent with different MIG short-term ratings.



### **Demand Obligation Ratings**

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (VRDOs), a two-component rating is assigned. The components are a long-term rating and a short-term demand obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer's ability to meet scheduled principal and interest payments. The short-term demand obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to make payments associated with the purchase-price-upon-demand feature ("demand feature") of the VRDO. The short-term demand obligation rating uses the VMIG scale. VMIG ratings with liquidity support use as an input the short-term Counterparty Risk Assessment of the support provider, or the long-term rating of the underlying obligor in the absence of third party liquidity support. Transitions of VMIG ratings of demand obligations with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer's long-term rating drops below investment grade. Please see our methodology that discusses demand obligations with conditional liquidity support.

We typically assign the VMIG short-term demand obligation rating if the frequency of the demand feature is less than every three years. If the frequency of the demand feature is less than three years but the purchase price is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the short-term demand obligation rating is "NR".

### VMIG 1

This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior shortterm credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

### VMIG 2

This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

#### VMIG 3

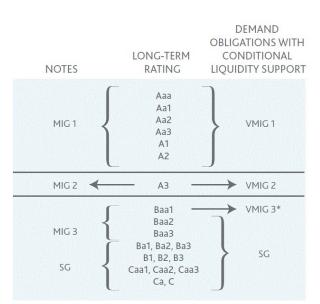
This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

#### SG

This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have an investment grade short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

\* For VRDBs supported with conditional liquidity support, short-term ratings transition down at higher long-term ratings to reflect the risk of termination of liquidity support as a result of a downgrade below investment grade.

VMIG ratings of VRDBs with unconditional liquidity support reflect the short-term debt rating (or counterparty assessment) of the liquidity support provider with VMIG 1 corresponding to P-1, VMIG 2 to P-2, VMIG 3 to P-3 and SG to not prime.



#### US MUNICIPAL SHORT-TERM VS. LONG-TERM RATINGS

\*For SBPA-backed VRDBs, The rating transitions are higher to allow for distance to downgrade to below investment grade due to the presence of automatic termination events in the SBPAs.

Reviewed October 21, 2020