

## WESTWOOD FUNDS

### STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>A Class Shares</b> | <b>C Class Shares</b> | <b>F Class Shares</b> | <b>Institutional Shares</b> | <b>Ultra Shares</b> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| WESTWOOD ALTERNATIVE INCOME FUND                  | WMNAX                 | n/a                   | n/a                   | WMNIX                       | WMNUX               |
| WESTWOOD BROADMARK TACTICAL GROWTH FUND           | FTAGX                 | FTGOX                 | n/a                   | FTGWX                       | n/a                 |
| WESTWOOD BROADMARK TACTICAL PLUS FUND             | SBTAX                 | n/a                   | BTPIX                 | SBITX                       | n/a                 |
| WESTWOOD INCOME OPPORTUNITY FUND                  | WWIAX                 | WWICX                 | n/a                   | WHGIX                       | WHGOX               |
| WESTWOOD MULTI-ASSET INCOME FUND                  | WSDAX                 | n/a                   | n/a                   | WHGHX                       | n/a                 |
| WESTWOOD QUALITY SMALLCAP FUND                    | WHGAX                 | WHGCX                 | n/a                   | WHGSX                       | WWSYX               |
| WESTWOOD QUALITY SMIDCAP FUND                     | n/a                   | n/a                   | n/a                   | WHGMX                       | WWSMX               |
| WESTWOOD QUALITY VALUE FUND                       | WWLAX                 | n/a                   | n/a                   | WHGLX                       | WHGQX               |
| WESTWOOD REAL ESTATE INCOME FUND                  | KIFAX                 | n/a                   | n/a                   | KIFYX                       | n/a                 |
| WESTWOOD SALIENT MLP & ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND | SMAPX                 | SMFPX                 | n/a                   | SMLPX                       | SMRPX               |

each, a series of the **ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST**

**February 28, 2026**

**Investment Advisers:  
WESTWOOD MANAGEMENT CORP.  
SALIENT ADVISORS, L.P.**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus. This SAI is intended to provide additional information regarding the activities and operations of the Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”) and the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund (formerly, the Westwood High Income Fund), the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality Value Fund, the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund (formerly the Westwood Select Income Fund), and Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund (each, a “Fund” and together, the “Funds”), series of the Trust. The audited financial statements of the Funds are incorporated into this SAI by reference to the Funds’ most recent annual [Financial Statements](#) to shareholders. This SAI is incorporated by reference into and should be read in conjunction with the Funds’ Prospectus for their A Class Shares, C Class Shares, Institutional Shares and F Class Shares and Prospectus for their Ultra Shares, as applicable, dated February 28, 2026, as they may be amended from time to time (the “Prospectuses”). Capitalized terms not defined herein are defined in the Prospectuses. Shareholders may obtain copies of the Prospectuses or semi or annual Financial Statements free of charge by writing to the Funds at Westwood Funds, c/o Ultimus Funds Solutions, LLC by regular or express mail at P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 or by overnight mail at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, by calling the Funds at 1-877-FUND-WHG (1-877-386-3944) or by visiting the Funds’ website at [www.westwoodgroup.com](http://www.westwoodgroup.com).

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## THE TRUST

**General.** Each Fund is a separate series of the Trust, an open-end management investment company. The Trust is an unincorporated business trust organized under Ohio law on February 28, 2012. The Declaration of Trust authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board” and the individual members, the “Trustees”) to divide shares into series, each series relating to a separate portfolio of investments, and to further divide shares of a series into separate classes. The shares of each Fund are currently divided into the classes described in the next section and which are described in the Prospectuses. Additional classes of shares may be created at any time. In the event of a liquidation or dissolution of the Trust or an individual series or class, shareholders of a particular series or class would be entitled to receive the assets available for distribution belonging to such series or class. Shareholders of a series or class are entitled to participate equally in the net distributable assets of the particular series or class involved on liquidation, based on the number of shares of the series or class that are held by each shareholder. If any assets, income, earnings, proceeds, funds, or payments are not readily identifiable as belonging to any particular series or class, the Board shall allocate them among any one or more series or classes as the Board, in its sole discretion, deems fair and equitable. Subject to the Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”), determinations by the Board as to the allocation of liabilities, and the allocable portion of any general assets, with respect to the Funds and each Fund’s classes, are conclusive.

On November 1, 2021 each of the Westwood Quality Value Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund and the Westwood Alternative Income Fund assumed the assets and liabilities of its predecessor fund, series of The Advisors’ Inner Circle Fund (each a “Westwood Predecessor Fund” and, collectively, the “Westwood Predecessor Funds”) as shown in the following table pursuant to reorganization with its Westwood Predecessor Fund (the “2021 Reorganization”). All historical financial information and other information contained in this SAI relating to a Fund listed below (or any classes thereof) for periods ending on or prior to November 1, 2021 is that of its Westwood Predecessor Fund (or the corresponding classes thereof).

| <b>Fund</b>                      | <b>Adviser</b>            | <b>Westwood Predecessor Fund</b> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood Alternative Income Fund |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood Income Opportunity Fund |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood High Income Fund        |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund      | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood Quality Value Fund      |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund   | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund    | Westwood Management Corp. | Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund    |

\*The Salient MF Trust was organized as Delaware statutory trust.

On November 18, 2022, each of the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, and the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund assumed the assets and liabilities of its predecessor fund, a series of either Forward Funds or Salient MF Trust (each a “Salient Predecessor Fund” and, collectively, the “Salient Predecessor Funds” and, together with the Westwood Predecessor Funds, the “Predecessor Funds”) as shown in the following table pursuant to reorganization with its Salient Predecessor Fund (the “2022 Reorganization”). All historical financial information and other information contained in this SAI relating to a Fund listed below (or any classes thereof) for periods ended on or prior to November 18, 2022, is that of its Salient Predecessor Fund (or the corresponding classes thereof).

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>Adviser</b>            | <b>Salient Predecessor Fund</b>   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | Westwood Management Corp. | Salient Tactical Growth Fund, a series of Forward Funds*                |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | Salient Advisors, L.P.    | Salient Tactical Plus Fund, a series of Salient MF Trust*               |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | Westwood Management Corp. | Salient Select Income Fund, a series of Forward Funds*                  |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | Westwood Management Corp. | Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, a series of Salient MF Trust* |

\*Both the Forward Funds and the Salient MF Trust were organized as Delaware statutory trusts.

Westwood Management Corp. (“Westwood” or an “Adviser”), a New York Corporation located at 200 Crescent Court, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75201, serves as investment Adviser to the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality Value Fund, and Westwood Real Estate Income Fund.

Salient Advisors, L.P. (“Salient Advisors” or an “Adviser” and together with Westwood the “Advisers”), a Texas limited partnership located at 200 Crescent Court, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75201, is the investment adviser to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund.

Prior to the 2022 Reorganization, Forward Management, LLC d/b/a Salient (“Salient Management”) served as investment adviser to the Salient Select Income Fund and Salient Tactical Growth Fund; and Salient Advisors served as the investment adviser to the Salient Tactical Plus Fund and Salient Capital Advisors, LLC (“Salient Capital”) served as the investment adviser to the Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund.

Broadmark Asset Management LLC (“Broadmark” or the “Sub-Adviser”), a Delaware limited liability company located at 1808 Wedemeyer Street, Suite 210, San Francisco, California 94129, is the investment sub-adviser (the “Sub-Adviser”) to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund. Prior to the 2022 Reorganization, Broadmark served as the sub-adviser to the Salient Tactical Growth Fund and Salient Tactical Plus Fund.

**Description of Multiple Classes of Shares.** The Trust is authorized to offer shares of the Funds in some or all of the following classes: Institutional Shares, A Class Shares, C Class Shares, F Class Shares and Ultra Shares. Other series of the Trust may offer other share classes. The different classes provide for variations in sales charges, certain distribution, and administrative servicing expenses and in the minimum initial investment requirements. Minimum investment requirements and investor eligibility are described in the Prospectuses. The original purchase date of a share class of a Predecessor Fund will be used to calculate any share class conversion or sales loads calculations. The Trust reserves the right to create and issue additional classes of shares. For more information on distribution and administrative servicing expenses, see “Payments to Financial Intermediaries” in this SAI. The Funds are currently offered in the following classes of shares:

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>Institutional Shares</b> | <b>A Class Shares</b> | <b>C Class Shares</b> | <b>F Class Shares</b> | <b>Ultra Shares</b> |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | X                           | X                     |                       |                       | X                   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | X                           | X                     | X                     |                       |                     |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | X                           | X                     |                       | X                     |                     |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | X                           | X                     | X                     |                       | X                   |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | X                           | X                     |                       |                       |                     |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | X                           | X                     | X                     |                       | X                   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | X                           |                       |                       |                       | X                   |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | X                           | X                     |                       |                       | X                   |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | X                           | X                     |                       |                       |                     |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | X                           | X                     | X                     |                       | X                   |

**History of the Funds Before the 2022 Reorganization**

Before the 2022 Reorganization, the histories of the Predecessor Funds were as follows:

Prior to May 1, 2016, the Salient Select Income Fund was named the Forward Select Income Fund, the Salient Tactical Growth Fund was named the Forward Tactical Growth Fund, the Salient Tactical Plus Fund was named the Salient Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, and the Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund was named the Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund II.

The Salient Select Income Fund was the successor to the Kensington Select Income Fund (a “Predecessor Kensington Fund”), respectively. The Predecessor Kensington Fund was a series of a separate legal entity called The Kensington Funds (the “Predecessor Kensington Trust”), which was reorganized into the Forward Funds effective June 12, 2009. Any reference in this SAI to performance information, financial highlights, events that occurred or payments that were made prior to June 12, 2009 for the Fund refers to the Predecessor Kensington Fund or Predecessor Kensington Trust.

**Diversification**

Each of the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood, Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality Value Fund, and the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund has elected to qualify as a “diversified” investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). The Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund has elected to qualify as a “non-diversified” investment company under the 1940 Act.

**Voting Rights.** Shares of the Funds, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable. Shares have no subscription, preemptive or conversion rights. Shares do not have cumulative voting rights. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held and a fractional vote for each fractional share held. Shareholders of all series and classes of the Trust, including the Funds, will vote together and not separately, except as otherwise required by law or when the Board determines that the matter to be voted upon affects only the interests of the shareholders of a particular series or class. Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides, in substance, that any matter required to be submitted to the holders of the outstanding voting securities of an investment company such as the Trust shall not be deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each series or class affected by the matter. A series or class is affected by a matter unless it is clear that the interests of each series or class in the matter are substantially identical or that the matter does not affect any interest of the series or class. Under Rule 18f-2, the approval of an investment advisory agreement, a distribution plan, or any change in a fundamental investment policy would be effectively acted upon with respect to a series or class only if approved by a majority of the outstanding shares of such series or class. However, Rule 18f-2 also provides that the ratification of the appointment of independent accountants and the election of Trustees may be effectively acted upon by shareholders of the Trust voting together, without regard to a particular series or class.

#### **Fiscal and Tax Year End**

Each Fund's fiscal year ends October 31. Each Fund's tax year also ends October 31, other than the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, which ends November 30.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

Each Fund's investment objective(s) and principal investment strategies are described in the Prospectuses. The following information supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, the Prospectuses.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF PERMITTED INVESTMENTS**

The following are descriptions of the permitted investments and investment practices of the Funds and the associated risk factors. Each Fund may invest in any of the following instruments or engage in any of the following investment practices unless such investment or activity is inconsistent with or is not permitted by that Fund's stated investment policies, including those stated below.

**Energy Industries Risk** – The profitability of companies in the energy industries is related to worldwide energy prices and costs related to energy production. The energy industries are cyclical and highly dependent on commodity prices. Energy-related companies can be significantly affected by the supply of, and demand for, particular energy products (such as oil and natural gas). Companies in the energy industries may be adversely affected by natural disasters or other catastrophes. These companies may be at risk for environmental damage claims and other types of litigation. Companies in the energy industries also may be adversely affected by changes in exchange rates, interest rates, economic conditions, tax treatment, government regulation and intervention, negative perception, efforts at energy conservation and world events in the regions in which the companies operate (e.g., expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and repatriation of capital, military coups, social unrest, violence or labor unrest). Companies in the energy industries may have significant capital investments in, or engage in transactions involving, emerging market countries, which may heighten these risks.

Investments in energy-related utilities companies involve special considerations, including the risk of changing commodity prices, government regulation and oversight, increased tariffs, changes in tax laws, interest rate fluctuations and changes in the cost of providing utility services. Utilities companies also are subject to potential terrorist attacks, natural disasters and severe weather conditions, as well as regulatory and operational burdens associated with the operation and maintenance of facilities. Government regulators monitor and control utility revenues and costs, and therefore may limit utility profits. In certain countries, regulatory authorities may also restrict a company's access to new markets, thereby diminishing the company's long-term prospects. The deregulation of certain utility companies may eliminate restrictions on profits but may also subject these companies to greater risks of loss.

**Equity Securities.** Equity securities represent ownership interests in a company or partnership and consist of common stocks, preferred stocks, warrants to acquire common stock, securities convertible into common stock, and investments in master limited partnerships ("MLPs"). Investments in equity securities, in general, are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. Fluctuations in the value of equity securities in which a Fund invests will cause the net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund to fluctuate. The Funds purchase equity securities traded in the United States on registered exchanges or the over-the-counter market. Equity securities are described in more detail below:

- **Common Stock.** Common stock represents an equity or ownership interest in an issuer. In the event an issuer is liquidated or declares bankruptcy, the claims of owners of bonds and preferred stock take precedence over the claims of those who own common stock.

- **Preferred Stock.** Preferred stock represents an equity or ownership interest in an issuer that pays dividends at a specified rate and that has precedence over common stock in the payment of dividends. In the event an issuer is liquidated or declares bankruptcy, the claims of owners of bonds take precedence over the claims of those who own preferred and common stock.
- **Exchange-Traded Funds.** An exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) is a fund whose shares are bought and sold on a securities exchange as if it were a single security. An ETF holds a portfolio of securities designed to track a particular market segment or index. Alternatively, an ETF may be actively managed pursuant to a particular investment strategy, similar to other non-index based investment companies. A Fund could purchase an ETF to temporarily gain exposure to a portion of the U.S. or foreign market while awaiting an opportunity to purchase securities directly. The risks of owning an ETF generally reflect the risks of owning the securities in which the ETF invests, although lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in it being more volatile than the ETF's holdings, and ETFs have management fees that increase their costs versus the costs of owning the underlying holdings directly. See also “Securities of Other Investment Companies” below.
- **Warrants.** Warrants are instruments that entitle the holder to buy an equity security at a specific price for a specific period of time. Changes in the value of a warrant do not necessarily correspond to changes in the value of its underlying security. The price of a warrant may be more volatile than the price of its underlying security, and a warrant may offer greater potential for capital appreciation as well as capital loss. Warrants do not entitle a holder to dividends or voting rights with respect to the underlying security and do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuing company. A warrant ceases to have value if it is not exercised prior to its expiration date. These factors can make warrants more speculative than other types of investments.
- **Micro, Small and Medium Capitalization Issuers.** Investing in equity securities of micro, small and medium capitalization companies often involves greater risk than is customarily associated with investments in larger capitalization companies. This increased risk may be due to the greater business risks of smaller size, limited markets and financial resources, narrow product lines and frequent lack of depth of management. The securities of micro and smaller companies are often traded in the over-the-counter market and even if listed on a national securities exchange may not be traded in volumes typical for that exchange. Consequently, the securities of micro and smaller companies are less likely to be liquid, may have limited market stability, and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic market movements than securities of larger, more established growth companies or the market averages in general.
- **Convertible Securities.** Convertible securities are bonds, debentures, notes, preferred stocks or other securities that may be converted or exchanged (by the holder or by the issuer) into shares of the underlying common stock (or cash or securities of equivalent value) at a stated exchange ratio. A convertible security may also be called for redemption or conversion by the issuer after a particular date and under certain circumstances (including a specified price) established upon issue. If a convertible security held by a Fund is called for redemption or conversion, the Fund could be required to tender it for redemption, convert it into the underlying common stock, or sell it to a third party.

Convertible securities generally have less potential for gain or loss than common stocks. Convertible securities generally provide yields higher than the underlying common stocks, but generally lower than comparable non-convertible securities. Because of this higher yield, convertible securities generally sell at a price above their “conversion value,” which is the current market value of the stock to be received upon conversion. The difference between this conversion value and the price of convertible securities will vary over time depending on changes in the value of the underlying common stocks and interest rates. When the underlying common stocks decline in value, convertible securities will tend not to decline to the same extent because of the interest or dividend payments and the repayment of principal at maturity for certain types of convertible securities. However, securities that are convertible other than at the option of the holder generally do not limit the potential for loss to the same extent as securities convertible at the option of the holder. When the underlying common stocks rise in value, the value of convertible securities may also be expected to increase. At the same time, however, the difference between the market value of convertible securities and their conversion value will narrow, which means that the value of convertible securities will generally not increase to the same extent as the value of the underlying common stocks. Because convertible securities may also be interest-rate sensitive, their value may increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. Convertible securities are also subject to credit risk, and are often lower-quality securities.

- **Contingent Convertible Securities.** A contingent convertible security, or “CoCo”, is a type of convertible security typically issued by a non-U.S. bank that, upon the occurrence of a specified trigger event, may be (i) convertible into equity securities of the issuer at a predetermined share price; or (ii) written down in liquidation value. Trigger events are identified in the documents that govern the CoCo and may include a decline in the issuer’s capital below a specified threshold level, an 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, such as a change in regulatory capital requirements. CoCos are designed to behave like bonds in times of economic health yet absorb losses when the trigger event occurs. CoCos are generally considered speculative and the prices of CoCos may be volatile.

With respect to CoCos that provide for conversion of the CoCo into common shares of the issuer in the event of a trigger event, the conversion would deepen the subordination of the investor, creating a greater risk of loss in the event of bankruptcy. In addition,

because the common stock of the issuer may not pay a dividend, investors in such instruments could experience reduced yields (or no yields at all). With respect to CoCos that provide for the write down in liquidation value of the CoCo in the event of a trigger event, it is possible that the liquidation value of the CoCo may be adjusted downward to below the original par value or written off entirely under certain circumstances. For instance, if losses have eroded the issuer's capital levels below a specified threshold, the liquidation value of the CoCo may be reduced in whole or in part. The write-down of the CoCo's par value may occur automatically and would not entitle holders to institute bankruptcy proceedings against the issuer. In addition, an automatic write-down could result in a reduced income rate if the dividend or interest payment associated with the CoCo is based on par value. Coupon payments on CoCos may be discretionary and may be cancelled by the issuer for any reason or may be subject to approval by the issuer's regulator and may be suspended in the event there are insufficient distributable reserves.

**Master Limited Partnerships.** MLPs are limited partnerships or limited liability companies, whose partnership units or limited liability interests are listed and traded on a U.S. securities exchange, and are treated as publicly traded partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. To qualify to be treated as a partnership for tax purposes, an MLP must receive at least 90% of its income from qualifying sources as set forth in Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). These qualifying sources include activities such as the exploration, development, mining, production, processing, refining, transportation, storage and marketing of mineral or natural resources. To the extent that an MLP's interests are concentrated in a particular industry or sector, the MLP will be negatively impacted by economic events adversely impacting that industry or sector. MLPs that are formed as limited partnerships generally have two classes of owners, the general partner and limited partners, while MLPs that are formed as limited liability companies generally have two analogous classes of owners, the managing member and the members. For purposes of this section, references to general partners also apply to managing members and references to limited partners also apply to members.

The general partner is typically owned by an investment fund, the direct management of the MLP or is an entity owned by one or more of such parties. The general partner may be structured as a private or publicly traded corporation or other entity. The general partner typically controls the operations and management of the MLP through an equity interest of as much as 2% in the MLP plus, in many cases, ownership of common units and subordinated units. A holder of general partner interests can be liable under certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of the holder's investment in the general partner interest. General partner interests are not publicly traded and generally cannot be converted into common units. The general partner interest can be redeemed by the MLP if the MLP unitholders choose to remove the general partner, typically with a supermajority vote by limited partner unitholders.

Limited partners own the remainder of the MLP through ownership of common units and have a limited role in the MLP's operations and management. Common units are listed and traded on U.S. securities exchanges, with their value fluctuating predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. Unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, owners of common units have limited voting rights and have no ability annually to elect directors. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units, but not over debt or preferred units, to the remaining assets of the MLP.

MLPs are typically structured such that common units and general partner interests have first priority to receive quarterly cash distributions up to an established minimum amount ("minimum quarterly distributions" or "MQD"). Common and general partner interests also accrue arrearages in distributions to the extent the MQD is not paid. Once common and general partner interests have been paid, subordinated units receive distributions of up to the MQD; however, subordinated units do not accrue arrearages. Distributable cash in excess of the MQD paid to both common and subordinated units is distributed to both common and subordinated units generally on a pro rata basis. The general partner is also eligible to receive incentive distributions if the general partner operates the business in a manner which results in distributions paid per common unit surpassing specified target levels. As the general partner increases cash distributions to the limited partners, the general partner receives an increasingly higher percentage of the incremental cash distributions. A common arrangement provides that the general partner can reach a tier where it receives 50% of every incremental dollar paid to common and subordinated unit holders. These incentive distributions encourage the general partner to streamline costs, increase capital expenditures and acquire assets in order to increase the partnership's cash flow and raise the quarterly cash distribution in order to reach higher tiers. Such results benefit all security holders of the MLP.

**MLP I-Shares.** Issuers of MLP I-Shares use the proceeds from the sale of MLP I-Shares to purchase limited partnership interests in the MLP in the form of MLP i-units. Thus, MLP I-Shares represent an indirect interest in an MLP limited partnership interest. MLP i-units have similar features as MLP common units in terms of voting rights, liquidation preference and distribution. MLP I-Shares themselves have limited voting rights and are similar in that respect to MLP common units. MLP I-Shares differ from MLP common units in a number of respects, including that instead of receiving cash distributions, holders of MLP I-Shares will typically receive distributions of additional MLP I-Shares with a value equal to the cash distributions received by common unit holders. MLP I-Shares are traded on securities exchanges. As discussed further below in the "Taxes" section, a Fund's investment in one or more MLPs that are treated as qualified publicly traded partnerships is limited under the "Asset Test" to no more than 25% of the value of the Fund's assets. However, because certain issuers of MLP I-Shares are treated as corporations and not partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a Fund's investment in such MLP I-Shares is generally not counted for purposes of this 25% limitation. Unlike an interest in an MLP taxed as a partnership, returns from investments in MLP I-Shares issued by entities taxed as corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes would be affected by a corporate level tax imposed at the entity level.

**Fixed Income Securities.** Fixed income securities include bonds, notes, debentures and other interest-bearing securities that represent indebtedness. The market value of the fixed income investments in which a Fund invests will change in response to interest rate changes and other factors. During periods of falling interest rates, the values of outstanding fixed income securities generally rise. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the values of such securities generally decline. Moreover, while securities 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 security 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 securities will not necessarily affect cash income derived from these securities but will affect a Fund's NAV.

**Zero Coupon Bonds.** These securities are sold at a (usually substantial) discount and redeemed at face value at their maturity date without interim cash payments of interest or principal. When held to maturity, their entire income, which consists of accretion of discount, comes from the difference between the issue price and their value at maturity. The amount of the discount rate varies depending on factors including the time remaining until maturity, prevailing interest rates, the security's liquidity and the issuer's credit quality. The market prices of zero coupon securities are generally more volatile than the market prices of securities that have similar maturity but that pay interest periodically. Zero coupon securities are likely to respond to a greater degree to interest rate changes than are non-zero coupon securities with similar maturity and credit qualities. A Fund's investments in pay-in-kind, delayed and zero coupon bonds may require it to sell certain of its securities to generate sufficient cash to satisfy certain income distribution requirements.

These securities may include treasury securities, such as Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities ("STRIPS"), that have had their interest payments ("coupons") separated from the underlying principal ("corpus") by their holder, typically a custodian bank or investment brokerage firm. Once the holder of the security has stripped or separated corpus and coupons, it may sell each component separately. The principal or corpus is then sold at a deep discount because the buyer receives only the right to receive a future fixed payment on the security and does not receive any rights to periodic interest (cash) payments. Typically, the coupons are sold separately or grouped with other coupons with like maturity dates and sold bundled in such form. The underlying treasury security is held in book-entry form at the Federal Reserve Bank or, in the case of bearer securities (i.e., unregistered securities which are owned ostensibly by the bearer or holder thereof), in trust on behalf of the owners thereof. Purchasers of stripped obligations acquire, in effect, discount obligations that are economically identical to the zero coupon securities that the U.S. Treasury sells itself.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities.** Mortgage-backed 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 private entities or various governmental and government-related entities. Yield characteristics of mortgage-backed securities differ from those of traditional debt securities in a variety of ways. The most significant differences of mortgage-backed securities are: 1) payments of interest and principal are more frequent (usually monthly) and 2) falling interest rates generally cause individual borrowers to pay off their mortgage earlier than expected, which results in prepayments of principal on the securities, thus forcing a Fund to reinvest the money at a lower interest rate. In addition to risks associated with changes in interest rates described in "Factors Affecting the Value of Debt Securities," a variety of economic, geographic, social and other factors, such as the sale of the underlying property, refinancing or foreclosure, can cause investors to repay the loans underlying a mortgage-backed security sooner than expected. When prepayment occurs, a Fund may have to reinvest its principal at a rate of interest that is lower than the rate on existing mortgage-backed securities. A TBA (To Be Announced) transaction is a contract for the purchase or sale of a mortgage-backed security for future settlement at an agreed upon date but does not include a specified mortgage pool number, number of mortgage pools, or precise amount to be delivered.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** These securities are interests in pools of a broad range of assets other than mortgages, such as automobile loans, computer leases and credit card receivables. Like mortgage-backed securities, these securities are pass-through. In general, the collateral supporting these securities is of shorter maturity than mortgage loans and is less likely to experience substantial prepayments with interest rate fluctuations, but may still be subject to prepayment risk.

Asset-backed securities present certain risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. Primarily, these securities may not have the benefit of any security interest in the related assets, which raises the possibility that recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on these securities. For example, credit card receivables are generally unsecured and the debtors are entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws, many of which allow debtors to reduce their balances by offsetting certain amounts owed on the credit cards. Most issuers of asset-backed securities backed by automobile receivables permit the servicers of such receivables to retain possession of the underlying obligations. If the servicer were to sell these obligations to another party, there is a risk that the purchaser would acquire an interest superior to that of the holders of the related asset-backed securities. Due to the quantity of vehicles involved and requirements under state laws, asset-backed securities backed by automobile receivables may not have a proper security interest in all of the obligations backing such receivables.

To lessen the effect of failures by obligors on underlying assets to make payments, the entity administering the pool of assets may agree to ensure the receipt of payments on the underlying pool occurs in a timely fashion ("liquidity protection"). In addition, asset-backed securities may obtain insurance, such as guarantees, policies or letters of credit obtained by the issuer or sponsor from third parties, for

some or all of the assets in the pool (“credit support”). Delinquency or loss more than that anticipated or failure of the credit support could adversely affect the return on an investment in such a security.

The Funds may also invest in residual interests in asset-backed securities, which consist of the excess cash flow remaining after making required payments on the securities and paying related administrative expenses. The amount of residual cash flow resulting from a particular issue of asset-backed securities depends in part on the characteristics of the underlying assets, the coupon rates on the securities, prevailing interest rates, the amount of administrative expenses and the actual prepayment experience on the underlying assets.

**Equipment Trust Certificates (“ETCs”) and Enhanced Equipment Trust Certificates (“EETCs”).** ETCs and EETCs are types of asset-backed securities that generally represent undivided fractional interests in a trust whose assets consist of a pool of equipment retail installment contracts or leased equipment. EETCs are similar to ETCs, except that the securities have been divided into two or more classes, each with different payment priorities and asset claims. ETCs and EETCs are typically issued by specially-created trusts established by airlines, railroads, or other transportation firms. The proceeds of ETCs and EETCs are used to purchase equipment, such as airplanes, railroad cars, or other equipment, which may in turn serve as collateral for the related issue of the ETCs or EETCs, and the title to such equipment is held in trust for the holders of the issue. The equipment generally is leased from the specially-created trust by the airline, railroad or other firm, which makes rental or lease payments to the specially-created trust to provide cash flow for payments to ETC and EETC holders. Holders of ETCs and EETCs must look to the collateral securing the certificates, typically together with a guarantee provided by the lessee firm or its parent company for the payment of lease obligations, in the case of default in the payment of principal and interest on the ETCs or EETCs. ETCs and EETCs are subject to the risk that the lessee or payee defaults on its payments, and risks related to potential declines in the value of the equipment that serves as collateral for the issue. During periods of deteriorating economic conditions, such as recessions, defaults on payments generally increase, sometimes dramatically. ETCs and EETCs are generally regarded as obligations of the company that is leasing the equipment and may be shown as liabilities in its balance sheet as a capitalized lease in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The lessee company, however, does not own the equipment until all the certificates are redeemed and paid. In the event the company defaults under its lease, the trustee may terminate the lease. If another lessee is not available, then payments on the certificates would cease until another lessee is available.

**Trust Preferred Securities.** The Funds may invest in trust preferred securities, which are hybrid instruments issued by a special purpose trust (“Special Trust”), the entire equity interest of which is owned by a single issuer. The proceeds of the issuance to a Fund of trust preferred securities are typically used to purchase a junior subordinated debenture, and distributions from the Special Trust are funded by the payments of principal and interest on the subordinated debenture.

If payments on the underlying junior subordinated debentures held by the Special Trust are deferred by the debenture issuer, the debentures would be treated as original issue discount (“OID”) obligations for the remainder of their term. As a result, holders of trust preferred securities, such as a Fund, would be required to accrue daily for U.S. federal income tax purposes their share of the stated interest and the de minimis OID on the debentures (regardless of whether the Fund receives any cash distributions from the Special Trust), and the value of trust preferred securities would likely be negatively affected. Interest payments on the underlying junior subordinated debentures typically may only be deferred if dividends are suspended on both common and preferred stock of the issuer. The underlying junior subordinated debentures generally rank slightly higher in terms of payment priority than both common and preferred securities of the issuer, but rank below other subordinated debentures and debt securities. Trust preferred securities may be subject to mandatory prepayment under certain circumstances. The market values of trust preferred securities may be more volatile than those of conventional debt securities. Trust preferred securities may be issued in reliance on Rule 144A under the 1933 Act, and, unless and until registered, are restricted securities. There can be no assurance as to the liquidity of trust preferred securities and the ability of holders of trust preferred securities, such as the Funds, to sell their holdings.

#### **Terms to Understand:**

**Maturity.** Every debt security has a stated maturity date when the issuer must repay the amount it borrowed (principal) from investors. Some debt securities, however, are callable, meaning the issuer can repay the principal earlier, on or after specified dates (call dates). Debt securities are most likely to be called when interest rates are falling because the issuer can refinance at a lower rate, similar to a homeowner refinancing a mortgage. The effective maturity of a debt security is usually its nearest call date.

A fund that invests in debt securities has no real maturity. Instead, it calculates its weighted average maturity. This number is an average of the effective or anticipated maturity of each debt security held by a fund, with the maturity of each security weighted by the percentage of the assets of the mutual fund it represents.

**Duration.** Duration is a calculation that seeks to measure the price sensitivity of a debt security, or a Fund that invests in debt securities, to changes in interest rates. Duration measures sensitivity more accurately than maturity because it takes into account the time value of cash flows generated over the life of a debt security. Future interest payments and principal payments are discounted to reflect their

present value and then are multiplied by the number of years they will be received to produce a value expressed in years—the duration. Effective duration takes into account call features and sinking Fund prepayments that may shorten the life of a debt security.

An effective duration of four years, for example, would suggest that for each 1% reduction in interest rates at all maturity levels, the price of a security is estimated to increase by 4%. An increase in rates by the same magnitude is estimated to reduce the price of the security by 4%. By knowing the yield and the effective duration of a debt security, one can estimate total return based on an expectation of how much interest rates, in general, will change. While serving as a good estimator of prospective returns, effective duration is an imperfect measure.

**Factors Affecting the Value of Debt Securities.** The total return of a debt instrument is composed of two elements: the percentage change in the security's price and interest income earned. The yield to maturity of a debt security estimates its total return only if the price of the debt security remains unchanged during the holding period and coupon interest is reinvested at the same yield to maturity. The total return of a debt instrument, therefore, will be determined not only by how much interest is earned, but also by how much the price of the security and interest rates change.

- **Interest Rates**

The price of a debt security generally moves in the opposite direction from interest rates (*i.e.*, if interest rates go up, the value of the bond will go down, and vice versa).

- **Prepayment Risk**

This risk affects mainly mortgage-backed securities. Unlike other debt securities, falling interest rates can adversely affect the value of mortgage-backed securities, which may cause your share price to fall. Lower rates motivate borrowers to pay off the instruments underlying mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities earlier than expected, resulting in prepayments on the securities. A Fund may then have to reinvest the proceeds from such prepayments at lower interest rates, which can reduce its yield. The unexpected timing of mortgage and asset-backed prepayments caused by the variations in interest rates may also shorten or lengthen the average maturity of a Fund. If left unattended, drifts in the average maturity of a Fund can have the unintended effect of increasing or reducing the effective duration of the Fund, which may adversely affect the expected performance of the Fund.

- **Extension Risk**

The other side of prepayment risk occurs when interest rates are rising. Rising interest rates can cause a Fund's average maturity to lengthen unexpectedly due to a drop in mortgage prepayments. This relationship would increase the sensitivity of a Fund to rising rates as well as the potential for price declines. Extending the average life of a mortgage-backed security increases the risk of depreciation due to future increases in market interest rates. For these reasons, mortgage-backed securities may be less effective than other types of U.S. government securities as a means of "locking in" interest rates.

- **Credit Rating**

Coupon interest is offered to investors of debt securities as compensation for assuming risk, although short-term treasury securities, such as three-month treasury bills, are considered "risk free." Corporate securities offer higher yields than treasury securities because their payment of interest and complete repayment of principal is less certain. The credit rating or financial condition of an issuer may affect the value of a debt security. Generally, the lower the quality rating of a security, the greater the risks that the issuer will fail to pay interest and return principal. To compensate investors for taking on increased risk, issuers with lower credit ratings usually offer their investors a higher "risk premium" in the form of higher interest rates than those available from comparable treasury securities.

Changes in investor confidence regarding the certainty of interest and principal payments of a corporate debt security will result in an adjustment to this "risk premium." Since an issuer's outstanding debt carries a fixed coupon, adjustments to the risk premium must occur in the price, which affects the yield to maturity of the bond. If an issuer defaults or becomes unable to honor its financial obligations, the bond may lose some or all of its value.

A security rated within the four highest rating categories by a rating agency is called investment-grade because its issuer is more likely to pay interest and repay principal than an issuer of a lower rated bond. Adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances, however, may weaken the capacity of the issuer to pay interest and repay principal. If a security is not rated or is rated under a different system, the Adviser or the Sub-Adviser may determine the credit quality of the security.

Debt securities rated below investment-grade (junk bonds) are highly speculative securities that are usually issued by smaller, less credit-worthy and/or highly leveraged (indebted) companies. A corporation may issue a junk bond because of a corporate restructuring or other similar event. Compared with investment-grade bonds, junk bonds carry a greater degree of risk and are less likely to make payments

of interest and principal. Market developments and the financial and business condition of the corporation issuing these securities influence their price and liquidity more than changes in interest rates, when compared to investment-grade debt securities. Insufficient liquidity in the junk bond market may make it more difficult to dispose of junk bonds and may cause a Fund to experience sudden and substantial price declines. A lack of reliable, objective data or market quotations may make it more difficult to value junk bonds accurately.

Rating agencies are organizations that assign ratings to securities based primarily on the rating agency's assessment of the issuer's financial strength. The Funds currently use ratings compiled by Moody's Investor Services, Inc. ("Moody's"), S&P® Global Ratings ("S&P®"), Fitch Ratings and other nationally recognized statistical ratings organizations ("NRSROs"). Credit ratings are only an agency's opinion, not an absolute standard of quality, and they do not reflect an evaluation of market risk.

The section "Appendix B – Description of Ratings" contains further information concerning the ratings of certain rating agencies and their significance.

The Adviser may use ratings produced by ratings agencies as guidelines to determine the rating of a security at the time a Fund buys it. A rating agency may change its credit ratings at any time. The Adviser monitors the rating of the security and will take such action, if any, it believes appropriate when it learns that a rating agency has reduced the security's rating.

**Bank Loans.** Bank loans typically are arranged through private negotiations between a borrower and several financial institutions or a group of lenders which are represented by one or more lenders acting as agent. The agent is often a commercial bank that originates the loan and invites other parties to join the lending syndicate. The agent will be primarily responsible for negotiating the loan agreement and will have responsibility for the documentation and ongoing administration of the loan on behalf of the lenders after completion of the loan transaction. A Fund can invest in a bank loan either as a direct lender or through an assignment or participation.

When a Fund acts as a direct lender, it will have a direct contractual relationship with the borrower and may participate in structuring the loan, may enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement and may have voting, consent and set-off rights under the loan agreement.

Loan assignments are investments in all or a portion of certain bank loans purchased from the lenders or from other third parties. The purchaser of an assignment typically will acquire direct rights against the borrower under the loan. While the purchaser of an assignment typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning lender under the loan agreement, because assignments are arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and assignors, or other third parties whose interests are being assigned, the rights and obligations acquired by a Fund may differ from and be more limited than those held by the assigning lender.

A holder of a loan participation typically has only a contractual right with the seller of the participation and not with the borrower or any other entities interpositioned between the seller of the participation and the borrower. As such, the purchaser of a loan participation assumes the credit risk of the seller of the participation, and any intermediary entities between the seller and the borrower, in addition to the credit risk of the borrower. When a Fund holds a loan participation, it will have the right to receive payments of principal, interest and fees to which it may be entitled only from the seller of the participation and only upon receipt of the seller of such payments from the borrower or from any intermediary parties between the seller and the borrower. Additionally, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement, will have no voting, consent or set-off rights under the loan agreement and may not directly benefit from the collateral supporting the loan although lenders that sell participations generally are required to distribute liquidation proceeds received by them pro rata among the holders of such participations. In the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the borrower, a loan participation may be subject to certain defenses that can be asserted by the borrower as a result of improper conduct by the seller or intermediary. If the borrower fails to pay principal and interest when due, a Fund may be subject to greater delays, expenses and risks than those that would have been involved if the Fund had purchased a direct obligation of such borrower.

Direct loans, assignments and loan participations may be considered liquid, as determined by the Adviser based on criteria approved by the Board.

A Fund may have difficulty disposing of bank loans because, in certain cases, the market for such instruments is not highly liquid. The lack of a highly liquid secondary market may have an adverse impact on the value of such instruments and on the Fund's ability to dispose of the bank loan in response to a specific economic event, such as deterioration in the creditworthiness of the borrower. Furthermore, transactions in many loans settle on a delayed basis, and the Fund may not receive the proceeds from the sale of a loan for a substantial period of time after the sale. As a result, those proceeds will not be available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund's redemption obligations. To the extent that extended settlement creates short-term liquidity needs, a Fund may satisfy these needs by holding additional cash or selling other investments (potentially at an inopportune time, which could result in losses to a Fund).

Bank loans may not be considered "securities," and purchasers, such as a Fund, therefore may not be entitled to rely on the anti-fraud protections of the federal securities laws.

The Adviser may from time to time have the opportunity to receive material, non-public information (“Confidential Information”) about the borrower, including financial information and related documentation regarding the borrower that is not publicly available. Pursuant to applicable policies and procedures, the Adviser may (but is not required to) seek to avoid receipt of Confidential Information from the borrower so as to avoid possible restrictions on its ability to purchase and sell investments on behalf of a Fund and other clients to which such Confidential Information relates (e.g., publicly traded securities issued by the borrower). In such circumstances, the Fund (and other clients of the Adviser) may be disadvantaged in comparison to other investors, including with respect to the price the Fund pays or receives when it buys or sells a bank loan. Further, the Adviser's abilities to assess the desirability of proposed consents, waivers or amendments with respect to certain bank loans may be compromised if it is not privy to available Confidential Information. The Adviser may also determine to receive such Confidential Information in certain circumstances under its applicable policies and procedures. If the Adviser intentionally or unintentionally comes into possession of Confidential Information, it may be unable, potentially for a substantial period of time, to purchase or sell publicly traded securities to which such Confidential Information relates.

Unfunded commitments are contractual obligations pursuant to which a Fund agrees in writing to make one or more loans up to a specified amount at one or more future dates. The underlying loan documentation sets out the terms and conditions of the lender's obligation to make the loans as well as the economic terms of such loans. Loan commitments are made pursuant to a term loan, a revolving credit line or a combination thereof. A term loan is generally a loan in a fixed amount that borrowers repay in a scheduled series of repayments or a lump-sum payment at maturity. A revolving credit line permits borrowers to draw down, repay, and reborrow specified amounts on demand. The portion of the amount committed by a lender that the borrower has not drawn down is referred to as “unfunded.” Loan commitments may be traded in the secondary market through dealer desks at large commercial and investment banks although these markets are generally not considered liquid. They also are difficult to value. Borrowers pay various fees in connection with loans and related commitments, and typically a Fund receives a commitment fee for amounts that remain unfunded under its commitment.

Unfunded loan commitments expose lenders to credit risk. A lender typically is obligated to advance the unfunded amount of a loan commitment at the borrower's request, subject to satisfaction of certain contractual conditions, such as the absence of a material adverse change. Borrowers with deteriorating creditworthiness may continue to satisfy their contractual conditions and therefore be eligible to borrow at times when the lender might prefer not to lend. In addition, a lender may have assumptions as to when a borrower may draw on an unfunded loan commitment when the lender enters into the commitment. If the borrower does not draw as expected, the commitment may not prove as attractive an investment as originally anticipated.

**Foreign Securities.** Foreign securities include equity securities of foreign entities, obligations of foreign branches of U.S. banks and of foreign banks, including, without limitation, European Certificates of Deposit, European Time Deposits, European Bankers' Acceptances, Canadian Time Deposits, Europaper and Yankee Certificates of Deposit, and investments in Canadian Commercial Paper and foreign securities. These instruments have investment risks that differ in some respects from those related to investments in obligations of U.S. domestic issuers. Such risks include future adverse political and economic developments, the possible imposition of withholding taxes on interest or other income, possible seizure, nationalization, or expropriation of foreign deposits, the possible establishment of exchange controls or taxation at the source, greater fluctuations in value due to changes in exchange rates, or the adoption of other foreign governmental restrictions which might adversely affect the payment of principal and interest on such obligations. Such investments may also entail higher custodial fees and sales commissions than domestic investments. Foreign issuers of securities or obligations are often subject to accounting treatment and engage in business practices different from those respecting domestic issuers of similar securities or obligations. Foreign branches of U.S. banks and foreign banks may be subject to less stringent reserve requirements than those applicable to domestic branches of U.S. banks. Periodic U.S. Government restrictions on investments in issuers from certain foreign countries may result in a Fund having to sell such prohibited securities at inopportune times. Such prohibited securities may have less liquidity as a result of such U.S. Government designation and the market price of such prohibited securities may decline, which may cause the Fund to incur losses.

**Investments in Emerging Markets.** “Emerging markets” include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, and other countries that the Funds consider to be equivalent to those in that index based on their level of economic development or the size and experience of their securities markets. The Funds consider a company to be an emerging market company if (i) at least 50% of the company's assets are located in emerging markets; (ii) at least 50% of the company's revenues are generated in emerging markets; or (iii) the company is domiciled in an emerging market.

Investing in emerging markets involves additional risks and special considerations not typically associated with investing in other more established economies or markets. Such risks may include (i) increased risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets or confiscatory taxation; (ii) greater social, economic and political uncertainty, including war; (iii) higher dependence on exports and the corresponding importance of international trade; (iv) greater volatility, less liquidity and smaller capitalization of markets; (v) greater volatility in currency exchange rates; (vi) greater risk of inflation; (vii) greater controls on foreign investment and limitations on realization of investments, repatriation of invested capital and on the ability to exchange local currencies for U.S. dollars; (viii) increased likelihood of governmental involvement in and control over the economy; (ix) governmental decisions to cease support of economic reform

programs or to impose centrally planned economies; (x) differences in auditing and financial reporting standards which may result in the unavailability of material information about issuers; (xi) less extensive regulation of the markets; (xii) longer settlement periods for transactions and less reliable clearance and custody arrangements; (xiii) less developed corporate laws regarding fiduciary duties of officers and directors and the protection of investors; (xiv) certain considerations regarding the maintenance of a Fund's securities with local brokers and securities depositories and (xv) the imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividends, interest, capital gains, other income or gross sale or disposition proceeds.

Repatriation of investment income, assets and the proceeds of sales by foreign investors may require governmental registration and/or approval in some emerging market countries. The Funds could be adversely affected by delays in or a refusal to grant any required governmental registration or approval for such repatriation or by withholding taxes imposed by emerging market countries on interest or dividends paid on securities held by the Funds or gains from the disposition of such securities.

In emerging markets, there is often less government supervision and regulation of business and industry practices, stock exchanges, over-the-counter markets, brokers, dealers, counterparties and issuers than in other more established markets. Any regulatory supervision that is in place may be subject to manipulation or control. Some emerging market countries do not have mature legal systems comparable to those of more developed countries. Moreover, the process of legal and regulatory reform may not be proceeding at the same pace as market developments, which could result in investment risk. Legislation to safeguard the rights of private ownership may not yet be in place in certain areas, and there may be the risk of conflict among local, regional and national requirements. In certain cases, the laws and regulations governing investments in securities may not exist or may be subject to inconsistent or arbitrary appreciation or interpretation. Both the independence of judicial systems and their immunity from economic, political or nationalistic influences remain largely untested in many countries. The Funds may also encounter difficulties in pursuing legal remedies or in obtaining and enforcing judgments in local courts.

**American Depositary Receipts.** American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), as well as other "hybrid" forms of ADRs, including European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") and Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"), are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of a foreign issuer. Depositary receipts are securities that evidence ownership interests in a security or a pool of securities that have been deposited with a "depository" and may be sponsored or unsponsored. These certificates are issued by depository banks and generally trade on an established market in the United States or elsewhere. The underlying shares are held in trust by a custodian bank or similar financial institution in the issuer's home country. The depository bank may not have physical custody of the underlying securities at all times and may charge fees for various services, including forwarding dividends and interest and corporate actions. ADRs are alternatives to directly purchasing the underlying foreign securities in their national markets and currencies. However, ADRs continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities.

For ADRs, the depository is typically a U.S. financial institution and the underlying securities are issued by a foreign issuer. For other depositary receipts, the depository may be a foreign or a U.S. entity, and the underlying securities may have a foreign or a U.S. issuer. Depositary receipts will not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as their underlying securities. Generally, ADRs are issued in registered form, denominated in U.S. dollars, and designed for use in the U.S. securities markets. Other depositary receipts, such as GDRs and EDRs, may be issued in bearer form and denominated in other currencies, and are generally designed for use in securities markets outside the U.S. While the two types of depositary receipt facilities (unsponsored or sponsored) are similar, there are differences regarding a holder's rights and obligations and the practices of market participants. A depository may establish an unsponsored facility without participation by (or acquiescence of) the underlying issuer; typically, however, the depository requests a letter of non-objection from the underlying issuer prior to establishing the facility. Holders of unsponsored depositary receipts generally bear all the costs of the facility. The depository usually charges fees upon deposit and withdrawal of the underlying securities, the conversion of dividends into U.S. dollars or other currency, the disposition of non-cash distributions, and the performance of other services.

Sponsored depositary receipt facilities are created in generally the same manner as unsponsored facilities, except that sponsored depositary receipts are established jointly by a depository and the underlying issuer through a deposit agreement. The deposit agreement sets out the rights and responsibilities of the underlying issuer, the depository, and the depositary receipt holders. With sponsored facilities, the underlying issuer typically bears some of the costs of the depositary receipts (such as dividend payment fees of the depository), although most sponsored depositary receipts agree to distribute notices of shareholders meetings, voting instructions, and other shareholder communications and information to the depositary receipt holders at the underlying issuer's request. The depository of an unsponsored facility frequently is under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited security or to pass through, to the holders of the receipts, voting rights with respect to the deposited securities.

For purposes of a Fund's investment policies, investments in depositary receipts will be deemed to be investments in the underlying securities. Thus, a depositary receipt representing ownership of common stock will be treated as common stock. Depositary receipts do not eliminate all of the risks associated with directly investing in the securities of foreign issuers.

Investments in the securities of foreign issuers may subject the Funds to investment risks that differ in some respects from those related to investments in securities of U.S. issuers. Such risks include future adverse political and economic developments, possible imposition of withholding taxes on income, possible seizure, nationalization or expropriation of foreign deposits, possible establishment of

exchange controls or taxation at the source or greater fluctuation in value due to changes in exchange rates. Foreign issuers of securities often engage in business practices different from those of domestic issuers of similar securities, and there may be less information publicly available about foreign issuers. In addition, foreign issuers are, generally speaking, subject to less government supervision and regulation and different accounting treatment than are those in the United States.

**Sovereign Debt Obligations.** Sovereign debt obligations are issued or guaranteed by foreign governments or their agencies. Sovereign debt may be in the form of conventional securities or other types of debt instruments such as loans or loan participations. Governmental entities responsible for repayment of the debt may be unable or unwilling to repay principal and pay interest when due, and may require renegotiation or reschedule of debt payments. In addition, prospects for repayment of principal and payment of interest may depend on political as well as economic factors. Although some sovereign debt, such as Brady Bonds, is collateralized by U.S. government securities, repayment of principal and payment of interest is not guaranteed by the U.S. government.

**Municipal Securities.** Municipal securities, including municipal bonds and municipal notes, consist of: (i) debt obligations issued by or on behalf of public authorities to obtain funds to be used for various public facilities, for refunding outstanding obligations, for general operating expenses and for lending such funds to other public institutions and facilities, and (ii) certain private activity and industrial development bonds issued by or on behalf of public authorities to obtain funds to provide for the construction, equipment, repair or improvement of privately operated facilities.

Municipal bonds are debt obligations issued to obtain funds for various public purposes. Municipal bonds include general obligation bonds, revenue or special obligation bonds, private activity and industrial development bonds, moral obligation bonds and participation interests in municipal bonds. General obligation bonds are backed by the taxing power of the issuing municipality. Revenue or special obligation bonds are backed by the revenues of a project or facility, such as tolls from a toll bridge. Private activity or industrial development bonds are issued by or on behalf of public authorities to raise money to finance various privately-owned or -operated facilities for business and manufacturing, housing, sports and pollution control. These bonds are also used to finance public facilities such as airports, mass transit systems, ports, parking or sewage or solid waste disposal facilities and certain other facilities. The payment of the principal and interest on such bonds is dependent solely on the ability of the facility's user to meet its financial obligations and the pledge, if any, of real and personal property financed as security for such payment. Moral obligation bonds are normally issued by special purpose authorities. Moral obligation bonds are not backed by the full faith and credit of the issuing municipality, but are generally backed by the agreement of the issuing authority to request appropriations from the municipality's legislative body. Certificates of participation represent an interest in an underlying obligation or commitment, such as an obligation issued in connection with a leasing arrangement.

Municipal notes consist of general obligation notes, tax anticipation notes (notes sold to finance working capital needs of the issuer in anticipation of receiving taxes on a future date), revenue anticipation notes (notes sold to provide needed cash prior to receipt of expected non-tax revenues from a specific source), bond anticipation notes, tax and revenue anticipation notes, certificates of indebtedness, demand notes and construction loan notes. The maturities of the instruments at the time of issue will generally range from three months to one year.

**Money Market Securities.** Money market securities include short-term U.S. government securities; custodial receipts evidencing separately traded interest and principal components of securities issued by the U.S. Treasury; commercial paper rated in the highest short-term rating category by an NRSRO, such as S&P or Moody's, or determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality at the time of purchase; short-term bank obligations (certificates of deposit, time deposits and bankers' acceptances) of U.S. commercial banks with assets of at least \$1 billion as of the end of their most recent fiscal year; and repurchase agreements involving such securities. Each of these money market securities are described below. For a description of ratings, see "Appendix B – Description of Ratings" to this SAI.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs").** A REIT is a corporation or business trust (that would otherwise be taxed as a corporation) which meets the definitional requirements of the Code. The Code permits a qualifying REIT to deduct from taxable income the dividends paid, thereby effectively eliminating corporate level U.S. federal income tax. To meet the definitional requirements of the Code, a REIT must, among other things: invest substantially all of its assets in interests in real estate (including mortgages and other REITs), cash and government securities; derive most of its income from rents from real property or interest on loans secured by mortgages on real property; and distribute annually 90% or more of its otherwise taxable income to shareholders.

REITs are sometimes informally characterized as Equity REITs and Mortgage REITs. An Equity REIT invests primarily in the fee ownership or leasehold ownership of land and buildings; a Mortgage REIT invests primarily in mortgages on real property, which may secure construction, development or long-term loans.

REITs may be affected by changes in underlying real estate values, which may have an exaggerated effect to the extent that REITs in which the Funds invest may concentrate investments in particular geographic regions or property types. Certain REITs have relatively small market capitalization, which may tend to increase the volatility of the market price of securities issued by such REITs. Additionally, rising interest rates may cause investors in REITs to demand a higher annual yield from future distributions, which may in

turn decrease market prices for equity securities issued by REITs. Rising interest rates also generally increase the costs of obtaining financing, which could cause the value of a Fund's investments to decline. During periods of declining interest rates, certain Mortgage REITs may hold mortgages that the mortgagors elect to prepay, which prepayment may diminish the yield on securities issued by such Mortgage REITs. Equity and Mortgage REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency defaults by borrowers and self-liquidation. In addition, Mortgage REITs may be affected by the ability of borrowers to repay when due the debt extended by the REIT and Equity REITs may be affected by the ability of tenants to pay rent. The above factors may adversely affect a borrower's or a lessee's ability to meet its obligations to the REIT. In the event of default by a borrower or lessee, the REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments.

Furthermore, REITs are dependent upon specialized management skills, have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. By investing in REITs indirectly through a Fund, a shareholder will bear not only his proportionate share of the expenses of the Fund, but also, indirectly, similar expenses of the REITs. REITs depend generally on their ability to generate cash flow to make distributions to shareholders. In addition, REITs could possibly fail to qualify for tax free pass-through of income under the Code or to maintain their exemptions from registration under the 1940 Act.

- **Real Estate Companies' Securities.** The Funds may be subject to the risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate. For example, real estate values may fluctuate as a result of general and local economic conditions, overbuilding and increased competition, increases in property taxes and operating expenses, demographic trends and variations in rental income, changes in zoning laws, casualty or condemnation losses, regulatory limitations on rents, changes in neighborhood values, related party risks, changes in how appealing properties are to tenants, changes in interest rates and other real estate capital market influences.

**U.S. Government Securities.** Each Fund may invest in U.S. government securities. Securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities include U.S. Treasury securities, which are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury and which differ only in their interest rates, maturities, and times of issuance. U.S. Treasury bills have initial maturities of one-year or less; U.S. Treasury notes have initial maturities of one to ten years; and U.S. Treasury bonds generally have initial maturities of greater than ten years. U.S. Treasury notes and bonds typically pay coupon interest semi-annually and repay the principal at maturity. Certain U.S. government securities are issued or guaranteed by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. government including, but not limited to, obligations of U.S. government agencies or instrumentalities such as the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), the Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"), the Small Business Administration, the Federal Farm Credit Administration, the Federal Home Loan Banks, Banks for Cooperatives (including the Central Bank for Cooperatives), the Federal Land Banks, the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Federal Financing Bank, the Student Loan Marketing Association, the National Credit Union Administration and the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation ("Farmer Mac").

Some obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies and instrumentalities, including, for example, Ginnie Mae pass-through certificates, are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury. Other obligations issued by or guaranteed by federal agencies, such as those securities issued by Fannie Mae, are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the federal agency. Additionally, some obligations are issued by or guaranteed by federal agencies, such as those of the Federal Home Loan Banks, which are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury. While the U.S. government provides financial support to such U.S. government-sponsored federal agencies, no assurance can be given that the U.S. government will always do so, since the U.S. government is not so obligated by law. Guarantees of principal by U.S. government agencies or instrumentalities may be a guarantee of payment at the maturity of the obligation so that in the event of a default prior to maturity there might not be a market and thus no means of realizing on the obligation prior to maturity. Guarantees as to the timely payment of principal and interest do not extend to the value or yield of these securities nor to the value of the Funds' shares.

Government-Sponsored Enterprises ("GSEs") are privately-owned corporations created by Congress to provide funding and help to reduce the cost of capital for certain borrowing sectors of the economy such as homeowners, students, and farmers. GSE securities are generally perceived to carry the implicit backing of the U.S. Government, but they are not direct obligations of the U.S. Government and therefore are not guaranteed by the U.S. Government. As such, GSEs are different from "agencies," which have the explicit backing of the U.S. Government.

**U.S. Treasury Obligations.** U.S. Treasury obligations consist of direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury, including Treasury bills, notes and bonds, and separately traded interest and principal component parts of such obligations, including those transferable through the Federal book-entry system known as STRIPS. The STRIPS program lets investors hold and trade the individual interest and principal components of eligible Treasury notes and bonds as separate securities. Under the STRIPS program, the principal and interest components are separately issued by the U.S. Treasury at the request of depository financial institutions, which then trade the component parts separately.

**Commercial Paper.** Commercial paper is the term used to designate unsecured short-term promissory notes issued by corporations and other entities. Maturities on these issues vary from a few to 270 days.

**Obligations of Domestic Banks, Foreign Banks and Foreign Branches of U.S. Banks.** The Funds may invest in obligations issued by banks and other savings institutions. Investments in bank obligations include obligations of domestic branches of foreign banks and foreign branches of domestic banks. Such investments in domestic branches of foreign banks and foreign branches of domestic banks may involve risks that are different from investments in securities of domestic branches of U.S. banks. These risks may include future unfavorable political and economic developments, possible withholding taxes on interest income, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, currency controls, interest limitations, or other governmental restrictions which might affect the payment of principal or interest on the securities held by a Fund. Additionally, these institutions may be subject to less stringent reserve requirements and to different accounting, auditing, reporting and recordkeeping requirements than those applicable to domestic branches of U.S. banks. Bank obligations include the following:

- **Bankers' Acceptances.** Bankers' acceptances are bills of exchange or time drafts drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Corporations use bankers' acceptances to finance the shipment and storage of goods and to furnish dollar exchange. Maturities are generally six months or less.
- **Certificates of Deposit.** Certificates of deposit are interest-bearing instruments with a specific maturity. They are issued by banks and savings and loan institutions in exchange for the deposit of funds and normally can be traded in the secondary market prior to maturity. Certificates of deposit with penalties for early withdrawal will be considered illiquid.
- **Time Deposits.** Time deposits are non-negotiable receipts issued by a bank in exchange for the deposit of funds. Like a certificate of deposit, it earns a specified rate of interest over a definite period of time; however, it cannot be traded in the secondary market. Time deposits with a withdrawal penalty or that mature in more than seven days are considered to be illiquid investments.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Funds may enter into repurchase agreements with financial institutions. A repurchase agreement is an agreement under which a fund acquires a fixed income security (generally a security issued by the U.S. government or an agency thereof, a banker's acceptance, or a certificate of deposit) from a commercial bank, broker, or dealer, and simultaneously agrees to resell such security to the seller at an agreed upon price and date (normally, the next business day). Because the security purchased constitutes collateral for the repurchase obligation, a repurchase agreement may be considered a loan that is collateralized by the security purchased. The acquisition of a repurchase agreement may be deemed to be an acquisition of the underlying securities as long as the obligation of the seller to repurchase the securities is collateralized fully. The Funds follow certain procedures designed to minimize the risks inherent in such agreements. These procedures include effecting repurchase transactions only with creditworthy financial institutions whose condition will be continually monitored by the Adviser. The repurchase agreements entered into by the Funds will provide that the underlying collateral at all times shall have a value at least equal to 102% of the resale price stated in the agreement and consist only of securities permissible under Section 101(47)(A)(i) of the Bankruptcy Code (the Adviser monitors compliance with this requirement). Under all repurchase agreements entered into by the Funds, the custodian or its agent must take possession of the underlying collateral. In the event of a default or bankruptcy by a selling financial institution, the Funds will seek to liquidate such collateral. However, the exercising of a Fund's right to liquidate such collateral could involve certain costs or delays and, to the extent that proceeds from any sale upon a default of the obligation to repurchase were less than the repurchase price, the Fund could suffer a loss. A Fund may enter into "tri-party" repurchase agreements. In "tri-party" repurchase agreements, an unaffiliated third-party custodian maintains accounts to hold collateral for the Fund and its counterparties and, therefore, the Fund may be subject to the credit risk of those custodians.

The investments of the Funds in repurchase agreements, at times, may be substantial when, in the view of the Adviser, liquidity or other considerations so warrant.

**Reverse Repurchase Agreements.** Reverse repurchase agreements are transactions in which a Fund sells portfolio securities to financial institutions, such as banks and broker-dealers, and agrees to repurchase them at a mutually agreed-upon date and price that is higher than the original sale price. Reverse repurchase agreements are similar to a fully collateralized borrowing by a Fund. At the time a Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, it will earmark on the books of the Fund or place in a segregated account cash or liquid securities having a value equal to the repurchase price (including accrued interest) and will subsequently monitor the account to ensure that such equivalent value is maintained.

Reverse repurchase agreements involve risks. Reverse repurchase agreements are a form of leverage, and the use of reverse repurchase agreements by a Fund may increase the Fund's volatility. Reverse repurchase agreements are also subject to the risk that the other party to the reverse repurchase agreement will be unable or unwilling to complete the transaction as scheduled, which may result in losses to a Fund. Reverse repurchase agreements also involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold by a Fund may decline below the price at which it is obligated to repurchase the securities. In addition, when a Fund invests the proceeds it receives in a reverse repurchase transaction, there is a risk that those investments may decline in value. In this circumstance, the Fund could be required to sell other investments in order to meet its obligations to repurchase the securities.

A Fund may enter into dollar rolls. When a Fund enters into a dollar roll, the Fund sells securities to be delivered in the current month and repurchases substantially similar (same type and coupon) securities to be delivered on a specified future date by the same party. The

Fund is paid the difference between the current sales price and the forward price for the future purchase, as well as the interest earned on the cash proceeds of the initial sale. Entering into dollar rolls by a Fund may be considered a form of borrowing for some purposes.

**When-Issued, Delayed-Delivery and Forward Commitments.** A Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued basis, may purchase and sell such securities on a delayed-delivery basis, and may enter into contracts to purchase such securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond normal settlement time (*i.e.*, forward commitments). When-issued or forward settling securities transactions that physically settle within 35-days are deemed not to involve a senior security; otherwise, when-issued or forward settling securities transactions must comply with the requirements of Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act (the “Derivatives Rule”). Typically, no income accrues on securities a Fund has committed to purchase prior to the time delivery of the securities is made, although a Fund may earn income on securities it has segregated or “earmarked” to cover these positions.

**Securities of Other Investment Companies.** The Funds may invest in shares of other investment companies, to the extent permitted by applicable law and any applicable exemptive relief, subject to certain restrictions. These investment companies typically incur fees that are separate from those fees incurred directly by the Funds. A Fund’s purchase of such investment company securities results in the layering of expenses, such that shareholders would indirectly bear a proportionate share of the operating expenses of such investment companies, including advisory fees, in addition to paying the Fund’s expenses. Unless an exception is available, Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act prohibits a fund from (i) acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any one investment company, (ii) investing more than 5% of its total assets in any one investment company, and (iii) investing more than 10% of its total assets in investment companies, including ETFs.

For hedging or other purposes, the Funds may invest in investment companies that seek to track the composition and/or performance of specific indexes or portions of specific indexes. Certain of these investment companies, known as ETFs, are traded on a securities exchange. (See “Exchange-Traded Funds” above). The market prices of index-based investments will fluctuate in accordance with changes in the underlying portfolio securities of the investment company and also due to supply and demand of the investment company’s shares on the exchange upon which the shares are traded. Index-based investments may not replicate or otherwise match the composition or performance of their specified index due to transaction costs, among other things.

The Funds may rely upon any applicable statutory or regulatory exemption in investing in other investment companies. For example, Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act (“Rule 12d1-4”) allows funds to invest in other investment companies in excess of some of the statutory limitations in Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act, subject to certain limitations and conditions. An acquiring fund relying on Rule 12d1-4 must enter into a fund of funds investment agreement with the acquired fund. Rule 12d1-4 outlines the requirements for fund of funds agreements and specifies certain reporting responsibilities of the acquiring fund’s adviser. The Funds expects to rely on Rule 12d1-4 to the extent the Adviser deems such reliance necessary or appropriate.

**Business Development Companies (“BDCs”).** BDCs are a type of closed-end investment company regulated under the 1940 Act. BDCs generally invest in less mature private companies or thinly traded U.S. public companies which involve greater risk than well-established publicly-traded companies. While BDCs are expected to generate income in the form of dividends, certain BDCs during certain periods of time may not generate such income. A Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management and other operating expenses and of any performance-based or incentive fees charged by the BDCs in which it invests, in addition to the expenses paid by the Fund. The 1940 Act imposes certain constraints upon the operations of a BDC. For example, BDCs are required to invest at least 70% of their total assets primarily in securities of private companies or thinly traded U.S. public companies, cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities and high quality debt investments that mature in one year or less. Generally, little public information exists for private and thinly traded companies and there is a risk that investors may not be able to make a fully informed evaluation of a BDC and its portfolio of investments. With respect to investments in debt instruments, there is a risk that the issuers of such instruments may default on their payments or declare bankruptcy. Additionally, a BDC may only incur indebtedness in amounts such that the BDC’s coverage ratio of total assets to total senior securities equals at least 200% after such incurrence. These limitations on asset mix and leverage may affect the way that the BDC raises capital. BDCs compete with other entities for the types of investments they make, and such entities are not necessarily subject to the same investment constraints as BDCs.

Investments made by BDCs are generally subject to legal and other restrictions on resale and are otherwise less liquid than publicly-traded securities. The illiquidity of these investments may make it difficult to sell such investments if the need arises, and if there is a need for a BDC in which a Fund invests to liquidate its portfolio quickly, it may realize a loss on its investments. BDCs may have relatively concentrated investment portfolios, consisting of a relatively small number of holdings. A consequence of this limited number of investments is that the aggregate returns realized may be disproportionately impacted by the poor performance of a small number of investments, or even a single investment, particularly if a company experiences the need to write down the value of an investment. Since BDCs rely on access to short-term money markets, longer-term capital markets and the bank markets as significant sources of liquidity, if BDCs are not able to access capital at competitive rates, their ability to implement certain financial strategies will be negatively impacted. Market disruptions, including a downturn in capital markets in general or a downgrade of the credit rating of a BDC held by a Fund, may increase the cost of borrowing to that company, thereby increasing its cost of borrowing and adversely impacting the Fund’s returns. Credit downgrades may also result in requirements for a BDC to provide additional support in the form of letters of credit or cash or other collateral to various counterparties.

Since many of the assets of BDCs do not have readily ascertainable market values, such assets are most often recorded at fair value, in good faith, in accordance with valuation procedures adopted by such companies. A fair value determination requires that judgment be applied to the specific facts and circumstances. Due to the absence of a readily ascertainable market value, and because of the inherent uncertainty of fair valuation, the fair value assigned to a BDC's investments may differ significantly from the values that would be reflected if the assets were traded in an established market, potentially resulting in material differences between a BDC's NAV per share and its market value.

Many BDCs invest in mezzanine and other debt securities of privately held companies, including senior secured loans. Mezzanine investments typically are structured as subordinated loans (with or without warrants) that carry a fixed rate of interest. Many debt investments in which a BDC may invest will not be rated by a credit rating agency and will be below investment grade quality. These investments are commonly referred to as "junk bonds" and have predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to an issuer's capacity to make payments of interest and principal. Although lower grade securities are higher yielding, they are also characterized by high risk. In addition, the secondary market for lower grade securities may be less liquid than that of higher rated securities. Issuers of lower rated securities have a currently identifiable vulnerability to default or may currently be in default. Lower-rated securities may react more strongly to real or perceived adverse economic and competitive industry conditions than higher grade securities. If the issuer of lower-rated securities defaults, a BDC may incur additional expenses to seek recovery.

**Exchange-Traded Notes ("ETNs").** ETNs are generally notes representing debt of the issuer, usually a financial institution. ETNs combine both aspects of bonds and ETFs. An ETN's returns are based on the performance of one or more underlying assets, reference rates or indexes, minus fees and expenses. Similar to ETFs, ETNs are listed on an exchange and traded in the secondary market. However, unlike an ETF, an ETN can be held until the ETN's maturity, at which time the issuer will pay a return linked to the performance of the specific asset, index or rate ("reference instrument") to which the ETN is linked minus certain fees. Unlike regular bonds, ETNs do not make periodic interest payments, and principal is not protected. ETNs are not registered or regulated as investment companies under the 1940 Act.

The value of an ETN may be influenced by, among other things, time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying markets, changes in the applicable interest rates, the performance of the reference instrument, changes in the issuer's credit rating and economic, legal, political or geographic events that affect the reference instrument. An ETN that is tied to a reference instrument may not replicate the performance of the reference instrument. ETNs also incur certain expenses not incurred by their applicable reference instrument. Some ETNs that use leverage can, at times, be relatively illiquid and, thus, they may be difficult to purchase or sell at a fair price. Levered ETNs are subject to the same risk as other instruments that use leverage in any form. While leverage allows for greater potential return, the potential for loss is also greater. Finally, additional losses may be incurred if the investment loses value because, in addition to the money lost on the investment, the loan still needs to be repaid.

Because the return on the ETN is dependent on the issuer's ability or willingness to meet its obligations, the value of the ETN may change due to a change in the issuer's credit rating, despite no change in the underlying reference instrument. The market value of ETN shares may differ from the value of the reference instrument. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETN shares at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the assets underlying the reference instrument that the ETN seeks to track.

There may be restrictions on a Fund's right to redeem its investment in an ETN, which are generally meant to be held until maturity. A Fund's decision to sell its ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market. A Fund could lose some or all of the amount invested in an ETN.

**Derivatives.** Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is based on an underlying asset (such as a stock or a bond), an underlying economic factor (such as an interest rate) or a market benchmark. Unless otherwise stated in the Prospectuses, the Funds may use derivatives for a number of purposes including managing risk, gaining exposure to various markets in a cost-efficient manner, reducing transaction costs, remaining fully invested and speculating. The Funds may also invest in derivatives with the goal of protecting themselves from broad fluctuations in market prices, interest rates or foreign currency exchange rates (a practice known as "hedging"). When hedging is successful, a Fund will have offset any depreciation in the value of its portfolio securities by the appreciation in the value of the derivative position. Although techniques other than the sale and purchase of derivatives could be used to control the exposure of the Funds to market fluctuations, the use of derivatives may be a more effective means of hedging this exposure. In the future, to the extent such use is consistent with the Funds' investment objectives and is legally permissible, the Funds may use instruments and techniques that are not presently contemplated, but that may be subsequently developed.

There can be no assurance that a derivative strategy, if employed, will be successful. Because many derivatives have a leverage or borrowing component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset, reference rate or index can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Accordingly, certain derivative transactions may be considered to constitute borrowing transactions for purposes of the 1940 Act. Such a derivative transaction will not be considered to constitute the issuance of a "senior security" by a Fund, and therefore such transaction will not be subject to the 300% asset coverage requirement otherwise applicable to borrowings by

the Fund, if the Fund complies with Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act (the “Derivatives Rule”). Among other things, the Derivatives Rule requires certain funds that invest in derivative instruments beyond a specified limited amount (generally greater than 10% of a Fund’s net assets) to apply a value-at-risk based limit to their use of certain derivative instruments and financing transactions and to adopt and implement a derivatives risk management program. To the extent a Fund uses derivative instruments (excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions) in a limited amount (up to 10% of a Fund’s net assets), it will not be subject to the full requirements of the Derivatives Rule. In addition, to the extent that a Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions, the Fund may elect to either treat all of its reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions as derivatives transactions for purposes of the Derivatives Rule or comply (with respect to reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions) with the asset coverage requirements under Section 18 of the 1940 Act. The requirements of the Derivatives Rule may limit a Fund’s ability to engage in derivatives transactions as part of its investment strategy. In addition, the requirements of the Derivatives Rule may increase the costs of a Fund’s investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect the value of the Fund’s investments and/or the Fund’s performance.

**CFTC Regulations.** Pursuant to rules adopted under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), a Fund must either operate within certain guidelines and restrictions with respect to the Fund’s use of futures, options on such futures, commodity options and certain swaps, or the Adviser will be subject to registration with the CFTC as a “commodity pool operator” (“CPO”).

Consistent with the CFTC’s regulations, the Adviser, on behalf of the Funds, has filed a notice of exclusion from the definition of the term CPO under the CEA pursuant to CFTC Rule 4.5 with respect to the Funds’ operations. Therefore, the Funds will not be subject to regulation as commodity pools under the CEA and the Adviser will not be subject to registration or regulation as a CPO under the CEA with respect to the Funds. As a result, the Funds will be limited in their ability to use futures, options on such futures, commodity options and certain swaps. Complying with the limitations may restrict the Adviser’s ability to implement the Funds’ investment strategies and may adversely affect the Funds’ performance. Prior to November 1, 2021, the Adviser, on behalf of the Predecessor Funds, had filed a notice of exclusion from the definition of the term CPO under the CEA pursuant to CFTC Rule 4.5 with respect to the Predecessor Funds’ operations.

#### Commodity Futures and Options on Commodity Futures

Futures contracts and options on futures contracts allow for the future sale or purchase of a specified amount of a specific commodity at a specified future time and at a specified price. The purchase of a futures contract enables a Fund, during the term of the contract, to lock in a price at which it may purchase a commodity and protect against a rise in prices. Futures contracts enable the seller to lock in a price at which it may sell a commodity and protect against declines in the value of the commodity. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (in exchange for a premium) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price during the term of the option.

#### Commodity Swaps

Commodity swaps are two party contracts in which the parties agree to exchange the return or interest rate on one instrument for the return of a particular commodity, commodity index or commodities futures or options contract. The payment streams are calculated by reference to an agreed-upon notional amount. Swaps will normally be entered into on a net basis, *i.e.*, the two payment streams are netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the instrument, with a Fund (whether directly or through a subsidiary) receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. A Fund’s obligations (whether directly or through a subsidiary) under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owing to a Fund) and any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed to a swap counterparty will be covered by the maintenance of a segregated account consisting of cash or liquid securities to avoid any potential leveraging of a Fund.

#### Commodity-Linked Notes

Commodity-linked notes are derivative debt instruments whose principal and/or interest payments are linked to the price movement of a commodity, commodity index or commodity futures or option contract. Commodity-linked notes are typically issued by a bank or other financial institution and are sometimes referred to as structured notes because the terms of the notes may be structured by the issuer and the purchaser of the notes to accommodate the specific investment requirements of the purchaser.

### **Types of Derivatives:**

**Futures.** A futures contract is an agreement between two parties whereby one party agrees to sell and the other party agrees to buy a specified amount of a financial instrument at an agreed upon price and time. The financial instrument underlying the contract may be a stock, stock index, bond, bond index, interest rate, foreign exchange rate or other similar instrument. Agreeing to buy the underlying financial instrument is called buying a futures contract or taking a long position in the contract. Likewise, agreeing to sell the underlying financial instrument is called selling a futures contract or taking a short position in the contract.

Futures contracts are traded in the United States on commodity exchanges or boards of trade (known as “contract markets”) approved for such trading and regulated by the CFTC. These contract markets standardize the terms, including the maturity date and underlying financial instrument, of all futures contracts.

Unlike other securities, the parties to a futures contract do not have to pay for or deliver the underlying financial instrument until some future date (the “delivery date”). Contract markets require both the purchaser and seller to deposit “initial margin” with a futures broker, known as a futures commission merchant or custodian bank, when they enter into the contract. Initial margin deposits are typically equal to a percentage of the contract’s value. Initial margin is similar to a performance bond or good faith deposit on a contract and is returned to the depositing party upon termination of the futures contract if all contractual obligations have been satisfied. After they open a futures contract, the parties to the transaction must compare the purchase price of the contract to its daily market value. If the value of the futures contract changes in such a way that a party’s position declines, that party must make additional “variation margin” payments so that the margin payment is adequate. On the other hand, the value of the contract may change in such a way that there is excess margin on deposit, possibly entitling the party that has a gain to receive all or a portion of this amount.

This process is known as “marking to the market.” Variation margin does not represent a borrowing or loan by a party but is instead a settlement between the party and the futures broker of the amount one party would owe the other if the futures contract terminated. In computing daily NAV, each party marks to market its open futures positions.

Although the terms of a futures contract call for the actual delivery of and payment for the underlying security, in many cases the parties may close the contract early by taking an opposite position in an identical contract. If the sale price upon closing out the contract is less than the original purchase price, the party closing out the contract will realize a loss. If the sale price upon closing out the contract is more than the original purchase price, the party closing out the contract will realize a gain. Conversely, if the purchase price upon closing out the contract is more than the original sale price, the party closing out the contract will realize a loss. If the purchase price upon closing out the contract is less than the original sale price, the party closing out the contract will realize a gain.

A Fund may incur commission expenses when it opens or closes a futures position.

**Options.** An option is a contract between two parties for the purchase and sale of a financial instrument for a specified price (known as the “strike price” or “exercise price”) at any time during the option period. Unlike a futures contract, an option grants a right (not an obligation) to buy or sell a financial instrument. Generally, a seller of an option can grant a buyer two kinds of rights: a “call” (the right to buy the security) or a “put” (the right to sell the security). Options have various types of underlying instruments, including specific securities, indices of securities prices, foreign currencies, interest rates and futures contracts. Options may be traded on an exchange (exchange-traded options) or may be customized agreements between the parties (over-the-counter or “OTC” options). Like futures, a financial intermediary, known as a clearing corporation, financially backs exchange-traded options. However, OTC options have no such intermediary and are subject to the risk that the counterparty will not fulfill its obligations under the contract. The principal factors affecting the market value of an option include supply and demand, interest rates, the current market value of the underlying instrument relative to the exercise price of the option, the volatility of the underlying instrument, and the time remaining until the option expires.

#### ▪ **Purchasing Put and Call Options**

When a Fund purchases a put option, it buys the right to sell the instrument underlying the option at a fixed strike price. In return for this right, the Fund pays the current market price for the option (known as the “option premium”). A Fund may purchase put options to offset or hedge against a decline in the market value of its securities (“protective puts”) or to benefit from a decline in the price of securities that it does not own. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying securities decreased below the exercise price sufficiently to cover the premium and transaction costs. However, if the price of the underlying instrument does not fall enough to offset the cost of purchasing the option, a put buyer would lose the premium and related transaction costs.

Call options are similar to put options, except that a Fund obtains the right to purchase, rather than sell, the underlying instrument at the option’s strike price. A Fund would normally purchase call options in anticipation of an increase in the market value of securities it owns or wants to buy. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying instrument exceeded the exercise price plus the premium paid and related transaction costs. Otherwise, the Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the call option.

The purchaser of an option may terminate its position by:

- Allowing it to expire and losing its entire premium;
- Exercising the option and either selling (in the case of a put option) or buying (in the case of a call option) the underlying instrument at the strike price; or
- Closing it out in the secondary market at its current price.

#### ▪ **Selling (Writing) Put and Call Options**

When a Fund writes a call option it assumes an obligation to sell specified securities to the holder of the option at a fixed strike price if

the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. Similarly, when a Fund writes a put option it assumes an obligation to purchase specified securities from the option holder at a fixed strike price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. The Fund may terminate its position in an exchange-traded put option before exercise by buying an option identical to the one it has written. Similarly, the Fund may cancel an OTC option by entering into an offsetting transaction with the counterparty to the option.

A Fund could try to hedge against an increase in the value of securities it would like to acquire by writing a put option on those securities. If security prices rise, the Fund would expect the put option to expire and the premium it received to offset the increase in the security's value. If security prices remain the same over time, the Fund would hope to profit by closing out the put option at a lower price. If security prices fall, the Fund may lose an amount of money equal to the difference between the value of the security and the premium it received. Writing covered put options may deprive a Fund of the opportunity to profit from a decrease in the market price of the securities it would like to acquire.

The characteristics of writing call options are similar to those of writing put options, except that call writers expect to profit if prices remain the same or fall. A Fund could try to hedge against a decline in the value of securities it already owns by writing a call option. If the price of that security falls as expected, the Fund would expect the option to expire and the premium it received to offset the decline of the security's value. However, the Fund must be prepared to deliver the underlying instrument in return for the strike price, which may deprive it of the opportunity to profit from an increase in the market price of the securities it holds.

The Funds are permitted to write only "covered" options. At the time of selling a call option, a Fund may cover the option by owning, among other things:

- The underlying security (or securities convertible into the underlying security without additional consideration), index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract;
- A call option on the same security or index with the same or lesser exercise price;
- A call option on the same security or index with a greater exercise price, provided that the Fund also segregates cash or liquid securities in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise prices;
- Cash or liquid securities equal to at least the market value of the optioned securities, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract; or
- In the case of an index, the portfolio of securities that corresponds to the index.

At the time of selling a put option, a Fund may cover the option by, among other things:

- Entering into a short position in the underlying security;
- Purchasing a put option on the same security, index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract with the same or greater exercise price;
- Purchasing a put option on the same security, index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract with a lesser exercise price and segregating cash or liquid securities in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise prices; or
- Maintaining the entire exercise price in liquid securities.

#### ▪ **Options on Securities Indices**

Options on securities indices are similar to options on securities, except that the exercise of securities index options requires cash settlement payments and does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities. In addition, securities index options are designed to reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segment of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

#### ▪ **Options on Credit Default Swaps**

An option on a credit default swap gives the holder the right to enter into a credit default swap at a specified future date and under specified terms in exchange for a purchase price or premium. The writer of the option bears the risk of any unfavorable move in the value of the credit default swap relative to the market value on the exercise date, while the purchaser may allow the option to expire unexercised.

#### ▪ **Options on Futures**

An option on a futures contract provides the holder with the right to buy a futures contract (in the case of a call option) or sell a futures contract (in the case of a put option) at a fixed time and price. Upon exercise of the option by the holder, the contract market clearing house establishes a corresponding short position for the writer of the option (in the case of a call option) or a corresponding long position (in the case of a put option). If the option is exercised, the parties will be subject to the futures contracts. In addition, the writer of an option on a futures contract is subject to initial and variation margin requirements on the option position. Options on futures contracts are traded on the same contract market as the underlying futures contract.

The buyer or seller of an option on a futures contract may terminate the option early by purchasing or selling an option of the same series (i.e., the same exercise price and expiration date) as the option previously purchased or sold. The difference between the premiums paid and received represents the trader's profit or loss on the transaction.

A Fund may purchase put and call options on futures contracts instead of selling or buying futures contracts. The Fund may buy a put option on a futures contract for the same reasons it would sell a futures contract. It also may purchase such a put option in order to hedge a long position in the underlying futures contract. A Fund may buy a call option on a futures contract for the same purpose as the actual purchase of a futures contract, such as in anticipation of favorable market conditions.

A Fund may write a call option on a futures contract to hedge against a decline in the prices of the instrument underlying the futures contracts. If the price of the futures contract at expiration were below the exercise price, the Fund would retain the option premium, which would offset, in part, any decline in the value of its portfolio securities.

The writing of a put option on a futures contract is similar to the purchase of the futures contracts, except that, if the market price declines, a Fund would pay more than the market price for the underlying instrument. The premium received on the sale of the put option, less any transaction costs, would reduce the net cost to the Fund.

#### ▪ **Options on Foreign Currencies**

A put option on a foreign currency gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell a foreign currency at the exercise price until the option expires. A call option on a foreign currency gives the purchaser of the option the right to purchase the currency at the exercise price until the option expires. The Funds may purchase or write put and call options on foreign currencies for the purpose of hedging against changes in future currency exchange rates. The Funds may use foreign currency options given the same circumstances under which they could use forward foreign currency exchange contracts. For example, a decline in the U.S. dollar value of a foreign currency in which a Fund's securities are denominated would reduce the U.S. dollar value of the securities, even if their value in the foreign currency remained constant. In order to hedge against such a risk, the Fund may purchase a put option on the foreign currency. If the value of the currency then declined, the Fund could sell the currency for a fixed amount in U.S. dollars and thereby offset, at least partially, the negative effect on its securities that otherwise would have resulted. Conversely, if a Fund anticipates a rise in the U.S. dollar value of a currency in which securities to be acquired are denominated, the Fund may purchase call options on the currency in order to offset, at least partially, the effects of negative movements in exchange rates. If currency exchange rates do not move in the direction or to the extent anticipated, the Funds could sustain losses on transactions in foreign currency options.

#### ▪ **Combined Positions**

The Funds may purchase and write options in combination with each other, or in combination with futures or forward contracts or swap agreements, to adjust the risk and return characteristics of the overall position. For example, a Fund could construct a combined position whose risk and return characteristics are similar to selling a futures contract by purchasing a put option and writing a call option on the same underlying instrument. Alternatively, a Fund could write a call option at one strike price and buy a call option at a lower price to reduce the risk of the written call option in the event of a substantial price increase. Because combined options positions involve multiple trades, they result in higher transaction costs and may be more difficult to open and close out.

**Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts.** A forward foreign currency contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific amount of currency at a future date or date range at a specific price. In the case of a cancelable forward contract, the holder has the unilateral right to cancel the contract at maturity by paying a specified fee. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts differ from foreign currency futures contracts in certain respects. Unlike futures contracts, forward contracts:

- Do not have standard maturity dates or amounts (i.e., the parties to the contract may fix the maturity date and the amount);
- Are typically traded directly between currency traders (usually large commercial banks) and their customers in the inter-bank markets, as opposed to on exchanges regulated by the CFTC (note, however, that under new definitions adopted by the CFTC and SEC, many non-deliverable foreign currency forwards will be considered swaps for certain purposes, including determination of whether such instruments must be traded on exchanges and centrally cleared);
- Do not require an initial margin deposit; and
- May be closed by entering into a closing transaction with the currency trader who is a party to the original forward contract, as opposed to with a commodities exchange.

#### ▪ **Foreign Currency Hedging Strategies**

A "settlement hedge" or "transaction hedge" is designed to protect a Fund against an adverse change in foreign currency values between the date a security is purchased or sold and the date on which payment is made or received. Entering into a forward contract for the purchase or sale of the amount of foreign currency involved in an underlying security transaction for a fixed amount of U.S. dollars

“locks in” the U.S. dollar price of the security. A Fund may also use forward contracts to purchase or sell a foreign currency when it anticipates purchasing or selling securities denominated in foreign currency, even if it has not yet selected the specific investments.

A Fund may use forward contracts to hedge against a decline in the value of existing investments denominated in foreign currency. Such a hedge, sometimes referred to as a “position hedge,” would tend to offset both positive and negative currency fluctuations, but would not offset changes in security values caused by other factors. The Fund could also hedge the position by selling another currency expected to perform similarly to the currency in which the Fund’s investment is denominated. This type of hedge, sometimes referred to as a “proxy hedge,” could offer advantages in terms of cost, yield, or efficiency, but generally would not hedge currency exposure as effectively as a direct hedge into U.S. dollars. Proxy hedges may result in losses if the currency used to hedge does not perform similarly to the currency in which the hedged securities are denominated.

Transaction and position hedging do not eliminate fluctuations in the underlying prices of the securities that a Fund owns or intends to purchase or sell. They simply establish a rate of exchange that one can achieve at some future point in time. Additionally, these techniques tend to minimize the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currency and to limit any potential gain that might result from the increase in value of such currency. A Fund may enter into forward contracts to shift its investment exposure from one currency into another. Such transactions may call for the delivery of one foreign currency in exchange for another foreign currency, including currencies in which its securities are not then denominated. This may include shifting exposure from U.S. dollars to a foreign currency, or from one foreign currency to another foreign currency. This type of strategy, sometimes known as a “cross-hedge,” will tend to reduce or eliminate exposure to the currency that is sold, and increase exposure to the currency that is purchased. Cross-hedges may protect against losses resulting from a decline in the hedged currency but will cause the Fund to assume the risk of fluctuations in the value of the currency it purchases. Cross-hedging transactions also involve the risk of imperfect correlation between changes in the values of the currencies involved.

It is difficult to forecast with precision the market value of portfolio securities at the expiration or maturity of a forward or futures contract. Accordingly, a Fund may have to purchase additional foreign currency on the spot (cash) market if the market value of a security it is hedging is less than the amount of foreign currency it is obligated to deliver. Conversely, the Fund may have to sell on the spot market some of the foreign currency it received upon the sale of a security if the market value of such security exceeds the amount of foreign currency it is obligated to deliver.

**Structured Notes.** A structured note is a debt obligation that may contain an embedded derivative component with characteristics that adjust the security’s risk/return profile. The return performance of a structured note will track that of the underlying debt obligation and the derivative embedded within it. A structured note is a hybrid security that attempts to change its profile by including additional modifying structures.

Certain Funds investing in commodities will effect such investment primarily through the purchase of a leveraged structured note. A Fund’s Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will attempt to provide non-leveraged index-like exposure by investing a separate pool of assets in high quality bonds, such as those issued by the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agencies. The combination of the leveraged structured note and the separate pool of high-quality bonds is designed to replicate the performance of the broad commodities markets and will be managed for the exposure to the commodities market. For example, if a Fund were to hold a structured note with three times exposure to a specified commodity index and the Fund’s Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, hoped to achieve \$15 million in exposure, the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, would invest \$5 million in the structured note and \$10 million in high-quality bonds. When the investment performance of the structured note and high-quality bonds is viewed together, the total investment is designed to approximate the unleveraged performance of the index underlying the structured note.

**Equity-Linked Securities.** The Funds may invest in privately issued securities whose investment results are designed to correspond generally to the performance of a specified stock index or “basket” of securities, or sometimes a single stock (referred to as “equity-linked securities”). These securities are used for many of the same purposes as derivative instruments and share many of the same risks. Equity-linked securities may be considered illiquid and thus subject to the Funds’ restrictions on investments in illiquid investments.

**Swap Agreements.** A swap agreement is a financial instrument that typically involves the exchange of cash flows between two parties on specified dates (settlement dates), where the cash flows are based on agreed-upon prices, rates, indices, etc. The nominal amount on which the cash flows are calculated is called the notional amount. Swap agreements are individually negotiated and structured to include exposure to a variety of different types of investments or market factors, such as interest rates, foreign currency rates, mortgage securities, corporate borrowing rates, security prices or inflation rates.

Swap agreements may increase or decrease the overall volatility of the investments of a Fund and its share price. The performance of swap agreements may be affected by a change in the specific interest rate, currency, or other factors that determine the amounts of payments due to and from the Fund. If a swap agreement calls for payments by the Fund, the Fund must be prepared to make such payments when due. In addition, if the counterparty’s creditworthiness declined, the value of a swap agreement would be likely to decline, potentially resulting in losses.

Generally, swap agreements have a fixed maturity date that will be agreed upon by the parties. The agreement can be terminated before the maturity date under certain circumstances, such as default by one of the parties or insolvency, among others, and can be transferred by a party only with the prior written consent of the other party. A Fund may be able to eliminate its exposure under a swap agreement either by assignment or by other disposition, or by entering into an offsetting swap agreement with the same party or a similarly creditworthy party. If the counterparty is unable to meet its obligations under the contract, declares bankruptcy, defaults or becomes insolvent, a Fund may not be able to recover the money it expected to receive under the swap agreement. The Funds will not enter into any swap agreement unless the Adviser believes that the counterparty to the transaction is creditworthy.

- **Equity Swaps**

In a typical equity swap, one party agrees to pay another party the return on a stock, stock index or basket of stocks in return for a specified interest rate. By entering into an equity index swap, for example, the index receiver can gain exposure to stocks making up the index of securities without actually purchasing those stocks. Equity index swaps involve not only the risk associated with investment in the securities represented in the index, but also the risk that the performance of such securities, including dividends, will not exceed the return on the interest rate that a Fund will be committed to pay.

- **Total Return Swaps**

Total return swaps are contracts in which one party agrees to make payments of the total return from a reference instrument—which may be a single asset, a pool of assets or an index of assets—during a specified period, in return for payments equal to a fixed or floating rate of interest or the total return from another underlying reference instrument. The total return includes appreciation or depreciation on the underlying asset, plus any interest or dividend payments. Payments under the swap are based upon an agreed upon principal amount but, since the principal amount is not exchanged, it represents neither an asset nor a liability to either counterparty, and is referred to as notional. Total return swaps are marked to market daily using different sources, including quotations from counterparties, pricing services, brokers or market makers. The unrealized appreciation or depreciation related to the change in the valuation of the notional amount of the swap is combined with the amount due to a Fund at termination or settlement. The primary risks associated with total return swaps are credit risks (if the counterparty fails to meet its obligations) and market risk (if there is no liquid market for the swap or unfavorable changes occur to the underlying reference instrument).

- **Interest Rate Swaps**

Interest rate swaps are financial instruments that involve the exchange of one type of interest rate for another type of interest rate cash flow on specified dates in the future. Some of the different types of interest rate swaps are “fixed-for-floating rate swaps,” “termed basis swaps” and “index amortizing swaps.” Fixed-for-floating rate swaps involve the exchange of fixed interest rate cash flows for floating rate cash flows. Termed basis swaps entail cash flows to both parties based on floating interest rates, where the interest rate indices are different. Index amortizing swaps are typically fixed-for-floating rate swaps where the notional amount changes if certain conditions are met.

As with a traditional investment in a debt security, a Fund could lose money by investing in an interest rate swap if interest rates change adversely. For example, if a Fund enters into a swap where it agrees to exchange a floating rate of interest for a fixed rate of interest, the Fund may have to pay more money than it receives. Similarly, if a Fund enters into a swap where it agrees to exchange a fixed rate of interest for a floating rate of interest, the Fund may receive less money than it has agreed to pay.

- **Currency Swaps**

A currency swap is an agreement between two parties in which one party agrees to make interest rate payments in one currency and the other promises to make interest rate payments in another currency. A Fund may enter into a currency swap when it has one currency and desires a different currency. Typically, the interest rates that determine the currency swap payments are fixed, although occasionally one or both parties may pay a floating rate of interest. Unlike an interest rate swap, however, the principal amounts are exchanged at the beginning of the agreement and returned at the end of the agreement. Changes in foreign exchange rates and changes in interest rates, as described above, may negatively affect currency swaps.

- **Inflation Swaps**

Inflation swaps are fixed-maturity, over-the-counter derivatives where one party pays a fixed rate in exchange for payments tied to an inflation index, such as the Consumer Price Index. The fixed rate, which is set by the parties at the initiation of the swap, is often referred to as the “breakeven inflation” rate and generally represents the current difference between treasury yields and Treasury Inflation Protected Securities yields of similar maturities at the initiation of the swap agreement. Inflation swaps are typically designated as “zero coupon,” where all cash flows are exchanged at maturity. The value of an inflation swap is expected to fluctuate in response to changes in the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. An inflation swap can lose value if the realized rate of inflation

over the life of the swap is less than the fixed market implied inflation rate (the breakeven inflation rate) the investor agreed to pay at the initiation of the swap.

#### ▪ **Credit Default Swaps**

A credit default swap is an agreement between a “buyer” and a “seller” for credit protection. The credit default swap agreement may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not then held by a Fund. The protection buyer is generally obligated to pay the protection seller an upfront payment and/or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the agreement until a credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. If no default occurs, the seller would keep the stream of payments and would have no payment obligations. If a credit event occurs, the seller generally must pay the buyer the full notional amount (the “par value”) of the swap. Investing in credit default swap indexes allows a Fund to manage credit risk or take a position on a basket of debt obligations more efficiently than transacting in single name credit default swaps.

A credit default swap index product (sometimes referred to as a “CDX index”) is an equally-weighted credit default swap index. The individual credits underlying these credit default swap indices may be rated investment grade or non-investment grade. These instruments are designed to track representative segments of the credit default swap market such as North American investment grade, high volatility investment grade, below investment grade, as well as emerging markets, and provide investors with exposure to specific “baskets” of issuers of bonds or loans. A CDX index tranche provides access to customized risk, exposing each investor to losses at different levels of subordination. The lowest part of the capital structure is called the “equity tranche” as it has exposure to the first losses experienced in the basket. The mezzanine and senior tranches are higher in the capital structure but can also be exposed to loss in value. Investments are subject to liquidity risks as well as other risks associated with investments in credit default swaps.

#### ▪ **Caps, Collars and Floors**

Caps and floors have an effect similar to buying or writing options. In a typical cap or floor agreement, one party agrees to make payments only under specified circumstances, usually in return for payment of a fee by the other party. For example, the buyer of an interest rate cap obtains the right to receive payments to the extent that a specified interest rate exceeds an agreed-upon level. The seller of an interest rate floor is obligated to make payments to the extent that a specified interest rate falls below an agreed-upon level. An interest rate collar combines elements of buying a cap and selling a floor.

#### **Risks of Derivatives:**

While transactions in derivatives may reduce certain risks, these transactions themselves entail certain other risks. For example, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance of the Funds than if they had not entered into any derivatives transactions. Derivatives may magnify the Funds’ gains or losses, causing them to make or lose substantially more than they invested.

When used for hedging purposes, increases in the value of the securities a Fund holds or intends to acquire should offset any losses incurred with a derivative. Purchasing derivatives for purposes other than hedging could expose the Fund to greater risks.

Use of derivatives involves transaction costs, which may be significant, and may also increase the amount of taxable income to shareholders.

**Correlation of Prices.** The Funds’ ability to hedge their securities through derivatives depends on the degree to which price movements in the underlying index or instrument correlate with price movements in the relevant securities. In the case of poor correlation, the price of the securities a Fund is hedging may not move in the same amount, or even in the same direction as the hedging instrument. The Adviser will try to minimize this risk by investing in only those contracts whose behavior it expects to correlate with the behavior of the portfolio securities it is trying to hedge. However, if the Adviser’s prediction of interest and currency rates, market value, volatility or other economic factors is incorrect, a Fund may lose money, or may not make as much money as it expected.

Derivative prices can diverge from the prices of their underlying instruments, even if the characteristics of the underlying instruments are very similar to the derivative. Listed below are some of the factors that may cause such a divergence:

- Current and anticipated short-term interest rates, changes in volatility of the underlying instrument, and the time remaining until expiration of the contract;
- A difference between the derivatives and securities markets, including different levels of demand, how the instruments are traded, the imposition of daily price fluctuation limits or discontinued trading of an instrument; and
- Differences between the derivatives, such as different margin requirements, different liquidity of such markets and the participation of speculators in such markets.

Derivatives based upon a narrower index of securities, such as those of a particular industry group, may present greater risk than derivatives based on a broad market index. Since narrower indices are made up of a smaller number of securities, they are more susceptible to rapid and extreme price fluctuations because of changes in the value of those securities.

While currency futures and options values are expected to correlate with exchange rates, they may not reflect other factors that affect the value of the investments of the Funds. A currency hedge, for example, should protect a yen-denominated security from a decline in the yen, but will not protect the Funds against a price decline resulting from deterioration in the issuer's creditworthiness. Because the value of the Funds' foreign-denominated investments changes in response to many factors other than exchange rates, it may not be possible to match the amount of currency options and futures to the value of the Funds' investments precisely over time.

**Lack of Liquidity.** Before a futures contract or option is exercised or expires, a Fund can terminate it only by entering into a closing purchase or sale transaction. Moreover, a Fund may close out a futures contract only on the exchange the contract was initially traded. Although the Funds intend to purchase options and futures only where there appears to be an active market, there is no guarantee that such a liquid market will exist. If there is no secondary market for the contract, or the market is illiquid, a Fund may not be able to close out its position. In an illiquid market, a Fund may:

- Have to sell securities to meet its daily margin requirements at a time when it is disadvantageous to do so;
  - Have to purchase or sell the instrument underlying the contract;
  - Not be able to hedge its investments; and/or
- Not be able to realize profits or limit its losses.

Derivatives may become illiquid (i.e., difficult to sell at a desired time and price) under a variety of market conditions. For example:

- An exchange may suspend or limit trading in a particular derivative instrument, an entire category of derivatives or all derivatives, which sometimes occurs because of increased market volatility;
- Unusual or unforeseen circumstances may interrupt normal operations of an exchange;
- The facilities of the exchange may not be adequate to handle current trading volume;
- Equipment failures, government intervention, insolvency of a brokerage firm or clearing house or other occurrences may disrupt normal trading activity; or
- Investors may lose interest in a particular derivative or category of derivatives.

**Management Risk.** Successful use of derivatives by the Funds is subject to the ability of the Adviser to forecast stock market and interest rate trends. If the Adviser incorrectly predicts stock market and interest rate trends, the Funds may lose money by investing in derivatives. For example, if a Fund were to write a call option based on the Adviser's expectation that the price of the underlying security would fall, but the price were to rise instead, the Fund could be required to sell the security upon exercise at a price below the current market price. Similarly, if a Fund were to write a put option based on the Adviser's expectation that the price of the underlying security would rise, but the price were to fall instead, the Fund could be required to purchase the security upon exercise at a price higher than the current market price.

**Counterparty Risk.** The risk exists that a derivatives transaction counterparty will be unable or unwilling to make payments or otherwise honor its obligations to a Fund.

**Pricing Risk.** At times, market conditions might make it hard to value some investments. For example, if a Fund has valued its securities too high, shareholders may end up paying too much for Fund shares when they buy into the Fund. If the Fund underestimates its price, shareholders may not receive the full market value for their Fund shares when they sell.

**Margin.** Because of the low margin deposits required upon the opening of a derivative position, such transactions involve an extremely high degree of leverage. Consequently, a relatively small price movement in a derivative may result in an immediate and substantial loss (as well as gain) to a Fund and it may lose more than it originally invested in the derivative.

If the price of a futures contract changes adversely, a Fund may have to sell securities at a time when it is disadvantageous to do so to meet its minimum daily margin requirement. A Fund may lose its margin deposits if a broker-dealer with whom it has an open futures

contract or related option becomes insolvent or declares bankruptcy.

**Volatility and Leverage.** The Funds' use of derivatives may have a leveraging effect. Leverage generally magnifies the effect of any increase or decrease in value of an underlying asset and results in increased volatility, which means the Funds will have the potential for greater gains, as well as the potential for greater losses, than if the Funds do not use derivative instruments that have a leveraging effect. The prices of derivatives are volatile (i.e., they may change rapidly, substantially and unpredictably) and are influenced by a variety of factors, including:

- Actual and anticipated changes in interest rates;
- Fiscal and monetary policies; and
- National and international political events.

Most exchanges limit the amount by which the price of a derivative can change during a single trading day. Daily trading limits establish the maximum amount that the price of a derivative may vary from the settlement price of that derivative at the end of trading on the previous day. Once the price of a derivative reaches this value, the Funds may not trade that derivative at a price beyond that limit. The daily limit governs only price movements during a given day and does not limit potential gains or losses. Derivative prices have occasionally moved to the daily limit for several consecutive trading days, preventing prompt liquidation of the derivative.

**Government Regulation.** The regulation of derivatives has undergone substantial change in recent years. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and related regulations require most derivatives to be margined and/or cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on counterparties, and impose other regulatory requirements that impact derivatives markets. The implementation of these requirements or additional future regulation of the derivatives markets may make the use of derivatives more costly, may limit the availability or reduce the liquidity of derivatives, and may impose limits or restrictions on the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions. Fund management cannot fully predict the effects of any governmental regulation of the derivatives markets, and there can be no assurance that any government regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's performance or ability to achieve its investment objective. The CFTC and various exchanges have imposed (and continue to evaluate and monitor) limits on the number of speculative positions that any person, or group of persons acting in concert, may hold or control in certain futures and options on futures contracts. Additionally, federal position limits now apply to swaps that are economically equivalent to futures contracts that are subject to CFTC set speculative limits. All positions owned or controlled by the same person or entity, even if in different accounts, must be aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicable position limits have been exceeded, unless an exemption applies. Thus, even if the Fund does not intend to exceed applicable position limits, it is possible that positions of different clients managed by the investment adviser and its affiliates may be aggregated for this purpose. It is possible that the trading decisions of the investment adviser may have to be modified and that positions held by the Fund may have to be liquidated in order to avoid exceeding such limits. The modification of investment decisions or the elimination of open positions, if it occurs, may adversely affect the profitability of the Fund. A violation of position limits could also lead to regulatory action materially adverse to the Fund's investment strategy. The Fund may also be affected by other non-U.S. regulators and trading venues, such as those of the European Union and United Kingdom, that impose position limits on commodity derivative contracts.

As noted above, the SEC has adopted the Derivatives Rule to regulate funds' use of derivatives and other truncations that create leverage. In addition to the limitations imposed by the Derivatives Rule, limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which a Fund engages in derivative transactions also could prevent the Fund from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments or may change the availability of certain investments.

**Restricted and Illiquid Investments.** Each Fund may purchase illiquid investments, including investments that are not readily marketable and securities that are not registered ("restricted securities") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), but which can be offered and sold to "qualified institutional buyers" under Rule 144A under the 1933 Act. Illiquid investments are investments that 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 investment. Because of their illiquid nature, illiquid investments must be priced at fair value as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures approved by the Board. Despite such good faith efforts to determine fair value prices, a Fund's illiquid investments are subject to the risk that the security's fair value price may differ from the actual price which the Fund may ultimately realize upon its sale or disposition. Difficulty in selling illiquid investments may result in a loss or may be costly to the Fund. A Fund may not acquire an illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets.

Illiquid investments may include a wide variety of investments, such as repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days, OTC options contracts and certain other derivatives (including certain swap agreements), fixed time deposits that are not subject to prepayment or do not provide for withdrawal penalties upon prepayment (other than overnight deposits), participation interests in loans, commercial

paper issued pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act, and restricted, privately placed securities that, under the federal securities laws, generally may be resold only to qualified institutional buyers. If a substantial market develops for a restricted security (or other illiquid investment) held by a Fund, it may be treated as a liquid security in accordance with procedures and guidelines approved by the Board. Under the supervision of the Board, the Adviser determines the liquidity of the Funds' investments.

**Short Sales.** If consistent with a Fund's investment objective, the Fund may engage in short sales that are either "uncovered" or "against the box." A short sale is "against the box" if at all times during which the short position is open, a Fund owns at least an equal amount of the securities or securities convertible into, or exchangeable without further consideration for, securities of the same issue as the securities that are sold short. A short sale against the box is a taxable transaction to the Fund with respect to the securities that are sold short.

Uncovered short sales are transactions under which a Fund sells a security it does not own. To complete such a transaction, the Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund then is obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing the security at the market price at the time of the replacement. The price at such time may be more or less than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. Until the security is replaced, the Fund is required to pay the lender amounts equal to any dividends or interest that accrue during the period of the loan. To borrow the security, the Fund also may be required to pay a premium, which would increase the cost of the security sold. The proceeds of the short sale will be retained by the broker, to the extent necessary to meet margin requirements, until the short position is closed out. Until a Fund closes its short position or replaces the borrowed security, the Fund may: (a) segregate cash or liquid securities at such a level that the amount segregated plus the amount deposited with the broker as collateral will equal the current value of the security sold short or (b) otherwise cover the Fund's short position.

**Special Risks of Cyber Attacks.** As with any entity that conducts business through electronic means in the modern marketplace, the Funds, and their service providers, may be susceptible to operational and information security risks resulting from cyber attacks. Cyber attacks include, among other behaviors, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, denial of service attacks on websites, the unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential information, unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that the Funds and their service providers use to service the Funds' operations, ransomware, operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers, or various other forms of cyber security breaches. Cyber attacks affecting the Funds or the Adviser, the Funds' distributor, custodian, or any other of the Funds' intermediaries or service providers may adversely impact the Funds and their shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses or the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business. For instance, cyber attacks may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact the Funds' ability to calculate their NAV, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential business information, impede trading, subject the Funds to regulatory fines or financial losses and/or cause reputational damage. The Funds may also incur additional costs for cyber security risk management purposes designed to mitigate or prevent the risk of cyber attacks. Such costs may be ongoing because threats of cyber attacks are constantly evolving as cyber attackers become more sophisticated and their techniques become more complex. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issuers of securities in which the Funds may invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause the Funds' investments in such companies to lose value. There can be no assurance that the Funds, the Funds' service providers, or the issuers of the securities in which the Funds invest will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

**LIBOR Transition.** Many debt securities, derivatives and other financial instruments may have previously utilized the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") as the reference or benchmark rate for variable interest rate calculations. However, following allegations of manipulation, the UK Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") announced that LIBOR would be discontinued on June 30, 2023. As of September 30, 2024, the FCA has confirmed that all publications of LIBOR, including all synthetic publications of the 1-, 3- and 6-month U.S. Dollar LIBOR tenors, have ceased.

The future impact of the transition away from LIBOR and the use of other reference rates for certain debt securities, derivatives and other financial instruments remain uncertain. Market participants have adopted alternative rates such as Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") or otherwise amended financial instruments referencing LIBOR to include fallback provisions and other measures that contemplated the discontinuation of LIBOR or other similar market disruption events. Certain replacement rates to LIBOR, such as SOFR, which is a broad measure of secured overnight U.S. Treasury repo rates, are materially different from LIBOR, necessitating changes in the applicable spread for financial instruments transitioning away from LIBOR.

#### **General Market Risk.**

Occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years, such as war (including Russia's military invasion of Ukraine), terrorist attacks, natural or environmental disasters, country instability, infectious disease epidemics or pandemics, such as that caused by COVID-19, market instability, debt crises and downgrades, embargoes, tariffs, sanctions and other trade barriers and other governmental trade or market control programs, the potential exit of a country from its respective union and related geopolitical events, may result in market volatility and may have long-lasting impacts on U.S. and global economies and financial markets. Supply chain disruptions or significant changes in the supply or prices of commodities or other economic inputs may have material and unexpected effects on both

global securities markets and individual countries, regions, sectors, companies or industries. Events occurring in one region of the world may negatively impact industries and regions that are not otherwise directly impacted by the events. Additionally, those events, as well as other changes in foreign and domestic political and economic conditions, could adversely affect individual issuers or related groups of issuers, securities markets, interest rates, secondary trading, credit ratings, inflation, investor sentiment and other factors affecting the value of a Fund's investments.

Although the long-term economic fallout of COVID-19 is difficult to predict, it has contributed to, and may continue to contribute to, market volatility, inflation and systemic economic weakness. COVID-19 and efforts to contain its spread may also exacerbate other pre-existing political, social, economic, market and financial risks. In addition, the U.S. government and other central banks across Europe, Asia, and elsewhere announced and/or adopted economic relief packages in response to COVID-19. The end of any such program could cause market downturns, disruptions and volatility, particularly if markets view the ending as premature. The U.S. federal government ended the COVID-19 public emergency declaration on May 11, 2023, however, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are expected to continue and the risk that new variants of COVID-19 may emerge remains. Therefore the economic outlook, particularly for certain industries and businesses, remains inherently uncertain.

Market events such as those set forth above and other types of market events may cause significant declines in the values and liquidity of many securities and other instruments, and significant disruptions to global business activity and financial markets. Turbulence in financial markets, and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers both domestically and around the world, and can result in trading halts, any of which could have an adverse impact on the Funds. During periods of market volatility, security prices (including securities held by the Funds) could change drastically and rapidly and therefore adversely affect the Funds and the Funds' performance and causes losses on your investment in the Funds.

**Operational Risk.** An investment in the Funds involve operational risk arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. Any of these failures or errors could result in a loss or compromise of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on a Fund. While the Funds seek to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there is no guarantee that the Funds will not suffer losses due to operational risk.

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** Each Fund may from time to time take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with its principal investment strategies. If the Adviser believes a temporary defensive position is warranted in view of market conditions, a Fund may hold cash or invest up to 100% of its assets in high-quality short-term government or corporate obligations, money market instruments or shares of money market mutual funds. Taking a temporary defensive position may prevent a Fund from achieving its investment objective.

**Additional Information About the Principal Investment Strategies and Risks of Investing in the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund.** The principal investment strategies and risks of investing in the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund are described in the Prospectuses. Unless otherwise indicated in the Prospectuses or this SAI, the investment objective and policies of the Fund may be changed without shareholder approval.

## Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing at least 80% of its net assets (plus the amount of borrowings, if any, for investment purposes) in securities of MLPs and Energy Infrastructure Companies. The Fund will invest in equity securities such as common units, preferred units, subordinated units, general partner interests, common shares, preferred shares and convertible securities in MLPs and Energy Infrastructure Companies. There are no limitations on the credit quality of the convertible securities in which the Fund may invest. The Fund also may invest in investment grade debt securities issued by MLPs and Energy Infrastructure Companies of any maturity. The Fund may invest in MLPs and Energy Infrastructure Companies of any market capitalization ranges. Energy Infrastructure Companies include clean energy companies engaged in renewable energy electricity generation (wind, solar, hydrogen, geothermal, biomass, etc.), renewable storage and transmission, renewable energy equipment development manufacturing, electrified transport, biofuel production or energy efficiency solutions (including smart grid). The Fund is non-diversified, which means that it may invest in a limited number of issuers.

As noted above, MLPs are entities structured as master limited partnerships. Master limited partnerships are limited partnerships and limited liability companies that are publicly traded and are treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes. The units for these entities are listed and traded on a U.S. securities exchange. To qualify as a master limited partnership, the entity must receive at least 90% of its gross income from qualifying sources as set forth in Section 7704(d) of the Code. These qualifying sources include natural resource-based activities such as the exploration, development, mining, production, processing, refining, transportation, storage, gathering, processing, distribution and marketing of mineral or natural resources. Limited partnerships have two classes of interests: general partner interests and limited partner interests. The general partner typically controls the operations and management of the partnership through an equity interest in the partnership (typically up to 2% of total equity). Limited partners own the remainder of the partnership and have a limited role in the partnership's operations and management.

Master limited partnerships organized as limited partnerships generally have a general partner interest and two classes of limited partner interests — common units and subordinated units. The general partner interest may be held by either a private or publicly traded corporation or other entity. In many cases, the general partner owns common units, subordinated units and incentive distribution *rights* (“IDRs”) in addition to its general partner interest in the master limited partnership. Master limited partnerships are typically structured such that common units and general partner interests have first priority to receive quarterly cash distributions up to an established minimum amount (“minimum quarterly distributions” or “MQD”). Common units also accrue arrearages in distributions to the extent the MQD is not paid while any subordinated units remain outstanding. Once common units have been paid, subordinated units receive distributions in an amount up to the MQD; however, subordinated units do not accrue arrearages. Distributable cash in excess of the MQD that is paid with respect to both common and subordinated units generally is distributed to both common and subordinated units on a pro rata basis.

Whenever a distribution is paid to common unitholders or subordinated unitholders, the general partner is paid a proportional distribution. The holders of IDRs (usually the general partner) are eligible to receive incentive distributions if the general partner operates the business in a manner which results in distributions paid per unit surpassing specified target levels. As cash distributions to the limited partners increase, the IDRs receive an increasingly higher percentage of the incremental cash distributions. A common arrangement provides that the IDRs can reach a tier where the holder receives 48% of every incremental dollar paid to partners. These IDRs encourage the general partner to streamline costs, make investments and acquire assets in order to increase the partnership's cash flow and raise the quarterly cash distribution in order to reach higher tiers. Such results benefit all security holders of such master limited partnership.

The master limited partnerships in which the Fund may directly or indirectly invest are currently classified as Midstream MLPs and MLPs other than Midstream MLPs that operate (i) other assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal or electricity, or (ii) that provide energy related services. As described below, the Fund further sub-categorizes these master limited partnerships into the following groups:

- Midstream MLPs own and operate the logistical assets used in the energy sector and are engaged in (a) the treating, gathering, compression, processing, transmission and storage of natural gas and the transportation, fractionation and storage of natural gas liquids (primarily propane, ethane, butane and natural gasoline); (b) the gathering, transportation (including marine) and storage of crude oil; and (c) the transportation and storage of refined products (primarily gasoline, diesel fuel and jet fuel) and other hydrocarbon by-products. Midstream MLPs may also operate ancillary businesses including the marketing of commodities and logistical services. Midstream MLPs include MLPs that provide transportation and distribution services of energy-related products through the ownership and operation of marine transportation vessels (including tankers, barges and tugboats). Midstream MLPs also include (a) General Partner MLPs whose assets consist of ownership interests of an affiliated Midstream MLP and (b) MLP Affiliates of Midstream MLPs.
- MLPs other than Midstream MLPs that operate (i) other assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or

marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal or electricity, or (ii) that provide energy related services. Such MLPs can be classified into one of the following groups:

- “Upstream MLPs” are businesses engaged in the acquisition, exploitation, development and production of natural gas, natural gas liquids and crude oil. An Upstream MLP’s cash flow and distributions are driven by the amount of oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids and oil produced and the demand for and price of such commodities. As the underlying reserves of an Upstream MLP are produced, its reserve base is depleted. Upstream MLPs may seek to maintain or expand their reserves and production through the acquisition of reserves from other companies and the exploration and development of existing resources.
- “Coal MLPs” are engaged in the owning, leasing, managing, production and sale of various grades of steam and metallurgical grades of coal. The primary use of steam coal is for electric generation (steam coal is used as a fuel for steam-powered generators by electrical utilities). The primary use of metallurgical coal is in the production of steel (metallurgical coal is used to make coke, which, in turn, is used as a raw material in the steel manufacturing process).
- “Propane MLPs” are engaged in the distribution of propane to homeowners for space and water heating and to commercial, industrial and agricultural customers. Propane serves approximately 6% of the household energy needs in the United States, largely for homes beyond the geographic reach of natural gas distribution pipelines. Volumes are weather dependent, and a majority of annual cash flow is earned during the winter heating season (October through March).
- Master limited partnerships may also own other assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal or electricity or provide energy-related services, such as refining and distribution of specialty refined products. While these master limited partnerships do not fit into one of the three categories listed above, they are publicly traded and generate qualified income and qualify for federal tax treatment as partnerships.

*Energy Infrastructure Companies* are companies, including affiliates of MLPs, that own and operate assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting (including marine), transmitting, terminal operation, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal, electricity, or renewable energy or that provide energy-related services. For purposes of this definition, such companies (i) derive at least 50% of their revenues or operating income from operating such assets or providing services for the operation of such assets or (ii) have such assets that represent the majority of their assets. These companies operate, among other things, assets used in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining, marketing or generation of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined petroleum products, coal, electricity or renewable energy.

Energy Infrastructure Companies can be broadly divided into five groups:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Upstream        | Companies engaged in exploring, developing and producing natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and coal.   |
| Midstream       | Companies engaged in transporting, gathering, processing, storing and delivering natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and refined products for use by end users.                          |
| Downstream      | Companies engaged in refining, marketing and distributing crude oil and refined products to end customers.   |
| Power           | Companies engaged in generating, transmitting and distributing electricity, including companies that generate wind and solar power or provide services and equipment to enable power generation. |
| Energy Services | Companies that provide services to the Upstream, Midstream, Downstream and Power sectors of the energy industry.   |

- The Fund will invest at least 50% of its total assets in Midstream MLPs and Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies.

Midstream MLPs are MLPs that principally own and operate assets used in energy logistics, including, but not limited to, assets used in transporting (including marine), storing, gathering, processing, distributing or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined products.

Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies are companies, other than Midstream MLPs, that own and operate assets used in energy logistics, including, but not limited to, assets used in transporting (including marine), storing, gathering, processing, distributing or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined products.

- The Fund may directly invest up to but not more than 25% (or such higher amount as permitted by any applicable tax diversification rules) of total assets, at the time of investment, in equity or debt securities of master limited partnerships. This limit does not apply to securities issued by MLP affiliates, which are not treated as publicly traded partnerships for federal income tax purposes.

- The Fund may invest up to but not more than 25% of total assets, at the time of purchase, in a wholly owned subsidiary.
- The Fund may invest up to but not more than 15% of total assets in debt securities of Energy Infrastructure Companies.
- The Fund may invest up to but not more than 10% of total assets in any single issuer.
- The Fund may invest up to 15% of net assets in unregistered and other illiquid securities.
- The Fund may engage in covered call writing. The Fund expects to write call options for the purpose of generating realized gains or reducing the Fund's ownership of certain securities. The W Fund will only write call options on securities that the Fund holds in its portfolio (i.e., covered calls). To a lesser extent, the Fund currently expects to write call options for the purpose of generating additional income and realized gains or reducing the Fund's ownership of certain securities. A call option on a security is a contract that gives the holder of such call option the right to buy the security underlying the call option from the writer of such call option at a specified price at any time during the term of the option. At the time the call option is sold, the writer of a call option receives a premium (or call premium) from the buyer of such call option. If the Fund writes a call option on a security, the Fund has the obligation upon exercise of such call option to deliver the underlying security upon payment of the exercise price. When the Fund writes a call option, an amount equal to the premium received by the Fund will be recorded as a liability and will be subsequently adjusted to the current fair value of the option written. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are treated by the Fund as realized gains from investments on the expiration date. If the Fund repurchases a written call option prior to its exercise, the difference between the premium received and the amount paid to repurchase the option is treated as a realized gain or realized loss. If a call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in determining whether the Fund has realized a gain or loss. The Fund, as the writer of the option, bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security underlying the written option.
- The Fund may borrow to purchase securities, which would add leverage to the portfolio.
- The Fund also may use various hedging and other risk management strategies to seek to manage various risks including market, credit and tail risks. Such hedging strategies would be utilized to seek to protect the value of the Fund's portfolio, for example, against possible adverse changes in the market value of securities held in the portfolio. The Fund may execute its hedging and risk management strategy by engaging in a variety of transactions, including buying or selling options or futures contracts on indexes and entering into total return swap contracts.

*Other Risk Management Strategies.* To a lesser extent, the Fund may use various hedging and other risk management strategies to manage market risks. Such hedging strategies would be utilized to protect against possible adverse changes in the market value of securities held in the Fund's portfolio, or to otherwise protect the value of the Fund's portfolio. The Fund may execute its hedging and risk management strategy by engaging in a variety of transactions, including buying or selling options or futures contracts on indexes.

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in shares of initial public offerings ("IPOs"), consistent with its investment objective and policies. IPOs may have a magnified impact on the performance of a fund with a small asset base. The impact of IPOs on a fund's performance likely will decrease as such fund's asset size increases, which could reduce such fund's returns. IPOs may not be consistently available to the Fund for investing. IPO shares frequently are volatile in price due to the absence of a prior public market, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. Therefore, the Fund may hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase turnover and may lead to increased expenses, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, IPO shares can experience an immediate drop in value if the demand for the securities does not continue to support the offering price.

The percentage limitations applicable to the portfolio described above apply at the time of investment, and the Fund will not be required to sell securities due to subsequent changes in the value of securities owned. However, although the Fund may not be required to sell securities due to subsequent changes in value, if such changes cause the Fund to have invested less than 80% of total assets in securities of MLPs and Energy Infrastructure Companies, the Fund will be required to make future purchases of securities in a manner so as to come into compliance with this investment policy. The Fund will invest primarily in companies located in North America, but the Fund may invest in companies located anywhere in the world.

The Fund may obtain leverage through borrowings in seeking its objective. The Fund's borrowings, which would be in the form of loans from banks, may be on a secured or unsecured basis and at fixed or variable rates of interest. The Fund's ability to obtain leverage through borrowings is dependent upon its ability to establish and maintain an appropriate line of credit. The 1940 Act requires the Fund to maintain continuous asset coverage of not less than 300% with respect to all borrowings, which means that the Fund may borrow an amount equal to as much as 33 1/3% of the value of its total assets (which represents 50% of net assets). The Fund will borrow only if the value of the Fund's assets, including borrowings, is equal to at least 300% of all borrowings, including the proposed borrowing. If at any time the Fund should fail to meet this 300% coverage requirement within three business days (not including Sundays and

holidays), the Fund will seek to reduce its borrowings to the requirement. To do so, or to meet maturing bank loans, the Fund may be required to dispose of portfolio securities when such disposition might not otherwise be desirable. Interest on money borrowed is an expense of the Fund. The Fund also may lend the securities in its portfolio to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions.

There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its objective.

The Board can change the Fund's investment objective and strategies without shareholder approval. Shareholders will receive written notice at least 60 days prior to any change of the Fund's investment objective.

#### Temporary defensive investing

The Fund can hold uninvested cash or can invest it in cash equivalents such as money market instruments, interests in short-term investment funds, repurchase agreements, or shares of money market or short-term bond funds. Generally, these securities offer less potential for gains than other types of securities.

The Fund also may adopt temporary defensive positions by investing up to 100% of its assets in these instruments, even if the investments are inconsistent with the Fund's principal investment strategies, in attempting to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions. To the extent the Fund invests in these temporary investments in this manner, the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

#### Portfolio

At any given time, the Fund's portfolio will have some or all of the types of investments described below. A description of the Fund's investment policies and restrictions and more information about the Fund's portfolio investments are contained in this SAI and the Prospectuses.

*Equity Securities of Master Limited Partnerships.* The following summarizes in further detail certain features of equity securities of master limited partnerships. Also summarized below are certain features of I-shares, which represent an ownership interest issued by an MLP Affiliate. "MLP Affiliates" are affiliates of master limited partnerships substantially all of whose assets consist of units or ownership interests of an affiliated master limited partnership (which may include general partner interests, incentive distribution rights, common units and subordinated units) and are structured as C Corporations. MLP Affiliates are not treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes.

*Common Units.* Common units represent a master limited partnership limited partner interest and may be listed and traded on U.S. securities exchanges or over-the-counter ("OTC"), with their value fluctuating predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of such master limited partnership. The Fund intends to purchase common units in market transactions as well as in primary issuances directly from the master limited partnership or other parties in private placements. Unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, owners of common units have limited voting rights and, in most instances, have no ability to annually elect directors. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units to the remaining assets of such master limited partnership but are subordinated to debt and preferred units in the event of a liquidation.

*Subordinated Units.* Subordinated units are typically issued by master limited partnerships to their original sponsors, such as their management teams, corporate general partners, entities that sell assets to the master limited partnership, and outside investors such as the Fund. The Fund may purchase subordinated units from these persons as well as newly issued subordinated units from the master limited partnerships. Subordinated units have similar limited voting rights as common units and are generally not publicly traded. In the event of liquidation, common units and general partner interests have priority over subordinated units. Subordinated units are typically converted into common units on a one-to-one basis after certain time periods and/or performance targets have been satisfied. The purchase or sale price of subordinated units is generally tied to the common unit price less a discount. The size of the discount varies depending on the likelihood of conversion, the length of time remaining to conversion, the size of the block purchased relative to trading volumes, and other factors.

*General Partner Interests.* General partner interests of master limited partnerships are typically retained by their respective original sponsors, such as its management teams, corporate partners, entities that sell assets to the master limited partnership, and investors such as the Fund. A holder of general partner interests can be liable under certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of the holder's investment in such general partner interest. General partner interests often confer direct board participation rights and, in many cases, operating control, over the master limited partnership. General partner interests receive cash distributions, typically 2% of the master limited partnership's aggregate cash distributions. General partner interests generally cannot be converted into common units. The general partner interest can be redeemed by the master limited partnership if the unitholders of the master limited partnership choose to remove the general partner, typically with a supermajority vote by the limited partners.

*Incentive Distribution Rights (“IDRs”).* Holders of IDRs are entitled to a larger share of the cash distributions after the distributions to common unit holders meet certain prescribed levels. IDRs are generally attributable to the holder’s other equity interest (typically a general partner interest and subordinated units) in the master limited partnership and permit the holder to receive a disproportionate share of the cash distributions above stated levels.

*I-Shares.* The Fund will directly invest in I-shares or other securities issued by MLP Affiliates. I-shares represent an ownership interest issued by an affiliated party of a master limited partnership. The MLP Affiliate uses the proceeds from the sale of I-shares to purchase limited partner interests in the master limited partnership in the form of i-units. I-units have similar features as common units in terms of voting rights, liquidation preference and distributions. However, rather than receiving cash, the MLP Affiliate receives additional i-units in an amount equal to the cash distributions received by the holders of the common units. Similarly, holders of I-shares will receive additional I-shares, in the same proportion as the MLP Affiliate’s receipt of i-units, rather than cash distributions. I-shares themselves have limited voting rights which are similar to those applicable to common units. The MLP Affiliate issuing the I-shares is structured as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and is not treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

*Equity Securities of Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies and Other Energy Infrastructure Companies.* Equity securities of Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies and other Energy Infrastructure Companies consist of common equity, preferred equity and other securities convertible into equity securities of such companies. Holders of common shares are typically entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted on by shareholders. Holders of preferred equity can be entitled to a wide range of voting and other rights, depending on the structure of each separate security. Securities convertible into equity securities of Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies generally convert according to set ratios into common shares and are, like preferred equity, entitled to a wide range of voting and other rights. These securities are typically listed and traded on U.S. securities exchanges or OTC. The Fund intends to invest in equity securities of Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies primarily through market transactions as well as primary issuances directly from such Companies or other parties in private placements.

*Securities of Private Midstream Partnership and Private Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies.* The Fund’s investments in the equity securities of private Midstream MLPs and private Midstream Energy Infrastructure Companies will typically be made with the expectation that such assets will be contributed to a newly formed MLP or sold to or merged with an existing MLP within approximately one to two years. The Fund expects that such companies will typically be partnerships structured like master limited partnerships. Fund investments will typically be common units and subordinated units of such entity.

*Debt Securities of Energy Infrastructure Companies.* The debt securities in which the Fund will invest provide for fixed or variable principal payments and various types of interest rate and reset terms, including fixed rate, adjustable rate, zero coupon, contingent, deferred and payment-in-kind features. Certain debt securities are “perpetual” in that they have no maturity date. Certain debt securities are zero coupon bonds. A zero coupon bond is a bond that does not pay interest either for the entire life of the obligation or for an initial period after the issuance of the obligation. Because the risk of default is higher for below investment grade and unrated debt securities than for investment grade securities, the Adviser’s research and credit analysis is a particularly important part of making investment decisions on securities of this type. The Adviser will attempt to identify those issuers of below investment grade and unrated debt securities whose financial condition the Adviser believes is sufficient to meet future obligations or has improved or is expected to improve in the future. The Adviser’s analysis focuses on relative values based on such factors as interest coverage, fixed charges coverage, asset coverage, operating history, financial resources, earnings prospects and the experience and managerial strength of the issuer.

**Additional Information About the Principal Investment Strategies and Risks of Investing in the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund.** The principal investment strategies and risks of investing in the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund are described in the Prospectuses. Unless otherwise indicated in the Prospectuses or this SAI, the investment objective and policies of the Fund may be changed without shareholder approval.

### Investment Strategies

The Fund invests primarily in a diversified portfolio of instruments that provide exposure to U.S. and non-U.S. equity securities. These instruments generally include futures and options on securities, securities indices and shares of exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”). The Fund may also invest in equity securities (such as common stocks, preferred stocks and shares of investment companies, including ETFs) of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers, which may include emerging market issuers, in any industry sector and in all market capitalization ranges, including small capitalization stocks, without limitation.

The Board can change the Fund’s investment objective and strategies without shareholder approval. Shareholders will receive written notice at least 60 days prior to any change of the Fund’s investment objective.

## Investment Process

The Sub-Adviser's investment approach begins with identifying securities and other instruments that the Sub-Adviser believes are undervalued, or overvalued, relative to their intrinsic values, and that offer the greatest risk-adjusted potential for returns. In evaluating whether a particular market, sector or industry is undervalued or overvalued, the Sub-Adviser considers a variety of factors, including valuation and monetary conditions, investor sentiment and returns over a calendar year or other time period. The Sub-Adviser seeks to invest in futures, options and options on futures on indices, equity securities, and other instruments in sectors and industries or groups of industries that the Sub-Adviser believes are attractive on a relative basis. Consistent with this approach, the Sub-Adviser may also sell short options and futures on indices, equity securities and other instruments that it believes are less attractive on a relative basis. The Sub-Adviser's investment process also involves using strategies designed to create less downside volatility than the HFRX Equity Hedge Index. With respect to the Fund, the Fund's principal investment strategies include seeking to create less market exposure during equity market downturns. If this strategy is successful, having less equity market exposure during equity downturns, as determined by the Sub-Adviser's investment process, will result in the Fund having less downside volatility than the HFRX Equity Hedge Index.

## Investment Types

The Fund may hold a substantial portion of its assets in cash and cash equivalents, including money market instruments, commercial paper and short-term securities issued by U.S. and non-U.S. issuers, and in fixed-income instruments of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are of investment grade and of any maturity. Such fixed-income instruments include corporate bonds, government securities, and bank debt. The Fund may also invest in futures, options, and swaps on fixed-income instruments, credit indices, and interest rates such as futures on government securities and options on interest rate swaps.

The Fund may also enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts. For hedging and non-hedging (speculative) purposes, the Fund may also invest in options on foreign currencies, foreign currency futures and options and foreign currency exchange-related securities like foreign currency warrants and other instruments linked to foreign currency exchange rates. The Fund may write (sell) covered and uncovered put and call options, and may purchase put and call options, on securities, securities indices, shares of ETFs and other instruments. In addition, for purposes of adjusting risk and return of its investment positions, the Fund may purchase or write a combination of options (i.e., simultaneously writing call options and purchasing put options).

In addition to purchasing, or taking "long" positions in equity securities, the Fund may employ both leveraged investment techniques (e.g., investments in futures and options) as well as short positions on 24 target securities, which allow the Fund a net exposure which can range from 200% net long to 100% net short in its portfolio. For example, if the Fund invests 130% of its net assets in long positions and 30% of its net assets in short positions, the Fund is "100% net long." When the Fund's outstanding short positions equal its net assets, the Fund is "100% net short." The Fund may employ short positions independently of (and without regard to) its existing long positions and such short positions may not offset, or correlate directly to, long positions.

The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its investment objective.

## **Additional Information Related to the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund.**

The investment objective of each of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund is a fundamental policy and may not be changed without a vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of the relevant Fund. Non-fundamental policies of each Fund may be changed by the Board of Trustees without a vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of a Fund. Any policy not specifically identified as "fundamental" is a non-fundamental policy of the Funds. There can be no assurance that the investment objective of any Fund will be achieved.

The Westwood Real Estate Income Fund has a name which suggests a focus on a particular type of investment. In accordance with Rule 35d-1 under the 1940 Act, the Fund has adopted an investment policy that it will, under normal circumstances, invest at least 80% of the value of its assets (net assets plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in investments of the type suggested by its name. This requirement is applied at the time the Fund invests its assets. If, subsequent to an investment by the Fund, this requirement is no longer met, the Fund's future investments will be made in a manner that will bring the Fund into compliance with this requirement. The Fund's policy to invest at least 80% of its assets in such a manner is non-fundamental, which means that it may be changed without shareholder approval. The 80% investment policy of each of the Fund may be changed at any time by the Board of Trustees. Shareholders will be given written notice at least 60 days prior to any change by the Fund of its 80% investment policy covered by Rule 35d-1.

For purposes of the Fund's policy to invest 80% of its assets (net assets plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in a particular type of investment, "net assets" includes not only the amount of the Fund's net assets attributable to the particular type of investment, but also the Fund's net assets that are segregated or "earmarked" on the Fund's books and records or being used for collateral, in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees and applicable regulatory guidance, or otherwise used to cover such investment exposure.

## INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS

The percentage restrictions referenced in the associated Prospectuses or this SAI concerning borrowing must be met at all times. All other percentage restrictions referenced in this SAI or the Prospectuses of the Funds are measured at the time of investment, whether or not the particular percentage restriction uses such language. With the exception of the restrictions on borrowing, if a percentage restriction on investment or use of assets discussed in any Prospectuses related to a Fund is adhered to at the time a transaction is effected, a later increase or decrease in such percentage resulting from changes in values of securities or loans or amounts of net assets or security characteristics will not be considered a violation of the restriction, except that the Fund will take reasonably practicable steps to attempt to continuously monitor and comply with its liquidity standards. Also, if a Fund receives subscription rights to purchase securities of an issuer whose securities the Fund holds, and if the Fund exercises such subscription rights at a time when the Fund's portfolio holdings of securities of that issuer would otherwise exceed a limit, it will not constitute a violation if, prior to the receipt of the securities from the exercise of such rights, and after announcement of such rights, the Fund sells at least as many securities of the same class and value as it would receive on exercise of such rights.

### Fundamental Policies

Each Fund's fundamental policies listed below shall not be changed without an affirmative vote of a majority of the Fund's voting securities, which means the lesser of: (i) 67% or more of the shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding shares are represented; or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares. Non-fundamental restrictions are subject to change by the Board without shareholder approval. When submitting an investment restriction change to the holders of a Fund's outstanding voting securities, the matter shall be deemed to have been effectively acted upon if a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund vote for the approval of the matter, notwithstanding that the matter has not been approved by: (1) the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of any other series of the applicable Trust affected by the matter; and (2) the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable Trust as a whole.

When submitting an investment restriction change to the holders of a Fund's outstanding voting securities, the matter shall be deemed to have been effectively acted upon if a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund vote for the approval of the matter, notwithstanding that the matter has not been approved by: (1) the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of any other series of the applicable Trust affected by the matter; and (2) the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable Trust as a whole.

### **Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund and the Westwood Quality Value Fund**

The following investment limitations are fundamental, which means that a Fund cannot change them without approval by the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. In addition, the investment objectives of the Westwood Quality Value Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund and the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund are fundamental policies that cannot be changed by a Fund without approval by the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

Each Fund:

1. May not purchase securities of an issuer that would cause the Fund to fail to satisfy the diversification requirement for a diversified management company under the 1940 Act, the rules or regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.
2. May not concentrate investments in a particular industry or group of industries, as concentration is defined under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.
3. May not borrow money or issue senior securities (as defined under the 1940 Act), except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.
4. May not make loans, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.
5. May not purchase or sell commodities or real estate, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.
6. May not underwrite securities issued by other persons, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or any exemption therefrom, as such statute, rules or regulations may be amended or interpreted from time to time.

**Non-Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund and the Westwood Quality Value Fund**

The following investment limitations are non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval.

In addition, the investment objectives of the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, and the Westwood Alternative Income Fund are non-fundamental policies that may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval.

The Funds:

1. May not borrow money from a bank in an amount exceeding 33 1/3% of the value of its total assets, provided that investment strategies that either obligate a Fund to purchase securities or require a Fund to cover a position by segregating assets or entering into an offsetting position shall not be subject to this limitation. Asset coverage of at least 300% is required for all borrowing, except where a Fund has borrowed money, from any source, for temporary purposes in an amount not exceeding 5% of its total assets.
2. May not make loans if, as a result, more than 33 1/3% of its total assets would be lent to other parties, except that a Fund may:  
(i) purchase or hold debt instruments in accordance with its investment objective and policies; (ii) enter into repurchase agreements; and (iii) lend its securities.
3. May not purchase or sell real estate, real estate limited partnership interests, physical commodities or commodities contracts except that a Fund may purchase (i) marketable securities issued by companies which own or invest in real estate (including REITs), commodities or commodities contracts; and (ii) commodities contracts relating to financial instruments, such as financial futures contracts and options on such contracts.

In addition,

4. Under normal circumstances, the Westwood Quality Value Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of large-cap companies.
5. Under normal circumstances, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of small- and mid-cap companies.
6. Under normal circumstances, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of small-cap companies.

Except with respect to Fund policies concerning borrowing, if a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of an investment, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from changes in values or assets will not constitute a violation of such restriction. With respect to the limitation on borrowing, in the event that a subsequent change in net assets or other circumstances causes a Fund to exceed its limitation, the Fund will take steps to bring the aggregate amount of borrowing back within the limitation within three days thereafter (not including Sundays and holidays).

The following descriptions of certain provisions of the 1940 Act may assist investors in understanding the above policies and restrictions:

**Diversification.** Under the 1940 Act and the rules, regulations and interpretations thereunder, a “diversified company,” as to 75% of its total assets, may not purchase securities of any issuer (other than obligations of, or guaranteed by, the U.S. government or its agencies, or instrumentalities or securities of other investment companies) if, as a result, more than 5% of its total assets would be invested in the securities of such issuer, or more than 10% of the issuer’s voting securities would be held by the fund.

**Concentration.** The 1940 Act requires that every investment company have a fundamental investment policy regarding concentration. The SEC has defined concentration as investing 25% or more of an investment company’s total assets in any particular industry or group of industries, with certain exceptions. For purposes of a Fund’s concentration policy, the Fund may classify and re-classify companies in a particular industry and define and re-define industries in any reasonable manner, consistent with SEC and SEC staff guidance.

**Borrowing.** The 1940 Act presently allows an investment company to borrow from any bank in an amount up to 33 1/3% of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) and to borrow for temporary purposes in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of its total assets.

**Lending.** Under the 1940 Act, an investment company may only make loans if expressly permitted by its investment policies.

**Senior Securities.** Senior securities may include any obligation or instrument issued by a fund evidencing indebtedness. The 1940 Act generally prohibits funds from issuing senior securities, although it does not treat certain transactions as senior securities, such as certain borrowings, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements, firm commitment agreements, standby commitments and trading practices which could be deemed to involve the issuance of a senior security, including options, futures and forward contracts, provided that a fund does

so in compliance with applicable SEC regulations and interpretations (including Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act).

Real Estate and Commodities. The 1940 Act does not directly restrict an investment company's ability to invest in real estate or commodities, but does require that every investment company have a fundamental investment policy governing such investments.

Underwriting. Under the 1940 Act, underwriting securities involves an investment company purchasing securities directly from an issuer for the purpose of selling (distributing) them or participating in any such activity either directly or indirectly. Under the 1940 Act, a diversified fund may not make any commitment as underwriter, if immediately thereafter the amount of its outstanding underwriting commitments, plus the value of its investments in securities of issuers (other than investment companies) of which it owns more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities, exceeds 25% of the value of its total assets.

#### **Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund**

To the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder, or interpretations, orders, or other guidance provided by the SEC or its staff, of the Fund:

1. Can borrow money or issue any senior security, to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified, or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
2. Will invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in the securities of issuers in the energy and energy infrastructure industries; and the Fund cannot invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any other single industry or group of industries, except that securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities and repurchase agreements collateralized by securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities may be purchased without limitation, and the Fund may invest substantially all of its investable assets in one or more registered investment companies. For purposes of this investment restriction, registered investment companies are not considered part of any industry or group of industries. However, for purposes of determining industry concentration, if the Fund invests in affiliated underlying registered investment companies, the Fund will treat the assets of the underlying registered investment companies as if held directly by the Fund. Further, if the Fund invests in unaffiliated underlying investment companies, the Fund will consider the concentration of the underlying investment companies for purposes of determining compliance with its own concentration policy.
3. Cannot act as an underwriter of securities of other issuers, except to the extent that in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities, it may be deemed to be an underwriter under the federal securities laws.
4. Cannot purchase or sell real estate except insofar as such transaction is made through a vehicle whereby the risk of loss is not greater than the investment therein, although it may purchase and sell securities secured by real estate or interests therein, or securities issued by companies which invest in real estate, or interests therein.
5. Can make loans only as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified, or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
6. Cannot make a direct purchase or sale of physical commodities and commodity contracts, except: (a) insofar as such transaction is made through a vehicle whereby the risk of loss is not greater than the investment therein; and (b) it may: (i) enter into futures contracts and options thereon in accordance with applicable law; and (ii) purchase or sell physical commodities if acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. The Fund will not consider stock index, currency and other financial futures contracts, swaps, or hybrid instruments to be commodities for purposes of this investment policy.

#### **Non-Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund**

As a non-fundamental and additional policy, the Fund may pursue the investment program through one or more subsidiary vehicles. The establishment of such vehicles and the Fund's utilization thereof is wholly within the discretion of the Board. To the extent applicable to the investment activities of the Fund's respective subsidiary, the subsidiary will be subject to the same fundamental investment restrictions and will follow the same compliance policies and procedures as the Fund.

With respect to these policies and other policies and investment restrictions described herein (except the Fund's fundamental policies on borrowings and the issuance of senior securities), if a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of an investment or transaction, a later change in percentage resulting from a change in the values of investments or the value of a Fund's total assets, unless otherwise stated, will not constitute a violation of such policy or restriction.

## **Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund**

To the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder, or interpretations, orders, or other guidance provided by the SEC or its staff, the Fund:

1. Can borrow money or issue any senior security, to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified, or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
2. Cannot invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any single industry or group of industries, except that securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities and repurchase agreements collateralized by securities issued by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities may be purchased without limitation, and the Fund may invest substantially all of its investable assets in one or more registered investment companies. For purposes of this investment restriction, registered investment companies are not considered part of any industry or group of industries. However, for purposes of determining industry concentration, if the Fund invests in affiliated underlying registered investment companies, the Fund will treat the assets of the underlying registered investment companies as if held directly by the Fund. Further, if the Fund invests in unaffiliated underlying investment companies, the Fund will consider the concentration policy of the underlying investment companies for purposes of determining compliance with its own concentration policy.
3. Cannot act as an underwriter of securities of other issuers, except to the extent that in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities, it may be deemed to be an underwriter under the federal securities laws.
4. Cannot purchase or sell real estate except insofar as such transaction is made through a vehicle whereby the risk of loss is not greater than the investment therein, although it may purchase and sell securities secured by real estate or interests therein, or securities issued by companies which invest in real estate, or interests therein.
5. Can make loans only as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified, or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
6. Cannot make a direct purchase or sale of physical commodities and commodity contracts, except:  
(a) insofar as such transaction is made through a vehicle whereby the risk of loss is not greater than the investment therein; and (b) it may: (i) enter into futures contracts and options thereon in accordance with applicable law; and (ii) purchase or sell physical commodities if acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. The Fund will not consider stock index, currency and other financial futures contracts, swaps, or hybrid instruments to be commodities for purposes of this investment policy.

## **Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund**

As a matter of fundamental policy for each Fund:

1. As to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund only, with respect to 75% of its total assets, the Fund may not purchase any security (other than U.S. Government Securities or securities of other investment companies) if as a result: (i) more than 5% of a Fund's total assets immediately after and as the result of such purchase would be invested in the securities of any one issuer, or (ii) a Fund would hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer. Changes in the market value of a Fund's assets after the time of purchase do not affect the aforementioned calculations.
2. As to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund only, the Fund may not purchase the securities of any issuer (other than U.S. Government Securities or securities of other investment companies) if, as a result, more than 25% of the Fund's total assets would be invested in the securities of issuers whose principal business activities are in the same industry. The Westwood Real Estate Income Fund will each invest their assets such that more than 25% of each Fund's total assets will be invested in the securities of issuers in the real estate industry.
3. Each Fund may not issue senior securities or borrow money, except to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.
4. Each Fund may not purchase or sell commodities or commodities contracts.

The Funds interpret their policy with respect to the purchase and sale of commodities or commodities contracts under this Restriction to permit a Fund, subject to the Fund's investment objective and general investment policies (as stated in the Prospectuses and elsewhere in this SAI), to invest in options, futures contracts, options on futures contracts, securities, or other

instruments, including but not limited to, swap agreements and commodity-linked structured notes, that are linked to or backed by commodities or indices, subject to compliance with any applicable provisions of the federal securities or commodities laws.

5. Each Fund may not make loans, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and the rules promulgated thereunder, as may be amended from time to time.
6. Each Fund may not underwrite the securities of other issuers, except to the extent that a Fund may be considered an underwriter within the meaning of the 1933 Act in the disposition of restricted securities or in connection with the investment in other investment companies.
7. Each Fund may not purchase or sell real estate unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments (but this shall not prevent the Funds from investing in securities or other instruments backed by real estate (*e.g.*, REITs) or securities of companies engaged in the real estate business).

#### **Non-Fundamental Investment Restrictions for the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund**

In addition to the fundamental investment restrictions listed above, each Fund has also adopted the non-fundamental investment restrictions set forth below. These non-fundamental restrictions may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval.

Each of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund will not invest in securities of other registered investment companies in reliance on subparagraphs (F) or (G) of Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, a Fund may not: (i) acquire more than 3% of the voting securities of any other investment company, (ii) invest more than 5% of its total assets in securities of any one investment company, and (iii) invest more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies, unless it is able to rely on and meet the requirements of one or more rules under the 1940 Act that permit investments in other investment companies in excess of these limits. A Fund may rely on any rule under the 1940 Act to invest in other investment companies in excess of these limits.

#### Additional Fund Policies

For purposes of the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund's policy regarding concentration in a particular industry under Fundamental Investment Restriction 2 above, with respect to the Fund's investment in an ETF, the Fund will look through each ETF to the issuer of the securities held by the ETF, as if the Fund had invested in those securities directly. Similarly, pending further regulatory guidance or industry developments, with respect to the Fund's investment in swap agreements, the Fund will look through each swap agreement to the reference issuers (*i.e.*, the issuer of the reference investment) that constitute the swap agreement's reference investment (*i.e.*, the underlying asset or investment to which a swap agreement relates), as if the Fund had invested directly in those issuers in the same proportion to which each issue contributes to the reference investment.

For purposes of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund's and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund's policy with respect to issuing senior securities or borrowing money under Fundamental Investment Restriction 3 above, the entering into of options, short sales, futures, forwards and other investment techniques or derivatives contracts, and collateral and margin arrangements with respect to such transactions, is not deemed to include the borrowing or the issuance of senior securities provided such transactions are in compliance with the provisions of the 1940 Act applicable to the issuance of senior securities or borrowing money.

Each of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund interpret its policy with respect to the purchase and sale of commodities or commodities contracts under Fundamental Investment Restriction 4 above to permit the Fund, subject to the Fund's investment objective and general investment policies (as stated in the Prospectuses and elsewhere in this SAI), to invest in options and futures contracts or securities or other instruments backed by commodities, subject to compliance with any applicable provisions of the federal securities or commodities laws.

As a non-fundamental and additional policy, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund may pursue the investment program through one or more subsidiary vehicles. The establishment of such vehicles and a Fund's utilization thereof is wholly within the discretion of the Board. To the extent applicable to the investment activities of a Fund's respective subsidiary, the subsidiary will be subject to the same fundamental investment restrictions and will follow the same compliance policies and procedures as the Fund.

With respect to these policies and other policies and investment restrictions described herein (except each Fund's fundamental policies on borrowings and the issuance of senior securities), if a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of an investment or transaction, a later change in percentage resulting from a change in the values of investments or the value of a Fund's total assets, unless otherwise stated, will not constitute a violation of such policy or restriction.

## **ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT TECHNIQUES AND RISKS**

All securities investing and trading activities risk the loss of capital. No assurance can be given that the Funds' investment activities will be successful or that the Funds' shareholders will not suffer losses.

Additional information concerning investment techniques and risks associated with certain of the Funds' investments is set forth below. Unless otherwise indicated above in "Investment Restrictions" or below, the following discussion pertains to each of the Funds. From time to time, particular Funds may purchase these securities or enter into these strategies to an extent that is more than incidental. Certain of the Funds may be restricted or prohibited from using certain of the investment techniques described below, as indicated under the heading "Investment Restrictions."

### **Bank Obligations Risk**

Each Fund may invest in bank obligations such as bankers' acceptances, certificates of deposit, and time deposits. Bankers' acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange typically 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. Bankers' acceptances, along with notes issued by banking institutions, are only as secure as the creditworthiness of the issuing or accepting depository institution. Certificates of deposit are negotiable certificates issued against funds deposited in a commercial bank or a savings and loan association for a definite period of time and earning a specified return.

### **Borrowing Risk**

Each Fund may borrow money to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, as such may be interpreted or modified by regulatory authorities having jurisdiction, from time to time. This borrowing may be unsecured. The 1940 Act precludes a fund from borrowing if, as a result of such borrowing, the total amount of all money borrowed by a fund exceeds 33 1/3% of the value of its total assets (that is, total assets including borrowings, less liabilities exclusive of borrowings) at the time of such borrowings. This means that the 1940 Act requires a fund to maintain continuous asset coverage of 300% of the amount borrowed. If the 300% asset coverage should decline as a result of market fluctuations or other reasons, a Fund may be required to sell some of its portfolio holdings within three days to reduce the debt and restore the 300% asset coverage, even though it may be disadvantageous from an investment standpoint to sell securities at that time, and could cause the Fund to be unable to meet certain requirements for qualification as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Code. In addition, certain types of borrowings by a Fund may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements relating to asset coverage, portfolio composition requirements and other matters. It is not anticipated that observance of such covenants would impede the respective Fund's Adviser or Sub-Adviser from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objectives and policies. However, a breach of any such covenants not cured within the specified cure period may result in acceleration of outstanding indebtedness and require the Fund to dispose of portfolio investments at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

Borrowing has a leveraging effect because it tends to exaggerate the effect on a Fund's net asset value ("NAV") per share of any changes in the market value of its portfolio securities. Money borrowed will be subject to interest costs and other fees, which may or may not be recovered by earnings on the securities purchased. Each Fund also may be required to maintain minimum average balances in connection with a borrowing or to pay a commitment or other fee to maintain a line of credit. Either of these requirements would increase the cost of borrowing over the stated interest rate. Unless the appreciation and income, if any, on assets acquired with borrowed funds exceed the costs of borrowing, the use of leverage will diminish the investment performance of a fund compared with what it would have been without leverage.

The SEC takes the position that other transactions that have a leveraging effect on the capital structure of a fund can be viewed as constituting a form of "senior security" of the fund for purposes of the 1940 Act. These transactions may include selling securities short, buying and selling certain derivatives (such as futures contracts), selling (or writing) put and call options, engaging in when-issued, delayed-delivery, forward-commitment or reverse repurchase transactions and other trading practices that have a leveraging effect on the capital structure of a fund or may be viewed as economically equivalent to borrowing. Such a transaction will not be considered to constitute the issuance of a "senior security" by a Fund if the Fund (1) maintains an offsetting financial position, (2) maintains liquid assets in a sufficient value to cover the Fund's potential obligation under the transaction not offset or covered as provided in (1) and (3), or (3) otherwise "covers" the transaction in accordance with applicable SEC guidance (collectively, "covers" the transaction). The Funds' holdings in such instruments are marked-to-market daily to ensure proper coverage. A Fund may have to buy or sell a security at a disadvantageous time or price in order to cover such transaction. In addition, assets being maintained to cover such transactions may not be available to satisfy redemptions or for other purposes or obligations.

## **Cash and Cash Equivalents Risk**

Each Fund may, at times, hold a substantial portion of its assets in cash and/or cash equivalents, including money market instruments. Under certain market conditions, such as during a rising stock market, this strategy could have a negative effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. To the extent that the Fund invests in a money market fund, the Fund will indirectly bear a proportionate share of the money market fund's expenses, in addition to the operating expenses of the Fund, which are borne directly by Fund shareholders.

## **Renewable Energy Companies Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in renewable energy companies. Renewable energy companies may be more volatile than companies operating in more established industries. Renewable energy companies are subject to specific risks, including, among others: fluctuations in commodity prices and/or interest rates; changes in governmental or environmental regulation; reduced availability of renewable energy sources or other commodities for transporting, processing, storing or delivering; slowdowns in new construction; seasonal weather conditions, extreme weather or other natural disasters; and threats of attack by terrorists on certain renewable energy assets. Renewable energy companies can be significantly affected by the supply of, and demand for, particular energy products, which may result in overproduction or underproduction. Additionally, changes in the regulatory environment for renewable energy companies may adversely impact their profitability. Obsolescence of existing technology, short product cycles, falling prices and profits, competition from new market entrants and general economic conditions can significantly affect renewable energy companies. Certain investments may be dependent on U.S. and foreign government policies, including tax incentives and subsidies. The above factors could also impact the ability of renewable energy companies to pay dividends comparable to those paid by other Energy Infrastructure Companies. Certain valuation methods used to value renewable energy companies have not been in widespread use for a significant period of time and may further increase the volatility of certain renewable energy company share prices.

Because many renewable energy infrastructure companies enter into long-term contracts for energy off-put, if their counterparties experience economic stress, there could be subsequent concerns regarding such long-term contracts. As increased capital enters the renewable energy space, combined with decreasing costs, there may be pressure on power pricing, which in turn could result in lower rates of returns on certain projects. The renewable energy sector can also be significantly affected by changes in the prices and supplies of other energy fuels, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, tax and other government regulations.

## **Commercial Paper and Variable Amount Demand Master Notes Risk**

Each Fund may invest in commercial paper, which represent short-term unsecured promissory notes issued (in bearer form) by banks or bank holding companies, corporations and finance companies. A Fund may also invest in variable amount demand master notes, which are corporate obligations of issuing organizations that share the credit profile of commercial paper (e.g., banks or corporations). The distinct difference between commercial paper and variable amount demand master notes is in the liquidity characteristics of the issuance. While commercial paper is mostly negotiable, with a robust secondary trading market for rated issuers, variable amount demand master notes are issued by a bank or corporation and liquidated on demand. Further, there is no secondary market for variable amount demand master notes. Typically, the issuance of a variable amount demand master note consists of two parts, an "A" note and a "B" note. Both carry an interest rate higher than the commercial paper issued by the same issuer, meant to compensate for the increased liquidity risk. Most often the "A" note is for a fixed investment amount, and can only be redeemed with a fixed notice, such as six to 12 months. The "B" note can be redeemed at any time for any amount presently outstanding.

In selecting commercial paper and other corporate obligations for investment by a Fund, the Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, also considers information concerning the financial history and condition of the issuer and its revenue and expense prospects. If commercial paper or another corporate obligation held by a Fund is assigned a lower rating or ceases to be rated, the Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will promptly reassess whether that security presents credit risks consistent with the Fund's credit quality restrictions and whether the Fund should continue to hold the security in its portfolio. If a portfolio security no longer presents credit risks consistent with the Fund's credit quality restrictions or is in default, the Fund will dispose of the security as soon as reasonably practicable unless the Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, determines that to do so is not in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. Variable amount demand master notes with demand periods of greater than seven days will be deemed to be liquid and only if they are determined to be so in compliance with procedures approved by the Board of Trustees.

## **Commodities Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in commodities. Exposure to the commodities markets may subject a Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments. The prices of energy, industrial metals, precious metals, agriculture and livestock sector commodities may fluctuate widely due to factors such as changes in value, supply and demand and governmental regulatory policies. The energy sector can be significantly affected by changes in the prices and supplies of oil and other energy fuels, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, natural disasters or other extreme weather conditions, and tax and other government regulations, policies of the Organization of Petroleum

Exporting Countries (“OPEC”) and relationships among OPEC members and between OPEC and oil importing nations. The metals sector can be affected by sharp price volatility over short periods caused by global economic, financial and political factors, resource availability, government regulation, economic cycles, changes in inflation or expectations about inflation in various countries, interest rates, currency fluctuations, metal sales by governments, central banks or international agencies, investment speculation and fluctuations in industrial and commercial supply and demand. The commodity-linked securities in which a Fund invests may be issued by companies in the financial services sector, including the banking, brokerage and insurance sectors. As a result, events affecting issuers in the financial services sector may cause the Fund’s share value to fluctuate.

Commodities markets generally, and the energy sector specifically, have been adversely impacted by, among other things, the reduced demand for oil and other commodities as a result of the slowdown in economic activity resulting from the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, public opinion regarding the use of oil and other commodities, and global events affecting the production of oil and other commodities. The continued and future impact on such commodities markets is unknown and may last for an extended period of time.

### **Commodity-Linked Securities Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investments in commodity-linked derivative securities, such as structured notes, discussed below which are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities or commodities futures contracts. A Fund may also seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investments in a subsidiary. Real assets are assets such as oil, gas, industrial and precious metals, livestock, and agricultural or meat products, or other items that have tangible properties, as compared to stocks or bonds, which are financial instruments. In choosing investments, the Advisers, and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, seek to provide exposure to various commodities and commodity sectors. The value of commodity-linked derivative securities held by a Fund and/or a subsidiary may be affected by a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, overall market movements and other factors affecting the value of particular industries or commodities, such as weather, disease, embargoes, acts of war or terrorism, or political and regulatory developments.

The prices of commodity-linked derivative securities may move in different directions than investments in traditional equity and debt securities when the value of those traditional securities is declining due to adverse economic conditions. As an example, during periods of rising inflation, debt securities have historically tended to decline in value due to the general increase in prevailing interest rates. Conversely, during those same periods of rising inflation, the prices of certain commodities, such as oil and metals, have historically tended to increase. Of course, there cannot be any guarantee that these investments will perform in that manner in the future, and at certain times the price movements of commodity-linked instruments have been parallel to those of debt and equity securities. Commodities have historically tended to increase and decrease in value during different parts of the business cycle than financial assets. Nevertheless, at various times, commodities prices may move in tandem with the prices of financial assets and thus may not provide overall portfolio diversification benefits. Under favorable economic conditions, a Fund’s investments may be expected to underperform an investment in traditional securities. Over the long term, the returns on a Fund’s investments are expected to exhibit low or negative correlation with stocks and bonds.

### **Conflicts of Interest of the Advisers**

Conflicts of interest may arise because the Advisers, the Sub-Adviser and their affiliates generally carry on substantial investment activities for other clients in which the Funds will have no interest. The Advisers, the Sub-Adviser or their affiliates may have financial incentives to favor certain of such accounts over the Funds. Any of their proprietary accounts and other customer accounts may compete with the Funds for specific trades. The Advisers, the Sub-Adviser or their affiliates may buy or sell securities for a Fund which differ from securities bought or sold for other accounts and customers, although their investment objectives and policies may be similar to those of a Fund. Situations may occur when a Fund could be disadvantaged because of the investment activities conducted by the Advisers, the Sub-Adviser or their affiliates for their other accounts. Such situations may be based on, among other things, legal or internal restrictions on the combined size of positions that may be taken for a Fund and the other accounts, thereby limiting the size of a Fund’s position, or the difficulty of liquidating an investment for a Fund and the other accounts where the market cannot absorb the sale of the combined position. In addition, to the extent that the Westwood sources and structures private investments in MLPs, Energy Infrastructure Companies or Other Energy Companies, certain employees of Westwood may become aware of actions planned by these companies, such as acquisitions, which may not be announced to the public. Although Westwood maintains procedures to ensure that any material non-public information available to certain Westwood employees not be shared with those employees responsible for the purchase and sale of publicly traded securities, it is possible that the Funds could be precluded from investing in a company about which the Adviser has material non-public information.

Each Fund’s Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as applicable, also manages other funds that have investment objectives and strategies that are similar to and/or overlap with those of the Funds (collectively, “Affiliated Funds”). In particular, certain Affiliated Funds invest in MLPs, Midstream MLPs, Energy Infrastructure Companies and/or Other Energy Companies. Furthermore, the Advisers and/or Sub-Adviser may, at some time in the future, manage other investment funds with the same investment objective as the Funds. Investment decisions for the

Funds are made independently from those of the Advisers' and/or Sub- Adviser's other clients; however, from time to time, the same investment decision may be made for more than one fund or account. When two or more clients advised by the Advisers, the Sub-Adviser or their affiliates seek to purchase or sell the same publicly traded securities, the securities actually purchased or sold are allocated among the clients on a good faith equitable basis by the Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, in their discretion in accordance with the clients' various investment objectives and procedures adopted by the Advisers and the Sub-Adviser and approved by the Board. In some cases, this system may adversely affect the price or size of the position that a Fund may obtain. In other cases, however, the Funds' ability to participate in volume transactions may produce better execution for the Funds.

Each Fund and its affiliates, including Affiliated Funds, may be precluded from co-investing in private placements of securities, including in any portfolio companies that the Advisers or the Sub-Adviser control. The Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will allocate private investment opportunities among their clients, including the Funds, based on allocation policies that take into account several suitability factors, including the size of the investment opportunity, the amount of funds that each client has available for investment and the client's investment objectives. These allocation policies may result in the allocation of investment opportunities to an Affiliated Fund rather than to a Fund. The policies contemplate that the Advisers will exercise discretion, based on several factors relevant to the determination, in allocating the entirety, or a portion, of such investment opportunities to an Affiliated Fund, in priority to other prospectively interested advisory clients, including the Funds. In this regard, when applied to specified investment opportunities that would normally be suitable for the Funds, the allocation policies may result in certain Affiliated Funds having greater priority than the Funds to participate in such opportunities depending on the totality of the considerations, including, among other things, a Fund's available capital for investment, its existing holdings, applicable tax and diversification standards to which a Fund may then be subject and the ability to efficiently liquidate a portion of its existing portfolio in a timely and prudent fashion in the time period required to fund the transaction.

The investment management fee paid to a Fund's Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser is based on the value of the Fund's assets, as periodically determined. A percentage of the Fund's assets may be illiquid securities acquired in private transactions for which market quotations will not be readily available. Although the Fund has adopted valuation procedures designed to determine valuations of illiquid securities in a manner that reflects their fair value, there typically is a range of prices that may be established for each individual security.

### **Convertible Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in convertible securities, which may offer higher income than the common stocks into which they are convertible. Typically, convertible securities are callable by the company, which may, in effect, force conversion before the holder would otherwise choose. The convertible securities in which a Fund may invest consist of bonds, notes, debentures, and preferred stocks that may be converted or exchanged at a stated or determinable exchange ratio into underlying shares of common stock. A Fund may be required to permit the issuer of a convertible security to redeem the security, convert it into the underlying common stock or sell it to a third party. Thus, such Fund may not be able to control whether the issuer of a convertible security chooses to force conversion of that security. If the issuer chooses to do so, this action could have an adverse effect on a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

In carrying out this policy, a Fund may purchase convertible bonds and convertible preferred stock which may be exchanged for a stated number of shares of the issuer's common stock at a price known as the conversion price. The conversion price is usually greater than the price of the common stock at the time of purchase of the convertible security. The interest rate of convertible bonds and the yield of convertible preferred stock will generally be lower than that of the non-convertible securities. While the value of the convertible securities will usually vary with the value of the underlying common stock and will normally fluctuate inversely with interest rates, it may show less volatility in value than the non-convertible securities. A risk associated with the purchase of convertible bonds and convertible preferred stock is that the conversion price of the common stock will not be attained. The Funds will purchase only those convertible securities which have underlying common stock with potential for long-term growth in the opinion of an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate. Certain Funds will only invest in investment-grade convertible securities (those rated in the top four categories by Moody's).

### **Counterparty Risk**

In general, a derivative contract typically involves leverage, i.e., it provides exposure to potential gain or loss from a change in the level of the market price of a security, currency or commodity (or a basket or index) in a notional amount that exceeds the amount of cash or assets required to establish or maintain the derivative contract. Many of these derivative contracts will be privately negotiated in the OTC market. These contracts also involve exposure to credit risk, since contract performance depends in part on the financial condition of the counterparty. If a privately negotiated OTC contract calls for payments by a Fund, the Fund must be prepared to make such payments when due. In addition, if a counterparty's creditworthiness declines, a Fund may not receive payments owed under the contract, or such payments may be delayed under such circumstances and the value of agreements with such counterparty can be expected to decline, potentially resulting in losses by the Fund.

### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of the security will not be able to make principal and interest payments when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of a Fund's investment in that issuer. Securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk, which are often reflected in credit ratings. Measures such as average credit quality may not accurately reflect the true credit risk of a Fund. This is especially the case if the Fund consists of securities with

widely varying credit ratings. Therefore, if a Fund has an average credit rating that suggests a certain credit quality, the Fund may in fact be subject to greater credit risk than the average would suggest. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation. Securities rated in the four highest categories (Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) (AAA, AA, A and BBB) or Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) (Aaa, Aa, A and Baa)) by the rating agencies are considered investment grade but they may also have some speculative characteristics, meaning that they carry more risk than higher-rated securities and may have problems making principal and interest payments in difficult economic climates. Investment grade ratings do not guarantee that bonds will not lose value.

### **Currency Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in foreign securities. The value of foreign assets as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in foreign currency rates and exchange control regulations. Currency exchange rates can also be affected unpredictably by intervention by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the U.S. or abroad. Foreign currency exchange transactions may be conducted on a spot (i.e., cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market or through entering into derivative currency transactions. Currency futures contracts are exchange-traded and change in value to reflect movements of a currency or a basket of currencies. Settlement must be made in a designated currency.

Forward foreign currency exchange contracts are individually negotiated and privately traded so they are dependent upon the creditworthiness of the counterparty. Such contracts may be used to gain exposure to a particular currency or currencies as a part of the Funds’ investment strategies, when a security denominated in a foreign currency is purchased or sold, or when the receipt in a foreign currency of dividend or interest payments on such a security is anticipated. A forward contract can then “lock in” the U.S. dollar price of the security or the U.S. dollar equivalent of such dividend or interest payment, as the case may be. Additionally, when an Adviser or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes that the currency of a particular foreign country may suffer a substantial decline against the U.S. dollar, it may enter into a forward contract to sell, for a fixed amount of dollars, the amount of foreign currency approximating the value of some or all of the securities held that are denominated in such foreign currency. The precise matching of the forward contract amounts and the value of the securities involved will not generally be possible. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge against long-term currency changes. Cross-hedging may be used by using forward contracts in one currency (or basket of currencies) to hedge against fluctuations in the value of securities denominated in a different currency. Use of a different foreign currency magnifies exposure to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. Forward contracts may also be used to shift exposure to foreign currency exchange rate changes from one currency to another. Short-term hedging provides a means of fixing the dollar value of only a portion of portfolio assets.

Currency transactions are subject to the risk of a number of complex political and economic factors applicable to the countries issuing the underlying currencies. Furthermore, unlike trading in most other types of instruments, there is no systematic reporting of last sale information with respect to the foreign currencies underlying the derivative currency transactions. As a result, available information may not be complete. In an OTC trading environment, there are no daily price fluctuation limits. There may be no liquid secondary market to close out options purchased or written, or forward contracts entered into, until their exercise, expiration or maturity. There is also the risk of default by, or the bankruptcy of, the financial institution serving as a counterparty. Currency swaps involve the exchange of rights to make or receive payments in specified currencies and are individually negotiated. The entire principal value of a currency swap is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations. A Fund’s performance may be adversely affected as an Adviser or the Sub-Adviser may be incorrect in its forecasts of market value and currency exchange rates.

### **Cybersecurity Risk**

The use of technology has become more prevalent in the Funds’ management and operations. As a result, the Funds have become more susceptible to risks associated with breaches in cybersecurity. A breach in cybersecurity refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the Funds to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption and/or destruction, or lose operational capacity. Cybersecurity breaches may involve unauthorized access to the Funds’ digital information systems (e.g., through “hacking,” “phishing,” or malicious software coding), or attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. Cyber-attacks can also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access such as denial-of-service attacks (i.e., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). Additionally, the Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties, or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures. A cybersecurity or operational breach may result in financial losses to the Funds; the inability of the Funds to process transactions or conduct trades; delays or mistakes in materials provided to shareholders or the calculation of Funds’ net asset values; violations of privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties and reputational damage; and compliance and remediation costs, legal fees and other expenses. In addition, the foregoing risks may adversely impact the Investment Adviser, the distributor and other service providers to the Funds, as well as financial intermediaries, companies in which the Funds invest and parties with which the Funds do business, which could result in losses to the Funds and shareholders and disruptions to the conduct of business between the Funds, shareholders, the Funds’ service providers and/or financial intermediaries. Cybersecurity breaches of the Funds’ third-party service providers or issuers that the Funds invest in can also subject the Funds to many of the same risks associated with direct cybersecurity breaches. While measures have been developed that are designed to reduce cybersecurity risks, there is no guarantee that those measures will be effective, particularly since the Funds do not directly control the cybersecurity defenses or plans of their service providers, financial intermediaries and other parties with

which the Funds transact, including companies in which the Funds invest.

In light of recent broad-based cybersecurity attacks, legislators and regulators at both the federal and state levels continue to propose new and more robust privacy-related laws, including the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018. Such privacy-related laws could expose the Funds to the risks of legal or regulatory proceedings against the Funds by governmental authorities, third-party vendors, or others, which could adversely affect the Funds.

In addition, other disruptive events, including (but not limited to) natural disasters and public health crises (such as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic), may adversely affect a Fund's ability to conduct business, in particular if a Fund's employees or the employees of its service providers are unable or unwilling to perform their responsibilities as a result of any such event. Even if a Fund's employees and the employees of its service providers are able to work remotely, those remote work arrangements could result in a Fund's business operations being less efficient than under normal circumstances, could lead to delays in its processing of transactions, and could increase the risk of cyber-events.

With the increased use of technologies, such as mobile devices and "cloud"-based service offerings and the dependence on the internet and computer systems to perform necessary business functions, the Funds' service providers are susceptible to operational and information or cybersecurity risks that could result in losses to the Funds and their shareholders. In addition, unintentional incidents can occur, such as the inadvertent release of confidential information (possibly resulting in the violation of applicable privacy laws).

A cybersecurity breach could result in the loss or theft of customer data or funds, loss or theft of proprietary information or corporate data, physical damage to a computer or network system, or costs associated with system repairs. Such incidents could cause a Fund, an Adviser, the Sub-Adviser, a manager, or other service providers to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs, litigation costs or financial loss. In addition, such incidents could affect issuers in which a Fund invests, and thereby cause the Fund's investments to lose value.

The Funds are exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Funds' service providers, counterparties, or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures.

### **Debt Instruments Risk**

Each Fund may invest in debt instruments. The market value of debt securities generally varies in response to changes in interest rates and the financial condition of each issuer. During periods of declining interest rates, the value of debt securities generally increases. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the value of such instruments generally declines. These changes in market value will be reflected in a Fund's net asset value and could also impact the amount of income a Fund generates through debt investments. The rate of interest on a corporate debt instrument may be fixed, floating or variable, and may vary inversely with respect to a reference rate. See "Variable and Floating Rate Securities Risk." The rate of return or return of principal on some debt obligations may be linked or indexed to the level of exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and a foreign currency or currencies. An issuer of a debt instrument may repay principal prior to an instrument's maturity, which can adversely affect a Fund's yield, particularly during periods of declining interest rates. Rising interest rates may cause prepayments to occur at slower than expected rates, which effectively lengthens the maturities of the affected instruments, making them more sensitive to interest rate changes and making a Fund's net asset value more volatile.

The Funds may invest in debt instruments that are rated between "Baa" and as low as "Caa" by Moody's or, if unrated, are of equivalent investment quality as determined by an Adviser and/or a Fund's Sub-Adviser. Such debt instruments may include preferred stocks, investment-grade corporate bonds, debentures and notes, and other similar corporate debt instruments, convertible securities, municipal bonds, and high-quality short-term debt instruments such as commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, obligations insured or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies, and demand and time deposits of domestic banks, U.S. branches and subsidiaries of foreign banks and foreign branches of U.S. banks. Debt instruments may be acquired with warrants attached. Corporate income-producing instruments may also include forms of preferred or preference stock. Investments in corporate debt instruments that are rated below investment grade (rated below "Baa" by Moody's) are considered speculative with respect to the issuer's ability to pay interest and repay principal.

Rating agencies may periodically change the rating assigned to a particular security. If a debt instrument satisfies a Fund's minimum rating requirement when purchased, a subsequent downgrade does not require the sale of the instrument, but an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will consider which action is in the best interest of a Fund and its shareholders, including the sale of the instrument.

Bonds that are rated "Baa" by Moody's are considered as medium grade obligations, *i.e.*, they are neither highly protected nor poorly secured. Interest payments and principal security appear adequate for the present but certain protective elements may be lacking or may be characteristically unreliable over any great length of time. Such bonds lack outstanding investment characteristics and in fact have speculative characteristics as well. Bonds that are rated C by Moody's are the lowest rated class of bonds and can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of attaining any real investment standing.

Although they may offer higher yields than higher-rated securities, high-risk, low-rated debt instruments (commonly referred to as “junk bonds”) and unrated debt instruments generally involve greater volatility of price and risk of principal and income, including the possibility of default by, or bankruptcy of, the issuers of the instruments. In addition, the markets in which low-rated and unrated debt instruments are traded are more limited than those in which higher-rated securities are traded. The existence of limited markets for particular securities may diminish a Fund’s ability to sell the securities at fair value either to meet redemption requests or to respond to a specific economic event such as a deterioration in the creditworthiness of the issuer. Reduced secondary market liquidity for certain low-rated or unrated debt instruments may also make it more difficult for a Fund to obtain accurate market quotations for the purposes of valuing their portfolios. Market quotations are generally available on many low-rated or unrated securities only from a limited number of dealers and may not necessarily represent firm bids of such dealers or prices for actual sales.

Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may decrease the values and liquidity of low-rated debt instruments, especially in a thinly traded market. Analysis of the creditworthiness of issuers of low-rated debt instruments may be more complex than for issuers of higher-rated instruments, and the ability of a Fund to achieve its investment objective may, to the extent of investment in low-rated debt instruments, be more dependent upon such creditworthiness analysis than would be the case if the Fund were investing in higher-rated instruments. In addition, the use of credit ratings as the sole method of evaluating low-rated instruments can involve certain risks. For example, credit ratings evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not the market value risk of low-rated instruments. In addition, credit rating agencies may fail to change credit ratings in a timely fashion to reflect events since the instrument was most recently rated.

Low-rated debt instruments may be more susceptible to real or perceived adverse economic and competitive industry conditions than investment grade securities. The prices of low-rated debt instruments have been found to be less sensitive to interest rate changes than higher-rated investments, but more sensitive to adverse economic downturns or individual corporate developments. A projection of an economic downturn or of a period of rising interest rates, for example, could cause a decline in low-rated debt instruments prices because the advent of a recession could lessen the ability of a highly leveraged company to make principal and interest payments on its debt instruments. If the issuer of low-rated debt instruments defaults, a Fund may incur additional expenses seeking recovery.

### **Depository Receipts Risk**

Each Fund may purchase sponsored or unsponsored American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”), and Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) (collectively, “Depository Receipts”). ADRs are Depositary Receipts typically issued by a U.S. bank or trust company which evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. EDRs and GDRs are typically issued by foreign banks or foreign trust companies, although they also may be issued by U.S. banks or trust companies, and evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by either a foreign or a U.S. corporation. Generally, Depositary Receipts in registered form are designed for use in the U.S. securities market and Depositary Receipts in bearer form are designed for use in securities markets outside the U.S. Depositary Receipts may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the underlying securities into which they may be converted. Depositary Receipts may be issued pursuant to sponsored or unsponsored programs. In sponsored programs, the underlying issuer has made arrangements to have its securities traded in the form of Depositary Receipts. In un-sponsored programs, the underlying issuer may not be directly involved in the creation of the program. Although regulatory requirements with respect to sponsored and unsponsored programs are generally similar, in some cases, it may be easier to obtain financial information from an underlying issuer that has participated in the creation of a sponsored program. Accordingly, there may be less information available regarding underlying issuers of securities in unsponsored programs and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the Depositary Receipts. Depositary Receipts also involve the risks of other investments in foreign securities, as further discussed below in this section. For purposes of each Fund’s investment policies, a Fund’s investments in Depositary Receipts will be deemed to be investments in the underlying securities.

### **Derivatives Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may purchase and write call and put options on securities, securities indices and foreign currencies, and enter into futures contracts and use options on futures contracts as further described below. A Fund may also enter into swap agreements with respect to foreign currencies, interest rates and securities indices. A Fund may use these techniques to hedge against changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates or securities prices or to attempt to achieve investment returns as part of its overall investment strategies. A Fund may also purchase and sell options relating to foreign currencies for purposes of increasing exposure to a foreign currency or to shift exposure to foreign currency fluctuations from one country to another. A Fund will segregate or “ earmark” assets determined to be liquid by an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees (or, as permitted by applicable regulation, enter into certain offsetting positions) to cover its obligations under options, futures, and swaps to avoid leveraging the portfolio of the Fund as described below.

The Funds consider derivative instruments to consist of securities or other instruments whose value is derived from or related to the value of some other instrument or asset, and not to include those securities whose payment of principal and/or interest depends upon cash flows from underlying assets, such as mortgage-related or asset-backed securities. The value of some derivative instruments in which a Fund invests may be particularly sensitive to changes in prevailing interest rates, and, like the other investments of a Fund, the ability of a Fund to successfully utilize these instruments may depend in part upon the ability of an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, to

correctly forecast interest rates and other economic factors. If an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, incorrectly forecasts such factors and has taken positions in derivative instruments contrary to prevailing market trends, the Fund could be exposed to the risk of loss. In addition, while the use of derivatives for hedging purposes can reduce losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains, and hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and security it is hedging, which means that a hedge might not be effective. A Fund might not employ any of the strategies described above, and no assurance can be given that any strategy used will succeed. A decision as to whether, when and how to utilize derivative instruments involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived derivatives strategy may be unsuccessful. The use of derivative instruments involves brokerage fees and/or other transaction costs, which will be borne by the Fund.

Privately negotiated derivatives typically may be modified or terminated only by mutual consent of the original parties and subject to agreement on individually negotiated terms. Therefore, it may not be possible for a Fund to modify, terminate, or offset the Fund's obligations or the Fund's exposure to the risks associated with a privately negotiated derivative prior to its scheduled termination date, which creates a possibility of increased volatility and/or decreased liquidity for the Fund.

Investment in futures-related and commodity-linked derivatives may subject a Fund to additional risks, and in particular may subject a Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of futures-related and commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs, and international economic, political and regulatory developments. In order to qualify for the special tax treatment available to RICs under Subchapter M of the Code, a Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income each taxable year from certain specified types of investments. It is currently unclear which types of commodities-linked derivatives fall within these specified investment types. As a result, if a Fund's investment in commodities-linked derivatives were to exceed a certain threshold, the Fund could fail to qualify for the special tax treatment available to RICs under Subchapter M of the Code.

The Derivatives Rule regulates the use of derivatives by registered funds. Among other things, the Derivatives Rule requires certain funds that invest in derivative instruments beyond a specified limited amount (generally greater than 10% of a Fund's net assets) to apply a value-at-risk based limit to their use of certain derivative instruments and financing transactions and to adopt and implement a derivatives risk management program. To the extent a Fund uses derivative instruments (excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions) in a limited amount (up to 10% of a Fund's net assets), it will not be subject to the full requirements of the Derivatives Rule. In addition, to the extent that a Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions, the Fund may elect to either treat all of its reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions as derivatives transactions for purposes of the Derivatives Rule or comply (with respect to reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions) with the asset coverage requirements under Section 18 of the 1940

Act. In addition, under the Derivatives Rule, when-issued or forward settling securities transactions that physically settle within 35- days are deemed not to involve a senior security.

### **Dividend-Harvesting Strategy Risk**

Each Fund may use a dividend-harvesting strategy. A dividend-harvesting strategy is an income-producing strategy in which a particular security that is expected to pay a dividend in the near-term is purchased, the security is held until its dividend is paid, and then the security is sold in order to purchase another security about to pay a dividend.

### **Duration Risk**

Duration is one of the fundamental tools used by an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, in security selection for certain Funds. Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a security or a portfolio to relative changes in interest rates. For instance, a duration of "three" means that a portfolio's or security's price would be expected to change by approximately 3% with a 1% change in interest rates. Assumptions generally accepted by the industry concerning the probability of early payment and other factors may be used in the calculation of duration for debt securities that contain put or call provisions, sometimes resulting in a duration different from the stated maturity of the security. With respect to certain mortgage-backed securities, duration is likely to be substantially less than the stated maturity of the mortgages in the underlying pools. The maturity of a security measures only the time until final payment is due and, in the case of a mortgage-backed security, does not take into account the factors included in duration. A Fund's duration directly impacts the degree to which asset values fluctuate with changes in interest rates. For every 1% change in interest rate, a Fund's net asset value is expected to change inversely by approximately 1% for each year of duration. For example, a 1% increase in interest rate would be expected to cause a fixed-income portfolio with an average dollar weighted duration of five years to decrease in value by approximately 5% (1% interest rate increase multiplied by the five-year duration).

### **Emerging Market and Frontier Market Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in emerging markets investments, which have exposure to the risks discussed below relating to foreign instruments more generally, as well as certain additional risks. A high proportion of the shares of many issuers in emerging market countries may be held by a limited number of persons and financial institutions, which may limit the

number of shares available for investment. The prices at which investments may be acquired may be affected by trading by persons with material non-public information and by securities transactions by brokers in anticipation of transactions by a Fund in particular securities. In addition, emerging market investments are susceptible to being influenced by large investors trading significant blocks of securities.

Emerging market stock markets are undergoing a period of growth and change which may result in trading volatility and difficulties in the settlement and recording of transactions, and in interpreting and applying the relevant law and regulations. The securities industries in these countries are comparatively underdeveloped. Stockbrokers and other intermediaries in the emerging markets may not perform as well as their counterparts in the United States and other more developed securities markets.

Political and economic structures in many emerging market countries are undergoing significant evolution and rapid development, and such countries may lack the social, political and economic stability characteristic of the United States. Certain of such countries may have, in the past, failed to recognize private property rights and have at times nationalized or expropriated the assets of private companies. As a result, the risks described above, including the risks of nationalization or expropriation of assets, may be heightened. In addition, unanticipated political or social developments may affect the values of investments in those countries and the availability of additional investments in those countries. The laws of countries in emerging markets relating to limited liability of corporate shareholders, fiduciary duties of officers and directors, and the bankruptcy of state enterprises are generally less well developed than or different from such laws in the United States. It may be more difficult to obtain or enforce a judgment in the courts of these countries than it is in the United States. Emerging securities markets are substantially smaller, less liquid and more volatile than the major securities markets in the United States. Although some governments in emerging markets have instituted economic reform policies, there can be no assurances that such policies will continue or succeed.

### **Energy Company Risk**

Each Fund may invest in energy companies. Certain risks inherent in investing in energy and Energy Companies (including MLPs, Energy Infrastructure Companies and Other Energy Companies) include the following:

Supply and Demand Risk. A decrease in the production of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, coal or other energy commodities, a decrease in the volume of such commodities available for transportation, mining, processing, storage or distribution or a sustained decline in demand for such commodities, may adversely impact the financial performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies. Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which will be impacted by a wide range of factors, including economic conditions, fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, among others.

Depletion and Exploration Risk. Energy reserves naturally deplete as they are produced over time. Many Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are either engaged in the production of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, or coal, or are engaged in transporting, storing, distributing and processing these items and refined products on behalf of the owners of such commodities. To maintain or grow their revenues, these companies or their customers need to maintain or expand their reserves through exploration of new sources of supply, through the development of existing sources or through acquisitions. The financial performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies may be adversely affected if they, or the companies to whom they provide the service, are unable to cost-effectively acquire additional reserves sufficient to replace the natural decline. If an Energy Company or Energy Infrastructure Company fails to add reserves by acquiring or developing them, its reserves and production will decline over time as they are produced. If an Energy Company or Energy Infrastructure Company is not able to raise capital on favorable terms, it may not be able to add to or maintain its reserves.

Reserve Risks. Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies engaged in the production of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and other energy commodities are subject to the risk that the quantities of their reserves are overstated, or will not be produced in the time periods anticipated, for a variety of reasons including the risk that no commercially productive amounts of such energy commodities can be produced from estimated reserves because of the curtailment, delay or cancellation of production activities as a result of unexpected conditions or miscalculations, title problems, pressure or irregularities in formations, equipment failures or accidents, adverse weather conditions, compliance with environmental and other governmental requirements and cost of, or shortages or delays in the availability of, drilling rigs and other equipment, and operational risks and hazards associated with the development of the underlying properties, including natural disasters, blowouts, explosions, fires, leakage of such energy commodities, mechanical failures, cratering and pollution.

Regulatory Risk. Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are subject to significant federal, state and local government regulation in virtually every aspect of their operations, including (i) how facilities are constructed, maintained and operated, (ii) how and where wells are drilled, (iii) how services are provided, (iv) environmental and safety controls, and, in some cases (v) the prices they may charge for the products and services they provide. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them, and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines,

injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may adversely affect the financial performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies.

Commodity Pricing Risk. The operations and financial performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies may be directly affected by energy commodity prices, especially those Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies which own the underlying energy commodity or receive payments for services that are based on commodity prices. Such impact may be a result of changes in the price for such commodity or a result of changes in the price of one energy commodity relative to the price of another energy commodity (i.e., the price of natural gas relative to the price of natural gas liquids). Commodity prices fluctuate for several reasons, including changes in market and economic conditions, the impact of weather on demand, levels of domestic production and imported commodities, energy conservation, domestic and foreign governmental regulation and taxation and the availability of local, intrastate and interstate transportation systems. Volatility of commodity prices may also make it more difficult for Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies to raise capital to the extent the market perceives that their performance may be directly or indirectly tied to commodity prices. In addition to the volatility of commodity prices, extremely high commodity prices may drive further energy conservation efforts which may adversely affect the performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies.

Acquisition Risk. The ability of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies to grow operating cash flow and increase such company's enterprise value can be highly dependent on their ability to make accretive acquisitions. In the event that Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are unable to make such acquisitions because they are unable to identify attractive acquisition candidates and negotiate acceptable purchase contracts, because they are unable to raise financing for such acquisitions on economically acceptable terms, or because they are outbid by competitors, their future growth will be limited. Furthermore, even if Energy Companies or Energy Infrastructure Companies do consummate acquisitions that they believe will be accretive, the acquisitions may instead result in a decrease in operating cash flow or a decrease in enterprise value. Any acquisition involves risks, including, among other things: mistaken assumptions about revenues and costs, including synergies; the assumption of unknown liabilities; limitations on rights to indemnity from the seller; the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns; unforeseen difficulties operating in new product or geographic areas; and customer or key employee losses at the acquired businesses.

Affiliated Party Risk. Certain Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are dependent on their parents or sponsors for a majority of their revenues. Any failure by such company's parents or sponsors to satisfy their payments or obligations would impact such company's revenues and operating cash flows and ability to make interest payments and/or distributions.

Catastrophe Risk. The operations of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies are subject to many hazards inherent in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal or electricity, including: damage to pipelines, storage tanks, plants or related equipment and surrounding properties caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, fires and other natural disasters or by acts of terrorism; inadvertent damage from construction and farm equipment; well blowouts; leaks of such energy commodities; fires and explosions. These risks could result in substantial losses due to personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property and equipment and pollution or other environmental damage and may result in the curtailment or suspension of their related operations. Not all Energy Companies or Energy Infrastructure Companies are fully insured against all risks inherent to their businesses. If a significant accident or event occurs that is not fully insured, it could adversely affect the Energy Company's or Energy Infrastructure Company's operations and financial condition.

The Funds expect that insurance premiums to operate certain assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal, electricity or renewable energy may increase due to operational risks (such as the Macondo oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010). Further increased government regulations to mitigate such catastrophe risk could increase insurance and other operating costs for Energy Infrastructure Companies and adversely affect the financial performance of such companies.

Terrorism/Market Disruption Risk. Terrorist attacks may have a disruptive effect on the economy and the securities markets. Global events, including particularly in the Middle East and including government stability specifically, could have significant adverse effects on the U.S. economy, and financial and commodities markets. Assets that are used in the energy sector, including assets used in exploring, developing, producing, generating, transporting, transmitting, storing, gathering, processing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products, coal, electricity or renewable energy could be direct targets, or indirect casualties, of an act of terror. The U.S. Government has issued warnings that such assets, specifically the United States' pipeline infrastructure, may be the future target of terrorist organizations.

Weather Risk. Extreme weather conditions, such as hurricanes, (i) could result in substantial damage to the facilities of certain Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies located in the affected areas, (ii) significantly increase the volatility in the supply of energy commodities and (iii) adversely affect the financial performance of Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies, and could therefore adversely affect their securities. The damage done by extreme weather also may serve to increase many insurance premiums paid by Energy Companies and Energy Infrastructure Companies and could adversely affect such companies' financial condition.

Master Limited Partnership Risks. An investment in master limited partnership units involves certain risks which differ from an investment in the securities of a corporation. Holders of master limited partnership units have limited control and voting rights on matters affecting the partnership. In addition, there are certain tax risks associated with an investment in master limited partnership units and conflicts of interest exist between common unit holders and the general partner, including those arising from incentive distribution payments.

### **Equity Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in equity securities without regard to market capitalization. Equity securities consist of exchange-traded, OTC and unlisted common and preferred stocks, warrants, rights, convertible debt securities, trust certificates, limited partnership interests, private investments in public equities, depositary receipts, warrants and equity participations.

Common stock represents an equity or ownership interest in a company. This interest often gives a Fund the right to vote on measures affecting the company's organization and operations. Equity securities have a history of long-term growth in value, but their prices tend to fluctuate in the shorter term. Preferred stock generally does not exhibit as great a potential for appreciation or depreciation as common stock, although it ranks above common stock in its claim on income for dividend payments.

Investments in equity securities are subject to a number of risks, including the financial risk of selecting individual companies that do not perform as anticipated, the risk that the stock markets in which a Fund invests may experience periods of turbulence and instability, and the general risk that domestic and global economies may go through periods of decline and cyclical change. Many factors affect an individual company's performance, such as the strength of its management or the demand for its products or services, and the value of a Fund's equity investments may change in response to stock market movements, information or financial results regarding the issuer, general market conditions, general economic and/or political conditions, and other factors.

In addition, each Fund may have exposure to or invest in equity securities of companies with small or medium capitalization. Investments in securities of companies with small or medium capitalization involve certain risks that may differ from, or be greater than, those for larger companies, such as higher volatility, lower trading volume, lack of liquidity, fewer business lines and lack of public information (see "Small and Medium Capitalization Stocks Risk").

The market value of all securities, including equity securities, is based upon the market's perception of value and not necessarily the book value of an issuer or other objective measure of a company's worth.

### **Exchange-Traded Funds ("ETFs") Risk**

Each Fund may invest in shares of ETFs. ETFs are baskets of securities that, like stocks, trade on exchanges such as the American Stock Exchange or New York Stock Exchange. ETFs are priced continuously and trade throughout the day. Each share represents an undivided ownership interest in the portfolio of stocks held by an ETF. ETFs acquire and hold either:

- Shares of all of the companies that are represented by a particular index in the same proportion that is represented in the index itself;
- Shares of a sampling of the companies that are represented by a particular index in a proportion meant to track the performance of the entire index; or
- Shares of companies included in a basket of securities.

The value of shares of ETFs that are intended to provide investment results that, before expenses, generally correspond to the price and yield performance of the corresponding market index or basket of securities, should, under normal circumstances, closely track the value of the underlying component stocks. Such ETFs generally do not buy or sell securities, except to the extent necessary to conform their portfolios to the corresponding index. Because an ETF has operating expenses and transaction costs, while a market index or basket of securities does not, ETFs that track particular indices or baskets of securities typically will be unable to match the performance of the index or basket of securities exactly. A Fund's investment in ETFs will be subject to the risks of investing in the ETFs' underlying securities.

In connection with its investment in ETF shares, a Fund will incur various costs. A Fund may also realize capital gains when ETF shares are sold, and the purchase and sale of the ETF shares may include a brokerage commission that may result in costs. In addition, a Fund is subject to other fees as an investor in ETFs. Generally, those fees include, but are not limited to, Trustees' fees, operating expenses, licensing fees, registration fees, and marketing expenses.

ETFs that are organized as unit investment trusts are registered under the 1940 Act as investment companies. Examples of such ETFs include iShares and Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts ("SPDRs"). These ETFs generally do not sell or redeem their shares for cash, and most investors do not purchase or redeem shares directly from an ETF at all. Instead, these ETF issues and redeems its shares in large blocks (typically 50,000 of its shares) called "creation units." Creation units are issued to anyone who deposits a specified portfolio of these ETFs' underlying securities, as well as a cash payment generally equal to accumulated dividends of the securities (net of expenses) up to the time of deposit, and creation units are redeemed in kind for a portfolio of the underlying securities (based on the ETF's net asset value) together with a cash payment generally equal to accumulated dividends as of the date of redemption. Most ETF investors, however,

purchase and sell these ETF shares in the secondary trading market on a securities exchange, in lots of any size, at any time during the trading day. ETF investors generally must pay a brokerage fee for each purchase or sale of these ETF shares, including purchases made to reinvest dividends. Because these ETF shares are created from the stocks of an underlying portfolio and can be redeemed into the stocks of an underlying portfolio on any day, arbitrage traders may move to profit from any price discrepancies between the shares and the ETF's portfolio, which in turn helps to close the price gap between the two. Of course, because of the forces of supply and demand and other market factors, there may be times when an ETF share trades at a premium or discount to its net asset value.

Aggressive ETF Investment Technique Risk. These ETFs may use investment techniques and financial instruments that could be considered aggressive, including the use of futures contracts, options on futures contracts, securities and indices, forward contracts, swap agreements, and similar instruments. An ETF's investment in financial instruments may involve a small investment relative to the amount of investment exposure assumed and may result in losses exceeding the amounts invested in those instruments. Such instruments, particularly when used to create leverage, may expose the ETF to potentially dramatic changes (losses or gains) in the value of the instruments and imperfect correlation between the value of the instruments and the relevant security or index. The use of aggressive investment techniques also exposes an ETF to risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities contained in an index underlying the ETF's benchmark.

Inverse Correlation ETF Risk. ETFs benchmarked to an inverse multiple of an index should lose value as the index or security underlying such ETF's benchmark is increasing (gaining value), a result that is the opposite from traditional mutual funds.

Leveraged ETF Risk. Leverage offers a means of magnifying market movements into larger changes in an investment's value and provides greater investment exposure than an unleveraged investment. While only certain ETFs employ leverage, many may use leveraged investment techniques for investment purposes. The ETFs that employ leverage will normally lose more money in adverse market environments than ETFs that do not employ leverage. Trading in leveraged ETFs can be relatively illiquid, which means that they may be hard to purchase or sell at a fair price.

#### **Exchange-Traded Notes ("ETNs") Risk**

Each Fund may invest in ETNs. ETNs are generally notes representing debt of the issuer, usually a financial institution. ETNs combine both aspects of bonds and ETFs. An ETN's returns are based on the performance of one or more underlying assets, reference rates or indexes, minus fees and expenses. Similar to ETFs, ETNs are listed on an exchange and traded in the secondary market. However, unlike an ETF, an ETN can be held until the ETN's maturity, at which time the issuer will pay a return linked to the performance of the specific asset, index or rate ("reference instrument") to which the ETN is linked minus certain fees. Unlike regular bonds, ETNs do not make periodic interest payments, and principal is not protected.

The value of an ETN may be influenced by, among other things, time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying markets, changes in the applicable interest rates, the performance of the reference instrument, changes in the issuer's credit rating and economic, legal, political or geographic events that affect the reference instrument. An ETN that is tied to a reference instrument may not replicate the performance of the reference instrument. ETNs also incur certain expenses not incurred by their applicable reference instrument. Some ETNs that use leverage can, at times, be relatively illiquid and, thus, they may be difficult to purchase or sell at a fair price. Levered ETNs are subject to the same risk as other instruments that use leverage in any form. While leverage allows for greater potential return, the potential for loss is also greater. Finally, additional losses may be incurred if the investment loses value because, in addition to the money lost on the investment, the loan still needs to be repaid.

Because the return on the ETN is dependent on the issuer's ability or willingness to meet its obligations, the value of the ETN may change due to a change in the issuer's credit rating, despite no change in the underlying reference instrument. The market value of ETN shares may differ from the value of the reference instrument. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETN shares at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the assets underlying the reference instrument that the ETN seeks to track.

There may be restrictions on a Fund's right to redeem its investment in an ETN, which are generally meant to be held until maturity. A Fund's decision to sell its ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market. An investor in an ETN could lose some or the entire amount invested.

#### **ETFs and ETNs Risk**

ETFs or ETNs that are based on a specific index may not be able to replicate and maintain exactly the composition and relative weighting of securities in the applicable index and will incur certain expenses not incurred by their applicable index. Certain securities comprising the index tracked by an ETF or ETN may, at times, be temporarily unavailable, which may impede an ETF's or ETN's ability to track its index. Leveraged ETFs and ETNs are subject to the risk of a breakdown in the futures and options markets they use. Leveraged ETFs or ETNs are subject to the same risk as instruments that use leverage in any form. While leverage allows for greater potential return, the potential for loss is also greater. Finally, additional losses may be incurred if the investment loses value because, in addition to the money lost on the investment, the loan still needs to be repaid. The market value of ETF or ETN shares may differ from their net asset value per share. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETF or ETN shares at any point in time

is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the underlying securities that the ETF or ETN holds. There may be times when an ETF or ETN share trades at a premium or discount to its net asset value.

### **Foreign Currencies Risk**

Investments in foreign currencies are subject to numerous risks, not the least of which is the fluctuation of foreign currency exchange rates with respect to the U.S. dollar. Exchange rates fluctuate for a number of reasons.

Inflation. Exchange rates change to reflect changes in a currency's buying power. Different countries experience different inflation rates due to different monetary and fiscal policies, different product and labor market conditions, and a host of other factors.

Trade Deficits. Countries with trade deficits tend to experience a depreciating currency. Inflation may be the cause of a trade deficit, making a country's goods more expensive and less competitive and so reducing demand for its currency.

Interest Rates. High interest rates may raise currency values in the short term by making such currencies more attractive to investors. However, since high interest rates are often the result of high inflation long-term results may be the opposite.

Budget Deficits and Low Savings Rates. Countries that run large budget deficits and save little of their national income tend to suffer a depreciating currency because they are forced to borrow abroad to finance their deficits. Payments of interest on this debt can inundate the currency markets with the currency of the debtor nation. Budget deficits also can indirectly contribute to currency depreciation if a government chooses inflationary measures to cope with its deficits and debt. Political Factors. Political instability in a country can cause a currency to depreciate. Demand for a certain currency may fall if a country appears a less desirable place in which to invest and do business.

Government Control. Through their own buying and selling of currencies, the world's central banks sometimes manipulate exchange rate movements. In addition, governments occasionally issue statements to influence people's expectations about the direction of exchange rates, or they may instigate policies with an exchange rate target as the goal. The value of a Fund's investments is calculated in U.S. dollars each day that the New York Stock Exchange is open for business. As a result, to the extent that a Fund's assets are invested in instruments denominated in foreign currencies and the currencies appreciate relative to the U.S. dollar, the Fund's net asset value as expressed in U.S. dollars should increase. If the U.S. dollar appreciates relative to the other currencies, the opposite should occur. The currency-related gains and losses experienced by a Fund will be based on changes in the value of portfolio securities attributable to currency fluctuations only in relation to the original purchase price of such securities as stated in U.S. dollars. Gains or losses on shares of a Fund will be based on changes attributable to fluctuations in the net asset value of such shares, expressed in U.S. dollars, in relation to the original U.S. dollar purchase price of the shares. The amount of appreciation or depreciation in a Fund's assets also will be affected by the net investment income generated by the money market instruments in which a Fund invests and by changes in the value of the securities that are unrelated to changes in currency exchange rates. A Fund may incur currency exchange costs when it sells instruments denominated in one currency and buys instruments denominated in another.

Investments in foreign securities are normally denominated and traded in foreign currencies. The value of a Fund's assets may be affected favorably or unfavorably by currency exchange rates, currency exchange control regulations, and restrictions or prohibitions on the repatriation of foreign currencies. Some countries in which a Fund may invest may also have fixed or managed currencies that are not free-floating against the U.S. dollar. Further, certain currencies may not be internationally traded. Certain of these currencies have experienced a steady devaluation relative to the U.S. dollar. Any devaluation in the currencies in which a Fund's portfolio securities are denominated may have a detrimental impact on the Fund.

### **Foreign Currency Transactions Risk**

Each Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions, including foreign currency forward contracts, options, swaps, and other strategic transactions in connection with investments in securities of non-U.S. companies. The Funds will conduct their foreign currency exchange transactions either on a spot (*i.e.*, cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market or through forward contracts to purchase or sell foreign currencies.

Each Fund may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts (forward contracts) in order to protect against possible losses on foreign investments resulting from adverse changes in the relationship between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies, as well as to increase or decrease exposure to a foreign currency or to shift exposure to foreign currency fluctuations from one country to another. A forward contract is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency for an agreed price on a future date which is individually negotiated and privately traded by currency traders and their customers. Although foreign exchange dealers typically do not charge a fee for conversion, they do realize a profit based on the difference (spread) between the price at which they are buying and selling various currencies. However, forward contracts may limit the potential gains which could result from a positive change in such currency relationships. Eventually some but not all forward contracts will be centrally-cleared and exchanged-traded. Although these changes are expected to decrease the counterparty risk involved in bilaterally negotiated contracts and increase market liquidity, exchange-trading and clearing would not make the contracts risk-free.

Each Fund may purchase and write put and call options on foreign currencies for the purpose of protecting against declines in the U.S. dollar value of foreign portfolio securities and against increases in the U.S. dollar cost of foreign securities to be acquired. As with other kinds of options, however, the writing of an option on foreign currency may constitute only a partial hedge, and a Fund could be required to purchase or sell foreign currencies at disadvantageous exchange rates, thereby incurring losses. The purchase of an option on foreign currency may constitute an effective hedge against fluctuation in exchange rates although, in the event of rate movements adverse to a Fund's position, the Fund may forfeit the entire amount of the premium plus related transaction costs. See generally the discussion below on "Forwards, Futures, Swaps and Options Risk."

Each Fund may enter into interest rate swaps on either an asset-based or liability-based basis, depending on whether it is hedging its assets or its liabilities, and will enter into interest rate swaps on a net basis (*i.e.*, the two payment streams are netted out, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments). The net amount of the excess, if any, of a Fund's obligations over its entitlement with respect to each interest rate swap will be calculated on a daily basis and an amount of cash or other liquid assets (marked to market daily) having an aggregate net asset value at least equal to the accrued excess will be segregated or "earmarked." an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will monitor the creditworthiness of all counterparties on an ongoing basis. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, a Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. There is no limit on the amount of interest rate swap transactions that may be entered into by a Fund, subject to the segregation requirement described above. These transactions may in some instances involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets by a Fund to collateralize obligations under the swap. Under the documentation currently used in those markets, the risk of loss with respect to interest rate swaps is limited to the net amount of the payments that a Fund is contractually obligated to make.

While certain Fund portfolio managers are authorized to hedge against currency risk, they are not required to do so. Furthermore, the Sub-Adviser generally chooses, in accordance with its investment philosophies, not to hedge currency exposure.

### **Forwards, Futures, Swaps and Options Risk**

As described below, each Fund may purchase and sell in the U.S. or abroad futures contracts, put and call options, forward contracts, swaps and options on securities, swaptions, futures, broadly-based stock indices and currencies. In the future, a Fund may employ instruments and strategies that are not presently contemplated, but which may be subsequently developed, to the extent such investment methods are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives and are legally permissible. There can be no assurance that an instrument, if employed, will be successful.

Each Fund may buy and sell these investments for a number of purposes, including hedging, investment or speculative purposes. For example, it may do so to try to manage its exposure to the possibility that the prices of its portfolio securities may decline, or to establish a position in the securities market as a substitute for purchasing individual securities. Some of these strategies, such as selling futures, buying puts and writing covered calls, may be used to hedge a Fund's portfolio against price fluctuations. Other hedging strategies, such as buying futures and call options, tend to increase a Fund's exposure to the securities market.

### Special Risk Factors Regarding Forwards, Futures, Swaps and Options

Transactions in derivative instruments (e.g., futures, options, forwards, swaps, and swaptions) involve a risk of loss or depreciation due to: unanticipated adverse changes in securities prices, interest rates, indices, the other financial instruments' prices or currency exchange rates; the inability to close out a position; default by the counterparty; imperfect correlation between a position and the desired hedge; tax constraints on closing out positions; and portfolio management constraints on securities subject to such transactions. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed the amount invested in these instruments. In addition, the entire premium paid for purchased options may be lost before they can be profitably exercised. Transaction costs are incurred in opening and closing positions. Derivative instruments may increase or leverage exposure to a particular market risk, thereby increasing price volatility of derivative instruments a Fund holds. A Fund's success in using derivative instruments to hedge portfolio assets depends on the degree of price correlation between the derivative instruments and the hedged asset. Imperfect correlation may be caused by several factors, including temporary price disparities among the trading markets for the derivative instrument, the assets underlying the derivative instrument and a Fund's assets. OTC derivative instruments involve an increased risk that the issuer or counterparty will fail to perform its contractual obligations. Some derivative instruments are not readily marketable or may become illiquid under adverse market conditions. In addition, during periods of market volatility, a commodity exchange may suspend or limit trading in an exchange-traded derivative instrument, which may make the contract temporarily illiquid and difficult to price. Commodity exchanges may also establish daily limits on the amount that the price of a futures contract or futures option can vary from the previous day's settlement price. Once the daily limit is reached, no trades may be made that day at a price beyond the limit. This may prevent the closing out of positions to limit losses. Certain purchased OTC options, and assets used as cover for written OTC options, may be considered illiquid. The ability to terminate OTC derivative instruments may depend on the cooperation of the counterparties to such contracts. For thinly traded derivative instruments, the only source of price quotations may be the selling dealer or counterparty. In addition, certain provisions of the Code limit the use of derivative instruments. The use of derivatives is a highly specialized activity that involves skills different from conducting ordinary portfolio securities transactions. There can be no assurance that an Adviser's or the Sub-Adviser's use of derivative instruments will be advantageous to a Fund.

## Regulatory Matters Regarding Forwards, Futures, Swaps and Options

With respect to the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the respective Adviser of each Fund has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term “commodity pool operator” (“CPO”) under CFTC Regulation 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”). As such, the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund are not currently subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool under the CEA.

The Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund is subject to regulation by the CFTC as a commodity pool, and its Adviser is registered with the CFTC as a commodity pool operator and commodity trading advisor with respect to this Fund, and the Sub-Adviser Broadmark is registered with the CFTC as a commodity trading advisor with respect to this Fund.

The CFTC has adopted final regulations designed to harmonize the obligations of registered CPOs for commodity pools that are also registered as investment companies under the 1940 Act (the “Harmonization Rules”). Under the Harmonization Rules, the CFTC generally will accept the SEC’s disclosure, reporting, and recordkeeping regime as “substituted compliance” for substantially all of the CFTC’s regulations as long as the CPO complies with applicable requirements under the SEC’s statutory and regulatory compliance regime to which it or the pool is already subject. Salient Advisors intends to operate the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund in compliance with the CFTC’s Harmonization Rules. Historically, the CFTC has mandated that CPOs keep required records at their main business office. The Harmonization Rules provide relief to CPOs by permitting them to maintain books and records with certain third parties, rather than at the main business office, subject to certain conditions. One of these conditions requires the Fund to disclose the location of the Fund’s books and records. Such information is included in the Fund’s registration statement.

Transactions in futures and options by the Funds are subject to limitations established by futures and option exchanges governing the maximum number of futures and options that may be written or held by a single investor or group of investors acting in concert, regardless of whether the futures or options were written or purchased on the same or different exchanges or are held in one or more accounts or through one or more different exchanges or through one or more brokers. Thus, the number of futures or options which a Fund may write or hold may be affected by futures or options written or held by other entities, including other investment companies advised by its Adviser or the Sub-Adviser (or an advisor that is an affiliate of the Fund’s Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser). An exchange may order the liquidation of positions found to be in violation of those limits and may impose certain other sanctions.

### Forward Contracts

A forward contract is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific security, currency or other instrument for an agreed price at a future date that is individually negotiated and privately traded by traders and their customers. In contrast to contracts traded on an exchange (such as futures contracts), forward contracts are not guaranteed by any exchange or clearinghouse and are subject to the creditworthiness of the counterparty of the trade. Forward contracts are highly leveraged and highly volatile, and a relatively small price movement in a forward contract may result in substantial losses to a Fund. To the extent a Fund engages in forward contracts to generate total return, the Fund will be subject to these risks.

Forward contracts are not always standardized and are frequently the subject of individual negotiation between the parties involved. By contrast, futures contracts are generally standardized, and futures exchanges have central clearinghouses that keep track of all positions.

Because there is no clearinghouse system applicable to forward contracts, there is no direct means of offsetting a forward contract by purchase of an offsetting position on the same exchange as one can with respect to a futures contract. Absent contractual termination rights, a Fund may not be able to terminate a forward contract at a price and time that it desires. In such event, such Fund will remain subject to counterparty risk with respect to the forward contract, even if the Fund enters into an offsetting forward contract with the same, or a different, counterparty. If a counterparty defaults, such Fund may lose money on the transaction.

Depending on the asset underlying the forward contract, forward transactions can be influenced by, among other things, changing supply and demand relationships, government commercial and trade programs and policies, national and international political and economic events, weather and climate conditions, insects and plant disease, purchases and sales by foreign countries and changing interest rates.

### Futures Contracts

U.S. futures contracts are traded on organized exchanges regulated by the CFTC. Transactions on such exchanges are cleared through a clearing corporation, which guarantees the performance of the parties to each contract.

There are several risks in connection with the use of futures by the Funds. In the event futures are used by a Fund for hedging purposes, one risk arises because of the imperfect correlation between movements in the price of futures and movements in the price of the instruments which are the subject of the hedge. The price of futures may move more than or less than the price of the instruments being hedged. If the price of futures moves less than the price of the instruments which are the subject of the hedge, the hedge will not be fully effective, but, if the price of the instruments being hedged has moved in an unfavorable direction, a Fund would be in a better position than if it had not hedged at all. If the price of the instruments being hedged has moved in a favorable direction, this advantage will be partially offset by the loss on the futures. If the price of the futures moves more than the price of the hedged instruments, the Fund involved

will experience either a loss or gain on the futures which will not be completely offset by movements in the price of the instruments which are the subject of the hedge.

To compensate for the imperfect correlation of movements in the price of instruments being hedged and movements in the price of futures contracts, a Fund may buy or sell futures contracts in a greater dollar amount than the dollar amount of instruments being hedged if the volatility over a particular time period of the prices of such instruments has been greater than the volatility over such time period of the futures, or if otherwise deemed to be appropriate by an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate. Conversely, a Fund may buy or sell fewer futures contracts if the volatility over a particular time period of the prices of the instruments being hedged is less than the volatility over such time period of the futures contract being used, or if otherwise deemed to be appropriate by its Adviser or the Sub-Adviser. It is also possible that, when a Fund sells futures to hedge its portfolio against a decline in the market, the market may advance, and the value of the futures instruments held in the Fund may decline.

Where futures are purchased to hedge against a possible increase in the price of securities before a Fund is able to invest its cash (or cash equivalents) in an orderly fashion, it is possible that the market may decline instead; if the Fund then concludes not to invest its cash at that time because of concern as to possible further market decline or for other reasons, the Fund will realize a loss on the futures contract that is not offset by a reduction in the price of the securities that were to be purchased.

Each Fund may also use futures to attempt to gain exposure to a particular market, index or instrument or for speculative purposes to increase return. One or more markets, indices or instruments to which a Fund has exposure through futures may go down in value, possibly sharply and unpredictably. This means the Funds may lose money.

With respect to futures contracts that are not contractually required to “cash-settle,” the Funds must cover their open positions by designating or segregating on its records cash or liquid assets equal to the contract’s full, notional value. With respect to futures that are contractually required to “cash-settle,” however, a Fund is permitted to designate cash or liquid assets in an amount equal to the Fund’s daily marked-to-market (net) obligation, if any (i.e., the Fund’s daily net liability) rather than the notional value. By designating assets equal to only its net obligation under cash-settled forwards or futures a Fund will have the ability to employ leverage to a greater extent than if the Fund were required to segregate assets equal to the full notional value of such contracts. Each Fund may contractually agree to close positions prior to physical settlement and/or otherwise agree to avoid non-cash settlement.

The price of futures may not correlate perfectly with movement in the cash market due to certain market distortions. Rather than meeting additional margin deposit requirements, investors may close futures contracts through offsetting transactions which could distort the normal relationship between the cash and futures markets. Second, with respect to financial futures contracts, the liquidity of the futures market depends on participants entering into offsetting transactions rather than making or taking delivery. To the extent participants decide to make or take delivery, liquidity in the futures market could be reduced, thus producing distortions. Third, from the point of view of speculators, the deposit requirements in the futures market are less onerous than margin requirements in the securities market. Therefore, increased participation by speculators in the futures market may also cause temporary price distortions. Due to the possibility of price distortion in the futures market, and because of the imperfect correlation between the movements in the cash market and movements in the price of futures, a correct forecast of general market trends or interest rate movements by an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may still not result in a successful hedging transaction over a short time frame.

Positions in futures may be closed out only on an exchange or board of trade which provides a secondary market for such futures. Although the Funds intend to purchase or sell futures only on exchanges or boards of trade where there appear to be active secondary markets, there is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on any exchange or board of trade will exist for any particular contract or at any particular time. When there is no liquid market, it may not be possible to close a futures investment position, and in the event of adverse price movements, a Fund would continue to be required to make daily cash payments of variation margin (as described below).

In such circumstances, an increase in the price of the securities, if any, may partially or completely offset losses on the futures contract. However, as described above, there is no guarantee that the price of the securities will in fact correlate with the price movements in the futures contract and thus provide an offset on a futures contract.

Further, it should be noted that the liquidity of a secondary market in a futures contract may be adversely affected by “daily price fluctuation limits” established by commodities exchanges, which limit the amount of fluctuation in a futures contract price during a single trading day. Once the daily limit has been reached in the contract, no trades may be entered into at a price beyond the limit, thus preventing the liquidation of open futures positions. The trading of futures contracts is also subject to the risk of trading halts, suspensions, exchange or clearing house equipment failures, government intervention, insolvency of a brokerage firm or clearing house or other disruptions of normal activity, which could at times make it difficult or impossible to liquidate existing positions or to recover equity.

Successful use of futures to hedge portfolio securities protects against adverse market movements but also reduces potential gain. For example, if a Fund has hedged against the possibility of a decline in the market adversely affecting securities held by it and securities prices increase instead, the Fund will lose part or all of the benefit to the increased value of its securities which it has hedged because it will have offsetting losses in its futures positions. In addition, in such situations, if a Fund has insufficient cash, it may have to sell securities to

meet daily variation margin requirements. Such sales of securities may be, but will not necessarily be, at increased prices which reflect the rising market. The Funds may have to sell securities at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

### Stock Index Futures

Each Fund may invest in stock index futures. A stock index assigns relative values to the common stocks included in the index and fluctuates with the changes in the market value of those stocks.

Stock index futures are contracts based on the future value of the basket of securities that comprise the underlying stock index. The contracts obligate the seller to deliver and the purchaser to take cash to settle the futures transaction or to enter into an obligation contract. No physical delivery of the securities underlying the index is made on settling the futures obligation. No monetary amount is paid or received by a Fund on the purchase or sale of a stock index future. At any time prior to the expiration of the future, each Fund may elect to close out its position by taking an opposite position, at which time a final determination of variation margin is made and additional cash is required to be paid by or released to the Fund. Any gain or loss is then realized by a Fund on the future for tax purposes. Although stock index futures by their terms call for settlement by the delivery of cash, in most cases the settlement obligation is fulfilled without such delivery by entering into an offsetting transaction. All futures transactions are effected through a clearing house associated with the exchange on which the contracts are traded.

### Futures Contracts on Securities

Each Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts on securities. A futures contract sale creates an obligation by a Fund, as seller, to deliver the specific type of financial instrument called for in the contract at a specific future time for a specified price. A futures contract purchase creates an obligation by a Fund, as purchaser, to take delivery of the specific type of financial instrument at a specific future time at a specific price. The specific securities delivered or taken, respectively, at settlement date, would not be determined until or near that date. The determination would be in accordance with the rules of the exchange on which the futures contract sale or purchase was made.

Although futures contracts on securities by their terms call for actual delivery or acceptance of securities, in most cases the contracts are closed out before the settlement date without making or taking delivery of securities. A Fund may close out a futures contract sale by entering into a futures contract purchase for the same aggregate amount of the specific type of financial instrument and the same delivery date. If the price of the sale exceeds the price of the offsetting purchase, a Fund is immediately paid the difference and thus realizes a gain. If the offsetting purchase price exceeds the sale price, a Fund pays the difference and realizes a loss. Similarly, a Fund may close out of a futures contract purchase by entering into a futures contract sale. If the offsetting sale price exceeds the purchase price, the Fund realizes a gain, and if the purchase price exceeds the offsetting sale price, the Fund realizes a loss. Accounting for futures contracts will be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

### Swap Agreements

Each Fund may enter into interest rate, total return, equity and other swap agreements. Swap agreements can be individually negotiated and structured to include exposure to a variety of different types of investments or market factors. Depending on their structure, swap agreements may increase or decrease a Fund's exposure to long- or short-term interest rates (in the United States or abroad), foreign currency values, mortgage securities, corporate borrowing rates, or other factors such as security prices or inflation rates. Swap agreements can take many different forms and are known by a variety of names.

Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are calculated with respect to a "notional amount," i.e., the return on or increase in value of a particular dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate, in a particular foreign currency, or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. The "notional amount" of the swap agreement is only a fictive basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange.

An option on a swap agreement, also called a "swaption," is an option that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to enter into a swap on a future date in exchange for paying a market-based "premium." A receiver swaption gives the owner the right to receive the total return of a specified asset, reference rate, or index. A payer swaption gives the owner the right to pay the total return of a specified asset, reference rate, or index. Swaptions also include options that allow an existing swap to be terminated or extended by one of the counterparties.

Some swap agreements entered into by a Fund would calculate the obligations of the parties to the agreements on a "net" basis. Consequently, the Fund's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement will generally be equal only to the net amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the positions held by each party to the agreement (the "net amount"). A Fund's obligations under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owing to the Fund) and any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed to a swap counterparty will be covered by the maintenance of liquid assets in accordance with SEC staff positions on the subject.

Forms of swap agreements also include cap, floor and collar agreements. In a typical cap or floor agreement, one party agrees to make payments only under specified circumstances, usually in return for payment of a fee by the other party. For example, the buyer of an interest rate cap obtains the right to receive payments to the extent that a specified interest rate exceeds an agreed-upon level, while the seller of an interest rate floor is obligated to make payments to the extent that a specified interest rate falls below an agreed-upon level. An interest rate collar combines elements of buying a cap and selling a floor.

Swap agreements will tend to shift a Fund's investment exposure from one type of investment to another. For example, if a Fund agreed to pay fixed rates in exchange for floating rates while holding fixed-rate bonds, the swap would tend to decrease the Fund's exposure to long-term interest rates. Caps and floors have an effect similar to buying or writing options. Depending on how they are used, swap agreements may increase or decrease the overall volatility of a Fund's investments and its share price and yield. The most significant factor in the performance of swap agreements is the change in the specific interest rate, currency, or other factors that determine the amounts of payments due to and from the Fund. If a swap agreement calls for payments by a Fund, the Fund must be prepared to make such payments when due.

Each Fund's use of swap agreements may not be successful in furthering its investment objective, as its Adviser or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may not accurately predict whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Because they are two party contracts and because they may have terms of greater than seven days, swap agreements may be considered to be illiquid. If such instruments are determined to be illiquid, then the Fund will limit its investment in these instruments subject to its limitation on investments in illiquid securities. Moreover, a Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. Certain restrictions imposed on a Fund by the Code may limit the Fund's ability to use swap agreements. A Fund may be able to eliminate its exposure under a swap agreement either by assignment or other disposition, or by entering into an offsetting swap agreement with the same party or a similarly creditworthy party. The swaps market is a relatively new market and is largely unregulated. It is possible that developments in the swaps market, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect the Funds' ability to terminate existing swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under such agreements.

#### Credit Default Swap Agreement ("CDS") and Credit Default Index Swap Agreement Risk ("CDX")

The Funds do not currently intend to, but could in the future, enter into credit default swap agreements, credit default index swap agreements and similar agreements as a protection "seller" in order to gain exposure to the credit risk of U.S. and non-U.S. fixed-income securities and sovereign debt, as well as mortgage-backed securities. The Funds may also be a "buyer" of credit protection. Credit default swap agreements involve special risks because they may be difficult to value, are highly susceptible to liquidity and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

Credit default swap agreements or similar instruments may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not then held by the involved Fund. The protection "buyer" in a credit default swap agreement is generally obligated to pay the protection "seller" a periodic stream of payments over the term of the agreement, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. In addition, at the inception of the agreement, the protection "buyer" may receive or be obligated to pay an additional up-front amount depending on the current market value of the contract. Except as noted in the next sentence, with respect to credit default swap agreements that are contractually required to cash settle, a Fund sets aside liquid assets in an amount equal to the Fund's daily marked-to-market net obligations under the contracts. In connection with credit default swaps in which a Fund is the seller, the Fund will segregate or " earmark" cash or liquid assets, or enter into offsetting positions, with a value at least equal to the full notional amount of the swap. For credit default swap agreements that are contractually required to physically settle, a Fund sets aside the full notional value of such contracts. If a credit event occurs, an auction process is used to determine the "recovery value" of the contract. The seller then must pay the buyer the "par value" (full notional value) of the swap contract minus the "recovery value" as determined by the auction process. If a Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund's net cash flows over the life of the contract will be the initial up-front amount paid or received minus the sum of the periodic payments made over the life of the contract. However, if a credit event occurs, the Fund may elect to receive a cash amount equal to the "par value" (full notional value) of the swap contract minus the "recovery value" as determined by the auction process. Credit default swaps could result in losses if an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, does not correctly evaluate the creditworthiness of the underlying instrument on which the credit default swap is based.

#### Equity Swaps

An equity swap is a two-party contract that generally obligates one party to pay the positive return and the other party to pay the negative return on a specified reference security, basket of securities, security index or index component ("asset") during the period of the swap. The payments based on the reference asset may be adjusted for transaction costs, interest payments, the amount of dividends paid on the referenced asset or other economic factors.

Equity swap contracts may be structured in different ways. For example, when a Fund takes a long position, the counterparty may agree to pay the Fund the amount, if any, by which the notional amount of the equity swap would have increased in value had it been invested in a particular stock (or group of stocks), plus the dividends that would have been received on the stock. In these cases, the Fund may agree to

pay to the counterparty interest on the notional amount of the equity swap plus the amount, if any, by which that notional amount would have decreased in value had it been invested in such stock.

Therefore, in this case, the return to the Fund on the equity swap should be the gain or loss on the notional amount plus dividends on the stock less the interest paid by the Fund on the notional amount. In other cases, when a Fund takes a short position, a counterparty may agree to pay the Fund the amount, if any, by which the notional amount of the equity swap would have decreased in value had the Fund sold a particular stock (or group of stocks) short, less the dividend expense that the Fund would have paid on the stock, as adjusted for interest payments or other economic factors. In these situations, the Fund may be obligated to pay the amount, if any, by which the notional amount of the swap would have increased in value had it been invested in such stock.

Equity swaps normally do not involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets. Accordingly, the risk of loss with respect to equity swaps is normally limited to the net amount of payments that a Fund is contractually obligated to make. If the other party to an equity swap defaults, a Fund's risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that the Fund is contractually entitled to receive, if any. Inasmuch as these transactions are offset by segregated cash or liquid assets to cover a Fund's current obligations (or are otherwise covered as permitted by applicable law), the Fund and its Adviser or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believe that these transactions do not constitute senior securities under the Act. Equity swaps are derivatives, and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that a Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as applicable, does not accurately analyze and predict future market trends, the values of assets or economic factors, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The swap markets in which many types of swap transactions are traded have grown substantially in recent years, with a large number of banks and investment banking firms acting both as principals and as agents. As a result, the markets for certain types of swaps have become relatively liquid.

#### Total Return and Interest Rate Swaps

In a total return swap, the buyer receives a periodic return equal to the total return of a specified security, securities or index, for a specified period of time. In return, the buyer pays the counterparty a variable stream of payments, typically based upon short term interest rates, possibly plus or minus an agreed upon spread.

Interest rate swaps are financial instruments that involve the exchange of one type of interest rate for another type of interest rate cash flow on specified dates in the future. Some of the different types of interest rate swaps are "fixed-for-floating rate swaps," "termed basis swaps" and "index amortizing swaps." Fixed- for-floating rate swaps involve the exchange of fixed interest rate cash flows for floating rate cash flows. Termed basis swaps entail cash flows to both parties based on floating interest rates, where the interest rate indices are different. Index amortizing swaps are typically fixed-for-floating swaps where the notional amount changes if certain conditions are met. Like a traditional investment in a debt security, a Fund could lose money by investing in an interest rate swap if interest rates change adversely. For example, if a Fund enters into a swap where it agrees to exchange a floating rate of interest for a fixed rate of interest, the Fund may have to pay more money than it receives. Similarly, if a Fund enters into a swap where it agrees to exchange a fixed rate of interest for a floating rate of interest, the Fund may receive less money than it has agreed to pay.

Interest rate and total return swaps entered into in which payments are not netted may entail greater risk than a swap entered into a net basis. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, a Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction.

#### When-Issued Securities and Firm Commitment Agreements Risk

Each Fund may purchase securities on a delayed delivery or "when-issued" basis and enter into firm commitment agreements (transactions whereby the payment obligation and interest rate are fixed at the time of the transaction but the settlement is delayed). A Fund will not purchase securities the value of which is greater than 15% of its net assets on a when-issued or firm commitment basis. A Fund, as purchaser, assumes the risk of any decline in value of the security beginning on the date of the agreement or purchase, and no interest accrues to a Fund until it accepts delivery of the security. A Fund will not use such transactions for leveraging purposes and, accordingly, will segregate or " earmark" cash, cash equivalents, or liquid securities in an amount sufficient to meet its payment obligations thereunder. Although these transactions will not be entered into for leveraging purposes, to the extent a Fund's aggregate commitments under these transactions exceed its holdings of cash and securities that do not fluctuate in value (such as 87 short-term money market instruments), the Fund temporarily will be in a leveraged position (i.e., it will have an amount greater than its net assets subject to market risk). Should market values of a Fund's portfolio securities decline while the Fund is in a leveraged position, greater depreciation of its net assets would likely occur than were it not in such a position. As a Fund's aggregate commitments under these transactions increase, the opportunity for leverage similarly increases. A Fund will not borrow money to settle these transactions and, therefore, will liquidate other portfolio securities in advance of settlement if necessary to generate additional cash to meet its obligations thereunder.

#### Combined Transactions

Each Fund may enter into multiple transactions, including multiple options transactions, multiple futures transactions, multiple currency transactions including forward currency contracts and multiple interest rate transactions, and any combination of futures, options, currency and interest rate transactions ("component transactions"), instead of a single transaction, as part of a single or combined strategy when, in

the opinion of the Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, it is in the best interests of the Fund to do so. A combined transaction will usually contain elements of risk that are present in each of its component transactions. Although combined transactions are normally entered into based on an Adviser's and/or Sub-Adviser's, as appropriate, judgment that the combined strategies will reduce risk or otherwise more effectively achieve the desired portfolio management goal, it is possible that the combination will instead increase such risks or hinder achievement of the portfolio management objective.

### **Geographic and Sector Focus Risk**

Each Fund may, from time to time, focus on certain geographical areas or sectors. When a Fund's investments are focused in one or a few sectors of the economy or geographic regions, they are not as diversified as the investments of most funds and are far less diversified than the broad securities markets. This means that focused funds tend to be more volatile than other funds, and the values of their investments tend to go up and down more rapidly. In addition, a fund which invests in particular sectors or geographic regions is particularly susceptible to the impact of market, economic, political, regulatory, and other factors affecting those sectors or regions. From time to time, a small number of companies may represent a large portion of a particular sector or a group of related sectors as a whole.

### **Government-Sponsored Enterprises ("GSEs") Risk**

Each Fund may invest in GSEs. Certain GSEs (such as Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, and FHLB), although sponsored or chartered by the U.S. Government, are not funded by the U.S. Government and the securities they issue are not guaranteed by the U.S. Government. GSE debt is generally considered to be of high credit quality due to the implied backing of the U.S. Government, but ultimately it is the sole obligation of its issuer. For that reason, securities issued by GSEs are considered to carry somewhat greater credit risk than securities issued by the U.S. Treasury or government agencies that carry the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

### **Growth Stocks Risk**

Each Fund may invest in growth stocks. Growth-oriented stocks may be more sensitive to changes in current or expected earnings than other stocks. The market prices of companies believed to have good prospects for revenues and earnings growth tend to reflect those expectations. When it appears those expectations will not be met, the prices of these securities typically fall. In addition, if the market does not come to share a Fund's Adviser's and/or the Sub-Adviser's assessment of an investment's long-term growth, a Fund may underperform other mutual funds or stock indices.

### **Hedging Risk**

Each Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, from time to time, may employ various hedging techniques. The success of a Fund's hedging strategy will be subject to its Adviser's and/or the Sub-Adviser's ability to correctly assess the degree of correlation between the performance of the instruments used in the hedging strategy and the performance of the investments in the portfolio being hedged. Since the characteristics of many securities change as markets change or time passes, the success of a Fund's hedging strategy will also be subject to its Adviser's or Sub-Adviser's ability to continually recalculate, readjust, and execute hedges in an efficient and timely manner.

Hedging against a decline in the value of a portfolio position does not eliminate fluctuations in the values of those portfolio positions or prevent losses if the values of those positions decline. Rather, it establishes other positions designed to gain from those same declines, thus seeking to moderate the decline in the portfolio position's value. Such hedging transactions also limit the opportunity for gain if the value of the portfolio position should increase. For a variety of reasons, an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Such imperfect correlation may prevent a Fund from achieving the intended hedge or expose the Fund to risk of loss. In addition, it is not possible to hedge fully or perfectly against any risk, and hedging entails its own costs. Each Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser may determine, in its sole discretion, not to hedge against certain risks and certain risks may exist that cannot be hedged. Furthermore, an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may not anticipate a particular risk so as to hedge against it effectively. Hedging transactions also limit the opportunity for gain if the value of a hedged portfolio position should increase.

### **Hybrid Instruments Risk**

A hybrid instrument is a type of potentially high-risk derivative that combines a traditional stock, bond, or commodity with an option or forward contract. Generally, the principal amount, amount payable upon maturity or redemption, or interest rate of a hybrid is tied (positively or negatively) to the price of some commodity, currency or securities index or another interest rate or some other economic factor (each a "benchmark"). The interest rate or (unlike most fixed-income securities) the principal amount payable at maturity of a hybrid security may be increased or decreased depending on changes in the value of the benchmark. An example of a hybrid could be a bond issued by an oil company that pays a small base level of interest with additional interest that accrues in correlation to the extent to which oil prices exceed a certain predetermined level. Such a hybrid instrument would be a combination of a bond and a call option on oil.

Hybrids can be used as an efficient means of pursuing a variety of investment goals, including currency hedging and increased total return. Hybrids may not bear interest or pay dividends. The value of a hybrid or its interest rate may be a multiple of a benchmark and, as a result, may be leveraged and move (up or down) more steeply and rapidly than the benchmark. These benchmarks may be sensitive to economic and political events, such as commodity shortages and currency devaluations, which cannot be readily foreseen by the purchaser of a hybrid. Under certain conditions, the redemption value of a hybrid could be zero. Thus, an investment in a hybrid may entail significant market risks that are not associated with a similar investment in a traditional, U.S. dollar-denominated bond that has a fixed principal amount and pays a fixed rate or floating rate of interest. The purchase of hybrids also exposes a Fund to the credit risk of the issuer of the hybrids. These risks may cause significant fluctuations in the net asset value of a Fund.

Certain hybrid instruments may provide exposure to the commodities markets. These are derivative instruments with one or more commodity-linked components that have payment features similar to commodity futures contracts, commodity options, or similar instruments. Commodity-linked hybrid instruments may be either equity or debt securities and are considered hybrid instruments because they have both security and commodity-like characteristics. A portion of the value of these instruments may be derived from the value of a commodity, futures contract, index or other economic variable. A Fund will only invest in commodity-linked hybrid instruments that qualify for an exemption from the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act under applicable rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Certain issuers of structured products such as hybrid instruments may be deemed to be investment companies as defined in the 1940 Act. As a result, a Fund's investments in these products may be subject to limits applicable to investments in investment companies and may be subject to restrictions contained in the 1940 Act. Income from certain hybrid instruments may not constitute qualifying income for purposes of Subchapter M. Accordingly, a Fund will monitor the income produced from such investments so that when such income is combined with the Fund's other non-qualifying income, the Fund will not have more than 10% non-qualifying income.

### **Inflation Risk**

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Funds' shares and distributions declines.

### **Infrastructure-Related Investments Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in the securities of infrastructure-related companies. The Funds consider a company to be an infrastructure-related company if at least 50% of its assets, gross income or net profits are attributable to infrastructure operations. These companies include businesses involved in the ownership, operation or financing of the physical structures and networks used to provide essential services to society. Infrastructure-related companies may include, but are not necessarily limited to, those companies that are active in transportation services (including toll roads, bridges, tunnels, parking facilities, railroads, rapid transit links, airports, refueling facilities and seaports), utilities (including electricity, electricity transmission, electricity generation, gas and water distribution, sewage treatment, broadcast and wireless towers, cable and satellite networks), social assets (including courthouses, hospitals, schools, correctional facilities, stadiums and subsidized housing), and those companies whose products and services are related to the infrastructure industry (such as manufacturers and distributors of building supplies and financial institutions that issue or service debt secured by infrastructure assets).

Infrastructure-related companies are subject to a variety of factors that may affect their business or operations including high interest costs in connection with capital construction programs, costs associated with environmental and other regulations, the effects of economic slowdown and surplus capacity, increased competition from other providers of services, uncertainties concerning the availability of fuel at reasonable prices, the effects of energy conservation policies, and other factors. These companies may also be subject to regulation by various governmental authorities and may also be affected by governmental regulation of rates charged to customers, service interruption due to environmental, operational or other mishaps, and the imposition of special tariffs and changes in tax laws, regulatory policies, and accounting standards. Other factors that may affect the operations of infrastructure-related companies include changes in technology that could render the way in which a company delivers a product or service obsolete, significant changes to the number of ultimate end-users of a company's products, increased susceptibility to terrorist acts or political actions, and risks of environmental damage due to a company's operations or an accident.

### **International Sanctions Risk**

From time to time, certain of the companies in which a Fund may invest may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. A company may suffer damage to its reputation if it is identified as a company which operates in, or has dealings with, countries subject to sanctions or embargoes imposed by the U.S. Government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. Government as state sponsors of terrorism. As an investor in such companies, a Fund will be indirectly subject to those risks.

## **Investment in Foreign and Developing Markets Risk**

Each Fund may purchase securities of companies domiciled in any foreign country, developed or developing. Potential investors in these Funds should consider carefully the substantial risks involved in securities of companies and governments of foreign social instability, or diplomatic developments which could affect investments in securities of issuers in foreign nations, which are in addition to the usual risks inherent in domestic investments.

There may be less publicly available information about foreign companies comparable to the reports and ratings published about U.S. companies. Most foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting and financial reporting standards, and auditing practices and requirements may not be comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. A Fund, therefore, may encounter difficulty in obtaining market quotations for purposes of valuing its portfolio and calculating its net asset value. Foreign markets have substantially less volume than the New York Stock Exchange and securities of some foreign companies are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies. Commission rates in foreign countries are generally subject to negotiation, as in the U.S., but they are likely to be higher. Transaction costs and custodian expenses are likely to be higher in foreign markets. In many foreign countries there may be less government supervision and regulation of stock exchanges, brokers and listed companies than in the U.S. Furthermore, securities in which a Fund invests may be held in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized and subject to limited or no regulatory oversight.

Throughout the last decade many emerging markets have experienced, and continue to experience, high rates of inflation. In certain countries, inflation has accelerated rapidly at times to hyper inflationary levels, creating a negative interest rate environment and sharply eroding the value of outstanding financial assets in those countries.

Investments in businesses domiciled in developing countries may be subject to potentially higher risks than investments in developed countries. These risks include: (i) less social, political, and economic stability; (ii) the small current size of the markets for such securities and the currently low or nonexistent volume of trading, which result in a lack of liquidity and in greater price volatility; (iii) certain national policies which may restrict the Funds' investment opportunities, including restrictions on investments in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests; (iv) foreign taxation; (v) the absence of developed structures governing private or foreign investment or allowing for judicial redress for injury to private property; (vi) the absence, until recently in certain Eastern European countries, of a capital market structure or market-oriented economy; (vii) the possibility that recent favorable economic developments in Eastern Europe may be slowed or reversed by unanticipated political or social events in such countries; (viii) currency fluctuations; and (ix) the contagious effect of market or economic setbacks in one country on another developing country.

A Fund will attempt to buy and sell foreign currencies on as favorable a basis as practicable. Some price spread on currency exchanges (to cover service charges) may be incurred, particularly when a Fund changes investments from one country to another or when proceeds of the sale of shares in U.S. dollars are used for the purchase of securities in foreign countries. Also, some countries may adopt policies which would prevent a Fund from transferring cash out of the country or withholding portions of interest and dividends at the source. There is the possibility of cessation of trading on national exchanges, expropriation, nationalization or confiscatory taxation, exit levies, withholding and other foreign taxes on income or other amounts, foreign exchange controls (which may include suspension of the ability to transfer currency from a given country), default in foreign government securities, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments which could affect investments in securities of issuers in foreign nations.

Investments in foreign securities and deposits with foreign banks or foreign branches of U.S. banks may be subject to nationalization, expropriation, confiscatory taxation, adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations (which may include suspension of the ability to transfer currency from a country), government approval for the repatriation of investment income, capital, or the sale of securities, delays in settlement of transactions, changes in governmental economic or monetary policy in the U.S. or abroad, or other political, diplomatic, and economic developments that could adversely affect a Fund's investments. In the event of nationalization, expropriation, or other confiscation, a Fund could lose its entire investment in a foreign security.

European Economic Risk. European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about rising government debt levels, credit rating downgrades, and possible default on or restructuring of government debt. These events have affected the value and exchange rate of the euro, which subjects a Fund's investments tied economically to Europe or the euro to additional risks. Investing in euro-denominated (or other European currency-denominated) securities also entails the risk of being exposed to a currency that may not fully reflect the strengths and weaknesses of the disparate European economies. The governments of several member countries of the European Union (EU) have experienced large public budget deficits, which have adversely affected the sovereign debt issued by those countries and may ultimately lead to declines in the value of the euro.

It is possible that EU member countries that have already adopted the euro could abandon the euro and return to a national currency and/or that the euro will cease to exist as a single currency in its current form. The effects of such an abandonment or a country's forced expulsion from the euro on that country, the rest of the EU, and global markets are impossible to predict, but are likely to be negative and may include, but are not limited to: (i) flight of capital from perceived weaker countries to stronger countries in the EU; (ii) default on the domestic debt of any exiting country; (iii) collapse of the domestic banking system of any exiting country; (iv) seizure of cash or assets in the effected countries; (v) imposition of capital controls that may discriminate in particular against foreigners' asset holdings; and (vi) political or civil unrest. Uncertainties surrounding the sovereign debt of a number of European Union ("EU") countries and the viability

of the EU have disrupted and may in the future disrupt markets in the United States and around the world. If one or more countries leave the EU or the EU dissolves, the world's securities markets likely will be significantly disrupted. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom ("UK") withdrew from the European Union ("EU") (commonly referred to as Brexit). An agreement between the UK and the EU governing their future trade relationship became effective January 1, 2021. Brexit has resulted in volatility in European and global markets and could have potentially significant negative long-term impacts on financial markets in the UK and throughout Europe. There remains significant market uncertainty regarding Brexit's ramifications, and the range and potential implications of possible political, regulatory, economic, and market outcomes are difficult to predict. This long-term uncertainty may affect other countries in the EU and elsewhere, and may cause volatility within the EU, triggering prolonged economic downturns in certain European countries. In addition, Brexit may create additional and substantial economic stresses for the UK, including a contraction of the UK economy and price volatility in UK stocks, decreased trade, capital outflows, devaluation of the British pound, wider corporate bond spreads due to uncertainty, and declines in business and consumer spending as well as foreign direct investment. Brexit may also adversely affect UK-based financial firms that have counterparties in the EU or participate in market infrastructure (trading venues, clearing houses, settlement facilities) based in the EU.

Investing through Stock Connect. Certain Funds may invest in eligible securities ("Stock Connect Securities") listed and traded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange ("SSE") through the Hong Kong – Shanghai Stock Connect ("Stock Connect") program. Stock Connect is a securities trading and clearing program developed by The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("SEHK"), SSE, Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited and China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited for the establishment of mutual market access between SEHK and SSE. In contrast to certain other regimes for foreign investment in Chinese securities, no individual investment quotas or licensing requirements apply to investors in Stock Connect Securities through Stock Connect. In addition, there are no lock-up periods or restrictions on the repatriation of principal and profits.

However, trading through Stock Connect is subject to a number of restrictions that may affect a Fund's investments and returns. For example, a primary feature of the Stock Connect program is the application of the home market's laws and rules to investors in a security. Thus, investors in Stock Connect Securities are generally subject to the People's Republic of China ("PRC") securities regulations and SSE listing rules, among other restrictions. In addition, Stock Connect Securities generally may not be sold, purchased or otherwise transferred other than through Stock Connect in accordance with applicable rules. While Stock Connect is not subject to individual investment quotas, daily and aggregate investment quotas apply to all Stock Connect participants, which may restrict or preclude a Fund's ability to invest in Stock Connect Securities. Trading in the Stock Connect Program is subject to trading, clearance and settlement procedures that are untested in the PRC, which could pose risks to the Funds. Finally, the withholding tax treatment of dividends and capital gains payable to overseas investors currently is unsettled.

Restrictions on Investments. There may be unexpected restrictions on investments in companies located in certain foreign countries. For example, on November 12, 2020, the President of the United States signed an Executive Order prohibiting U.S. persons from purchasing or investing in publicly traded securities of companies identified by the U.S. Government as "Communist Chinese military companies," or in instruments that are derivative of, or are designed to provide investment exposure to, such securities. In addition, to the extent that a Fund holds such a security, one or more Fund intermediaries may decline to process customer orders with respect to such Fund unless and until certain representations are made by the Fund or the prohibited holdings are divested. As a result of forced sales of a security, or inability to participate in an investment the manager otherwise believes is attractive, a Fund may incur losses.

### **Leverage Risk**

Each Fund may, from time to time, use leverage for investment purposes. The SEC takes the position that other transactions that have a leveraging effect on the capital structure of a fund can be viewed as constituting a form of "senior security" of a Fund for purposes of the 1940 Act. These transactions may include selling securities short, buying and selling certain derivatives (such as futures contracts), selling (or writing) put and call options, engaging in when-issued, delayed-delivery, forward-commitment or reverse repurchase transactions and other trading practices that have a leveraging effect on the capital structure of a Fund or may be viewed as economically equivalent to borrowing. The Derivatives Rule regulates certain transactions that create leverage.

### **LIBOR Transition Risk**

Many debt securities, derivatives and other financial instruments may have previously utilized the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") as the reference or benchmark rate for variable interest rate calculations. However, following allegations of manipulation, the UK Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") announced that LIBOR would be discontinued on June 30, 2023. As of September 30, 2024, the FCA has confirmed that all publications of LIBOR, including all synthetic publications of the 1-, 3- and 6-month U.S. Dollar LIBOR tenors, have ceased.

The future impact of the transition away from LIBOR and the use of other reference rates for certain debt securities, derivatives and other financial instruments remains uncertain. Market participants have adopted alternative rates such as Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") or otherwise amended financial instruments referencing LIBOR to include fallback provisions and other measures that contemplated the discontinuation of LIBOR or other similar market disruption events. Certain replacement rates to LIBOR, such as SOFR, which is a broad measure of secured overnight U.S. Treasury repo rates, are materially different from LIBOR, necessitating

changes in the applicable spread for financial instruments transitioning away from LIBOR.

### **Liquidity Management Practices Risk**

Certain Funds may periodically enter into Letter of Credit or Line of Credit arrangements with banks and other financial intermediaries for the specific purpose of providing liquidity to the Fund. As capital markets are not always liquid or efficiently priced, it may from time to time be necessary for the Funds to borrow money or put securities to banks or other financial intermediaries in order to meet shareholder liquidity demands. The percentage of net assets of which a Fund may enter into a Letter of Credit or Line of Credit arrangement are limited to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and rules and interpretations thereunder.

In the case of a Letter of Credit arrangement, for a fee paid by a Fund, a bank or other suitable financial intermediary would agree to assume ownership (irrevocably) of securities held in the portfolio for the amortized cost of those securities. In the case of a Line of Credit arrangement, a Funds enters into agreements with banks or other financial intermediaries to supply loan availability to the Fund, where the Fund pledges securities positions within the Fund as collateral.

### **Liquidity Risk**

Certain securities may trade less frequently than those of larger companies due to their smaller capitalizations. In the event certain securities experience limited trading volumes, the prices may display abrupt or erratic movements at times. Additionally, it may be more difficult for a Fund to buy and sell significant amounts of such securities without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. As a result, these securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes it is desirable to do so. A Fund's investment in securities that are less actively traded or over time experience decreased trading volume may restrict its ability to take advantage of other market opportunities or to dispose of securities. This also may affect adversely a Fund's ability to make dividend distributions. A Fund will not purchase or otherwise acquire any security if, as a result, more than 15% of its net assets would be invested in illiquid investments.

### **Loans Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in loans. Loans are subject to risks discussed under Debt Instruments Risk. In addition, although senior loans are typically secured with specific collateral and have a claim on the assets and/or stock of the borrower, as compared to subordinated debtholders and stockholders of the borrower, there can be no assurance that the liquidation of any collateral securing a loan would satisfy the borrower's obligation in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal payments, or that such collateral could be readily liquidated. The specific collateral used to secure a senior loan may decline in value or become illiquid, which would adversely affect the loan's value. Senior loans typically are of below investment grade quality and have below investment grade credit ratings, which ratings are associated with securities having high risk, speculative characteristics (often referred to as "junk"). Most loans are lower-rated investments. In the event a loan is not rated, it is likely to be the equivalent in quality to a lower-rated investment. The amount of public information available with respect to loans may be less extensive than that available for registered or exchange-listed securities. Due to the lack of centralized information and trading, the valuation of loans may carry more risk than exchange-listed instruments. A Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may rely in whole or in part on analyses performed by others. Although the overall size and number of participants in the market for senior loans has grown, senior loans continue to trade in an unregulated inter-dealer or inter-bank secondary market. Purchases and sales of senior loans are generally subject to contractual restrictions that must be satisfied before a senior loan can be bought or sold. These restrictions may impede the Fund's ability to buy or sell senior loans, may negatively impact the transaction price and/or may result in delayed settlement of senior loan transactions or other illiquidity of such investments. As a result, transactions in senior loans that settle on a delayed basis may limit a Fund's ability to make additional investments or satisfy the Fund's redemption obligations. A Fund may seek to satisfy any short-term liquidity needs resulting from an extended trade settlement process by, among other things, selling portfolio assets, holding additional cash or entering into temporary borrowing arrangements with banks and other potential funding sources. In addition, loan investments may not be considered securities for all regulatory purposes and such investments may not have the protections of the federal securities as compared to other Fund investments. Junior loans are subject to the same general risks inherent to any loan investment. Due to their lower place in the borrower's capital structure and possible unsecured status, junior loans involve a higher degree of overall risk than senior loans of the same borrower.

### **Loan Participations and Assignments Risk**

Each Fund may invest in fixed- and floating-rate loans arranged through private negotiations between an issuer of debt instruments and one or more financial institutions ("lenders"). Generally, a Fund's investments in loans are expected to take the form of loan participations and assignments of loans from third parties. Large loans to corporations or governments may be shared or syndicated among several lenders, usually banks. A Fund may participate in such syndicates or can buy part of a loan. Participations and assignments involve special types of risk, including limited marketability and the risks of being a lender. See "Restricted and Illiquid Securities Risk" for a discussion of the limits on the Funds' investments in loan participations and assignments with limited marketability. If a Fund purchases a participation, it may only be able to enforce its rights through the lender and may assume the credit risk of the lender in addition to that of the borrower. In assignments, a Fund's rights against the borrower may be more limited than those held by the original lender.

In addition, loan investments are subject to a number of other risks, including but not limited to the following:

(1) non-payment of interest and/or principal; (2) to the extent a loan is collateralized, a decline in the value of collateral and difficulty or delay in obtaining or selling collateral in the event of the borrower's default or bankruptcy; (3) lack of publicly available information about borrowers; and (4) the highly speculative nature of indebtedness of companies with poor creditworthiness, including the risk that companies will never pay off their indebtedness.

### **Manager Risk**

Each Fund's portfolio is subject to management risk because it is actively managed. Each Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, applies investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that they will produce the desired results.

Certain securities of other instruments in which a Fund seeks to invest may not be available in the quantities desired. In such circumstances, an Adviser, the Sub-Adviser or individual portfolio managers, may determine to purchase other securities or instruments as substitutes. Such substitute securities or instruments may not perform as intended, which could result in losses to the Fund.

A Fund depends upon its Adviser's and Sub-Adviser's, as appropriate, key personnel for its future success and upon the Fund's access to certain individuals and investments. In particular, each Fund depends on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of its portfolio managers, who evaluate, negotiate, structure, close and monitor Fund investments. Each Fund also depends on the senior management of its Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate. The departure of any of a Fund's portfolio managers or the senior management of its Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. In addition, the Funds can offer no assurance that its respective Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will remain its investment advisor or Sub-Adviser or that a Fund will continue to have access to the Advisers' or Sub-Adviser's industry contacts and deal flow.

### **Margin Deposits and Cover Requirements for Futures Contracts Risk**

Unlike the purchase or sale of portfolio securities, no price is paid or received by a Fund upon the purchase or sale of a futures contract. Initially, a Fund will be required to deposit with the broker an amount of cash or cash equivalents, known as initial margin, based on the value of the contract. The nature of initial margin in futures transactions is different from that of margin in securities transactions in that futures contract margin does not involve the borrowing of funds by the customer to finance the transactions. Rather, the initial margin is in the nature of a performance bond or good faith deposit on the contract, which is returned to the Fund upon termination of the futures contract, assuming all contractual obligations have been satisfied. Subsequent payments, called variation margin, to and from the broker, will be made on a daily basis as the price of the underlying instruments fluctuates, making the long and short positions in the futures contract more or less valuable, a process known as "marking to the market." For example, when a Fund has purchased a futures contract and the price of the contract has risen in response to a rise in the price of the underlying instruments, that position will have increased in value and the Fund will be entitled to receive from the broker a variation margin payment equal to that increase in value. Conversely, where a Fund has purchased a futures contract and the price of the futures contract has declined in response to a decrease in the underlying instruments, the position would be less valuable and the Fund would be required to make a variation margin payment to the broker. At any time prior to expiration of the futures contract, a Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may elect to close the position by taking an opposite position, subject to the availability of a secondary market, which will operate to terminate the Fund's position in the futures contract. A final determination of variation margin is then made, additional cash is required to be paid by or released to the Fund, and the Fund realizes a loss or gain.

When entering into a futures contract that must be cash settled, a Fund will cover (and mark-to-market on a daily basis) liquid assets that, when added to the amounts deposited with a futures commission merchant as margin, are equal to the market value of the futures contract. When entering into a futures contract that does not need to be settled in cash, a Fund will maintain with its custodian (and mark to market on a daily basis) liquid assets that, when added to the amounts deposited with a futures commission merchant as margin, are equal to the full notional value of the contract. Alternatively, a Fund may "cover" its position by purchasing an option on the same futures contract with a strike price as high or higher than the price of the contract held by the Fund. The Fund may contractually agree to close positions prior to settlement and/or otherwise agree to avoid non-cash settlement.

### **Master Limited Partnership ("MLP") Risk**

Certain Funds may invest in MLPs, which are limited partnerships in which ownership units are publicly traded. Generally, an MLP is operated under the supervision of one or more managing general partners. Limited partners (like a Fund that invests in an MLP) are not involved in the day-to-day management of the partnership. Investments in MLPs are generally subject to many of the risks that apply to partnerships. For example, holders of the units of MLPs may have limited control and limited voting rights on matters affecting the partnership. There may be fewer corporate protections afforded investors in an MLP than investors in a corporation. Conflicts of interest may exist among unit holders, subordinated unit holders and the general partner of an MLP, including those arising from incentive distribution payments. MLPs that concentrate in a particular industry or region are subject to risks associated with such industry or region. MLPs holding credit-related investments are subject to interest rate risk and the risk of default on payment obligations by debt issuers. Investments held by MLPs may be illiquid. MLP units may trade infrequently and in limited volume, and they may be subject to more

abrupt or erratic price movements than securities of larger or more broadly based companies. The Funds are not eligible for a deduction from income received from MLPs that is available to individuals who invest directly in MLPs.

Reduced demand for oil and other energy commodities as a result of the slowdown in economic activity resulting from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Global oil prices declined significantly and experienced significant volatility, including a period where an oil-price futures contract fell into negative territory for the first time in history, as demand for oil slowed and oil storage facilities reached their storage capacities. Varying levels of production and continued oil price volatility may adversely impact MLPs and energy infrastructure companies.

### **Momentum Style Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may, from time to time, use a momentum style of investment. Investing in momentum entails establishing long positions in securities that have had positive recent returns, and short positions in securities that have had negative recent returns. These securities may be more volatile than a broad cross-section of securities. In addition, there may be periods when the momentum style is out of favor, and during which the investment performance of a fund using a momentum strategy may suffer.

### **Money Market Instruments Risk**

Each Fund may invest in the following instruments which are commonly referred to as “money market instruments”:

- (i) Obligations (including certificates of deposit and bankers’ acceptances) maturing in 13 months or less of (a) banks organized under the laws of the U.S. or any state thereof (including foreign branches of such banks) or (b) U.S. branches of foreign banks or (c) foreign banks and foreign branches thereof; provided that such banks have, at the time of acquisition by the Fund of such obligations, total assets of not less than \$1 billion or its equivalent. The term “certificates of deposit” includes both Eurodollar certificates of deposit, for which there is generally a market, and Eurodollar time deposits, for which there is generally not a market. “Eurodollars” are dollars deposited in banks outside the U.S.; the Funds may invest in Eurodollar instruments of foreign and domestic banks; and
- (ii) Commercial paper, variable amount demand master notes, bills, notes, and other obligations issued by a U.S. company, a foreign company or a foreign government, its agencies or instrumentalities, maturing in 13 months or less, and denominated in U.S. dollars. If such obligations are guaranteed or supported by a letter of credit issued by a bank, such bank (including a foreign bank) must meet the requirements set forth in paragraph (i) above. If such obligations are guaranteed or insured by an insurance company or other non-bank entity, such insurance company or other non-bank entity must represent a credit of high quality, as determined by an Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate.

### **Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in mortgage-related or other asset-backed securities. The value of some mortgage-related or asset-backed securities in which a Fund invests may be particularly sensitive to changes in prevailing interest rates, and, like the other investments of a Fund, the ability of a Fund to successfully utilize these instruments may depend in part upon the ability of an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, to correctly forecast interest rates and other economic factors.

Mortgage pass-through securities are securities representing interests in “pools” of mortgage loans secured by residential or commercial real property in which payments of both interest and principal on the securities are generally made monthly, in effect “passing through” monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on the mortgage loans that underlie the securities (net of fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of the securities). Early repayment of principal on some mortgage-related securities (arising from prepayments of principal due to sale of the underlying property, refinancing, or foreclosure, net of fees and costs that may be incurred) may expose a Fund to a lower rate of return upon reinvestment of principal. Also, if a security subject to prepayment has been purchased at a premium, the value of the premium would be lost in the event of prepayment. Like other fixed-income securities, when interest rates rise, the value of a mortgage-related security generally will decline; however, when interest rates are declining, the value of mortgage-related securities with prepayment features may not increase as much as other fixed-income securities. The rate of prepayments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility of a mortgage-related security and may have the effect of shortening or extending the effective maturity of the security beyond what was anticipated at the time of purchase. To the extent that unanticipated rates of prepayment on underlying mortgages increase the effective maturity of a mortgage-related security, the volatility of such securities can be expected to increase.

Payment of principal and interest on some mortgage pass-through securities (but not the market value of the securities themselves) may be guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government (in the case of securities guaranteed by GNMA); or guaranteed by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government (in the case of securities guaranteed by the Federal National Mortgage Association or “FNMA” or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or “FHLMC”), which are supported only by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase the agency’s obligations. Mortgage-related securities created by non-governmental issuers (such as commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers, and other secondary market issuers) may be supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, including individual loan, title, pool and hazard insurance and letters of credit, which may be issued by governmental entities, private insurers or the mortgage poolers.

Collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) are hybrid mortgage-related instruments. Interest and pre-paid principal on a CMO are paid, in most cases, on a monthly basis. CMOs may be collateralized by whole mortgage loans but are more typically collateralized by portfolios of mortgage pass-through securities guaranteed by GNMA, FHLMC or FNMA. CMOs are structured into multiple classes, with each class bearing a different stated maturity. Monthly payments of principal, including prepayments, are first returned to investors holding the shortest maturity class; investors holding the longer maturity classes receive principal only after the first class has been retired. CMOs that are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or by any of its agencies or instrumentalities will be considered U.S. Government Securities by a Fund, while other CMOs, even if collateralized by U.S. Government Securities, will have the same status as other privately issued securities for purposes of applying a Fund’s diversification tests. Certain Funds will only invest in privately-issued CMOs that are collateralized by mortgage-backed securities issued or guaranteed by GNMA Certificates, FNMA or FHLMC or CMOs issued by FHLMC.

A real estate mortgage investment conduct (“REMIC”) must elect to be, and must qualify for treatment as such, under the Code. A REMIC must consist of one or more classes of “regular interests,” some of which may be adjustable rate, and a single class of “residual interests.” To qualify as a REMIC, substantially all the assets of the entity must be in assets directly or indirectly secured, principally by real property. Certain Funds do not intend to invest in residual interests. Congress intended for REMICs to ultimately become the exclusive vehicle for the issuance of multi-class securities backed by real estate mortgages. If a trust or partnership that issues CMOs does not elect and qualify for REMIC status, it will be taxed at the entity level as a corporation.

Commercial mortgage-backed securities include securities that reflect an interest in, and are secured by, mortgage loans on commercial real property. The market for commercial mortgage-backed securities developed more recently and in terms of total outstanding principal amount of issues is relatively small compared to the market for residential single-family mortgage-backed securities. Many of the risks of investing in commercial mortgage-backed securities reflect the risks of investing in the real estate securing the underlying mortgage loans. These risks reflect the effects of local and other economic conditions on real estate markets, the ability of tenants to make loan payments and the ability of a property to attract and retain tenants. Commercial mortgage-backed securities may be less liquid and exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-related or asset-backed securities. Certain commercial mortgage-backed securities are issued in several classes with different levels of yield and credit protection. A Fund’s investments in commercial mortgage-backed securities with several classes may be in the lower classes that have greater risks than the higher classes, including greater interest rate, credit, and prepayment risks.

Mortgage-related securities include securities other than those described above that directly or indirectly represent a participation in, or are secured by and payable from, mortgage loans on real property, such as mortgage dollar rolls, CMO residuals or stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”), and may be structured in classes with rights to receive varying proportions of principal and interest.

A common type of SMBS will have one class receiving some of the interest and most of the principal from the mortgage assets, while the other class will receive most of the interest and the remainder of the principal. In the most extreme case, one class will receive all of the interest (the interest-only, or “IO” class), while the other class will receive all of the principal (the principal-only, or “PO” class). The yield to maturity on an IO class is extremely sensitive to the rate of principal payments (including prepayments) on the related underlying mortgage assets, and a rapid rate of principal payments may have a material adverse effect on a Fund’s yield to maturity from these securities. If the underlying mortgage assets experience greater than anticipated prepayments of principal, a Fund may not fully recoup its investment in IOs. Conversely, if the underlying mortgage assets experience less than anticipated prepayments of principal, the yield on POs could be materially adversely affected. A Fund may invest in other asset-backed securities that have been offered to investors. Additionally, the security will be treated as illiquid unless: (i) it is rated at least “BBB”/“Baa” or a comparable rating from another nationally recognized statistical ratings organization, (ii) at least two dealers make a market in the security, (iii) there are at least three sources from which a price for the security is readily available; and (iv) the security is U.S. Government issued and backed by fixed-rate mortgages.

The yield characteristics of mortgage-related securities and asset-backed securities differ from traditional debt securities. Among the major differences are that interest and principal payments are made more frequently, usually monthly, and that principal may be prepaid at any time because the underlying mortgage loans or other assets generally may be prepaid at any time. As a result, if a Fund purchases such a security at a premium, a prepayment rate that is faster than expected will reduce yield to maturity, while a prepayment rate that is slower than expected will have the opposite effect of increasing yield to maturity. Alternatively, if a Fund purchases these securities at a discount, faster than expected prepayments will increase, while slower than expected prepayments will reduce, yield to maturity.

Although the extent of prepayments in a pool of mortgage loans depends on various economic and other factors, as a general rule prepayments on fixed-rate mortgage loans will increase during a period of falling interest rates and decrease during a period of rising interest rates. Accordingly, amounts available for reinvestment by a Fund are likely to be greater during a period of declining interest rates and, as a result, likely to be reinvested at lower interest rates than during a period of rising interest rates. Asset-backed securities, although less likely to experience the same prepayment rates as mortgage-related securities, may respond to certain of the same factors influencing prepayments, while at other times different factors will predominate. Mortgage-related securities and asset-backed securities may decrease in value as a result of increases in interest rates and may benefit less than other fixed-income securities from declining interest rates because of the risk of prepayment. Asset-backed securities involve certain risks that are not posed by mortgage-related securities, because asset-backed securities do not usually have the type of security interest in the related collateral that mortgage-related

securities have. For example, credit card receivables generally are unsecured, and the debtors are entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws, some of which may reduce a creditor's ability to realize full payment. In the case of automobile receivables, due to various legal and economic factors, proceeds from repossessed collateral may not always be sufficient to support payments on these securities.

At times the value of mortgage- or asset-backed securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in the general level of interest rates. Early repayment of principal on some mortgage- or asset-backed securities may expose the Fund to a lower rate of return upon reinvestment of principal. When the general level of interest rates rises, the value of a mortgage- or asset-backed securities generally will decline; however, when interest rates are declining, the value of mortgage or asset-backed securities with prepayment features may not increase as much as other fixed income securities. The rate of prepayments on underlying mortgages or assets will affect the price and volatility of a mortgage- or asset-backed securities and may shorten or extend the effective maturity of the security beyond what was anticipated at the time of purchase. If unanticipated rates of prepayment on underlying mortgages or assets increase the effective maturity of these securities, the volatility of the security can be expected to increase. The value of these securities may also fluctuate in response to other idiosyncratic circumstances.

### **Municipal Bonds Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in municipal bonds. Interest rates on tax exempt municipal bonds are generally lower than taxable bonds. If tax exempt shareholders invest in a Fund, they would not obtain any benefit from the potential to receive tax exempt dividends, and the return on their investment may be lower than an investment in another fund that does not invest in tax exempt municipal obligations. In addition, if a Fund invests less than 50% of its total assets (including borrowings for investment purposes and proceeds from short selling, if any) in federally tax-exempt municipal bonds, no portion of the Fund's distributions would be designated as tax exempt dividends.

Generally, municipal bonds are issued as general obligations of a state or local government that are secured by the issuer's taxing power, or as revenue bonds that are secured by user fees and other revenues pledged to pay debt service on such bonds. The major portion of municipal bonds are issued to fund public projects, including economic development, education, electric power, healthcare, housing, transportation, water and sewer, and pollution control. The value of municipal bonds can be significantly affected by the political, economic, legal, and legislative realities of the particular issuer's locality, and a municipal issuer may be fiscally unstable or exposed to large liabilities that could impair its ability to honor its obligations. There is no guarantee that an active and robust market will exist for municipal bonds, and a Fund may find it difficult to purchase or sell such bonds at opportune times.

In addition, U.S. federal tax law has enabled governmental issuers to issue billions of dollars of tax-exempt municipal bonds on behalf of certain corporate entities for various qualified purposes. Corporate-backed municipal bonds are typically issued as limited obligations of a governmental issuer payable from revenues derived pursuant to a loan, lease, installment sale or financing agreement with a corporate entity (including, but not limited to, entities such as airlines, electric utilities, healthcare facilities, and industrials). Such bonds are typically treated as a long-term debt on a parity with senior unsecured bonds issued by such corporate entity, except that interest payable on corporate-backed municipal bonds is federally tax exempt. In addition, corporate credits in the municipal bond market generally trade at a higher pre-tax yield than an equivalent corporate credit in the corporate bond market and, therefore, it is possible for investments in corporate-backed municipal bonds to achieve higher relative returns than comparable investments in corporate bonds.

## **Non-Diversification Risk (Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund)**

The Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund is “non-diversified” and is not subject to the diversification requirements of the 1940 Act, which generally limit investments, as to 75% of the Fund’s total assets, to no more than 5% in securities in a single issuer and 10% of an issuer’s voting securities. A non-diversified fund must, however, comply with certain tax diversification tests. To satisfy the tax diversification tests, at least 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets at the end of each quarter of the Fund’s taxable year must be represented by cash and cash items, U.S. Government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities, with such other securities limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater in value than 5% of the Fund’s total assets and to not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and not more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets is invested in the securities (other than U.S. Government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer, or any two or more issuers that the Fund controls, and that are determined to be engaged in the same business or similar or related businesses, or of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships. Because the appreciation or depreciation of a single portfolio security may have a greater impact on the net asset value of a non-diversified Fund, the net asset value per share of the Fund can be expected to fluctuate more than that of a comparable diversified fund.

## **Operational Risk**

An investment in the Funds involve operational risk arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. Any of these failures or errors could result in a loss or compromise of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on a Fund. While the Funds seek to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there is no guarantee that the Funds will not suffer losses due to operational risk.

## **Participation Notes (“P-Notes”) Risk**

Each Fund may invest in P-Notes. P-Notes are participation interest notes that are issued by banks or broker-dealers and are designed to offer a return linked to a particular underlying equity, debt, currency or market. The P-Notes in which a Fund may invest will typically have a maturity of one year. When purchasing a P-Note, the posting of margin is not required because the full cost of the P-Note (plus commission) is paid at the time of purchase. When the P-Note matures, the issuer will pay to, or receive from, the purchaser the difference between the minimal value of the underlying instrument at the time of purchase and that instrument’s value at maturity. Investments in P-Notes involve the same risks associated with a direct investment in the underlying foreign companies of foreign securities markets that they seek to replicate.

In addition, there can be no assurance that the trading price of P-Notes will equal the underlying value of the foreign companies or foreign securities markets that they seek to replicate. The holder of a participation note that is linked to a particular underlying security is entitled to receive any dividends paid in connection with an underlying security or instrument. However, the holder of a participation note does not receive voting rights as it would if it directly owned the underlying security or instrument. P-Notes are generally traded OTC. P-Notes constitute general unsecured contractual obligations of the banks or broker-dealers that issue them and the counterparty. There is also counterparty risk associated with these investments because a Fund is relying on the creditworthiness of such counterparty and has no rights under a participation note against the issuer of the underlying security. In addition, a Fund will incur transaction costs as a result of investment in P-Notes.

## **Preferred Stock Risk**

Each Funds may invest in preferred stock. Preferred stock, unlike common stock, offers a stated dividend rate payable from the issuer’s earnings. Preferred stock dividends may be cumulative or non-cumulative, participating, or auction rate. If interest rates rise, the fixed dividend on preferred stocks may be less attractive, causing the price of the preferred stocks to decline. Preferred stock may have mandatory sinking fund provisions, as well as call/redemption provisions prior to maturity, a negative feature when interest rates decline. A Fund may purchase preferred stock of companies which have also issued other classes of preferred stock or debt obligations that may take priority as to payment of dividends over the preferred stock held by the Fund.

In addition, preferred stock often has special redemption rights allowing issuers to redeem such securities at par earlier than scheduled. If these rights are exercised, a Fund may have to reinvest proceeds in less attractive securities. Among other risks described in the Prospectuses and this SAI, the following issues are particularly associated with investments in preferred stock.

- **Deferral and Omission of Distributions.** Preferred stock may include features permitting or requiring the issuer to defer or omit distributions. Among other things, such deferral or omission may result in adverse tax consequences for a Fund.
- **Limited Voting Rights.** Preferred stock generally does not have voting rights with respect to the issuer unless dividends have been in arrears for certain specified periods of time. In the future, preferred stock may be offered with features different from those described above, and as such, may entail different risks. Over longer periods of time, certain types of preferred stock may become more scarce or less liquid as a result of legislative changes. Such events may result in losses to a Fund as the prices of securities it holds may be

negatively affected. Revisions to bank capital requirements by international regulatory bodies, to the extent they are adopted in the United States, may also negatively impact the market for certain preferred stock.

### **Private Investment Funds Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in private investment funds, also known as hedge funds, which will pursue alternative investment strategies. An investment in a private investment fund involves certain risks relating to, among other things, the nature of the investments and investment techniques to be employed by the private investment fund. Because of the speculative nature of the investments and trading strategies of private investment funds, there is a risk that a Fund may suffer a significant or complete loss of its invested capital in one or more private investment funds. Private investment funds may utilize a variety of special investment instruments and techniques to hedge the portfolios of the funds against various risks (such as changes in interest rates or other factors that affect security values) or for non-hedging purposes to pursue a fund's investment objective. Certain of the special investment instruments and techniques that the fund may use are speculative and involve a high degree of risk, particularly in the context of non-hedging transactions. Interests in a private investment fund are not generally registered under the 1933 Act and the transferability or withdrawal of such interests is substantially restricted.

### **Privately Issued Stripped Securities Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in principal portions or coupon portions of U.S. Government Securities that have been separated (stripped) by banks, brokerage firms, or other entities. Stripped securities are usually sold separately in the form of receipts or certificates representing undivided interests in the stripped portion and are not considered to be issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government. Stripped securities may be more volatile than nonstripped securities.

### **Privatizations Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in privatizations. The Funds believe that foreign government programs of selling interests in government-owned or controlled enterprises ("privatizations") may represent opportunities for significant capital appreciation. The ability of U.S. entities, such as a Fund, to participate in privatizations may be limited by local law, or the terms for participation may be less advantageous than for local investors. There can be no assurance that privatization programs will be available or successful.

### **Quantitative Strategy Risk**

A quantitative strategy means that investments are selected based upon a customized group of proprietary models designed by a Fund's Adviser. A model attempts to enhance returns, within defined risk parameters, relative to a benchmark by analyzing relevant market related information. The success of certain Funds' principal investment strategies depends on the skill of the Fund's Adviser in designing and using its analytical model as a tool for selecting investments.

### Trading Judgment

The success of the proprietary valuation techniques and trading strategies employed by each Fund is subject to the judgment and skills of the Adviser and the research team that it oversees. Additionally, the trading abilities of the portfolio management team with regard to execution and discipline are important to the return of the Funds. There can be no assurance that the investment decisions or actions of an Adviser, as appropriate, will be correct. Incorrect decisions or poor judgment may result in substantial losses.

Given the complexity of the investments and strategies of the Funds, the Advisers rely on quantitative models (both proprietary models developed by an Adviser and those supplied by third-party vendors) and information and data supplied by third-party vendors ("Models and Data"). Models and Data are used to construct sets of transactions and investments and to provide risk management insights.

When Models and Data prove to be incorrect or incomplete, any decisions made in reliance thereon expose the Funds to potential risks. The success of relying on such models may depend on the accuracy and reliability of historical data supplied by third-party vendors. All models rely on correct market data inputs. If incorrect market data is entered into even a well-founded model, the resulting information will be incorrect. However, even if market data is input correctly, "model prices" will often differ substantially from market prices, especially for securities with complex characteristics, such as derivative securities.

### Obsolescence Risk

The Funds are unlikely to be successful unless the assumptions underlying the models are realistic and either remain realistic and relevant in the future or are adjusted to account for changes in the overall market environment. If such assumptions are inaccurate or become inaccurate and are not promptly adjusted, it is likely that profitable trading signals will not be generated. If and to the extent that the models do not reflect certain factors, and an Adviser does not successfully address such omission through its testing and evaluation and modify the models accordingly, major losses may result. The Advisers will continue to test, evaluate and add new models, as a result of which the existing models may be modified from time to time. Any modification of the models or strategies will not be subject to any requirement that

shareholders receive notice of the change or that they consent to it. There can be no assurance as to the effects (positive or negative) of any modification of the models or strategies on a Fund's performance.

#### Crowding/Convergence

There is significant competition among quantitatively focused managers, and the ability of an Adviser to deliver returns consistent with the Funds' objectives and policies is dependent on its ability to employ models that are simultaneously profitable and differentiated from those employed by other managers. To the extent that the Advisers' models used for a Fund come to resemble those employed by other managers, the risk that a market disruption that negatively affects predictive models will adversely affect the Fund is increased, and such a disruption could accelerate reductions in liquidity or rapid repricing due to simultaneous trading across a number of funds in the marketplace.

#### Risk of Programming and Modelling Errors

The research and modelling process engaged in by the Advisers is extremely complex and involves financial, economic, econometric and statistical theories, research and modelling; the results of that process must then be translated into computer code. Although the Advisers seek to hire individuals skilled in each of these functions and to provide appropriate levels of oversight, the complexity of the individual tasks, the difficulty of integrating such tasks, and the limited ability to perform "real world" testing of the end product raises the chances that the finished model may contain an error; one or more of such errors could adversely affect a Fund's performance and, depending on the circumstances, would generally not constitute a trade error under the Trust's policies.

#### Involuntary Disclosure Risk

As further described in the Prospectuses, the ability of an Adviser to achieve its investment goals for a Fund is dependent in large part on its ability to develop and protect its models and proprietary research. The models and proprietary research and the Models and Data are largely protected by the Advisers through the use of policies, procedures, agreements, and similar measures designed to create and enforce robust confidentiality, non-disclosure, and similar safeguards. However, public disclosure obligations (or disclosure obligations to exchanges or regulators with insufficient privacy safeguards) could lead to opportunities for competitors to reverse-engineer the Advisers' Models and Data, and thereby impair the relative or absolute performance of a Fund.

#### Proprietary Trading Methods

Because the trading methods employed by an Adviser on behalf of the Funds are proprietary, a shareholder will not be able to determine any details of such methods or whether they are being followed.

#### **Real Estate Securities and REITs Risk**

Certain Funds may invest in the common and senior securities of real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and other real estate companies, including preferred stock, convertible preferred stock, and corporate debt. A REIT is a corporation or a business trust that would otherwise be taxed as a corporation, which meets the definitional requirements of the Code. The Code permits a qualifying REIT to deduct dividends paid, thereby effectively eliminating corporate level federal income tax and making the REIT a pass-through vehicle for federal income tax purposes. To meet the definitional requirements of the Code, a REIT must, among other things, invest substantially all of its assets in interests in real estate (including mortgages and other REITs) or cash and government securities, derive most of its income from rents from real property or interest on loans secured by mortgages on real property; and distribute to shareholders annually 90% or more of its otherwise taxable income.

REITs are sometimes informally characterized as equity REITs, mortgage REITs, and hybrid REITs. An equity REIT invests primarily in the fee ownership of land and buildings and derives its income primarily from rental income. An equity REIT may also realize capital gains (or losses) by selling real estate properties in its portfolio and have appreciated (or depreciated) in value. A mortgage REIT invests primarily in mortgages on real estate, which may secure construction, development or long-term loans. A mortgage REIT generally derives its income primarily from interest payments on the credit it has extended. A hybrid REIT combines the characteristics of equity REITs and mortgage REITs, generally by holding both ownership interests and mortgage interests in real estate.

Investments in REITs and real estate securities may be subject to certain of the same risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate. These risks include: declines in the value of real estate generally; changes in neighborhood or property appeal; environmental cleanup costs; condemnation or casualty losses; risks related to general and local economic conditions; legislative or regulatory changes; overbuilding and competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; lack of availability of mortgage funds; high or extended vacancy rates; and rent controls or variations in rental income. The general performance of the real estate industry has historically been cyclical and particularly sensitive to economic downturns. Rising interest rates may cause REIT investors to demand a higher annual return, which may cause a decline in the prices of REIT equity securities. Rising interest rates also generally increase the costs of obtaining financing, which could cause the value of a Fund's investments to decline. During periods of declining interest rates, certain mortgage REITs may hold mortgages that the mortgagors may elect to prepay, and such prepayment may diminish the yield on securities issued by those REITs. In addition, mortgage REITs may be affected by the borrowers' ability to repay their debt to the REIT when due. Equity REIT securities may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the REIT and the ability of tenants to pay

rent. In addition, REITs may not be diversified and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency and self-liquidation. REITs are subject to the possibility of failing to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income and failing to maintain exemption under the 1940 Act. Also, equity REITs may be dependent upon management skill and may be subject to the risks of obtaining adequate financing for projects on favorable terms. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in a limited volume, and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements than more widely held securities.

In the event that an issuer of real estate-related securities suffers adverse changes in its financial condition, this could lower the credit quality of the securities it has issued, leading to greater volatility in the price of the securities and in the shares of a Fund. A change in the quality rating of a security can also affect its liquidity and make it more difficult for a Fund to sell. To the extent that an issuer has exposure to sub-prime investments, this may further affect the liquidity and valuation risk associated with the issuer.

A Fund's investment in a REIT may require a Fund to accrue and distribute income not yet received or may result in the Fund making distributions that constitute a return of capital to Fund shareholders for federal income tax purposes. Effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 generally allows individuals and certain non-corporate entities, such as partnerships, a deduction for 20% of qualified REIT dividends. Proposed regulations (having immediate effect) allow a RIC to pass the character of its qualified REIT dividends through to its shareholders provided certain holding period requirements are met.

Securities of companies in the real estate industry have been and may continue to be negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Potential impacts on the real estate market may include lower occupancy rates, decreased lease payments, defaults and foreclosures, among other consequences. These impacts could adversely affect corporate borrowers and mortgage lenders, the value of mortgage-backed securities, the bonds of municipalities that depend on tax revenues and tourist dollars generated by such properties, and insurers of the property and/or of corporate, municipal or mortgage-backed securities. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events, will last.

### **Regulation S Securities Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in equity or fixed-income securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are issued through private offerings without registration with the SEC, including offerings outside the United States, pursuant to Regulation S under the 1933 Act ("Regulation S Securities"). Because Regulation S Securities are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale, these securities may be considered illiquid. Furthermore, as these securities are generally less liquid than registered securities traded on established secondary markets, a Fund may take longer to liquidate these positions than would be the case for publicly traded securities. Although Regulation S Securities may be resold in privately negotiated transactions, the price realized from these sales could be less than those originally paid by a Fund. Further, companies whose securities are not publicly traded may not be subject to the disclosure and other investor protection requirements that would be applicable if their securities were publicly traded. Accordingly, Regulation S Securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses.

### **Regulatory and Market Developments Risk**

Recent instability in the financial markets has led the U.S. Government to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. Federal, state, and non-U.S. governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which a Fund invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which a Fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could diminish or preclude a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear, and such a program may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation, and performance of a Fund's portfolio holdings.

Although the long-term economic fallout of COVID-19 is difficult to predict, it has contributed to, and may continue to contribute to, market volatility, inflation and systemic economic weakness. COVID-19 and efforts to contain its spread may also exacerbate other pre-existing political, social, economic, market and financial risks. In addition, the U.S. government and other central banks across Europe, Asia, and elsewhere announced and/or adopted economic relief packages in response to COVID-19. The end of any such program could cause market downturns, disruptions and volatility, particularly if markets view the ending as premature. The U.S. federal government ended the COVID-19 public emergency declaration on May 11, 2023, however, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are expected to continue and the risk that new variants of COVID-19 may emerge remains. Therefore the economic outlook, particularly for certain industries and businesses, remains inherently uncertain. Any economic fallout could adversely affect the prices and liquidity of the securities and other instruments in which the Funds invest, which in turn could negatively impact the Funds' performance and cause losses on your investment in the Funds.

## **Repurchase Agreements Risk**

Securities held by a Fund may be subject to repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement is a contract under which a Fund acquires a security for a relatively short time period (usually not more than one week) subject to the obligation of the seller to repurchase and the Fund to resell such security at a fixed time and price which represents the Fund's cost plus interest. The arrangement results in a fixed rate of return that is not subject to market fluctuations during the period that the underlying security is held by the Fund. Repurchase agreements involve certain risks, including seller's default on its obligation to repurchase or seller's bankruptcy.

The Funds will enter into such agreements only with commercial banks and registered broker-dealers, as well as other financial institutions which an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, deems creditworthy under guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees. In these transactions, the securities issued by the Funds will have a total value in excess of the value of the repurchase agreement during the term of the agreement. If the seller defaults, the respective Fund could realize a loss on the sale of the underlying security to the extent that the proceeds of the sale, including accrued interest, are less than the resale price provided in the agreement including interest, and it may incur expenses in selling the security. In addition, if the other party to the agreement becomes insolvent and subject to liquidation or reorganization under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code of 1983 or other laws, a court may determine that the underlying security is collateral for a loan by the Fund not within the control of the Fund and therefore the Fund may not be able to substantiate its interest in the underlying security and may be deemed an unsecured creditor of the other party to the agreement. While the Funds' management acknowledges these risks, it is expected that they can be controlled through careful monitoring procedures.

In a repurchase agreement, a Fund purchases a security and simultaneously commits to sell that security back to the original seller at an agreed-upon price. The resale price reflects the purchase price plus an agreed-upon incremental amount that is unrelated to the coupon rate or maturity of the purchased security. To protect a Fund from risk that the original seller will not fulfill its obligations, the securities are held in accounts of the Fund at a bank, marked-to-market daily, and maintained at a value at least equal to the sale price plus the accrued incremental amount. If a seller defaults on its repurchase obligations, a Fund may suffer a loss in disposing of the security subject to the repurchase agreement. While it does not presently appear possible to eliminate all risks from these transactions (particularly the possibility that the value of the underlying security will be less than the resale price, as well as costs and delays to a Fund in connection with bankruptcy proceedings), it is the current policy of the Funds to engage in repurchase agreement transactions with parties whose creditworthiness has been reviewed and found satisfactory by an Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate.

## **Restricted and Illiquid Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in illiquid or restricted securities if a Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes that they present an attractive investment opportunity. A Fund may not invest more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid or restricted securities. Generally, a security is considered illiquid if a Fund reasonably expects it cannot be disposed of in current market conditions within seven days without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Its illiquidity might prevent the sale of such a security at a time when a Fund's Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser might wish to sell, and these securities could have the effect of decreasing the overall level of a Fund's liquidity. Further, the lack of an established secondary market may make it more difficult to value illiquid securities, requiring a Fund to rely on judgments that may be somewhat subjective in determining value, which could vary from the amount that a Fund could realize upon disposition.

Illiquid securities generally include, among other things, written OTC options, securities or other liquid assets being used as cover for such options, repurchase agreements with maturities in excess of seven days, certain loan participation interests, fixed-time deposits which are not subject to prepayment or provide for withdrawal penalties upon prepayment (other than overnight deposits), securities that are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale and other securities whose disposition is restricted under the federal securities laws (other than securities issued pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act and certain commercial paper that a Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, has determined to be liquid under procedures approved by the Board of Trustees).

A Fund's investments may include privately placed securities, which are sold directly to a small number of investors, usually institutions. Unlike public offerings, such securities are not registered under the federal securities laws. Although certain of these securities may be readily sold, for example, under Rule 144A, others may be illiquid, and their sale may involve substantial delays and additional costs.

Restricted securities, including private placements, are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. They can be eligible for purchase without SEC registration by certain institutional investors known as "qualified institutional buyers," and under the Funds' procedures, restricted securities may be treated as liquid. However, some restricted securities may be illiquid and restricted securities that are treated as liquid could be less liquid than registered securities traded on established secondary markets.

## **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. A Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements with the same parties with whom it may enter into repurchase agreements. Under a reverse repurchase agreement, a Fund sells securities to another party and agrees to repurchase them at a particular date and price. A Fund may enter into a reverse

repurchase agreement when it is anticipated that the interest income to be earned from the investment of the proceeds of the transaction is greater than the interest expense of the transaction.

The use of reverse repurchase agreements may be regarded as leveraging and, therefore, speculative. To the extent that a Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements, the Fund may elect to either treat all of its reverse repurchase agreements as derivatives transactions for purposes of the Derivatives Rule or comply (with respect to reverse repurchase agreements) with the asset coverage requirements under Section 18 of the 1940 Act. Furthermore, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risks that (i) the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense, (ii) the market value of the securities retained in lieu of sale by the Fund may decline below the price of the securities the Fund has sold but is obligated to repurchase, (iii) the market value of the securities sold will decline below the price at which the Fund is required to repurchase them and (iv) the securities will not be returned to the Fund.

In addition, if the buyer of securities under a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, such buyer or its trustee or receiver may receive an extension of time to determine whether to enforce the Fund's obligations to repurchase the securities and the Fund's use of the proceeds of the reverse repurchase agreement may effectively be restricted pending such decision.

### **Risks of Owning Securities of Affiliates (Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund)**

From time to time, the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund may be deemed to "control" or may be an "affiliate" of one or more of the Fund's portfolio companies, each as defined in the 1940 Act. In general, under the 1940 Act, the Fund would "control" a portfolio company if it owned 25% or more of its outstanding voting securities and would be an "affiliate" of a portfolio company if it owned 5% or more of its outstanding voting securities or any the Adviser's employees serves as a director of such company. The 1940 Act contains prohibitions and restrictions relating to transactions between investment companies and their affiliates (including the Adviser), principal underwriters and affiliates of those affiliates or underwriters.

There is significant ambiguity in the application of existing SEC staff interpretations of the term "voting security" to complex structures such as limited partner interests of MLPs in which the Fund invests. As a result, it is possible that the SEC staff may consider that certain securities of limited partnerships are voting securities under the staff's prevailing interpretations of this term. If such determination is made, the Fund may be regarded as a person affiliated with and controlling the issuer(s) of those securities for purposes of Section 17 of the 1940 Act. In the absence of an applicable exemptive rule, such status could impact certain investment decisions.

In light of the ambiguity of the definition of voting securities, the Fund does not intend to treat any class of limited partner interests of MLPs that the Fund holds as "voting securities" unless the security holders of such class currently have the ability, under the partnership agreement, to remove the general partner (assuming a sufficient vote of such securities, other than securities held by the general partner, in favor of such removal) or the Fund has an economic interest of sufficient size that otherwise gives the fund the de facto power to exercise a controlling influence over such MLP. The Fund believes this treatment is appropriate given that the general partner controls the MLP, and without the ability to remove the general partner or the power to otherwise exercise a controlling influence over the MLP due to the size of an economic interest, the security holders have no control over the MLP.

There is no assurance that the SEC staff will not consider that other limited partnership securities that the Fund owns and does not treat as voting securities are, in fact, voting securities for the purposes of Section 17 of the 1940 Act. If such determination were made, the Fund would be required to abide by the restrictions on "control" or "affiliate" transactions as proscribed in the 1940 Act. The Fund or any portfolio company that it controls, and the Fund's affiliates, may from time to time engage in certain of such transactions, purchases, sales and loans in reliance upon and in compliance with the conditions of certain exemptive rules promulgated by the SEC.

There is no assurance that the Fund would be able to satisfy the conditions of these rules with respect to any particular eligible transaction, or even if the Fund were allowed to engage in such a transaction that the terms would be more or as favorable to the Fund or any company that the Fund controls as those that could be obtained in an arm's length transaction. As a result of these prohibitions, restrictions may be imposed on the size of positions that may be taken for the Fund or on the type of investments that the Fund could make.

### **Rule 144A Securities Risk**

Each Fund may purchase securities that are not registered under the 1933 Act, but that can be sold to "qualified institutional buyers" in accordance with Rule 144A under the 1933 Act ("Rule 144A Securities"). In addition to an adequate trading market, the Advisers and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will also consider factors such as trading activity, availability of reliable price information, and other relevant information in determining whether a Rule 144A Security is liquid. This investment practice could have the effect of increasing the level of illiquidity in the Funds to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become uninterested for a time in purchasing Rule 144A Securities.

Rule 144A securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses. These securities may be less liquid than publicly traded securities, and a Fund may take longer to liquidate these positions than would be the case for publicly traded securities. Although these securities may be resold in privately negotiated transactions, the price realized from these sales could be less than those originally paid by a Fund.

Further, companies whose securities are not publicly traded may not be subject to the disclosure and other investor protection requirements that would be applicable if their securities were publicly traded.

Rule 144A under the 1933 Act allows for a broader institutional trading market for securities otherwise subject to restriction on resale to the general public by establishing a “safe harbor” from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act for resales of certain securities to qualified institutional buyers (as such term is defined under Rule 144A). The Advisers anticipate that the market for certain restricted securities such as institutional commercial paper will expand further as a result of this regulation and the development of automated systems for the trading, clearance and settlement of unregistered securities of domestic and foreign issuers, such as the PORTAL System sponsored by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. An insufficient number of qualified institutional buyers interested in purchasing Rule 144A eligible restricted securities held by a Fund, however, could affect adversely the marketability of such Fund’s securities and, consequently, the Fund might be unable to dispose of such securities promptly or at favorable prices. An Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will monitor the liquidity of such restricted securities under the supervision of the Board. All securities issued pursuant to Rule 144A are not deemed to be illiquid. An Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will monitor the liquidity of such restricted securities subject to the supervision of the Board. In reaching liquidity decisions, an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, must first find that the security can be sold within seven days at approximately the same amount at which it is valued by the Fund and that there is reasonable assurance that the security will remain marketable throughout the period it is expected to be held by the Fund, taking into account the actual frequency of trades and quotations for the security (expected frequency in the case of initial offerings). Furthermore, the security will be considered liquid if the following criteria are met: (i) at least two dealers make a market in the security; (ii) there are at least three sources from which a price for the security is readily available; and (iii) settlement is made in a “regular way” for the type of security at issue.

### **Securities Issued by Other Investment Companies Risk**

Each Fund may invest in securities of other investment companies, including investment companies which may not be registered under the 1940 Act. Certain Funds may invest in affiliated and unaffiliated no-load, open-end money market funds and short-term bond funds for cash management purposes. By investing in another investment company, a Fund is exposed to the risks of the underlying investment company in which it invests in proportion to the amount of assets the Fund allocates to the underlying investment company. In addition, a Fund’s investment in other investment companies is limited by the 1940 Act and will involve the indirect payment of a portion of the expenses, including advisory fees, of such other investment companies.

A Fund’s investments in other investment companies may include investments in various ETFs, subject to the Fund’s investment objective, policies, and strategies as described in the prospectus. ETFs are discussed above in greater detail.

Generally, a Fund will not purchase securities of another investment company if, as a result: (i) more than 10% of the Fund’s total assets would be invested in securities of other investment companies, (ii) such purchase would result in more than 3% of the total outstanding voting securities of any such investment company being held by the Fund, or (iii) more than 5% of the Fund’s total assets would be invested in any one such investment company, unless it is able to rely on and meet the requirements of one or more rule under the 1940 Act that permit investments in other investment companies in excess of these limits.

Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act (the “Fund of Funds Rule”) allows funds to invest in other investment companies in excess of some of the limitations discussed above, subject to certain limitations and conditions. An acquiring fund relying on the Fund of Funds Rule must enter into a fund of funds investment agreement with the acquired fund. The Fund of Funds Rule outlines the requirements for fund of funds agreements and specifies certain reporting responsibilities of the acquiring fund’s advisor. The Funds expect to rely on the Fund of Funds Rule to the extent an Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, deems such reliance necessary or appropriate.

### **Securities Lending Risk**

In order to generate additional income, each Fund may, from time to time, lend portfolio securities to broker-dealers, banks or institutional borrowers of securities, provided that outstanding loans do not exceed in the aggregate the maximum allowable percentage of the value of the Fund’s net assets under applicable laws and regulations, currently 33 1/3%. A Fund may lend securities if such loans are secured continuously by liquid assets consisting of cash, U.S. Government Securities or other liquid, high-grade debt securities, or by a letter of credit in favor of the Fund in a separate account maintained by the custodian at least equal at all times to 100% of the market value of the securities loaned, plus accrued interest. This collateral must be valued daily and, should the market value of the loaned securities increase, the borrower must furnish additional collateral to the lending Fund. During the time portfolio securities are on loan, the borrower pays the lending Fund any dividends or interest paid on such securities. Loans are subject to termination by the lending Fund or the borrower at any time. While the lending Fund does not have the right to vote securities on loan, it intends to terminate the loan and regain the right to vote if that is considered important with respect to the investment. In the event the borrower defaults on its obligation to the lending Fund, the lending Fund could experience delays in recovering its securities and possible capital losses. A Fund may pay reasonable finders’ and custodial fees in connections with loans. In addition, a Fund will consider all facts and circumstances, including the creditworthiness of the borrowing financial institution, and a Fund will not lend its securities to any director, officer, employee, or affiliate of the Adviser, the Administrator or the Distributor, unless permitted by applicable law.

The Funds did not engage in the lending of portfolio securities during the past fiscal year.

## **Short Sale Risk**

Each Fund may engage in short sales, including short sales against the box. Short sales (other than against the box) are transactions in which a Fund sells a security it does not own in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security. A short sale against the box is a short sale where at the time of the sale, a Fund owns or has the right to obtain securities equivalent in kind and amounts. To complete a short sale transaction, a Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund then is obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing it at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be more or less than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. Until the security is replaced, the Fund is required to pay to the lender amounts equal to any interest or dividends which accrue during the period of the loan. To borrow the security, the Fund also may be required to pay a premium, which would increase the cost of the security sold. There will also be other costs associated with short sales.

A Fund will incur a loss as a result of the short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund replaces the borrowed security. Unlike taking a long position in a security by purchasing the security, where potential losses are limited to the purchase price, short sales have no cap on maximum loss. A Fund will realize a gain if the security declines in price between those dates. This result is the opposite of what one would expect from a cash purchase of a long position in a security.

Until a Fund replaces a borrowed security in connection with a short sale, the Fund will (a) designate on its records as collateral cash or liquid assets at such a level that the designated assets plus any amount deposited with the broker as collateral will equal the current value of the security sold short or (b) otherwise cover its short position in accordance with applicable law. The amount designated on such Fund's records will be marked to market daily. This may limit the Fund's investment flexibility, as well as its ability to meet redemption requests or other current obligations.

There is no guarantee that the Funds will be able to close out a short position at any particular time or at an acceptable price. During the time that a Fund is short a security, it is subject to the risk that the lender of the security will terminate the loan at a time when the Fund is unable to borrow the same security from another lender. If that occurs, the Fund may be "bought in" at the price required to purchase the security needed to close out the short position, which may be a disadvantageous price. Thus, there is a risk that the Fund may be unable to fully implement its investment strategy due to a lack of available stocks or for some other reason. It is possible that the market value of the securities a Fund holds in long positions will decline at the same time that the market value of the securities the Fund has sold short increases, thereby increasing the Fund's potential volatility. Short sales also involve other costs. A Fund must normally repay to the lender an amount equal to any dividends or interest that accrues while the loan is outstanding. In addition, to borrow the security, a Fund may be required to pay a premium. The Funds also will incur transaction costs in effecting short sales. The amount of any ultimate gain for a Fund resulting from a short sale will be decreased, and the amount of any ultimate loss will be increased, by the amount of premiums, dividends, interest or expenses a Fund may be required to pay in connection with the short sale.

In addition to the short sales discussed above, each Fund may make short sales "against the box," a transaction in which the Fund enters into a short sale of a security that the Fund owns or has the right to obtain at no additional cost. The Fund does not immediately deliver the securities sold and is said to have a short position in those securities until delivery occurs. If the Fund effects a short sale of securities against the box at a time when it has an unrealized gain on the securities, it may be required to recognize that gain as if it had actually sold the securities (as a "constructive sale") on the date it effects the short sale. However, such constructive sale treatment may not apply if the Fund closes out the short sale with securities other than the appreciated securities held at the time of the short sale and if certain other conditions are satisfied. A Fund may also take a short position in a derivative instrument, such as a future, forward or swap. A short position on a derivative instrument involves the risk of a theoretically unlimited increase in the value of the underlying instrument.

## **Small and Medium Capitalization Stocks Risk**

Each Fund may invest its assets in the common stocks and other equity securities of small- and medium- capitalization companies with smaller market capitalizations. While an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes these investments may provide significant potential for appreciation, they involve higher risks in some respects than do investments in common stocks and other equity securities of larger companies. For example, prices of such investments are often more volatile than prices of large capitalization stocks and other equity securities. In addition, due to thin trading in some such investments, an investment in these common stocks and other equity securities may be more illiquid than that of common stocks or other equity securities of larger market capitalization issuers (see "Liquidity Risk"). Smaller capitalization companies also fail more often than larger companies and may have more limited management and financial resources than larger companies.

## **Sub-Adviser Risk**

A Fund with a Sub-Adviser is subject to management risk because it relies on the Sub-Adviser's ability to pursue the Fund's objective. The Sub-Adviser will apply investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these will produce the desired results.

## Structured Notes Risk

Each Fund may invest in structured notes, which are debt obligations that also contain an embedded derivative component with characteristics that adjust the obligation's risk/return profile. Generally, the performance of a structured note will track that of the underlying debt obligation and the derivative embedded within it. A Fund has the right to receive periodic interest payments from the issuer of the structured notes at an agreed-upon interest rate and a return of the principal at the maturity date.

Structured notes are typically privately negotiated transactions between two or more parties. A Fund bears the risk that the issuer of the structured note will default or become bankrupt. A Fund bears the risk of the loss of its principal investment and periodic interest payments expected to be received for the duration of its investment in the structured notes.

In the case of structured notes on credit default swaps, a Fund is also subject to the credit risk of the corporate credits underlying the credit default swaps. If one of the underlying corporate credits defaults, a Fund may receive the security that has defaulted, or alternatively a cash settlement may occur, and the Fund's principal investment in the structured note would be reduced by the corresponding face value of the defaulted security.

A Fund may invest in equity-linked structured notes (which would be linked to an equity index) to a significant extent. A highly liquid secondary market may not exist for the structured notes a Fund invests in, and there can be no assurance that a highly liquid secondary market will develop. The lack of a highly liquid secondary market may make it difficult for a Fund to sell the structured notes it holds at an acceptable price or accurately value such notes.

The market for structured notes may be, or suddenly can become, illiquid. The other parties to the transaction may be the only investors with sufficient understanding of the derivative to be interested in bidding for it. Changes in liquidity may result in significant, rapid, and unpredictable changes in the prices for structured notes. In certain cases, a market price for a credit-linked security may not be available. The collateral for a structured note may be one or more credit default swaps, which are subject to additional risks.

## Structured Securities Risk

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indexes or other financial indicators (each, a "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than other types of fixed-income securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

## Swap Agreements Risk

Each Fund may enter into interest rate, index, equity, currency exchange rate, total return and credit default swap agreements as well as purchase and sell options to enter into such swap agreements, for hedging and non-hedging purposes. The Funds may enter into swap agreements that are traded OTC and swap agreements that are centrally-cleared and exchange-traded. These transactions would be entered into in an attempt to obtain a particular return when it is considered desirable to do so, possibly at a lower cost to a Fund than if the Fund had invested directly in the asset that yielded the desired return. Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard OTC swap transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments, which may be adjusted for an interest factor. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are generally calculated with respect to a "notional amount," *i.e.*, the return on or increase in value of a particular dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate, in a particular foreign currency, or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index.

Forms of swap agreements include interest rate caps, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates exceed a specified rate, or "cap"; interest rate floors, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates fall below a specified level, or "floor"; and interest rate collars, under which a party sells a cap and purchases a floor or vice versa, in an attempt to protect itself against interest rate movements exceeding given minimum or maximum levels. Credit default swaps are a type of swap agreement in which the protection "buyer" is generally obligated to pay the protection "seller" an upfront and/or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided that no credit event, such as a default, on a reference obligation has occurred. The credit default swap agreement may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by a Fund. If a credit event occurs, the seller generally must pay the buyer the "par value" (full notional value) of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity described in the swap, or the seller may be required to deliver the related net cash amount, if the swap is cash settled. A Fund may be either the buyer or seller in the transaction. If a Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund may recover nothing if the swap is held through its termination date. However, if a credit event occurs, the buyer generally may elect to receive the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity whose value may have significantly

decreased. As a seller, a Fund generally receives an upfront payment and/or a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap provided that there is no credit event. As the seller, a Fund would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, a Fund would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap. Credit default swap agreements involve greater risks than if a Fund had invested in the reference obligation directly since, in addition to general market risks, credit default swaps are subject to illiquidity risk, counterparty risk and credit risk. A Fund will enter into OTC credit default swap agreements only with counterparties that meet certain standards of creditworthiness as determined by an Adviser and/or the Sub- Adviser, as appropriate.

A Fund may enter into total return swap agreements. Total return swap agreements are contracts in which one party agrees to make periodic payments based on the change in market value of underlying assets, which may include a specified security, basket of securities, defined portfolios of bonds, loans and mortgages, or securities indices during the specified period, in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate or the total return from other underlying assets. Total return swap agreements may be used to obtain exposure to a security or market without owning or taking physical custody of such security or market. Total return swap agreements may effectively add leverage to a Fund's portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Fund would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap. Total return swaps are a mechanism for the user to accept the economic benefits of asset ownership without utilizing the balance sheet. The other leg of the swap is spread to reflect the non- balance sheet nature of the product. Total return swaps can be designed with any underlying asset agreed between two parties. Typically, no notional amounts are exchanged with total return swaps. Total return swap agreements entail the risk that a party will default on its payment obligations to a Fund thereunder. Swap agreements also entail the risk that a Fund will not be able to meet its obligation to the counterparty. Generally, a Fund will enter into total return swaps on a net basis (i.e., the two payment streams are netted out with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments).

Most swap agreements entered into by a Fund calculate the obligations of the parties to the agreement on a "net basis." Consequently, the Fund's current obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement will generally be equal only to the net present value of amounts to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the positions held by each party to the agreement (the "net amount"). A Fund's current obligations under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against amounts owed to the Fund), and any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed to a swap counterparty will be covered by the maintenance of a segregated or "earmarked" account consisting of assets determined to be liquid by the Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees, to limit any potential leveraging of the Fund's portfolio.

Whether a Fund's use of swap agreements will be successful in furthering its investment objective will depend on the ability of the Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, to correctly predict whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Because they are two-party contracts and because they may have terms of greater than seven days, swap agreements may be considered to be illiquid investments. Moreover, a Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. A Fund will enter into swap agreements only with counterparties that meet certain standards for creditworthiness. Currently, some, but not all, interest rate swaps and credit default swaps are subject to central clearing. In a centrally cleared swap, immediately following execution of the swap agreement, the swap agreement is novated to a central counterparty and the Fund's counterparty on the swap agreement becomes the central counterparty. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and related regulatory developments require the clearing and exchange-trading of certain OTC derivative contracts including interest rate swaps and credit default swaps. Although these changes are expected to decrease the counterparty risk involved in bilaterally negotiated contracts and increase market liquidity, exchange-trading and clearing would not make the contracts risk-free. Certain restrictions imposed on the Funds by the Code may limit a Fund's ability to use swap agreements and/or require a Fund to trade its swaps in its respective wholly-owned subsidiary. It is possible that developments in the swap market, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect a Fund's ability to terminate existing swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under such agreements. In addition, a Fund's use of swaps may reduce the Fund's returns and increase volatility.

### **Tender Option Bonds Risk**

Each Fund, subject to its investment strategies and policies, may invest in trust certificates issued in tender option bond programs. In these programs, a trust typically issues two classes of certificates and uses the proceeds to purchase municipal securities having relatively long maturities and bearing interest at a fixed interest rate substantially higher than prevailing short-term tax-exempt rates.

The holders of floating rate certificates have the benefit of the agreement of a creditworthy third-party agent, such as a bank, broker-dealer or other financial institution, to remarket and/or purchase the floating rate certificates at face value upon tender by the holder. The agent receives periodic fees to remarket and provide liquidity for the floating rate certificates. As a result of this agreement, the holder of a floating rate certificate effectively holds a demand obligation that bears interest at the prevailing short-term, tax-exempt rate. The remarketing/liquidity agent normally will not be obligated to remarket or purchase tendered floating certificates in the event of certain defaults of the issuer of the municipal securities, a determination of taxability on the underlying municipal securities or a downgrading below agreed levels in the credit rating assigned to the underlying municipal securities. There is a risk that a Fund investing in a tender option bond program will not be considered the owner of a tender option bond for federal income tax purposes, and thus will not be entitled to treat such interest as exempt from federal income tax. Certain tender option bonds may be illiquid or may become illiquid as a result of, among other things, a credit rating downgrade, a payment default or a disqualification from tax-exempt status.

These programs are intended to provide the holders of certificates with tax-exempt income at a variable rate. One class of investors earns interest at a rate based on current short-term tax-exempt interest rates and may tender its holdings at par to a remarketing agent at agreed-upon intervals. In the event of a failed remarketing, except in limited circumstances, a liquidity provider steps in to provide for the purchase of the certificates. A second class of investors has a residual income interest (earning any net income produced by the underlying bonds that exceeds the variable income paid to the other class of investors) and bears first loss risk that the underlying bonds decline in value because of changes in market interest rates or for other reasons. Under the terms of such programs, both investor classes bear the risk of loss that would result from a payment default on the underlying bonds as well as from other potential, yet remote, credit or structural events. If the trust in a tender option bond program would fail to qualify as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the trust could become subject to entity level tax and the certificate holders could receive taxable ordinary income.

Section 619 (the “Volcker Rule”) and Section 941 (the “Risk Retention Rules”) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act effectively preclude banking entities from: (i) sponsoring or acquiring interests in the trusts used to hold a municipal bond in the creation of tender option bond trusts; and (ii) continuing to service or maintain relationships with existing programs involving such trusts to the same extent and in the same capacity as existing programs. In response to these rules, industry participants have begun using various structuring alternatives for existing and new trusts. For example, under a new tender option bond structure, a municipal fund would structure and sponsor a tender option bond trust. As a result, a municipal fund would be required to assume certain responsibilities and risks as the sponsor of the tender option bond trust. Because of the important role that tender option bond programs play in the municipal bond market, it is possible that implementation of these rules and any resulting impact may adversely impact the municipal bond market and the municipal funds. For example, as a result of the implementation of these rules, the municipal bond market may experience reduced demand or liquidity and increased financing costs.

### **TIPS and Inflation-Linked Bonds Risk**

The value of inflation-protected securities generally fluctuates in response to changes in real interest rates, which are in turn tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. Therefore, if inflation were to rise at a faster rate than nominal interest rates, real interest rates might decline, leading to an increase in the value of inflation-protected securities. In contrast, if nominal interest rates increased at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates might rise, leading to a decrease in the value of inflation-protected securities. If a Fund purchases inflation-protected securities in the secondary market whose principal values have been adjusted upward due to inflation since issuance, the Fund may experience a loss if there is a subsequent period of deflation. The inflation protected securities markets are generally much smaller and less liquid than the nominal bonds from the same issuers and as such can suffer losses during times of economic stress or illiquidity.

### **U.S. Government Obligations Risk**

Each Fund may invest in U.S. government obligations. Obligations of certain agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government, such as GNMA, are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; others, such as those of FNMA, are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury; others, such as those of the Student Loan Marketing Association, are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase the agency’s obligations; still others, such as those of the Federal Farm Credit Banks or FHLMC, are supported only by the credit of the instrumentality. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to U.S. Government-sponsored agencies or instrumentalities if it is not obligated to do so by law.

Regarding certain federal agency securities or government-sponsored entity securities (such as debt securities or mortgage-backed securities issued by FHLMC, FNMA, Federal Home Loan Banks, and other government-sponsored entities), you should be aware that although the issuer may be chartered or sponsored by Acts of Congress, the issuer is not funded by Congressional appropriations, and its securities are neither guaranteed nor issued by the U.S. Treasury.

### **Valuation Risk**

Market prices may not be readily available for any restricted or unregistered investments in public companies or investments in private companies made by the Funds. The value of such investments will ordinarily be determined based on fair valuations pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. Restrictions on resale or the absence of a liquid secondary market may adversely affect a Fund’s ability to determine its net asset value. The sale price of securities that are not readily marketable may be lower or higher than a Fund’s most recent determination of their fair value. In addition, the value of these securities typically requires more reliance on the judgment of an Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, than that required for securities for which there is an active trading market. Due to the difficulty in valuing these securities and the absence of an active trading market for these investments, a Fund may not be able to realize these securities’ carrying value or may have to delay their sale in order to do so.

### **Value Style Risk**

Although each Fund may invest in securities that the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes to be undervalued, such securities may, in fact, be appropriately priced. There is no guarantee that the price of a security believed to be undervalued will not decline. Investing in “value” stocks presents the risk that the stocks may never reach what an Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes are their full market values, either because the market fails to recognize what an Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate,

considers to be the companies' true business values or because an Adviser and/or Sub- Adviser, as appropriate, misjudged those values. In addition, value stocks may fall out of favor with investors and underperform growth stocks during given periods.

### **Variable and Floating Rate Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in variable or floating rate securities. Variable and floating rate securities are instruments that have a coupon or interest rate that is adjusted periodically due to changes in a base or benchmark rate. Variable and floating rate securities provide for a periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the obligations. The terms of such obligations must provide that interest rates are adjusted periodically based upon an interest rate adjustment index as provided in the respective obligations. The adjustment intervals may be regular, and range from daily to annually, or may be event-based, such as based on a change in the prime rate.

A Fund may engage in credit spread trades and invest in floating rate debt instruments ("floaters"). A credit spread trade is an investment position relating to a difference in the prices or interest rates of two securities or currencies, where the value of the investment position is determined by movements in the difference between the prices or interest rates, as the case may be, of the respective securities or currencies. The interest rate on a floater is a variable rate that is tied to another interest rate, such as a money-market index or Treasury bill rate. The interest rate on a floater resets periodically, typically every six months. Because of the interest rate reset feature, floaters provide a Fund with a certain degree of protection against a rise in interest rates, although a Fund will participate in any declines in interest rates as well.

A Fund also may invest in inverse floating rate debt instruments ("inverse floaters"). The interest rate on an inverse floater resets in the opposite direction from the market rate of interest to which the inverse floater is indexed. An inverse floating rate security may exhibit greater price volatility than a fixed rate obligation of similar credit quality, and a Fund accordingly may be forced to hold such an instrument for long periods of time and/or may experience losses of principal in such investment. In particular, when interest rates are declining, coupon payments will rise at periodic intervals. This rise in coupon payments causes rapid dramatic increases in prices compared to those expected from conventional fixed-income instruments of similar maturity. Conversely, during times of rising interest rates, the coupon payments will fall at periodic intervals. This fall in coupon payments causes rapid dramatic decreases in prices compared to those expected from conventional fixed-income instruments of similar maturity. See "Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities Risk" for a discussion of IOs and POs.

Variable and floating rate notes are frequently not rated by credit rating agencies; however, unrated variable and floating rate notes purchased by a Fund will be determined by the Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, under guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees to be of comparable quality at the time of purchase to rated instruments eligible for purchase under the Fund's investment policies. In making such determinations, a Fund's Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will consider the earning power, cash flow, and other liquidity ratios of the issuers of such notes (such issuers include financial, merchandising, bank holding, and other companies) and will continuously monitor their financial condition. Although there may be no active secondary market with respect to a particular variable or floating rate note purchased by a Fund, the Fund may resell the note at any time to a third party. The absence of an active secondary market, however, could make it difficult for the Fund to dispose of a variable or floating rate note in the event the issuer of the note defaulted on its payment obligations and the Fund could, as a result or for other reasons, suffer a loss to the extent of the default. Variable or floating rate notes may be secured by bank letters of credit.

### **Warrants and Rights Risk**

Each Fund may invest in warrants and rights or acquire a warrant or right through ownership of equity issues of a company. A Fund may purchase warrants issued by domestic and foreign companies to purchase newly created equity securities consisting of common and preferred stock. Warrants are securities that give the holder the right, but not the obligation to purchase equity issues of the company issuing the warrants, or a related company, at a fixed price either on a date certain or during a set period. The equity security underlying a warrant is authorized at the time the warrant is issued or is issued together with the warrant. Rights are similar to warrants but generally have a short duration and are distributed directly by the issuer to its shareholders.

Investing in warrants can provide a greater potential for profit or loss than an equivalent investment in the underlying security, and, thus, can be a speculative investment. At the time of issue, the cost of a warrant is substantially less than the cost of the underlying security itself, and price movements in the underlying security are generally magnified in the price movements of the warrant. This leveraging effect enables the investor to gain exposure to the underlying security with a relatively low capital investment.

This leveraging increases an investor's risk, however, in the event of a decline in the value of the underlying security and can result in a complete loss of the amount invested in the warrant. In addition, the price of a warrant tends to be more volatile than, and may not correlate exactly to, the price of the underlying security. If the market price of the underlying security is below the exercise price of the warrant on its expiration date, the warrant will generally expire without value. The value of a warrant or right may decline because of a decline in the value of the underlying security, the passage of time, changes in interest rates or in the dividend or other policies of the company whose equity underlies the warrant or right or a change in the perception as to the future price of the underlying security, or any combination thereof. Warrants and rights generally pay no dividends and confer no voting or other rights other than to purchase the underlying security.

## **When-Issued Securities and Firm Commitment Agreements Risk**

Each Fund may purchase securities on a delayed delivery or “when-issued” basis and enter into firm commitment agreements (transactions whereby the payment obligation and interest rate are fixed at the time of the transaction but the settlement is delayed). A Fund will not purchase securities the value of which is greater than 15% of its net assets on a when-issued or firm commitment basis. A Fund, as purchaser, assumes the risk of any decline in value of the security beginning on the date of the agreement or purchase, and no interest accrues to a Fund until it accepts delivery of the security. A Fund will not use such transactions for leveraging purposes and, accordingly, will segregate or “ earmark ” cash, cash equivalents, or liquid securities in an amount sufficient to meet its payment obligations thereunder. Although these transactions will not be entered into for leveraging purposes, to the extent a Fund’s aggregate commitments under these transactions exceed its holdings of cash and securities that do not fluctuate in value (such as short-term money market instruments), the Fund temporarily will be in a leveraged position (*i.e.*, it will have an amount greater than its net assets subject to market risk). Should market values of a Fund’s portfolio securities decline while the Fund is in a leveraged position, greater depreciation of its net assets would likely occur than were it not in such a position. As a Fund’s aggregate commitments under these transactions increase, the opportunity for leverage similarly increases. A Fund will not borrow money to settle these transactions and, therefore, will liquidate other portfolio securities in advance of settlement if necessary to generate additional cash to meet its obligations thereunder.

## **Zero-Coupon Securities Risk**

Each Fund may invest in zero-coupon securities. A zero-coupon security has no cash coupon payments. Instead, the issuer sells the security at a substantial discount from its maturity value. The interest equivalent received by the investor from holding this security to maturity is the difference between the maturity value and the purchase price. Zero-coupon securities are more volatile than cash pay securities. A Fund accrues income on these securities prior to the receipt of cash payments. A Fund intends to distribute substantially all of its income to its shareholders to qualify for pass-through treatment under the tax laws and may, therefore, need to use its cash reserves to satisfy distribution requirements.

## **THE ADVISERS**

**General.** Westwood Management Corp., a New York corporation formed in 1983, located at 200 Crescent Court, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75201, is a professional investment management firm registered with the SEC under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the “Advisers Act”). The Adviser is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Westwood Holdings Group, Inc., an institutional asset management company. As of December 31, 2025, the Adviser had approximately \$13.067 billion in assets under management.

Salient Advisors, L.P., a Texas limited partnership conducting business since 2002, located at 200 Crescent Court, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75201, is a professional investment management firm registered with the SEC under the Advisers Act. After the 2022 Reorganization and acquisition of certain assets from Salient Partners, L.P. (“Salient”) by Westwood Holdings (the “Acquisition”), Salient Advisors became a wholly owned subsidiary of Westwood Holdings. As of December 31, 2025, Salient Advisors had approximately \$2.29 million of assets under management. Salient Advisors is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) as a commodity pool operator and commodity trading adviser, and is a member of the National Futures Association (the “NFA”).

Broadmark Asset Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company conducting business since 1999, located at 1808 Wedemeyer Street, Suite 210, San Francisco, California 94129, is a professional investment management firm registered with the SEC under the Advisers Act. Broadmark serves as sub- adviser to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund (individually a “Sub-Advised Fund” and collectively, the “Sub-Advised Funds”). As a result of the Acquisition and additional purchases of Broadmark shares by Westwood Holdings in January 2023, Broadmark’s principal owners are Westwood Holdings, Broadmark’s employees in the aggregate (as a group) and the Barbara G. Keeley Revocable Trust, with Westwood Holdings owning approximately 80% of Broadmark’s outstanding voting securities. As of December 31, 2025, Broadmark had assets under management of approximately \$287.9 million. Broadmark is registered with the CFTC as a commodity trading adviser and is a member of the NFA.

**Advisory Agreement with the Trust.** The Trust and each Adviser have entered into an investment advisory agreement (each, an “Advisory Agreement”) with respect to the applicable Fund. Under the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser serves as the investment adviser and makes investment decisions for its respective Fund(s) and continuously reviews, supervises and administers the investment programs of the Funds, subject to the supervision of, and policies established by, the Trustees. Prior to November 1, 2021, the Westwood also served as the investment adviser for each of the Predecessor Funds pursuant to an investment advisory agreement with The Advisors’ Inner Circle Fund. Westwood makes investment decisions for the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality Value Fund, the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, and the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund. With respect to the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund and the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, the Advisers are responsible for overseeing the Sub-Adviser’s management of the

applicable Fund’s assets. Among other things, the Advisers negotiate the Sub-Advisory agreement and monitor management of each Fund’s assets in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and related investment policies.

After the initial two-year term, the continuance of the Advisory Agreement with respect to each Fund must be specifically approved at least annually: (i) by the vote of the Trustees or by a vote of the majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund; and (ii) by the vote of a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Advisory Agreement or “interested persons” of any party thereto, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Advisory Agreement with respect to each Fund is terminable without penalty on 60 days’ notice by the Board or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The Adviser may also terminate the Advisory Agreement on not less than 30 days’ nor more than 60 days’ written notice to the Trust. The Advisory Agreement provides that it will terminate automatically in the event of its “assignment,” as such term is defined in the 1940 Act.

**Advisory Fees Paid to the Adviser.** For its services to the Funds, the Adviser is entitled to a fee, which is calculated daily and paid monthly, at an annual rate based on the average daily net assets of the Funds, as set forth in the table below.

| Fund  | Adviser                   | Management Fee |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | Westwood Management Corp. | See Below      |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | Westwood Management Corp. | 1.10%          |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | Salient Advisors          | 1.40%          |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.65%          |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | Westwood Management Corp. | See Below      |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.85%          |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.75%          |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.50%          |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.70%          |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | Westwood Management Corp. | 0.90%          |

In connection with the Adviser’s Sensible Fees™ framework, for its services to each share class of the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund and Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Adviser is entitled to a management fee, which consists of a base fee (the “Base Fee”) and a positive or negative performance adjustment (the “Performance Adjustment”) based on whether, and to what extent, the investment performance of each share class of each Fund exceeds, or is exceeded by, the performance of an index hurdle (the “Index Hurdle”) over the 12-month period from November 1 of each year through October 31 of the following year (the “Performance Period”). For each share class of each Fund, the Base Fee and Performance Adjustment are each calculated and accrued daily based on the average daily net assets of the share class during the Performance Period.

*Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund*

The Base Fee is an annual rate of 0.38%. The Index Hurdle is the Blended 80/20 Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index/S&P 500® Index plus 1.00%. The Performance Adjustment is calculated according to a schedule that adds or subtracts 0.0032% of the share class’ average daily net assets for each 0.01% by which the performance of the share class exceeds or lags the performance of the Index Hurdle over the Performance Period. The maximum Performance Adjustment (positive or negative) will not exceed an annual rate of +/- 0.32% of the share class’ average daily net assets during the Performance Period, which would occur when the performance of the share class exceeds, or is exceeded by, the performance of the Index Hurdle by 1.00% over the Performance Period. Accordingly, the management fee will range from a minimum annual rate of 0.06% to a maximum annual rate of 0.70%.

*Westwood Alternative Income Fund*

The Base Fee is an annual rate of 0.53%. The Index Hurdle is the FTSE 1-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index plus 2.00%. The Performance Adjustment is calculated according to a schedule that adds or subtracts 0.0016% of the share class’ average daily net assets for each 0.01% by which the performance of the share class exceeds or lags the performance of the Index Hurdle over the Performance Period. The maximum Performance Adjustment (positive or negative) will not exceed an annual rate of +/- 0.32% of the share class’ average daily net assets during the Performance Period, which would occur when the performance of the share class exceeds, or is exceeded by, the performance of the Index Hurdle by 2.00% over the Performance Period. Accordingly, the management fee will range from a minimum annual rate of 0.21% to a maximum annual rate of 0.85%.

A Performance Adjustment will not be based on whether the absolute performance of a share class is positive or negative, but rather will be based on whether such performance exceeds, or is exceeded by, the performance of the Index Hurdle. A share

class of a Fund could pay a Performance Adjustment for positive relative performance even if the share class decreases in value, so long as the performance of the share class exceeds that of the Index Hurdle. It is possible that, if you buy a share class of a Fund after the beginning of a Performance Period, you will bear a share of a Performance Adjustment payable by the share class based on performance that preceded your purchase and from which you therefore did not benefit.

The Advisers have contractually agreed to reduce their fees and reimburse expenses of the Westwood Quality Value Fund, Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund in order to keep net operating expenses (excluding interest, taxes, brokerage commissions, Rule 12b-1 distribution fees (if any), administrative servicing fees (if any), dividend and interest expenses on securities sold short, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses (collectively, “excluded expenses”)) from exceeding the Funds’ average daily net assets as follows:

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>Share Class</b>   | <b>Expense Cap</b> |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | Institutional Shares | 0.55%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 0.55%              |
|   | Ultra Shares         | 0.55%              |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | Institutional Shares | 0.68%              |
|   | Ultra Shares         | 0.68%              |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | Institutional Shares | 0.79%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 0.79%              |
|   | C Class Shares       | 0.79%              |
|   | Ultra Shares         | 0.79%              |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | Institutional Shares | 0.74%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 0.74%              |
|   | C Class Shares       | 0.74%              |
|   | Ultra Shares         | 0.74%              |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | Institutional Shares | 1.25%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 1.50%              |
|   | C Class Shares       | 2.25%              |
|   | Ultra Shares         | None               |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | Institutional Shares | 1.10%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 1.50%              |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | Institutional Shares | 1.35%              |
|   | A Class Shares       | 1.60%              |
|   | F Class Shares       | 1.04%              |

Except as otherwise noted, unless earlier terminated by the Board, the above contractual fee waivers shall continue in effect until, but may be terminated by the Adviser effective, March 1, 2027.

The Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its management fee at an annual rate in the amount of 0.01% of the Westwood Alternative Income Fund's average daily net assets (the "Management Fee Waiver Agreement"). In addition, pursuant to a separate contractual agreement, the Adviser has contractually agreed to reduce its fees and reimburse expenses of the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund and Westwood Alternative Income Fund in order to keep net operating expenses (excluding management fees, interest, taxes, brokerage commissions, Rule 12b-1 distribution fees (if any), administrative servicing fees (if any), acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses (collectively, “excluded expenses”)) from exceeding the Funds’ average daily net assets as follows:

| Fund                             | Share Class          | Expense Cap |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund | Institutional Shares | 0.10%       |
|                                  | A Class Shares       | 0.10%       |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund | Institutional Shares | 0.00%       |
|                                  | A Class Shares       | 0.00%       |
|                                  | Ultra Shares         | 0.00%       |

Unless earlier terminated by the Board, these above contractual fee waivers shall continue in effect until, but may be terminated by the Adviser effective, March 1, 2027.

Prior to May 1, 2023, Westwood contractually agreed to waive its management fee at an annual rate in the amount of 0.25% of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund's average daily net assets (the "Management Fee Waiver Agreement"). The Management Fee Waiver Agreement was terminated by the Board effective May 1, 2023 in connection with the approval of the amendment to the Investment Advisory Agreement between the Trust, on behalf of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, and the Adviser to reduce the management fees payable by the Funds from 0.95% to 0.70% of the average daily net assets of the Fund, effective May 1, 2023. The Adviser may receive from a share class of a Fund the difference between the share class' total annual Fund operating expenses (not including excluded expenses) and the share class' expense cap to recoup all or a portion of its prior fee reductions or expense reimbursements (other than management fee waivers pursuant to the Management Fee Waiver Agreement) made during the rolling three-year period preceding the date of the recoupment if at any point total annual Fund operating expenses (not including excluded expenses) are below the expense cap (i) at the time of the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement and (ii) at the time of the recoupment.

In addition to the contractual agreement above, for the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its Management Fee at an annual rate in the amount of 0.01% of the Westwood Alternative Income Fund's average daily net assets until March 1, 2027.

An Adviser may receive from a share class of a Fund the difference between the share class's total annual Fund operating expenses (not including excluded expenses) and the share class's expense cap to recoup all or a portion of its prior fee reductions or expense reimbursements (other than management fee waivers pursuant to the Management Fee Waiver Agreement) made during the rolling three-year period preceding the date of the recoupment if at any point total annual Fund operating expenses (not including excluded expenses) are below the expense cap (i) at the time of the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement and (ii) at the time of the recoupment.

For the periods indicated below, the Funds paid the following aggregate management fees to their respective Adviser:

| Fund  | Fiscal Period Ended 12/31/23 <sup>(a)</sup> | Fiscal Year Ended 10/31/2024 <sup>(b)</sup> | Fiscal Year Ended 10/31/2025 |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | \$1,574,496                                 | \$1,863,393                                 | \$1,824,271                  |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | \$2,360,831                                 | \$2,138,161                                 | \$1,805,385                  |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | \$896,984                                   | \$611,901                                   | \$951,483                    |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | \$8,141,323                                 | \$7,923,888                                 | \$10,831,551                 |

(a) Expense does not include deductions for waivers.

(b) November 18, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

(c) Fiscal year changed to October 31.

For the periods indicated below, the Funds paid the following aggregate management fees to their respective Adviser:

| Fund                             | Contractual Advisory Fees |              |             | Fees Waived by the Adviser |             |             | Total Fees Paid (After Waivers) to Adviser |             |             |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|
|                                  | 2023                      | 2024         | 2025        | 2023                       | 2024        | 2025        | 2023                                       | 2024        | 2025        |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund      | \$1,201,960               | \$1,037,001  | \$953,040   | \$131,653                  | \$138,668   | \$145,495   | \$1,070,307                                | \$898,333   | \$807,545   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund    | \$2,185,109               | \$1,688,049  | \$739,300   | \$434,607                  | \$375,911   | \$220,977   | \$1,750,502                                | \$1,312,138 | \$518,323   |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund   | \$9,187,510               | \$10,038,082 | \$8,661,018 | \$1,421,371                | \$1,610,873 | \$1,425,758 | \$7,766,139                                | \$8,427,209 | \$7,235,260 |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund | \$3,950,745               | \$3,393,620  | \$3,429,819 | \$0                        | \$0         | \$13,000    | \$3,950,745                                | \$3,393,620 | \$3,416,819 |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund | \$627,252                 | \$742,595    | \$140,373   | \$76,545                   | \$2,561     | \$96,886    | \$550,707                                  | \$740,034   | \$43,487    |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund | \$292,274                 | \$1,017,495  | \$1,082,718 | \$358,286                  | \$263,567   | \$252,630   | \$0  | \$453,928   | \$830,088   |

### Sub-Advisory Agreements

Each Adviser and Broadmark have entered into an investment Sub-Advisory agreement (each a “Sub-Advisory Agreement” and together the “Sub-Advisory Agreements”) with respect to the Sub-Advised Funds. Under the terms of the Sub-Advisory Agreements, the Sub-Adviser manages the investment and reinvestment of the assets of each Sub-Advised Fund, subject to the supervision of the Board and the Advisers. The Sub-Adviser formulates a continuous investment program for each Sub-Advised Fund consistent with its investment objectives and policies outlined in each respective Sub-Advised Fund’s prospectus and this SAI. The Sub-Advised Funds are not responsible for paying the Sub-Adviser.

After the initial two-year term, the continuance of the Sub-Advisory Agreement with respect to each Sub-Advised Fund must be specifically approved at least annually: (i) by the vote of the Trustees or by a vote of the majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund; and (ii) by the vote of a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Sub-Advisory Agreement or “interested persons” of any party thereto, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Sub-Advisory Agreement with respect to each Sub-Advised Fund is terminable without penalty on 60 days’ notice by the Board or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The Sub-Adviser may also terminate the Sub-Advisory Agreements on not less than 30 days’ nor more than 60 days’ written notice to the Trust. The Sub-Advisory Agreement provides that it will terminate automatically in the event of its “assignment,” as such term is defined in the 1940 Act.

### Administrative Services Arrangements

Broadmark and Westwood are parties to an Administrative Services Agreement under which Westwood provides Broadmark information technology support services and compliance services.

### Sub-Advisory Fees Paid to the Sub-Adviser

The Advisers compensate the Sub-Adviser for services to the Sub-Advised Funds out of the Advisers’ revenues. Westwood retains the entire fee for, and does not pay sub-advisory fees with respect to, the other Funds it advises. All fees paid to the Sub-Adviser by the Advisers are computed and accrued daily and paid monthly based on the net asset value of shares of the respective Funds.

For the services provided pursuant to the Sub-Advisory Agreement with the Advisers, the Sub-Adviser is paid an annual fee from the Advisers. The following table sets forth the annual rates the Sub-Adviser is entitled to receive pursuant to the Sub-Advisory Agreement (based on the average daily net assets of the respective Fund).

| <b>Fund</b>                             | <b>Sub-Advisory Fee</b>   |
|---|---|
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund | 0.60% up to and including \$1 billion<br>0.55% over \$1 billion |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund   | 0.725%  |

## THE PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

This section includes information about the Funds’ portfolio managers, including information about other accounts they manage, the dollar range of Fund shares they own and how they are compensated.

**Compensation.** For the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, and Westwood Quality Value Fund, Westwood compensates the Funds’ portfolio managers for their management of the Funds. Each of the Funds’ portfolio managers’ compensation consists of a base salary, participation in an incentive compensation plan, and a full benefits package. Base salary levels are maintained at levels that the Westwood’s compensation committee deems to be commensurate with similar companies in the asset management industry based on industry compensation surveys. Incentive compensation is based on a percentage of revenue earned by the Westwood or investment strategies managed by the respective portfolio managers. Incentive awards under the plan may be paid in a combination of cash, deferred cash and/or restricted stock of the Westwood parent company, Westwood Holdings Group, Inc. In determining incentive compensation and annual merit-based salary increases, employees on the investment team are evaluated according to a combination of quantitative and qualitative factors. Other benefits such as profit sharing, health insurance, life insurance, short and long-term disability insurance, and a 401(k) plan with employer matching, are also provided.

For the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, Westwood compensates Mr. Palmer and Mr. Helfert. Each of the Funds’ portfolio managers’ compensation consists of a base salary, participation in an incentive compensation plan, and a full benefits package. Base salary levels are maintained at levels that Westwood’s compensation committee deems to be commensurate with similar companies in the asset management industry based on industry compensation surveys. Incentive compensation is based on a percentage of revenue earned by Westwood on investment strategies managed by the portfolio managers. Incentive awards under the plan may be paid in a combination of cash, deferred cash and/or Westwood restricted stock. In determining incentive compensation and annual merit-based salary increases, employees on the investment team are evaluated according to a combination of quantitative and qualitative factors. Other benefits, such as profit sharing, health insurance, life insurance, short- and long-term disability insurance, and a 401(k) plan with employer matching, are also available.

For Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, Broadmark compensates Messrs. Cortez, and Damico. Messrs. Cortez, and Damico each receive a fixed annual salary, discretionary bonus compensation based upon the profitability of Broadmark, in which Messrs. Cortez, and Damico each has significant ownership, and a full benefits package.

For the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, Westwood compensates Mr. Reid, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. Sanghani for their management of the Fund. Each of the Funds' portfolio managers' compensation consists of a base salary, participation in an incentive compensation plan, and a full benefits package. Base salary levels are maintained at levels that Westwood's compensation committee deems to be commensurate with similar companies in the asset management industry based on industry compensation surveys. Incentive compensation is based on a percentage of revenue earned by Westwood on investment strategies managed by the portfolio managers. Incentive awards under the plan may be paid in a combination of cash, deferred cash and/or Westwood restricted stock. In determining incentive compensation and annual merit-based salary increases, employees on the investment team are evaluated according to a combination of quantitative and qualitative factors. Other benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, short- and long-term disability insurance, and a 401(k) plan with employer matching, are also available.

**Fund Shares Owned by the Portfolio Managers.** The following table shows the dollar amount range of each portfolio manager's "beneficial ownership" of shares of the Funds as of October 31, 2025. Dollar amount ranges disclosed are established by the SEC. "Beneficial ownership" is determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Act").

| Name                       | Dollar Range of Fund Shares  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Hussein Adatia             | \$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund)   |
| Scott Barnard, CFA®        | \$50,001 - \$100,000 (Westwood Income Opportunity Fund)<br>\$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund)            |
| Ben Chittenden, CFA®       | \$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Income Opportunity Fund)   |
| William E. Costello, CFA®  | \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 (Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund)<br>\$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund)            |
| Christopher Hartman        | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Alternative Income Fund)   |
| Adrian Helfert             | \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 (Westwood Income Opportunity Fund)   |
| Prashant Inamdar, CFA®     | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund)  |
| Jordan Latimer, CFA®       | \$50,001 - \$100,000 (Westwood Quality Small Cap Fund)   |
| Matthew R. Lockridge       | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Quality Value Fund)<br>\$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund)                |
| Kyle Martin, CFA®          | \$50,001 - \$100,000 (Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund)   |
| Trip Rodgers, CFA®         | \$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund)  |
| Frederic G. Rowsey, CFA®   | None   |
| Michael Wall               | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Quality Value Fund)  |
| John D. Palmer             | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Real Estate Income Fund)   |
| Ricardo Cortez, CIMA®      | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund)<br>\$50,001 - \$100,000 (Westwood Tactical Plus Fund)        |
| Richard Damico             | \$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund)<br>\$10,001 - \$50,000 (Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund) |
| Gregory A. Reid            | None   |
| Frank T. Gardner III, CFA® | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund)  |

| Name                 | Dollar Range of Fund Shares   |
|----------------------|---|
| Parag Sanghani, CFA® | \$100,001 - \$500,000 (Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund) |
| Corey Henegar, CFA   | \$50,001-\$100,000 (Westwood Quality Value Fund)                          |

**Other Accounts.** In addition to the Funds, the portfolio managers may also be responsible for the day-to-day management of certain other accounts, as indicated by the following table. The information below is provided as of October 31, 2025.

| Name                       | Registered Investment Companies |   | Other Pooled Investment Vehicles |   | Other Accounts     |   |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|
|                            | Number of Accounts              | Total Assets <sup>1</sup> (in Millions) | Number of Accounts               | Total Assets <sup>1</sup> (in Millions) | Number of Accounts | Total Assets <sup>1</sup> (in Millions) |
| Hussein Adatia             | 0                               | \$0                                     | 2                                | \$51,893,505                            | 6                  | \$2,012,521                             |
| Scott Barnard, CFA®        | 0                               | \$0                                     | 2                                | \$142,937,948                           | 15                 | \$638,975,553 <sup>2</sup>              |
| Ben Chittenden, CFA®       | 0                               | \$0                                     | 2                                | \$142,937,948                           | 9                  | \$637,524,570                           |
| William E. Costello, CFA®  | 2                               | \$835,204,477                           | 7                                | \$946,260,784                           | 31                 | \$2,068,041,307                         |
| Christopher Hartman        | 0                               | \$0                                     | 0                                | \$0                                     | 7                  | \$3,306,920                             |
| Adrian Helfert             | 1                               | \$33,008,595                            | 6                                | \$285,972,790                           | 89                 | \$732,575,943 <sup>2</sup>              |
| Prashant Inamdar, CFA®     | 0                               | \$0                                     | 3                                | \$780,640,570                           | 14                 | \$514,903,104                           |
| Matthew R. Lockridge       | 6                               | \$1,694,848,284                         | 8                                | \$550,441,656                           | 54                 | \$2,943,963,207 <sup>3</sup>            |
| Kyle Martin, CFA®          | 0                               | \$0                                     | 3                                | \$780,640,570                           | 10                 | \$510,947,783                           |
| Trip Rodgers, CFA®         | 0                               | \$0                                     | 3                                | \$780,640,570                           | 14                 | \$513,600,742                           |
| Frederic G. Rowsey, CFA®   | 2                               | \$835,204,767                           | 4                                | \$165,620,214                           | 20                 | \$1,554,565,116                         |
| Michael Wall               | 4                               | \$859,643,807                           | 5                                | \$414,229,488                           | 36                 | \$1,502,838,799 <sup>3</sup>            |
| John D. Palmer             | 0                               | \$0                                     | 0                                | \$0                                     | 5                  | \$1,084,636                             |
| Ricardo Cortez, CIMA®      | 0                               | \$0                                     | 0                                | \$0                                     | 72                 | \$53,917,906                            |
| Richard Damico             | 0                               | \$0                                     | 0                                | \$0                                     | 72                 | \$53,917,906                            |
| Gregory A. Reid            | 2                               | \$191,561,279                           | 7                                | \$392,578,663                           | 58                 | \$819,656,538                           |
| Frank T. Gardner III, CFA® | 2                               | \$191,561,279                           | 2                                | \$193,795,018                           | 47                 | \$819,852,119                           |
| Parag Sanghani, CFA®       | 2                               | \$191,561,279                           | 2                                | \$193,795,018                           | 51                 | \$815,166,734                           |
| Jordan Latimer, CFA®       | 2                               | \$835,204,477                           | 4                                | \$165,620,214                           | 27                 | \$1,554,097,005                         |
| Corey Henegar, CFA         | 4                               | \$859,543,807                           | 4                                | \$384,821,442                           | 32                 | \$1,387,609,297                         |

<sup>1</sup> Represents the portion of assets for which the portfolio manager has responsibility in the accounts indicated. The accounts indicated may contain additional assets under the responsibility of other portfolio managers and therefore may be duplicated. Information is as of October 31, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Includes 1 account with assets under management of \$250 million that is subject to performance-based advisory fees.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 1 account with assets under management of \$103,000 that is subject to performance-based advisory fees.

The Adviser also manages institutional separate accounts and is an adviser and sub-adviser to other mutual funds. The investment process is the same for similar accounts, including the Funds, and is driven by proprietary team-oriented, in-depth, fundamental research. The investment research team is organized by industry coverage and supports all of the accounts managed in each of the Adviser's investment strategies. Each of the Adviser's investment strategies is managed by a portfolio team. Weekly research meetings provide a forum where the Adviser's investment professionals discuss current investment ideas within their assigned industries. Generally, the entire portfolio team, or a sub-set of the team, then debates the merits of recommendations, taking into account the prevailing market environment, the

portfolio's current composition, and the relative value of alternative investments. Investment decisions are made by majority agreement of the portfolio team.

**Conflicts of Interest.** The portfolio managers' management of other registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles, and other accounts (collectively referred to as "other accounts") may give rise to potential conflicts of interest in connection with their management of the Funds' investments, on the one hand, and the investments of the other accounts, on the other. The other accounts may have the same investment objective as the Funds. Therefore, a potential conflict of interest may arise as a result of the identical investment objectives, whereby a portfolio manager could favor one account over another. Another potential conflict could include the portfolio managers' knowledge about the size, timing, and possible market impact of Fund trades, whereby a portfolio manager could use this information to the advantage of other accounts and to the disadvantage of the Funds. However, the Advisers and Sub-Adviser have established policies and procedures to ensure that the purchase and sale of securities among all accounts it manages are fairly and equitably allocated. The Advisers' and Sub-Adviser's trade allocation policy is to aggregate client transactions, including the Funds', where possible when it is believed that such aggregation may facilitate the Advisers' and/or Sub-Adviser's duty of best execution. Client accounts for which orders are aggregated receive the average price of such transaction. Any transaction costs incurred in the transaction are shared pro-rata based on each client's participation in the transaction. The Advisers and Sub-Adviser generally allocates securities among client accounts according to each account's pre-determined participation in the transaction. The Advisers' and Sub-Adviser's policy prohibits any allocation of trades that would favor any proprietary accounts, affiliated accounts, or any particular client(s) or group of clients more over any other account(s). The Advisers and Sub-Adviser prohibit late trading, frequent trading and/or market timing in the Funds and monitors trades daily to ensure this policy is not violated. In managing the Funds' portfolios, the Advisers have an incentive not to incur borrowing expenses, engage in short sales, or incur certain other investment related costs because the Advisers will bear those costs under the terms of the expense limitation agreement.

## THE ADMINISTRATOR

**General.** Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC ("Ultimus"), located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, serves as the administrator (the "Administrator"), the fund accountant (the "Fund Accountant") and the Transfer Agent to the Funds pursuant to a Master Services Agreement.

As Administrator, Ultimus assists in supervising all operations of each Fund (other than those performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreements). Ultimus has agreed to perform or arrange for the performance of the following services (under the Master Services Agreement, Ultimus may delegate all or any part of its responsibilities thereunder):

- prepares and assembles reports required to be sent to each Fund's shareholders and arranges for the printing and dissemination of such reports;
- assembles reports required to be filed with the SEC and files such completed reports with the SEC;
- files each Fund's federal income and excise tax returns and each Fund's state and local tax returns;
- assists and advises each Fund regarding compliance with the 1940 Act and with its investment policies and limitations; and
- makes such reports and recommendations to the Board as the Board reasonably requests or deems appropriate.

As Fund Accountant, Ultimus maintains the accounting books and records for each Fund, including journals containing an itemized daily record of all purchases and sales of portfolio securities, all receipts and disbursements of cash and all other debits and credits, general and auxiliary ledgers reflecting all asset, liability, reserve, capital, income and expense accounts, including interest accrued and interest received, and other required separate ledger accounts. Ultimus also maintains a monthly trial balance of all ledger accounts; performs certain accounting services for each Fund, including calculation of the NAV per share, calculation of the dividend and capital gain distributions, reconciles cash movements with the custodian, verifies and reconciles with the custodian all daily trade activities; provides certain reports; obtains dealer quotations or prices from pricing services used in determining NAV; and prepares an interim balance sheet, statement of income and expense, and statement of changes in net assets for each Fund.

Ultimus receives fees from each Fund for its services as Administrator, Fund Accountant, and Transfer Agent, and is reimbursed for certain expenses assumed pursuant to the Master Service Agreement.

The Master Services Agreement between the Trust, on behalf of the Funds, and Ultimus, unless otherwise terminated as provided in the Master Services Agreement, are renewed automatically for successive one-year periods.

The Master Services Agreement provides that Ultimus shall not be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or any loss suffered by the Trust in connection with the matters to which the Master Services Agreement relates, except a loss from willful misfeasance, bad

faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties, or from the reckless disregard by Ultimus of its obligations and duties thereunder.

#### Administration Fees Paid to the Administrator.

The Funds paid Ultimus fees pursuant to the Master Services Agreement for its services as Administrator, Fund Accountant and Transfer Agent in the following amounts for the fiscal period/years ended October 31 as follows:

| Fund   | Administration Fees Paid to Ultimus |           |           |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | 2023                                | 2024      | 2025      |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                               | \$47,526                            | \$42,537  | \$53,359  |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund                        | \$78,070                            | \$61,838  | \$61,504  |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund                          | \$29,974                            | \$30,060  | \$33,669  |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                               | \$188,078                           | \$146,320 | \$166,854 |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                               | \$32,840                            | \$29,208  | \$44,649  |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                                    | \$70,530                            | \$58,179  | \$61,225  |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                                 | \$254,330                           | \$319,896 | \$301,060 |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                                  | \$71,926                            | \$61,942  | \$33,452  |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                               | \$80,827                            | \$75,467  | \$81,437  |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund <sup>1</sup> | \$353,870                           | \$324,265 | \$483,522 |

<sup>1</sup> For the Ten Months Ended October 31, 2024. The Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund changed fiscal year to October 31 in 2024.

#### THE DISTRIBUTOR

Ultimus Funds Distributor, LLC (the “Distributor”), located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, is the exclusive agent for distribution of shares of the Funds pursuant to a Distribution Agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”). The Distributor is obligated to sell shares of the Funds on a best efforts basis only against purchase orders for the shares. Shares of the Funds are offered to the public on a continuous basis. The Distributor is compensated for its services to the Trust under a written agreement for such services. The Distributor is an affiliate of Ultimus.

By its terms, the Distribution Agreement has an initial term of two years and thereafter remains effective for periods of one year so long as such renewal and continuance is approved at least annually by (1) the Board or (2) a vote of the majority of the Funds’ outstanding voting shares; provided that in either event continuance is also approved by a majority of the Independent Trustees, by a vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Distribution Agreement may be terminated at any time, on sixty days written notice, without payment of any penalty, by the Trust or by the Distributor. The Distribution Agreement automatically terminates in the event of its assignment, as defined by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder. Under the Distribution Agreement, the Distributor is paid a base fee per annum by each Fund and/or the Adviser to the Funds. For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025, the Distributor was paid by the Adviser.

#### PAYMENTS TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

**Distribution Plan.** The Trust has adopted a Distribution Plan with respect to the A Class Shares and C Class Shares (the “Plan”) in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, which regulates circumstances under which an investment company may directly or indirectly bear expenses relating to the distribution of its shares. Continuance of the Plan must be approved annually by a majority of the Trustees and by a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust and have no direct or indirect financial interest in the Plan or in any agreements related to the Plan (“Qualified Trustees”). The Plan requires that quarterly written reports of amounts spent under the Plan and the purposes of such expenditures be furnished to and reviewed by the Trustees. The Plan may not be amended to increase materially the amount that may be spent thereunder without approval by a majority of the outstanding shares of the affected Fund(s). All material amendments of the Plan will require approval by a majority of the Trustees and of the Qualified Trustees.

The Plan provides a method of paying for distribution and shareholder services, which may help the Funds grow or maintain asset levels to provide operational efficiencies and economies of scale, provided by the Distributor or other financial intermediaries that enter into agreements with the Distributor. The Funds may make payments to financial intermediaries, such as banks, savings and loan associations, insurance companies, investment counselors, broker-dealers, mutual fund “supermarkets” and the Distributor’s affiliates and subsidiaries, as compensation for services, reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with distribution assistance or provision of shareholder services. The Distributor may, at its discretion, retain a portion of such payments to compensate itself for distribution services and distribution-related expenses such as the costs of preparation, printing, mailing, or otherwise disseminating sales literature, advertising,

and prospectuses (other than those furnished to current shareholders of a Fund), promotional and incentive programs, and such other marketing expenses that the Distributor may incur.

Under the Plan, the Distributor or financial intermediaries may receive up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the A Class Shares and up to 1.00% of the average daily net assets of the C Class Shares as compensation for distribution and shareholder services. The shareholder services component of the foregoing fee for C Class Shares is limited to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the class. The Plan is characterized as a compensation plan since the distribution fee will be paid to the Distributor without regard to the distribution or shareholder service expenses incurred by the Distributor or the amount of payments made to financial intermediaries. For the Westwood Quality Value Fund, Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund and Westwood Alternative Income Fund, a financial intermediary that receives a 1.00% upfront commission on a purchase of A Class Shares of \$250,000 or more or C Class Shares will generally become eligible to receive the Rule 12b-1 Fees with respect to such shares beginning in the 13th month following the date of the purchase. For the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, a financial intermediary that receives a 1.00% upfront commission on a purchase of A Class Shares of \$1,000,000 or more or C Class Shares will generally become eligible to receive the 12b-1 fees with respect to such shares beginning in the 13th month following the date of the purchase. The Trust intends to operate the Plan in accordance with its terms and with Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”) rules concerning sales charges.

**Payments under the Distribution Plan.** For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025, the Funds paid the following fees to the Distributor pursuant to the Plan.

| Fund  | Share Class    | 12b-1 Fees Paid | 12b-1 Fees Retained by the Distributor |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--|
|   |                | 2025            | 2025                                   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | A Class Shares | \$39,190        | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$21,710        | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | A Class Shares | \$5,292         | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$503           | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | A Class Shares | \$7,249         | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$42,019        | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | A Class Shares | \$108,208       | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$128,114       | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | A Class Shares | \$21,345        | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$485           | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | A Class Shares | \$1,783         | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$1,123         | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | A Class Shares | \$214,221       | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$9,371         | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | A Class Shares | \$407,448       | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$172,337       | \$0                                    |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | A Class Shares | \$1,386         | \$0                                    |
|   | C Class Shares | \$826           | \$0                                    |

**Administrative Services Plan.** The Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund, the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund, and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund have adopted an Administrative Services Plan under which a shareholder servicing fee of up to 0.20% of the average daily net assets of the Institutional Shares of the Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund, the Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund, and of the average daily net assets of the A Class Shares of the Westwood Real Estate Income Fund and Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, 0.19% of the average daily net assets of the Institutional Shares of the Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund, 0.15% of the average daily net assets of the Institutional Shares of the Westwood Alternative Income Fund, and 0.10% of the average daily net assets of the Institutional Shares of the Westwood Income Opportunity Fund, Westwood Quality Value Fund, and Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, and of the average daily net assets of the A Class Shares and C Class Shares of the Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund, the A Class Shares and F Class Shares of the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund, and up to 0.05% of the average daily net assets of the Institutional Shares of the Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund will be paid to financial intermediaries. Under the plan, financial

intermediaries may perform, or may compensate other financial intermediaries for performing, certain shareholder and/or administrative services or similar non-distribution services, including: (i) maintaining shareholder accounts; (ii) arranging for bank wires; (iii) responding to shareholder inquiries relating to the services performed by the financial intermediaries; (iv) responding to inquiries from shareholders concerning their investment in the Funds; (v) assisting shareholders in changing dividend options, account designations and addresses; (vi) providing information periodically to shareholders showing their position in the Funds; (vii) forwarding shareholder communications from the Funds such as proxies, shareholder reports, annual reports, and dividend and capital gain distribution and tax notices to shareholders; (viii) processing purchase, exchange and redemption requests from shareholders and placing orders with the Funds or their service providers; (ix) providing sub-accounting services; (x) processing dividend and capital gain payments from the Funds on behalf of shareholders; (xi) preparing tax reports; and (xii) providing such other similar non-distribution services as the Funds may reasonably request to the extent that the financial intermediary is permitted to do so under applicable laws or regulations.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025, the Funds paid the following under the Administrative Services Plan:

| Fund  | Class         | Fee         |
|---|---------------|-------------|
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | Institutional | \$136,718   |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | Institutional | \$25,292    |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | Institutional | \$306,657   |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | Institutional | \$521,980   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | Institutional | \$120,674   |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | Institutional | \$148,438   |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | Institutional | \$1,000,625 |
|   | A             | \$132,978   |
|   | C             | \$17,234    |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | Institutional | \$86,838    |
|   | A             | \$77,687    |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | Institutional | \$33,669    |
|   | A             | \$544       |
|   | F             | \$34,265    |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | Institutional | \$79,779    |
|   | A             | \$13,511    |
|   | C             | \$7,237     |

**Other Payments by the Funds.** The Funds may enter into agreements with financial intermediaries pursuant to which the Funds may pay financial intermediaries for non-distribution-related sub-transfer agency, administrative, sub-accounting, and other shareholder services. Payments made pursuant to such agreements are generally based on either (1) a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary, or (2) the number of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary. Any payments made pursuant to such agreements may be in addition to, rather than in lieu of, distribution or shareholder services fees the Funds may pay to financial intermediaries pursuant to the Funds' distribution plan or Administrative Services Plan.

**Payments by the Adviser.** The Adviser and/or its affiliates, in their discretion, may make payments from their own resources and not from Fund assets to affiliated or unaffiliated brokers, dealers, banks (including bank trust departments), trust companies, registered investment advisers, financial planners, retirement plan administrators, insurance companies, and any other institution having a service, administration, or any similar arrangement with the Funds, their service providers or their respective affiliates, as incentives to help market and promote the Funds and/or in recognition of their distribution, marketing, administrative services, and/or processing support.

These additional payments may be made to financial intermediaries that sell Fund shares or provide services to the Funds, the Distributor, or shareholders of the Funds through the financial intermediary's retail distribution channel and/or fund supermarkets. Payments may also be made through the financial intermediary's retirement, qualified tuition, fee-based advisory, wrap fee bank trust, or insurance (e.g., individual or group annuity) programs. These payments may include, but are not limited to, placing the Funds in a financial intermediary's retail distribution channel or on a preferred or recommended fund list; providing business or shareholder financial planning assistance; educating financial intermediary personnel about the Funds; providing access to sales and management representatives of the financial intermediary; promoting sales of Fund shares; providing marketing and educational support; maintaining share balances and/or for sub-accounting, administrative or shareholder transaction processing services. A financial intermediary may perform the services itself or may arrange with a third party to perform the services.

The Adviser and/or its affiliates may also make payments from their own resources to financial intermediaries for costs associated with the purchase of products or services used in connection with sales and marketing, participation in and/or presentation at conferences or seminars, sales or training programs, client and investor entertainment and other sponsored events. The costs and expenses associated with these efforts may include travel, lodging, sponsorship at educational seminars and conferences, entertainment and meals to the extent

permitted by law.

Revenue sharing payments may be negotiated based on a variety of factors, including the level of sales, the amount of Fund assets attributable to investments in the Funds by financial intermediaries' customers, a flat fee or other measures as determined from time to time by the Adviser and/or its affiliates. A significant purpose of these payments is to increase the sales of Fund shares, which in turn may benefit the Adviser through increased fees as Fund assets grow.

Investors should understand that some financial intermediaries may also charge their clients fees in connection with purchases of shares or the provision of shareholder services.

#### **THE TRANSFER AGENT**

Ultimus, located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, serves as the Transfer Agent to the Funds pursuant to a Master Services Agreement. As Transfer Agent, Ultimus performs the following services in connection with each Fund's shareholders: maintains records for each Fund's shareholders of record; processes shareholder purchase and redemption orders; processes transfers and exchanges of shares of each Fund on the shareholder files and records; processes dividend payments and reinvestments; and assists in the mailing of shareholder reports and proxy solicitation materials.

#### **THE CUSTODIAN**

U.S. Bank National Association, 800 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-4302 (the "Custodian"), serves as the custodian of the Funds. The Custodian holds cash, securities, and other assets of the Funds as required by the 1940 Act.

#### **INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Cohen & Company, Ltd., located at 1835 Market Street, Suite 310, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Funds. Cohen & Company, Ltd. audits the annual financial statements of the Funds. Cohen & Co Advisory, LLC, an affiliate of Cohen & Company, Ltd., provides tax services and other permissible non-audit services as requested.

#### **LEGAL COUNSEL**

Sullivan & Worcester, LLP, located at 1666 K Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006, serves as legal counsel to the Trust and the Trust's Independent Trustees.

#### **COMPLIANCE CONSULTING AGREEMENT**

Under the terms of a Compliance Consulting Agreement with the Trust, Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC ("NCLS"), located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, provides an individual with the requisite background and familiarity with the federal securities laws to serve as the Trust's CCO and to administer the Trust's compliance policies and procedures. For these services, each Fund pays Ultimus a base fee of \$12,000 per annum, plus an asset-based fee computed at the annual rate of 0.05% of the average net assets of the Fund over \$500 million up to \$1.5 billion, 0.025% of the average net assets of the Fund over \$1.5 billion up to \$3 billion; and 0.125% of the average net assets of the Fund over \$3 billion. In addition, the Funds reimburse NCLS for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses relating to these compliance services. Under the Compliance Consulting Agreement between the Trust and Ultimus, an affiliate of NCLS, the Funds paid the following for Compliance Consulting for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025:

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b>Compliance Consulting Paid</b> |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | \$3,430                           |
| Westwood SMid Cap Fund                            | \$1,727                           |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | \$17,984                          |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | \$9,208                           |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | \$1,819                           |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | \$2,385                           |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | \$21,619                          |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | \$4,644                           |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | \$2,863                           |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | \$1,227                           |

## SECURITIES LENDING

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** In order to generate additional income, the Funds may lend portfolio securities in an amount up to 33 1/3% of its total assets to broker-dealers, major banks, or other recognized domestic institutional borrowers of securities that the Adviser has determined are creditworthy under guidelines established by the Board. In determining whether the Funds will lend securities, the Adviser will consider all relevant facts and circumstances. The Funds may not lend securities to any company affiliated with the Adviser. Each loan of securities will be collateralized by cash, securities, or letters of credit. The Funds might experience a loss if the borrower defaults on the loan.

The borrower at all times during the loan must maintain with the Funds collateral in the form of cash or cash equivalents, or provide to the Funds an irrevocable letter of credit equal in value to at least 100% of the value of the securities loaned. While the loan is outstanding, the borrower will pay the Funds any dividends or interest paid on the loaned securities, and the Funds may invest the cash collateral to earn additional income. Alternatively, the Funds may receive an agreed-upon amount of interest income from the borrower who has delivered equivalent collateral or a letter of credit. It is anticipated that the Funds may share with the borrower some of the income received on the collateral for the loan or the Funds will be paid a premium for the loan. Loans are subject to termination at the option of the Funds or the borrower at any time. The Funds may pay reasonable administrative and custodial fees in connection with a loan, and may pay a negotiated portion of the income earned on the cash to the borrower or placing broker. As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower fail financially. If the Funds invest the cash collateral from the borrower, there is the risk that such investment may result in a financial loss. In such an event, the Funds would be required to repay the borrower out of the Funds' assets.

Where voting rights with respect to the loaned securities pass with the lending of the securities, the Adviser normally intends to call the loaned securities to vote proxies, or to use other practicable and legally enforceable means to obtain voting rights, when the Adviser believes a material event affecting the loaned securities will occur or the Adviser otherwise believes it necessary to vote.

The Funds' Custodian serves as Securities Lending Agent for the Funds, and provides services which include screening, selection and review of borrowers, monitoring availability of securities, negotiating rebates, daily marking to market of loans, monitoring and maintaining cash collateral levels, processing securities movements, and reinvesting cash collateral as directed.

The Funds did not engage in securities lending activities during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025.

## OTHER EXPENSES

In addition to the Management Fee, the Funds pay all expenses not expressly assumed by the Adviser, including, without limitation, the fees and expenses of its independent registered public accounting firm and of its legal counsel; the fees of the Administrator, Distributor, and Transfer Agent; the costs of printing and mailing to shareholders annual and semi-annual Financial Statements, proxy statements, prospectuses, SAIs, and supplements thereto; bank transaction charges and custody fees; any costs associated with shareholder meetings, including proxy solicitors' fees and expenses; registration and filing fees; federal, state or local income or other taxes; interest; membership fees of the Investment Company Institute and similar organizations; fidelity bond and liability insurance premiums; and any extraordinary expenses, such as indemnification payments or damages awarded in litigation or settlements made.

## TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE TRUST

Overall responsibility for management and supervision of each Fund and the Trust rests with the Board. The members of the Board (the "Trustees") are elected by the Trust's shareholders or the existing members of the Board as permitted under the 1940 Act and the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration of Trust"). Each Trustee serves for a term of indefinite duration until death, resignation, retirement, or removal from office. The Trustees, in turn, elect the officers of the Trust to actively supervise the Trust's day-to-day operations. The officers are elected annually. Certain officers of the Trust also may serve as Trustees.

The Trust will be managed by the Board in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio governing business trusts. There are currently five Trustees, all of whom are not "interested persons," as defined by the 1940 Act, of the Trust (the "Independent Trustees"). The Independent Trustees receive compensation for their services as Trustees and attendance at meetings of the Board. Officers of the Trust receive no compensation from the Trust for performing the duties of their offices.

Attached in Appendix A is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust, their year of birth and address, their present position with the Trust, length of time served in their position, and their principal occupation(s) during the past five years, and any other directorships held by the Trustee.

## Leadership Structure and Qualifications of Trustees

As noted above, the Board consists of five Trustees, all of whom are Independent Trustees. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the series, or funds, of the Trust.

In addition to the Funds, the Trust has other series managed by other investment advisers. The Board has engaged various investment advisers to oversee the day-to-day management of the Trust's series. The Board is responsible for overseeing these investment advisers and the Trust's other service providers in the operations of the Trust in accordance with the 1940 Act, other applicable federal and state laws, and the Declaration of Trust.

The Board meets at least four times throughout the year. The Board generally meets in-person, but may meet by telephone or videoconference as permitted by the 1940 Act. In addition, the Trustees may meet in person, by telephone, or videoconference at special meetings or on an informal basis at other times. The Independent Trustees also meet at least quarterly without the presence of any representatives of management.

### Board Leadership

The Board is led by its Chairperson, Ms. Janine L. Cohen, who is also an Independent Trustee. The Chairperson generally presides at all Board Meetings, facilitates communication and coordination between the Trustees and management, and reviews meeting agendas for the Board and the information provided by management to the Trustees. The Chairperson works closely with Trust counsel and counsel to the Independent Trustees, and is also assisted by the Trust's President, who, with the assistance of the Trust's other officers, oversees the daily operations of the Funds, including monitoring the activities of all of the Funds' service providers.

The Board believes that its leadership structure, including having an Independent Trustee serve as Chairperson and all Trustees serve as Independent Trustees, is appropriate and in the best interests of the Trust. The Board also believes its leadership structure facilitates the orderly and efficient flow of information to the Independent Trustees from Trust management.

*Board Committees.* The Board has established the following standing committees:

*Audit Committee:* The principal functions of the Audit Committee are: (i) to appoint, retain and oversee the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm; (ii) to meet separately with the independent registered public accounting firm and receive and consider a report concerning its conduct of the audit, including any comments or recommendations it deems appropriate; (iii) to act as the Trust's qualified legal compliance committee ("QLCC"), as defined in the regulations under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and (iv) to act as a proxy voting committee if called upon under the Trust's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures when a matter with respect to which a series of the Trust is entitled to vote presents a conflict between the interest of the series' shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the series' investment manager on the other hand. Messrs. Robert E. Morrison, Clifford N. Schireson, and Keith Shintani, and Meses. Janine L. Cohen, and Jacqueline A. Williams are the members of the Audit Committee. Mr. Schireson is the Chairperson of the Audit Committee and presides at its meetings. The Audit Committee met five times during the Funds' prior fiscal year.

*Nominations and Governance Committee (the "Governance Committee"):* The Governance Committee nominates and selects persons to serve as members of the Board, including Independent Trustees and "interested" Trustees and assists in reviewing the Trust's governance practices and standards. In selecting and nominating persons to serve as Independent Trustees, the Governance Committee will not consider nominees recommended by shareholders of the Trust unless required by law. Messrs. Morrison, Schireson, and Shintani and Meses. Cohen and Williams are the members of the Governance Committee. Mr. Morrison is the Chairperson of the Governance Committee and presides at its meetings. The Governance Committee met four times during the Funds' prior fiscal year.

*15(c) Contract Committee:* The 15(c) Contract Committee is responsible for the oversight of the Funds' 15(c) contract review process. All of the members of the 15(c) Contract Committee are Independent Trustees. Ms. Jacqueline A. Williams is the Chairperson of the 15(c) Contract Committee. The 15(c) Contract Committee met four times during the Funds' prior fiscal year.

*Qualifications of the Trustees.* The Governance Committee reviews the experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills of potential candidates for nomination or election by the Board. In evaluating a candidate for nomination or election as a Trustee, the Governance Committee takes into account the contribution that the candidate would be expected to make to the diverse mix of experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills that the Governance Committee believes contribute to the oversight of the Trust's affairs. The Board has concluded, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, that each Trustee's experience, qualifications, attributes, or skills on both an individual basis and in combination with the other Trustees, that each Trustee is qualified to serve on the Board. The Board believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question, and discuss the information provided to them, to interact effectively with the Adviser, other service providers, legal counsel, and the independent registered public accounting firm, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees support this conclusion. In determining that a particular Trustee is and will continue to be qualified to serve as a Trustee, the Board considers a variety of criteria, none of which, in isolation, is controlling.

In addition to the Trustee qualifications listed above, each of the Trustees has additional Trustee qualifications including, among other things, the experience identified in the “Trustees and Executive Officers” table included in Appendix A and as follows:

#### Independent Trustees

Janine L. Cohen, retired, was an executive at AER Advisors, Inc. (“AER”) from 2004 through her retirement in 2013. Ms. Cohen served as the Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) from 2008 to 2013 at AER. During her tenure at AER, she was actively involved in developing financial forecasts, business plans, and SEC registrations. Prior to those roles, Ms. Cohen was a Senior Vice President at State Street Bank. Ms. Cohen has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. She holds a B.S. in Accounting and Math from the University of Minnesota and is a Certified Public Accountant. Ms. Cohen has been the Chairperson since October 2019 and a Trustee since January, 2016.

Jacqueline A. Williams has served as the Managing Member of Custom Strategies Consulting, LLC since 2017, where she provides consulting services to investment managers. Prior to that, she served as a Managing Director of Global Investment Research for Cambridge Associates, LLC since 2005. Earlier in her career, Ms. Williams served as a Principal at Equinox Capital Management, LLC where she was chairperson of the stock selection committee and the firm's financial services analyst. Ms. Williams also served as an Investment Analyst at IBJ Schroder Bank & Trust Company where she monitored U.S. financial services stocks. Ms. Williams has over 25 years of experience in the investment management industry. Ms. Williams earned an A.B. in Religion from Duke University and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Yale University. She has been a Chartered Financial Analyst charter holder since 1990. Ms. Williams has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Clifford N. Schireson, retired, was the founder of Schireson Consulting, LLC, which he launched in 2017, until his retirement in 2021. Prior to that, Mr. Schireson was Director of Institutional Services from 2004 to 2017 at Brandes Investment Partners, LP, an investment advisory firm, where he also was co-head of fixed income and was a member of the fixed-income investment committee. From 1998 to 2004, he was a Managing Director at Weiss, Peck & Greer LLC specializing in fixed-income products for both taxable and municipal strategies for institutional clients. Mr. Schireson has over 20 years of experience in the investment management industry, as well as 20 years of experience in the investment banking industry. Mr. Schireson holds an A.B. in Economics from Stanford University and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Mr. Schireson has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Robert E. Morrison serves as a Managing Director at Midwest Trust and FCI Advisors, where he has worked since February of 2022. Previously, he was a Senior Vice President at Huntington Private Bank, where he worked from 2014 to 2022. From 2006 to 2014, he served as the CEO, President and Chief Investment Officer of 5 Star Investment Management. Mr. Morrison has a B.S. in Forestry Management from Auburn University and is a graduate of the Personal Financial Planning program of Old Dominion University. Mr. Morrison previously served on the Ultimus Managers Trust Board of Trustees as the Founding Chairman of the Trust in 2012. Mr. Morrison retired from the Board in 2014 as a result of a business conflict that no longer exists. Mr. Morrison has over 32 years of financial services experience, focusing on asset management and wealth management. Mr. Morrison has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Keith Shintani, retired, served as a Senior Vice President of Relationship Management at U.S. Bank Global Fund Services, where he worked from 1998 until June 2022. Previously, Mr. Shintani was a Director of Finance at Charles Schwab Investment Management, where he worked from January 1997 through December 1997. From 1993 to 1995, he served as a Manager of Mutual Fund Operations of PIMCO Advisors L.P. From 1989 to 1993, Mr. Shintani served as a Variable Products Manager of Pacific Life Insurance Company. From 1986 to 1989, he served as a Senior Accountant of Deloitte and Touche. Mr. Shintani has a B.S. in Accounting from University of Southern California. Mr. Shintani has been a Trustee since January 2024.

References above to the qualifications, attributes and skills of Trustees are pursuant to requirements of the SEC, do not constitute holding out the Board or any Trustee as having any special expertise or experience, and shall not impose any greater responsibility on any such person or on the Board by reason thereof.

*Risk Oversight.* The operation of a mutual fund, including its investment activities, generally involves a variety of risks. As part of its oversight of the Funds, the Board oversees risk through various regular board and committee activities. The Board, directly or through its committees, reviews reports from, among others, the Adviser, the Trust's CCO, the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm, and outside legal counsel, regarding risks faced by the Funds and the risk management programs of the Adviser, with respect to the Funds' investments and trading activities, and certain service providers. The actual day-to-day risk management with respect to the Funds resides with the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, with respect to the Funds' investment and trading activities, and other service providers to the Funds. Although the risk management policies of the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, and the service providers are designed to be effective, there is no guarantee that they will anticipate or mitigate all risks. Not all risks that may affect the Funds can be identified, eliminated or mitigated and some risks simply may not be anticipated or may be beyond the control of the Board or the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, or other service providers. The Independent Trustees meet separately with the Trust's CCO at least annually, outside the presence of management, to discuss issues related to compliance. Furthermore, the Board receives an annual written report from the Trust's CCO regarding the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its primary

service providers. As part of its oversight function, the Board also may hold special meetings or communicate directly with Trust management or the Trust’s CCO to address matters arising between regular meetings.

The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, on the investments and securities trading of each Fund, including each Fund’s investment performance, as well as reports regarding the valuation of each Fund’s securities (when applicable). The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Funds’ Administrator, Transfer Agent and the Distributor on regular quarterly items and, where appropriate and as needed, on specific issues. In addition, in its annual review of each Fund’s Advisory Agreement), the Board reviews information provided by the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, relating to its operational capabilities, financial condition and resources. The Board also conducts an annual self-evaluation that includes a review of its effectiveness in overseeing, among other things, the number of funds in the Trust and the effectiveness of the Board’s committee structure.

**Trustees’ Ownership of the Funds’ Shares.** The following table shows each Trustee’s beneficial ownership of shares of the Funds and, on an aggregate basis, of shares of all funds within the Trust overseen by the Trustee. Information is provided as of December 31, 2025.

|  | <b>Janine L. Cohen</b> | <b>Jacqueline A. Williams</b> | <b>Clifford N. Schireson</b> | <b>Robert E. Morrison</b> | <b>Keith Shintani</b> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Westwood Quality Value Fund</b>                                   | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund</b>                                 | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund</b>                                | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Income Opportunity Fund</b>                              | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund</b>                              | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Alternative Income Fund</b>                              | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Real Estate Income Fund</b>                              | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund</b>                       | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund</b>                         | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund</b>                       | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund</b>                         | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Westwood Salient MLP &amp; Energy Infrastructure Fund</b>         | None                   | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |
| <b>Dollar Range of Shares Owned in All Funds Overseen by Trustee</b> | over \$100,000         | None                          | None                         | None                      | None                  |

**Ownership in Fund Affiliates.** As of December 31, 2025, none of the Independent Trustees, nor members of their immediate families, owned, beneficially or of record, securities of the Adviser, the Distributor or any affiliate of the Adviser or the Distributor.

**Trustee Compensation.** No director, officer or employee of the Adviser or the Funds’ Distributor receives any compensation from the Trust for serving as an officer or Trustee of the Trust. As of January 1, 2026, each Independent Trustee receives a \$600 per meeting fee and a \$1,300 annual retainer for each series of the Trust, except the Chairperson who receives a \$2,140 annual retainer, the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, the Chairperson of the 15(c) Contract Committee, and the Chairperson of the Nominations and Governance Committee, each of whom receives a \$1,700 annual retainer for serving as such. From January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2025, each Independent Trustee received a \$600 per meeting fee and a \$1,300 annual retainer for each series of the Trust, except the Chairperson who received a \$2,000 annual retainer, the Chairperson of the Audit Committee and Chairperson of the 15(c) Contracts Committee who received a \$1,700 annual retainer for serving as such. The Trust reimburses each Trustee and officer for their travel and other expenses incurred by attending meetings. The following table provides the amount of compensation paid to each Trustee during the Funds’ fiscal period ended October 31, 2025:

| Aggregate Compensation From The                                 | Janine L. Cohen | Clifford N. Schireson | Jacqueline A. Williams | Robert E. Morrison | Keith Shintani |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                                | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund                         | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund                           | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                                | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                                | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                                  | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                                   | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                                     | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                                | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund               | \$5,500         | \$5,125               | \$5,125                | \$4,625            | \$4,625        |
| Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses | None            | None                  | None                   | None               | None           |
| Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement                       | None            | None                  | None                   | None               | None           |
| Total Compensation From All Funds Within the Trust              | \$152,800       | \$142,750             | \$142,750              | \$129,350          | \$129,350      |

## PURCHASING AND REDEEMING SHARES

Shares of the Funds are offered for sale on a continuous basis. Shares are sold and redeemed at their NAV, as next determined after receipt of the purchase or redemption order in proper form. The Funds reserve the right to reject any purchase request and/or suspend the offering of their shares at any time.

The Funds may suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment for shares during a period when: (a) trading on the NYSE is restricted by applicable rules and regulations of the SEC; (b) the NYSE is closed for other than customary weekend and holiday closings; (c) the SEC has by order permitted these suspensions; or (d) an emergency exists as a result of which: (i) disposal by a Fund of securities owned by it is not reasonably practicable, or (ii) it is not reasonably practicable for a Fund to determine the value of its assets.

Each Fund reserves the right to make payment for a redemption in securities rather than cash, which is known as a “redemption in kind”. Redemptions in kind will be made only under extraordinary circumstances and if a Fund deems it advisable for the benefit of its shareholders, such as a very large redemption that could affect Fund operations (for example, more than 1% of a Fund’s net assets). A redemption in kind will consist of liquid securities equal in market value to a Fund’s shares being redeemed, using the same valuation procedures that a Fund uses to compute its NAV. Redemption in kind proceeds will typically be made by delivering a pro-rata amount of a Fund’s holdings that are readily marketable securities to the redeeming shareholder within 7 days after a Fund’s receipt of the redemption order in proper form. If a Fund redeems your shares in kind, you will bear the market risks associated with maintaining or selling the securities paid as redemption proceeds. In addition, when you sell these securities, you bear the risk that the securities have become less liquid and are difficult to sell. You also will be responsible for any taxes and brokerage charges associated with selling the securities.

## SPECIAL SHAREHOLDER SERVICES

As noted in the Prospectus, the Funds offer the following shareholder services:

**Regular Account.** The regular account allows for voluntary investments to be made at any time. Available to individuals, custodians, corporations, trusts, estates, corporate retirement plans and others, investors are free to make additions to and withdrawals from their account as often as they wish. When an investor makes an initial investment in the Fund, a shareholder account is opened in accordance with the investor’s registration instructions. Each time there is a transaction in a shareholder account, such as an additional investment or a redemption, the shareholder will receive a confirmation statement showing the current transaction.

**Automatic Investment Plan.** The automatic investment plan enables investors to make regular periodic investments in shares through automatic charges to their checking account. With shareholder authorization and bank approval, the Fund’s transfer agent will automatically charge the checking account for the amount specified (\$100 minimum) which will be automatically invested in shares at the NAV on or about the fifteenth and/or the last business day of the month, or both. The shareholder may change the amount of the investment or discontinue the plan at any time by writing to the Fund.

**Transfer of Registration.** To transfer shares to another owner, send a written request to the Westwood Funds, c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, or via overnight mail to the Westwood Funds, c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions,

LLC, 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 or to the Westwood Funds, c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246. Your request should include the following: (i) the Fund name and existing account registration; (ii) signature(s) of the registered owner(s) exactly as the signature(s) appear(s) on the account registration; (iii) if it is for a new account, a completed account application, or if it is an existing account, the account number; (iv) Medallion signature guarantees (See the heading "How to Redeem Shares – Signature Guarantees" in the Prospectus); and (v) any additional documents that are required for transfer by corporations, administrators, executors, trustees, guardians, etc. If you have any questions about transferring shares, call or write the Fund.

## **DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE**

The share price or NAV of shares of each Fund is determined as of the close of the regular session of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") on each day the NYSE is open for trading. Currently, the NYSE is open for trading on every day except Saturdays, Sundays and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

For purposes of computing a Fund's NAV, securities are valued at market value as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each business day the NYSE is open. Securities listed on the NYSE or other exchanges are valued based on their last sale prices on the exchanges on which they are primarily traded. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the closing bid and ask prices on the NYSE or other primary exchange for that day. National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations ("NASDAQ") listed securities are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices as reported by NASDAQ. Securities traded in the over-the-counter ("OTC") market are valued at the last sale price, if available, otherwise at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices. In the event that market quotations are not readily available or are considered unreliable due to market or other events, the Funds value their securities and other assets at fair value as determined by the Adviser, as the Funds' valuation designee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act. Fixed-income securities are normally valued based on prices obtained from independent third-party pricing services approved by the Board, which are generally determined with consideration given to institutional bid and last sale prices and take into account security prices, yield, maturity, call features, ratings, institutional sized trading in similar groups of securities and developments related to specific securities. Foreign securities are normally valued on the basis of fair valuation prices obtained from independent third-party pricing services, which are generally determined with consideration given to any change in price of the foreign security and any other developments related to the foreign security since the last sale price on the exchange on which such foreign security primarily traded and the close of regular trading on the NYSE. One or more pricing services may be utilized to determine the fair value of securities held by the Funds. To the extent the assets of the Funds are invested in other open-end investment companies that are registered under the 1940 Act and not traded on an exchange, the Funds' NAV is calculated based upon the NAVs reported by such registered open-end investment companies, and the prospectuses for these companies explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing. To the extent a Fund has portfolio securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges that trade on weekends or other days when the Fund does not price its shares, the NAV of the Fund's shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem the Fund's shares.

## **TAXES**

The following is only a summary of certain additional U.S. federal income tax considerations generally affecting the Funds and their shareholders that is intended to supplement the discussion contained in the Prospectuses. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Funds or their shareholders, and the discussion here and in the Prospectuses is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers with specific reference to their own tax situations, including their state, local, and foreign tax liabilities.

This general discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences is based on the Code and the regulations issued thereunder as in effect on the date of this SAI. New legislation, as well as administrative changes or court decisions, may significantly change the conclusions expressed herein, and may have a retroactive effect with respect to the transactions contemplated herein.

**Qualification as a Regulated Investment Company.** Each Fund has elected and intends to continue to qualify to be treated as a regulated investment company ("RIC"). By following such a policy, each Fund expects to eliminate or reduce to a nominal amount the U.S. federal taxes to which it may be subject. A Fund that qualifies as a RIC will generally not be subject to U.S. federal income taxes on the net investment income and net realized capital gains that the Fund timely distributes to its shareholders. The Board reserves the right not to maintain the qualification of a Fund as a RIC if it determines such course of action to be beneficial to shareholders.

In order to qualify as a RIC under the Code, each Fund must distribute annually to its shareholders at least 90% of its net investment income (which, includes dividends, taxable interest, and the excess of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses, less operating expenses) and at least 90% of its net tax exempt interest income, for each tax year, if any (the "Distribution Requirement") and also must meet certain additional requirements. Among these requirements are the following: (i) at least 90% of each Fund's gross income each taxable year must be derived from dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, and gains from the sale or

other disposition of stock, securities, or foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, and net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership (the “Qualifying Income Test”); and (ii) at the close of each quarter of each Fund’s taxable year: (A) at least 50% of the value of each Fund’s total assets must be represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect to any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of each Fund’s total assets and that does not represent more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer including the equity securities of a qualified publicly traded partnership, and (B) not more than 25% of the value of each Fund’s total assets is invested, including through corporations in which each Fund owns a 20% or more voting stock interest, in the securities (other than U.S. government securities or the securities of other RICs) of any one issuer or the securities (other than the securities of another RIC) of two or more issuers that each Fund controls and which are engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships (the “Asset Test”).

Although the Funds intend to distribute substantially all of their net investment income and may distribute their capital gains for any taxable year, the Funds will be subject to U.S. federal income taxation to the extent any such income or gains are not distributed. Each Fund is treated as a separate corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A Fund therefore is considered to be a separate entity in determining its treatment under the rules for RICs described herein. Losses in one Fund do not offset gains in another and the requirements (other than certain organization requirements) for qualifying RIC status are determined at the Fund level rather than at the Trust level.

If a Fund fails to satisfy the Qualifying Income or Asset Tests in any taxable year, such Fund may be eligible for relief provisions if the failures are due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and if a penalty tax is paid with respect to each failure to satisfy the applicable requirements. Additionally, relief is provided for certain de minimis failures of the diversification requirements where the Fund corrects the failure within a specified period. If a Fund fails to maintain qualification as a RIC for a tax year, and the relief provisions are not available, such Fund will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the regular corporate rate (currently 21%) without any deduction for distributions to shareholders. In such case, its shareholders would be taxed as if they received ordinary dividends, although corporate shareholders could be eligible for the dividends received deduction (subject to certain limitations) and individuals may be able to benefit from the lower tax rates available to qualified dividend income. In addition, a Fund could be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest, and make substantial distributions before requalifying as a RIC. Failure to qualify as a RIC would thus have a negative impact on the Fund’s income and performance. It is possible that a Fund will not qualify as a RIC in any given tax year.

A Fund may elect to treat part or all of any “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in determining the Fund’s taxable income, net capital gain, net short-term capital gain, and earnings and profits. The effect of this election is to treat any such “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in characterizing Fund distributions for any calendar year. A “qualified late year loss” generally includes net capital loss, net long-term capital loss, or net short-term capital loss incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year (commonly referred to as “post-October losses”) and certain other late-year losses.

The treatment of capital loss carryovers for the Funds is similar to the rules that apply to capital loss carryovers of individuals, which provide that such losses are carried over indefinitely. If a Fund has a “net capital loss” (that is, capital losses in excess of capital gains), the excess of the Fund’s net short-term capital losses over its net long-term capital gains is treated as a short-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year, and the excess (if any) of the Fund’s net long-term capital losses over its net short-term capital gains is treated as a long-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year. The carryover of capital losses may be limited under the general loss limitation rules if a Fund experiences an ownership change as defined in the Code.

**Federal Excise Tax.** Notwithstanding the Distribution Requirement described above, which generally requires a Fund to distribute at least 90% of its annual investment company taxable income and the excess of its exempt interest income (but does not require any minimum distribution of net capital gain), a Fund will be subject to a nondeductible 4% U.S. federal excise tax to the extent it fails to distribute by the end of the calendar year at least 98% of its ordinary income and 98.2% of its capital gain net income (the excess of short- and long-term capital gains over short- and long-term capital losses) for the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year (including any retained amount from the prior calendar year on which a Fund paid no U.S. federal income tax). The Funds intend to make sufficient distributions to avoid liability for U.S. federal excise tax, but can make no assurances that such tax will be completely eliminated. The Funds may in certain circumstances be required to liquidate Fund investments in order to make sufficient distributions to avoid U.S. federal excise tax liability at a time when the Adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so, and liquidation of investments in such circumstances may affect the ability of the Funds to satisfy the requirement for qualification as RICs.

**Distributions to Shareholders.** The Funds receive income generally in the form of dividends and interest on investments. This income, plus net short-term capital gains, if any, less expenses incurred in the operation of a Fund, constitutes the Fund’s net investment income from which dividends may be paid to you. Any distributions by a Fund from such income will be taxable to you as ordinary income or at the lower capital gains rates that apply to individuals receiving qualified dividend income, whether you take them in cash or in additional shares.

Distributions by the Funds are currently eligible for the reduced maximum tax rate to individuals of 20% (lower rates apply to individuals in lower tax brackets) to the extent that the Funds receive qualified dividend income on the securities they hold and the Funds report the distributions as qualified dividend income. Qualified dividend income is, in general, dividend income from taxable domestic corporations and certain foreign corporations (e.g., foreign corporations incorporated in a possession of the United States or in certain countries with a comprehensive tax treaty with the United States, or the stock of which is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States). A dividend will not be treated as qualified dividend income to the extent that (i) the shareholder has not held the shares on which the dividend was paid for more than 60 days during the 121-day period that begins on the date that is 60 days before the date on which the shares become “ex-dividend” (which is the day on which declared distributions (dividends or capital gains) are deducted from each Fund’s assets before it calculates the NAV) with respect to such dividend, (ii) each Fund has not satisfied similar holding period requirements with respect to the securities it holds that paid the dividends distributed to the shareholder, (iii) the shareholder is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to substantially similar or related property, or (iv) the shareholder elects to treat such dividend as investment income under section 163(d)(4)(B) of the Code. Therefore, if you lend your shares in a Fund, such as pursuant to a securities lending arrangement, you may lose the ability to treat dividends (paid while the shares are held by the borrower) as qualified dividend income. Distributions that the Funds receive from an ETF, an underlying fund taxable as a RIC, or from a REIT will be treated as qualified dividend income only to the extent so reported by such ETF, underlying fund or REIT. Certain of the Funds’ investment strategies may limit their ability to make distributions eligible to be treated as qualified dividend income.

Distributions by the Funds of their net short-term capital gains will be taxable as ordinary income. Capital gain distributions consisting of a Fund’s net capital gains will be taxable as long-term capital gains for individual shareholders currently set at a maximum rate of 20%, regardless of how long the shareholder has owned the shares. Distributions from capital gains are generally made after applying any available capital loss carryforwards.

In the case of corporate shareholders, Fund distributions (other than capital gain distributions) generally qualify for the dividends received deduction for a portion of the dividends paid and to the extent such distributions are so reported and do not exceed the gross amount of qualifying dividends received by such Fund for the year. Generally, and subject to certain limitations (including certain holding period limitations), a dividend will be treated as a qualifying dividend if it has been received from a domestic corporation. Certain Funds’ investment strategies may limit their ability to make distributions eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporate shareholders.

To the extent that a Fund makes a distribution of income received by the Fund in lieu of dividends (a “substitute payment”) with respect to securities on loan pursuant to a securities lending transaction, such income will not constitute qualified dividend income to individual shareholders and will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporate shareholders.

If a Fund’s distributions exceed its taxable income and capital gains realized during a taxable year, all or a portion of the distributions made in the same taxable year may be recharacterized as a return of capital to shareholders. A return of capital distribution will generally not be taxable, but will reduce each shareholder’s cost basis in a Fund and result in a higher reported capital gain or lower reported capital loss when those shares on which the distribution was received are sold.

When a dividend or distribution is received shortly after the purchase of shares, it reduces the NAV of the shares by the amount of the dividend or distribution and, although in effect a return of capital, will be taxable to the shareholder. If the NAV of shares were reduced below the shareholder’s cost by dividends or distributions representing gains realized on sales of securities, such dividends or distributions would be a return of investment though taxable to the shareholder in the same manner as other dividends or distributions.

The Funds (or their administrative agents) will inform you of the amount of your ordinary income dividends, qualified dividend income and capital gain distributions, if any, and will advise you of their tax status for U.S. federal income tax purposes shortly after the close of each calendar year. If you have not held Fund shares for a full year, the Funds may report and distribute to you, as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gain, a percentage of income that is not equal to the actual amount of such income earned during the period of your investment in the Funds.

Dividends declared to shareholders of record in October, November or December and actually paid in January of the following year will be treated as having been received by shareholders on December 31 of the calendar year in which declared. Under this rule, therefore, a shareholder may be taxed in one year on dividends or distributions actually received in January of the following year.

**Sales, Exchanges, or Redemptions.** Any gain or loss recognized on a sale, exchange, or redemption of shares of a Fund by a shareholder who is not a dealer in securities will generally, for individual shareholders, be treated as a long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than twelve months and otherwise will be treated as a short-term capital gain or loss. However, if shares on which a shareholder has received a long-term capital gain distribution are subsequently sold, exchanged, or redeemed and such shares have been held for six months or less, any loss recognized will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the long-term capital gain distribution. In addition, the loss realized on a sale or other disposition of shares will be disallowed to the extent a shareholder repurchases

(or enters into a contract to or option to repurchase) shares within a period of 61 days (beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the disposition of the shares). This loss disallowance rule will apply to shares received through the reinvestment of dividends during the 61-day period. For tax purposes, an exchange of your Fund shares for shares of a different fund is the same as a sale.

U.S. individuals with income exceeding \$200,000 (\$125,000 if married and filing separately, \$250,000 if married and filing jointly) are subject to a 3.8% tax on their “net investment income,” including interest, dividends, and capital gains (including any capital gains realized on the sale or exchange of shares of a Fund).

The Funds (or their administrative agents) must report to the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) and furnish to Fund shareholders the cost basis information for Fund shares. In addition to reporting the gross proceeds from the sale of Fund shares, each Fund (or its administrative agent) is also required to report the cost basis information for such shares and indicate whether these shares have a short-term or long-term holding period. For each sale of its shares, each Fund will permit its shareholders to elect from among several IRS-accepted cost basis methods, including the average cost basis method. In the absence of an election, each Fund will use the average cost basis method. The cost basis method elected by Fund shareholders (or the cost basis method applied by default) for each sale of a Fund’s shares may not be changed after the settlement date of each such sale of a Fund’s shares. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the best IRS-accepted cost basis method for their own tax situation and to obtain more information about cost basis reporting. Shareholders also should carefully review any cost basis information provided to them and make any additional basis, holding period or other adjustments that are required when reporting these amounts on their U.S. federal income tax returns.

**Tax Treatment of Complex Securities.** The Funds may invest in complex securities. These investments may be subject to numerous special and complex tax rules. These rules could affect the Funds’ ability to qualify as RICs, affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Funds are treated as ordinary income or capital gain, accelerate the recognition of income to the Funds or defer the Funds’ ability to recognize losses, and, in limited cases, subject the Funds to U.S. federal income tax on income from certain of their foreign securities. In turn, these rules may affect the amount, timing or character of the income distributed to you by the Funds and may require the Funds to sell securities to mitigate the effect of these rules and prevent disqualification of the Funds as RICs at a time when the Adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so.

Certain derivative investment by the Funds, such as exchange-traded products and over-the-counter derivatives may not produce qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test described above, which must be met in order for a Fund to maintain its status as a RIC under the Code. In addition, the determination of the value and the identity of the issuer of such derivative investments are often unclear for purposes of the Asset Test described above. The Funds intend to carefully monitor such investments to ensure that any non-qualifying income does not exceed permissible limits and to ensure that they are adequately diversified under the Asset Test. The Funds, however, may not be able to accurately predict the non-qualifying income from these investments and there are no assurances that the IRS will agree with the Funds’ determination of the Asset Test with respect to such derivatives.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, each Fund is required to mark-to-market and recognize as income for each taxable year its net unrealized gains and losses on certain futures and options contracts that are subject to section 1256 of the Code (“Section 1256 Contracts”) as of the end of the year as well as those actually realized during the year. Gain or loss from Section 1256 Contracts will be 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. Application of this rule may alter the timing and character of distributions to shareholders. A Fund may be required to defer the recognition of losses on Section 1256 Contracts to the extent of any unrecognized gains on offsetting positions held by the Fund. These provisions may also require a Fund to mark-to-market certain types of positions in its portfolio (i.e., treat them as if they were closed out), which may cause the Fund to recognize income without receiving cash with which to make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and for avoiding the excise tax discussed above. Accordingly, in order to avoid certain income and excise taxes, a Fund may be required to liquidate its investments at a time when the Adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so.

Offsetting positions held by a Fund involving certain derivative instruments, such as options, forward contracts, and futures, as well as its long and short positions in portfolio securities may constitute a “straddle” for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A straddle of which at least one, but not all, the positions are Section 1256 Contracts may constitute a “mixed straddle.” In general, straddles are subject to certain rules that may affect the amount, character, and timing of a Fund’s gains and losses with respect to straddle positions by requiring, among other things, that: (1) any loss realized on disposition of one position of a straddle may not be recognized to the extent that the Fund has unrealized gains with respect to the other position in such straddle; (2) the Fund’s holding period in straddle positions be suspended while the straddle exists (possibly resulting in a gain being treated as short-term capital gain rather than long-term capital gain); (3) the losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions that are part of a mixed straddle and that are non-Section 1256 Contracts be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital loss; (4) losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions that would otherwise constitute short-term capital losses be treated as long-term capital losses; and (5) the deduction of interest and carrying charges attributable to certain straddle positions may be deferred. Various elections are available to the Funds, which may mitigate the effects of the straddle rules, particularly with respect to mixed straddles.

In general, the straddle rules described above do not apply to any straddles held by a Fund if all of the offsetting positions consist of Section 1256 Contracts. The straddle rules described above also do not apply if all the offsetting positions making up a straddle consist of one or more “qualified covered call options” and the stock to be purchased under the options and the straddle is not part of a larger straddle. A “qualified covered call option” is generally any option granted by a Fund to purchase stock it holds (or stock it acquires in connection with granting the option) if, among other things, (1) the option is traded on a national securities exchange that is registered with the SEC or other market the IRS determined has rules adequate to carry out the purposes of the applicable Code provision, (2) the option is granted more than 30 days before it expires, (3) the option is not a “deep-in-the-money option,” (4) such option is not granted by an options dealer in connection with his activity of dealing in options, and (5) gain or loss with respect to the option is not ordinary income or loss.

To the extent a Fund writes options that are not Section 1256 Contracts, the amount of the premium received by the Fund for writing such options will generally be entirely short-term capital gain to the Fund. In addition, if such an option is closed by a Fund, any gain or loss realized by the Fund as a result of closing the transaction will also generally be short-term capital gain or loss. If such an option is exercised any gain or loss realized by a Fund upon the sale of the underlying security pursuant to such exercise will generally be short-term or long-term capital gain or loss to the Fund depending on the Fund’s holding period for the underlying security.

If a Fund enters into a “constructive sale” of any appreciated financial position in its portfolio, the Fund will be treated as if it had sold and immediately repurchased the property and must recognize gain (but not loss) with respect to that position. A constructive sale of an appreciated financial position occurs when a Fund enters into certain offsetting transactions with respect to the same or substantially identical property, including, but not limited to: (i) a short sale; (ii) an offsetting notional principal contract; (iii) a futures or forward contract; or (iv) other transactions identified in future Treasury Regulations. The character of the gain from constructive sales will depend upon a Fund’s holding period in the appreciated financial position. Losses realized from a sale of a position that was previously the subject of a constructive sale will be recognized when the position is subsequently disposed of. The character of such losses will depend upon a Fund’s holding period in the position beginning with the date the constructive sale was deemed to have occurred and the application of various loss deferral provisions in the Code. Constructive sale treatment does not apply to certain closed transactions, including if such a transaction is closed on or before the 30th day after the close of a Fund’s taxable year and the Fund holds the appreciated financial position unhedged throughout the 60-day period beginning with the day such transaction was closed.

With respect to investments in STRIPS, treasury receipts, and other zero coupon securities which are sold at original issue discount and thus do not make periodic cash interest payments, a Fund will be required to include as part of its current income the imputed interest on such obligations even though the Fund has not received any interest payments on such obligations during that period. Because each Fund intends to distribute all of its net investment income to its shareholders, a Fund may have to sell Fund securities to distribute such imputed income which may occur at a time when the Adviser would not have chosen to sell such securities and which may result in taxable gain or loss.

Any market discount recognized on a bond is taxable as ordinary income. A market discount bond is a bond acquired in the secondary market at a price below redemption value or adjusted issue price if issued with original issue discount. Absent an election by a Fund to include the market discount in income as it accrues, gain on the Fund’s disposition of such an obligation will be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gain to the extent of the accrued market discount. A Fund may invest in inflation-linked debt securities. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-linked debt security will be original interest discount, which is taxable as ordinary income and is required to be distributed, even though the Fund will not receive the principal, including any increase thereto, until maturity. As noted above, if a Fund invests in such securities it may be required to liquidate other investments, including at times when it is not advantageous to do so, in order to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and to eliminate any possible taxation at the Fund level.

In general, for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test 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 a Fund. However, 100% of the net income derived from an interest in a “qualified publicly traded partnership” (“QPTP”) (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, (ii) that derives at least 90% of its income from the passive income sources specified in Code section 7704(d), and (iii) that generally derives less than 90% of its income from the same sources as described in the Qualifying Income Test) 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 QPTP.

Certain Funds intend to invest in certain MLPs which may be treated as QPTPs. Income from QPTPs is qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test, but a Fund’s investment in one or more of such QPTPs is limited under the Asset Test to no more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s assets. The Funds will monitor their investments in such QPTPs in order to ensure compliance with the Qualifying Income and Asset Tests.

Investments in QPTPs may require a Fund to accrue and distribute income not yet received. To generate sufficient cash to make the requisite distributions, a 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. A Fund’s investments in QPTPs may at other times result in the Fund’s receipt of nontaxable

cash distributions from a QPTP and if the Fund then distributes these nontaxable distributions to Fund shareholders, it could constitute a return of capital to Fund shareholders for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Any cash distributions received by a Fund from a QPTP in excess of the Fund's tax basis therein generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the Fund's QPTP shares. A Fund's tax basis in its investments in a QPTP generally is equal to the amount the Fund paid for its interests in the QPTP (i) increased by the Fund's allocable share of the QPTP's net income and certain QPTP debt, if any, and (ii) decreased by the Fund's allocable share of the QPTP's net losses and distributions received by the Fund from the QPTP.

MLPs and other partnerships that the Funds may invest in will deliver Schedules K-1 to the Funds to report their share of income, gains, losses, deductions and credits of the MLP or other partnership. These Schedules K-1 may be delayed and may not be received until after the time that a Fund issues its tax reporting statements. As a result, a 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, the Fund (or its administrative agent) will send you 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.

"Qualified publicly traded partnership income" within the meaning of section 199A(e)(5) 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 QPTP, as defined above. 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). RICs, such as the Funds, are not permitted to pass the special character of this income through to their shareholders. Currently, direct investors in entities that generate "qualified publicly traded partnership income" 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 Funds to pass through the special character of "qualified publicly traded partnership income" to shareholders.

A Fund may invest in REITs. Investments in REIT equity securities may require a Fund to accrue and distribute income not yet received. To generate sufficient cash to make the requisite distributions, a 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. A Fund's investments in REIT equity securities may at other times result in a Fund's receipt of cash in excess of the REIT's earnings; if a Fund distributes these amounts, these distributions could constitute a return of capital to such Fund's shareholders for U.S. 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 a 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 a 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 subject to double taxation, meaning the taxable income of the REIT would be subject to U.S. federal income 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 a 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, a 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, a Fund (or its administrative agent) will send you 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.

"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) are 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). Distributions by a 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. A Fund is permitted to report such part of its dividends as section 199A dividends as are eligible, but is not required to do so.

Certain Funds intend to invest in royalty trusts. Depending on the U.S. federal income tax classification of these royalty trusts in which a Fund invests, securities issued by certain royalty trusts (such as royalty trusts which are grantor trusts for U.S. federal income tax purposes) may not produce qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test. Additionally, a Fund may be deemed to directly own the assets of each royalty trust, and would need to look to such assets when determining its compliance with the Asset Test. Certain Canadian royalty trusts may be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes and distributions from such trusts

may be qualifying income when received by a Fund. Each Fund will monitor its investments in royalty trusts with the objective of maintaining its continued qualification as a RIC under the Code.

If a Fund owns shares in certain foreign investment entities, referred to as “passive foreign investment companies” or “PFICs,” the Fund will generally be subject to one of the following special tax regimes: (i) the Fund may be liable for U.S. federal income tax, and an additional interest charge, on a portion of any “excess distribution” from such foreign entity or any gain from the disposition of such shares, even if the entire distribution or gain is paid out by the Fund as a dividend to its shareholders; (ii) if the Fund were able and elected to treat a PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” or “QEF,” the Fund would be required each year to include in income, and distribute to shareholders in accordance with the Distribution Requirements set forth above, the Fund’s pro rata share of the ordinary earnings and net capital gains of the PFIC, whether or not such earnings or gains are distributed to the Fund; or (iii) the Fund may be entitled to mark-to-market annually shares of the PFIC, whether or not any distributions are made to the Fund, and in such event would be required to distribute to shareholders any such mark-to-market gains in accordance with the Distribution Requirements set forth above. Such Fund intends to make the appropriate tax elections, if possible, and take any additional steps that are necessary to mitigate the effect of these rules. Amounts included in income each year by a Fund arising from a QEF election, will be “qualifying income” under the Qualifying Income Test (as described above) even if not distributed to the Fund, if the Fund derives such income from its business of investing in stock, securities or currencies.

**Certain Foreign Currency Tax Issues.** A Fund’s transactions in foreign currencies and forward foreign currency contracts will generally be subject to special provisions of the Code that, among other things, may affect the character of gains and losses realized by the Fund (i.e., may affect whether gains or losses are ordinary or capital), accelerate recognition of income to the Fund and defer losses. These rules could therefore affect the character, amount, and timing of distributions to shareholders. These provisions also may require a Fund to mark-to-market certain types of positions in its portfolio (i.e., treat them as if they were closed out) which may cause the Fund to recognize income without receiving cash with which to make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and for avoiding the excise tax described above. The Funds intend to monitor their transactions, intend to make the appropriate tax elections, and intend to make the appropriate entries in their books and records when they acquire any foreign currency or forward foreign currency contract in order to mitigate the effect of these rules so as to prevent disqualification of a Fund as a RIC and minimize the imposition of income and excise taxes.

The U.S. Treasury Department has authority to issue regulations that would exclude foreign currency gains from the Qualifying Income Test described above if such gains are not directly related to a Fund’s business of investing in stock or securities (or options and futures with respect to stock or securities). Accordingly, such Treasury Regulations may be issued in the future that could treat some or all of a Fund’s non-U.S. currency gains as non-qualifying income which may jeopardize, thereby potentially jeopardizing the Fund’s status as a RIC for all years to which the regulations are applicable.

**Foreign Taxes.** Dividends and interest received by a Fund may be subject to income, withholding, or other taxes imposed by foreign countries and U.S. possessions that would reduce the yield on the Fund’s stock or securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate these taxes. Foreign countries generally do not impose taxes on capital gains with respect to investments by foreign investors. If more than 50% of the value of a Fund’s total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund will be eligible to, and intends to file an election with the IRS that may enable shareholders, in effect, to receive either the benefit of a foreign tax credit, or a deduction from such taxes, with respect to any foreign and U.S. possessions income taxes paid by the Fund, subject to certain limitations. Pursuant to the election, such Fund will treat those taxes as dividends paid to its shareholders. Each such shareholder will be required to include a proportionate share of those taxes in gross income as income received from a foreign source and must treat the amount so included as if the shareholder had paid the foreign tax directly. Shareholders generally will be entitled to deduct or, subject to certain limitations, claim foreign tax credit with respect to such foreign income taxes. If a Fund makes the election, such Fund (or its administrative agent) will report annually to its shareholders the respective amounts per share of the Fund’s income from sources within, and taxes paid to, foreign countries and U.S. possessions. If a Fund does not hold sufficient foreign securities to meet the above threshold, then shareholders will not be entitled to claim a credit or further deduction with respect to foreign taxes paid by such Fund.

A shareholder’s ability to claim a foreign tax credit or deduction in respect of foreign taxes paid by a Fund may be subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code, which may result in a shareholder not receiving a full credit or deduction (if any) for the amount of such taxes. In particular, shareholders must hold their Fund shares (without protection from risk of loss) on the ex-dividend date and for at least 15 additional days during the 30-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date to be eligible to claim a foreign tax credit with respect to a given dividend. Shareholders who do not itemize on their U.S. federal income tax returns may claim a credit (but no deduction) for such foreign taxes. Even if a Fund were eligible to make such an election for a given year, it may determine not to do so. Shareholders that are not subject to U.S. federal income tax, and those who invest in a Fund through tax-advantaged accounts (including those who invest through individual retirement accounts or other tax-advantaged retirement plans), generally will receive no benefit from any tax credit or deduction passed through by a Fund.

**Tax-Exempt Shareholders.** Certain tax-exempt shareholders, including qualified pension plans, individual retirement accounts, salary deferral arrangements, 401(k)s, and other tax-exempt entities, generally are exempt from U.S. federal income taxation except with respect to their unrelated business taxable income (“UBTI”). Tax-exempt entities are not permitted to offset losses from one trade or business against the income or gain of another trade or business. Certain net losses incurred prior to January 1, 2018 are permitted to offset gain and income created by an unrelated trade or business, if otherwise available. Under current law, the Funds generally serve to block UBTI from being realized by their tax-exempt shareholders. However, notwithstanding the foregoing, the tax-exempt shareholder could realize UBTI by virtue of an investment in a Fund where, for example: (i) the Fund invests in residual interests of Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduits (“REMICs”), (ii) the Fund invests in a REIT that is a taxable mortgage pool (“TMP”) or that has a subsidiary that is a TMP or that invests in the residual interest of a REMIC, or (iii) shares in the Fund constitute debt-financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of section 514(b) of the Code. Charitable remainder trusts are subject to special rules and should consult their tax adviser. The IRS has issued guidance with respect to these issues and prospective shareholders, especially charitable remainder trusts, are strongly encouraged to consult their tax advisers regarding these issues.

A Fund's shares held in a tax-qualified retirement account will generally not be subject to federal taxation on income and capital gains distributions from the Fund until a shareholder begins receiving payments from their retirement account. Because each shareholder's tax situation is different, shareholders should consult their tax adviser about the tax implications of an investment in the Funds.

**Backup Withholding.** A Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold at a rate of 24% and remit to the U.S. Treasury the amount withheld on amounts payable to any shareholder who: (i) has provided the Fund either an incorrect tax identification number or no number at all; (ii) is subject to backup withholding by the IRS for failure to properly report payments of interest or dividends; (iii) has failed to certify to the Fund that such shareholder is not subject to backup withholding; or (iv) has failed to certify to the Fund that the shareholder is a U.S. person (including a resident alien).

**Non-U.S. Investors.** Any non-U.S. investors in the Funds may be subject to U.S. withholding and estate tax and are encouraged to consult their tax advisers prior to investing in the Funds. Foreign shareholders (i.e., nonresident alien individuals and foreign corporations, partnerships, trusts and estates) are generally subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% (or a lower tax treaty rate) on distributions derived from taxable ordinary income. A 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. Short-term capital gain dividends received by a nonresident alien individual who is present in the U.S. for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the taxable year are not exempt from this 30% withholding tax. Gains realized by foreign shareholders from the sale or other disposition of shares of a Fund generally are not subject to U.S. taxation, unless the recipient is an individual who is physically present in the U.S. for 183 days or more per year. Foreign shareholders who fail to provide an applicable IRS form may be subject to backup withholding on certain payments from a Fund. Backup withholding will not be applied to payments that are subject to the 30% (or lower applicable treaty rate) withholding tax described above. Different tax consequences may result if the foreign shareholder is engaged in a trade or business within the United States. In addition, the tax consequences to a foreign shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of a tax treaty may be different than those described above.

Dividends paid by the Funds to non-U.S. shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% unless reduced by treaty (and the shareholder files a valid Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN, Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding and Reporting (Individuals), or other applicable form, with the Funds certifying foreign status and treaty eligibility) or the non-U.S. shareholder files a Form W-8ECI, Certificate of Foreign Person's Claim That Income is Effectively Connected with the Conduct of a Trade or Business in the United States, or other applicable form, with the Funds certifying that the investment to which the distribution relates is effectively connected to a United States trade or business of such non-U.S. shareholder (and, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by such non-U.S. shareholder). The Funds may elect not to withhold the applicable withholding tax on any distribution representing a capital gains dividend to a non-U.S. shareholder.

Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”), a Fund is required to withhold 30% of certain ordinary dividends it pays to shareholders that fail to meet prescribed information reporting or certification requirements. In general, no such withholding will be required with respect to a U.S. person or non-U.S. person that timely provides the certifications required by a Fund or its agent on a valid IRS Form W-9, Request for Taxpayer Identification, or applicable series of IRS Form W-8, respectively. Shareholders potentially subject to withholding include foreign financial institutions (“FFIs”), such as non-U.S. investment funds, and non-financial foreign entities (“NFFE”). To avoid withholding under FATCA, an FFI generally must enter into an information sharing agreement with the IRS in which it agrees to report certain identifying information (including name, address, and taxpayer identification number) with respect to its U.S. account holders (which, in the case of an entity shareholder, may include its direct and indirect U.S. owners), and an NFFE generally must identify and provide other required information to a Fund or other withholding agent regarding its U.S. owners, if any. Such non-U.S. shareholders also may fall into certain exempt, excepted or deemed compliant categories as established by regulations and other guidance. A non-U.S. shareholder resident or doing business in a country that has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the U.S. to implement FATCA will be exempt from FATCA withholding provided that the shareholder and the applicable foreign government comply with the terms of the agreement.

A non-U.S. entity that invests in a Fund will need to provide the Fund with documentation properly certifying the entity’s status under FATCA in order to avoid FATCA withholding. Non-U.S. investors in a Fund should consult their tax advisers in this regard.

**Tax Shelter Reporting Regulations.** Under U.S. Treasury regulations, generally, if a shareholder recognizes a loss of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886, Reportable Transaction Disclosure Statement. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a RIC such as a Fund are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all RICs. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer’s treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

**State Taxes.** Depending upon state and local law, distributions by a Fund to its shareholders and the ownership of such shares may be subject to state and local taxes. Rules of state and local taxation of dividend and capital gains distributions from RICs often differ from the rules for U.S. federal income taxation described above. It is expected that a Fund will not be liable for any corporate excise, income or franchise tax in Massachusetts if it qualifies as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Many states grant tax-free status to dividends paid to you from interest earned on direct obligations of the U.S. government, subject in some states to minimum investment requirements that must be met by a Fund. Investment in Ginnie Mae or Fannie Mae securities, banker’s acceptances, commercial paper, and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government securities do not generally qualify for such tax-free treatment. The rules on exclusion of this income are different for corporate shareholders. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding state and local taxes applicable to an investment in a Fund.

## FUND TRANSACTIONS

**Brokerage Transactions.** Generally, equity securities, both listed and over-the-counter, are bought and sold through brokerage transactions for which commissions are payable. Purchases from underwriters will include the underwriting commission or concession, and purchases from dealers serving as market makers will include a dealer’s mark-up or reflect a dealer’s mark-down. Money market securities and other debt securities are usually bought and sold directly from the issuer or an underwriter or market maker for the securities. Generally, the Funds will not pay brokerage commissions for such purchases. When a debt security is bought from an underwriter, the purchase price will usually include an underwriting commission or concession. The purchase price for securities bought from dealers serving as market makers will similarly include the dealer’s mark up or reflect a dealer’s mark down. When the Funds execute transactions in the over-the-counter market, they will generally deal with primary market makers unless prices that are more favorable are otherwise obtainable.

In addition, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may place a combined order for two or more accounts it manages, including a Fund, engaged in the purchase or sale of the same security if, in its judgment, joint execution is in the best interest of each participant and will result in best price and execution. Transactions involving commingled orders are allocated in a manner deemed equitable to each account or Fund. Although it is recognized that, in some cases, the joint execution of orders could adversely affect the price or volume of the security that a particular account or Fund may obtain, it is the opinion of the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, that the advantages of combined orders outweigh the possible disadvantages of combined orders.

For the fiscal years ended October 31, 2024, and 2025 the Funds paid the following aggregate brokerage commissions on portfolio transactions as noted below:

| <b>Fund</b>                                      | <b>2024</b> | <b>2025</b>            |
|--|-------------|------------------------|
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                      | \$39,966    | \$50,095 <sup>1</sup>  |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                    | \$167,161   | \$69,671 <sup>1</sup>  |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                   | \$998,446   | \$833,475 <sup>1</sup> |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                 | \$147,065   | \$155,612              |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                 | \$24,680    | \$19,357               |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                 | \$3,240     | \$5,798                |
| Westwood Salient MLP& Energy Infrastructure Fund | \$1,288,972 | \$789,785 <sup>1</sup> |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                 | \$340,142   | \$184,762 <sup>1</sup> |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund          | \$114,865   | \$111,119              |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund            | \$107,621   | \$113,974              |

<sup>1</sup> Brokerage Commissions were lower due to an decrease in portfolio transactions during the year.

**Brokerage Selection.** The Trust does not expect to use one particular broker or dealer, and when one or more brokers is believed capable of providing the best combination of price and execution, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may select a broker based upon brokerage or research services provided to the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate. The Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may pay a higher commission than otherwise obtainable from other brokers in return for such services only if a good faith determination is made that the commission is reasonable in relation to the services provided.

Section 28(e) of the 1934 Act permits the Adviser, under certain circumstances, to cause the Funds to pay a broker or dealer a commission for effecting a transaction in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for effecting the transaction in recognition of the value of brokerage and research services provided by the broker or dealer. In addition to agency transactions, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may receive brokerage and research services in connection with certain riskless principal transactions, in accordance with applicable SEC guidance. Brokerage and research services include: (1) furnishing advice as to the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities, and the availability of securities or purchasers or sellers of securities; (2) furnishing analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy, and the performance of accounts; and (3) effecting securities transactions and performing functions incidental thereto (such as clearance, settlement, and custody). In the case of research services, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes that access to independent investment research is beneficial to its investment decision-making processes and, therefore, to the Funds.

To the extent that research services may be a factor in selecting brokers, such services may be in written form or through direct contact with individuals and may include information as to particular companies and securities as well as market, economic, or institutional areas and information which assists in the valuation and pricing of investments. Examples of research-oriented services for which the Adviser might utilize Fund commissions include research reports and other information on the economy, industries, sectors, groups of securities, individual companies, statistical information, political developments, technical market action, pricing and appraisal services, credit analysis, risk measurement analysis, performance, and other analysis. The Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may use research services furnished by brokers in servicing all client accounts, and not all services may necessarily be used by the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, in connection with the Funds or any other specific client account that paid commissions to the broker providing such services. Information so received by the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will be in addition to, and not in lieu of, the services required to be performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement and Sub-Advisory Agreement. Any advisory, Sub-Advisory, or other fees paid to the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, are not reduced as a result of the receipt of research services.

In some cases the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may receive a service from a broker that has both a “research” and a “non-research” use. When this occurs, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, makes a good faith allocation, under all the circumstances, between the research and non-research uses of the service. The percentage of the service that is used for research purposes may be paid for with client commissions, while the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, will use its own funds to pay for the percentage of the service that is used for non-research purposes. In making this good faith allocation, the Adviser faces a potential conflict of interest, but the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, believes that its allocation procedures are reasonably designed to ensure that it appropriately allocates the anticipated use of such services to their research and non-research uses.

From time to time, the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, may purchase new issues of securities for clients, including the Funds, in a fixed price offering. In these situations, the seller may be a member of the selling group that will, in addition to selling securities, provide the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, with research services. FINRA has adopted rules expressly permitting these types of arrangements under certain circumstances. Generally, the seller will provide research “credits” in these situations at a rate that is higher than that which is available for typical secondary market transactions. These arrangements may not fall within the safe harbor of Section 28(e).

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025, the Funds paid the following commissions on brokerage transactions directed to brokers pursuant to an agreement or understanding whereby the broker provides research services to an adviser:

| <b>Predecessor Fund</b>                           | <b><i>Total Dollar Amount of Brokerage Commissions for Research Services<sup>1</sup></i></b> | <b><i>Total Dollar Amount of Transactions Involving Brokerage Commissions for Research Services</i></b> |
|---|--|---|
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood High Income Fund                         | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | N/A  | N/A   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | N/A  | N/A   |

<sup>1</sup> Reported numbers include commissions paid for an identified research service as part of an unbundled brokerage relationship and total commissions paid as part of bundled commissions for which the research portion is not distinguishable from the execution portion.

| <b>Fund</b>                                       | <b><i>Total Dollar Amount of Brokerage Commissions for Research Services<sup>1</sup></i></b> | <b><i>Total Dollar Amount of Transactions Involving Brokerage Commissions for Research Services</i></b> |
|---|--|---|
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | \$35,893   | \$326,047,425   |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | \$51,082   | \$138,121,237   |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | \$585,179  | \$1,383,425,987   |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | \$83,612   | \$343,458,173   |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | \$4,723  | \$23,254,850  |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | \$52   | \$636,849   |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | \$501,406  | \$343,458,173   |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | \$135,235  | \$330,514,384   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | \$95,562   | \$315,598,180   |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | \$38,100   | \$123,960,429   |

<sup>1</sup> Reported numbers include commissions paid for an identified research service as part of an unbundled brokerage relationship and total commissions paid as part of bundled commissions for which the research portion is not distinguishable from the execution portion.

**Brokerage with Fund Affiliates.** The Funds may execute brokerage or other agency transactions through registered broker-dealer affiliates of either the Funds or the Adviser and/or the Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, for a commission in conformity with the 1940 Act and rules promulgated by the SEC. The 1940 Act requires that commissions paid to the affiliate by the Funds for exchange transactions not exceed “usual and customary” brokerage commissions. The rules define “usual and customary” commissions to include amounts which are “reasonable and fair compared to the commission, fee or other remuneration received or to be received by other brokers in connection with comparable transactions involving similar securities being purchased or sold on a securities exchange during a comparable period of time.” The Trustees, including those who are not “interested persons” of the Funds, have adopted procedures for evaluating the reasonableness of commissions paid to affiliates and review these procedures periodically.

For the fiscal years ended October 31, 2023, 2024, and 2025, the Predecessor Funds and the Funds did not pay any brokerage commissions on Fund transactions effected by affiliated brokers.

**Securities of “Regular Broker-Dealers.”** The Funds are required to identify any securities of their “regular brokers and dealers” (as such term is defined in the 1940 Act) that each Fund held during its most recent fiscal year. Because the Funds are new, there are no holdings of securities of their “regular brokers and dealers” to disclose as of the date of this SAI. During the fiscal year ended October

31, 2024, the Funds did not hold any securities of their “regular brokers and dealers.”

**Portfolio Turnover Rates.** Portfolio turnover is calculated by dividing the lesser of total purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by the monthly average value of portfolio securities owned during the fiscal year. Excluded from both the numerator and denominator are amounts relating to securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less. Instruments excluded from the calculation of portfolio turnover generally would include the futures contracts in which the Funds may invest since such contracts generally have remaining maturities of less than one year. The Funds may at times hold investments in other short-term instruments, such as repurchase agreements, which are excluded for purposes of computing portfolio turnover. For the fiscal years ended October 31, 2024, and 2025, the Funds’ portfolio turnover rates were as follows:

| Fund  | Portfolio Turnover Rates |      |
|---|--------------------------|------|
|   | 2024                     | 2025 |
| Westwood Quality Value Fund                       | 42%                      | 77%  |
| Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund                     | 73%                      | 66%  |
| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund                    | 57%                      | 63%  |
| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund                  | 57%                      | 67%  |
| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund                  | 65%                      | 66%  |
| Westwood Alternative Income Fund                  | 51%                      | 89%  |
| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund | 74%                      | 52%  |
| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund                  | 94%                      | 67%  |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund           | 156%                     | 179% |
| Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund             | 1,280%                   | 670% |

## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

The Board has adopted policies with respect to the disclosure of a Fund’s portfolio holdings. These policies generally prohibit the disclosure of information about a Fund’s portfolio to third parties prior to (i) the filing of the information with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) in a required filing, or (ii) the day after the information is posted to the Fund’s website. Each Fund is required to include a schedule of portfolio holdings in its annual and semi-annual Financial Statements to shareholders, which are sent to shareholders within 60 days of the end of the second and fourth fiscal quarters and filed with the SEC on Form N-CSR within 70 days of the end of the second and fourth fiscal quarters. Each Fund is also required to file a schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the first and third fiscal quarters. Each Fund must provide a copy of the complete schedule of portfolio holdings as filed with the SEC to any shareholder of the Fund, upon request, free of charge.

As described below, the policies allow for disclosure of non-public portfolio information to third parties if the following criteria are met, as determined by the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer (the “CCO”): (1) there is a legitimate business purpose for the disclosure; (2) the party receiving the portfolio holdings information is subject to a one or more Conditions of Confidentiality (as defined below); and (3) disclosure is consistent with the antifraud provisions of the federal securities laws and, with respect to disclosure made or directed to be made by the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, the Adviser’s and/or Sub-Adviser’s, as appropriate, fiduciary duties. “Conditions of Confidentiality” include (1) confidentiality clauses in written agreements, (2) confidentiality implied by the nature of the relationship (e.g., attorney-client relationship), or (3) confidentiality required by fiduciary or regulatory principles (e.g., custody relationships).

Under the policies, the Trust, the Fund, the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, and any service provider to the Trust are prohibited from receiving compensation or other consideration in connection with disclosing information about a Fund’s portfolio to third parties. Consistent with these policies, a Fund may include in marketing literature and other communications to shareholders or other parties a full schedule of portfolio holdings, top ten portfolio positions and certain other portfolio characteristics (such as sector or geographic weightings) that have already been made public through the Fund’s website or through an SEC filing, provided that, in the case of portfolio information made public solely through the Fund’s website, the information is disclosed no earlier than the day after the date of posting to the website.

Each Fund releases non-public portfolio holdings information to certain third-party service providers on a daily basis in order for those parties to perform their duties on behalf of the Fund. These service providers include the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, Distributor, transfer agent, fund accounting agent, administrator and Custodian. Each Fund also periodically discloses portfolio holdings

information on a confidential basis to other third parties that provide services to the Fund, such as the Fund’s auditors, legal counsel, proxy voting services (if applicable), printers, brokers and pricing services. The lag between the date of the information and the date on which the information is disclosed will vary based on the nature of the services provided by the party to whom the information is disclosed. For example, the information may be provided to a Fund’s auditors within days after the end of the Fund’s fiscal year in connection with the Fund’s annual audit, while the information may be given to legal counsel or prospective third-party service providers without any time lag.

Below is a table that lists the service provider that currently receive non-public portfolio information along with information regarding the frequency of access to, and limitations on use of, portfolio information.

| <b>Type of Service Provider</b>  | <b>Typical Frequency of Access to Portfolio Information</b>  | <b>Restrictions on Use</b>   |
|--|--|--|
| Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate                                     | Daily  | Contractual and Ethical  |
| Administrator and Distributor  | Daily  | Contractual and Ethical  |
| Custodian  | Daily  | Ethical  |
| Accountants  | During annual audit  | Ethical  |
| Legal counsel  | Regulatory filings, board meetings, and if a legal issue regarding the portfolio requires counsel’s review     | Ethical  |
| Printers/Typesetters   | Twice a year – printing of semi-annual and annual Financial Statements   | No formal restrictions in place – typesetter or printer would not receive portfolio information until at least 30 days old |
| Broker/dealers through which the Fund purchases and sells portfolio securities | Daily access to the relevant purchase and/or sale – no broker/dealer has access to the Fund’s entire portfolio | Contractual and Ethical  |
| N-PORT and N-CEN Vendors   | Monthly or Annually  | Contractual and Ethical  |
| Pricing and Liquidity Vendors  | Daily  | Contractual and Ethical  |

The Funds may enter into ongoing arrangements to release portfolio holdings to Morningstar, Inc., Lipper, Inc., Bloomberg, Standard & Poor’s, Thompson Financial and Vickers-Stock (“Rating Agencies”) in order for those organizations to assign a rating or ranking to the Funds. In these instances, information about a Fund’s portfolio would generally be supplied within approximately 25 days after the end of the month. The Rating Agencies may make the Fund’s top portfolio holdings and other portfolio characteristics available on their websites and may make the Fund’s complete portfolio holdings available to their subscribers for a fee. Neither the Funds, the Adviser, a sub-adviser, nor any of their affiliates receive any portion of this fee.

Upon approval of the CCO, a Fund may also disclose portfolio information pursuant to regulatory request, court order or other legal proceeding.

Except as described above, a Fund is prohibited from entering into any arrangements with any person to make available information about the Fund’s portfolio holdings without the prior authorization of the CCO. The Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, must submit any proposed arrangement pursuant to which it intends to disclose a Fund’s portfolio holdings to the CCO, who will review such arrangement to determine whether the arrangement is in the best interests of Fund shareholders. To the extent that the disclosure of a Fund’s portfolio holdings information creates a conflict between the Fund, on the one hand, and the Fund’s adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, principal underwriter, and any other affiliated person of the Funds, their investment adviser, or their principal underwriter on the other hand, the CCO shall determine how to resolve the conflict in the best interests of the Fund, and shall report such determination to the Board at the end of the quarter in which such determination was made.

To oversee the Disclosure Policy and the Fund Policy, the Trustees consider reports and recommendations by the CCO regarding the adequacy and implementation of the compliance programs of the Trust and its service procedures adopted pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act. The Trustees reserve the right to amend the Disclosure Policy at any time without prior notice to shareholders in its sole discretion.

## **DESCRIPTION OF SHARES**

The Declaration of Trust authorizes the issuance of an unlimited number of funds and shares of each fund, each of which represents an equal proportionate interest in that fund with each other share. Shares are entitled upon liquidation to a pro rata share in the net assets of

the fund. Shareholders have no preemptive rights. The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees may create additional series or classes of shares. Share certificates representing shares will not be issued. The Funds' shares, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable.

## **LIMITATION OF TRUST AND TRUSTEES' LIABILITY**

### **Trustee Liability**

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees will not be liable in any event in connection with the affairs of the Trust, except as such liability may arise from his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Trust and its holders of beneficial interest. It also provides that all third parties shall look solely to the Trust's property for satisfaction of claims arising in connection with the affairs of the Trust. With the exceptions stated, the Declaration of Trust provides that a Trustee or officer is entitled to be indemnified against all liability in connection with the affairs of the Trust.

### **Trust Liability**

Under Ohio law, liabilities of the Trust to third persons, including the liabilities of any series, extend to the whole of the trust estate to the extent necessary to discharge such liabilities. However, the Declaration of Trust contains provisions intended to limit the liabilities of each series to the applicable series and the Trustees and officers of the Trust intend that notice of such limitation be given in each contract, instrument, certificate, or undertaking made or issued on behalf of the Trust by the Trustees or officers. There is no guarantee that the foregoing steps will prove effective or that the Trust will be successful in preventing the assets of one series from being available to creditors of another series.

## **PROXY VOTING**

The Trust, the Advisers, and Sub-Adviser have adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that describe how the Funds intend to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of the Trust and the Adviser and/or Sub-Adviser, as appropriate, are attached to this SAI as Appendix B, Appendix C, and Appendix D, respectively.

The Trust is required to disclose annually the Funds' complete proxy voting record during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 on Form N-PX. This voting record will be available: (i) without charge, upon request, by calling 1-877-FUND-WHG (1-877-386-3944), (ii) on the Funds' website at [www.westwoodfunds.com](http://www.westwoodfunds.com) or (iii) on the SEC's website at <https://www.sec.gov>.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Funds' audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2025, including the Financial Highlights appearing in the Prospectuses, are incorporated by reference and made a part hereof. You may also request a copy of Funds' annual and semi-annual Financial Statements, at no charge, by calling the Funds at 1-877-FUND-WHG (1-877-386-3944).

## **CODES OF ETHICS**

The Trust, the Advisers, Sub-Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted a Code of Ethics (each a "COE" and collectively, the "COEs") designed to prevent their respective personnel subject to the COE from engaging in deceptive, manipulative, or fraudulent activities in connection with securities held or to be acquired by the Funds (which securities may also be held by persons subject to the COEs). These COEs permit personnel subject to the COEs to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds, but prohibit such personnel from engaging in personal investment activities which compete with or attempt to take advantage of the Funds' planned portfolio transactions. Each of these parties monitors compliance with its respective COE.

## **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAM**

The Trust has adopted an anti-money laundering ("AML") program, as required by applicable law, that is designed to prevent the Funds from being used for money laundering or the financing of terrorist activities. The Trust's AML Compliance Officer is responsible for implementing and monitoring the operations and internal controls of the program. Compliance officers at certain of the Funds' service providers are also responsible for monitoring aspects of the AML program. The AML program is subject to the continuing oversight of the Board.

## **PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS AND CONTROL PERSONS**

As of February 2, 2026, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned beneficially owned (i.e., had direct or indirect voting or investment power) less than 1% of the then outstanding shares of the Fund. On the same date, the following shareholders owned of record more than 5% of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest of the Fund; there is no information to report with respect to Ultra Shares

of the Westwood Quality Value Fund and Westwood Income Opportunity Fund since these share classes had not yet commenced operations as of the date of this SAI:

| FUND  | NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECORD OWNER  | PERCENTAGE OWNERSHIP |
|---|---|----------------------|
| <b>Westwood Quality Value Fund – A Class Shares</b>             |   |                      |
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS<br>FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUND<br>RECONCILIATION 14G<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 16.67%               |
|   | PERSHING LLC<br>1 PERSHING PLZ<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399-0002  | 10.87%               |
|   | RBC CAPITAL MARKETS PUZYK<br>8,807.0120<br>LLC/BOHDAN PUZYK<br>INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT<br>664 CLEAR CREEK DRIVE<br>OSPREY FL 34229-6814                           | 5.42%                |
|   | RBC CAPITAL MARKETS LLC/ROBERT<br>VILLEMURE TTEE<br>JLR SPORTS INC 401K<br>FBO ROBERT VILLEMURE<br>11931 ROYCE WATERFORD CIRCLE<br>TAMPA FL 33626-3313                  | 5.13%                |
|   | RBC CAPITAL MARKETS<br>LLC/RAVINDRA BHACHAWAT<br>TTEE<br>PENSION PLAN<br>FBO RAVINDRA BHACHAWAT<br>7 WOODBURY FARMS DRIVE<br>WOODBURY NY 11797-1242                     | 5.01%                |
|   | RBC CAPITAL MARKETS<br>LLC/DR DANIEL WILLIAMS<br>6389 E REYNOLDS<br>HASLETT MI 48840-8933   | 5.32%                |
|   | RBC CAPITAL MARKETS<br>LLC/CATHERINE TOJEIRA<br>INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT<br>ACCOUNT<br>1777 WEST 8TH STREET<br>BROOKLYN NY 11223-1203                                      | 5.28%                |
| <b>Westwood Quality Value Fund – Institutional Class Shares</b> |   |                      |
|   | BAND & CO C/O US BANK NA<br>PO BOX 1787<br>MILWAUKEE, WI 53201-1787   | 51.22%               |

|  |  |       |
|--|--|-------|
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995         | 5.28% |
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY<br>ACCOUNT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS OPERATIONS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905 | 6.20% |

| <b>Westwood Quality Value Fund – Ultra Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 96.45% |

| <b>Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund – Institutional Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | BART 401 MODEL<br>C/O ICMA RETIREMENT<br>CORPORATION<br>777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE<br>WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239  | 70.07% |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT FOR<br>THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS OPERATIONS  | 14.93% |
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 9.02%  |

| <b>Westwood Quality SMidCap Fund – Ultra Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT, 4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 70.22% |
|   | CARL STEWARD & DAVID HAWKINS<br>TTEE/WASHINGTON-IDAHO<br>LABORERSEMPLOYERS<br>PENSION TRUST<br>11724 NE 19TH STREET, SUITE 300<br>BOTHHELL, WA 98011                     | 29.10% |

| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund – A Class Shares |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY<br>ACCOUNT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS    | 40.12% |
|   | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY<br>LLC /FOR THE<br>EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS<br>CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932 | 13.74% |

| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund – C Class Shares |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
|   | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH<br>BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932                 | 79.58% |
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS<br>FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 11.76% |

| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund – Ultra Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 63.20% |
|   | EMPOWER TRUST<br>FBO/RECORDKEEPING FOR LARGE<br>EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PL<br>8525 E ORCHARD RD<br>GREENWOOD VILLAGE CO 80111   | 17.64% |
|   | CAPINCO C/O US BANK NA<br>1555 N RIVERCENTER DR STE 302<br>MILWAUKEE, WI 53212-3958  | 6.14%  |

| Westwood Quality SmallCap Fund – Institutional Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 47.79% |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS                                     | 15.59% |

| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund – A Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103            | 35.22% |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO., INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS OPERATIONS<br>211 MAIN STREET<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905   | 20.70% |
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 20.42% |
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIALSERVICES LLC<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310   | 5.93%  |
|   | STIFEL NICOLAUS & COMPANY, INC/A/C 1683-5573<br>STIFEL NICOLAUS & COMPANY, INC<br>501 NORTH BROADWAY<br>ST LOUIS MO 63102                          | 5.66%  |

| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund – C Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 64.44% |
|   | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103            | 16.27% |
|   | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 7.39%  |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC<br>INC/SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905               | 8.25%  |

| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund – Institutional Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY<br>ACCOUNT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS                                     | 29.39% |
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 22.01% |
|   | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES<br>LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR<br>THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103                           | 11.52% |
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS<br>FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100                      | 10.92% |
|   | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 6.94%  |

| Westwood Income Opportunity Fund – Ultra Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | CAPINCO C/O US BANK NA<br>1555 N RIVERCENTER DR STE 302<br>MILWAUKEE, WI 53212-3958  | 46.12% |
|   | KUBA J BROWN & HOWARD<br>ROTHSCHILD/WILLIAM FARANDA TR<br>HEALTH & BENEFIT TRUST FUND OF<br>THE I.U.O.E LOCAL 94-94A-94BAFL-CIO<br>U/A 1/29/09<br>337 W 44TH ST<br>NEW YORK, NY 10036- | 27.70% |
|   | 5402NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT, 4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995           | 18.62% |
|   | J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES<br>LLC/FBO 096-06018-13<br>4 CHASE METROTECH CENTER<br>BROOKLYN NY 11245-0001   | 7.55%  |

| Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund – A Class Shares |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
|   | STIFEL NICOLAUS & CO INC/A/C 6054-<br>9135<br>STIFEL NICOLAUS & CO INC<br>501 NORTH BROADWAY<br>ST. LOUIS, MO 63102 | 75.74% |

|  |  |       |
|--|--|-------|
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC/SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C<br>FBO CUSTOMERS<br>211 MAIN STREET<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905  | 9.81% |
|  | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUND RECONCILIATION14G<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 7.98% |

**Westwood Multi-Asset Income Fund – Institutional Class Shares**

|  |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD.<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995                   | 56.84% |
|  | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100 | 22.76% |
|  | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 9.77%  |

**Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund – A Class Shares**

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932   | 62.26% |
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO., INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS OPERATIONS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905 | 9.50%  |
|  | SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT FOR THE/EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS OF UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC<br>ATTN DEPARTMENT MANAGER<br>1000 HARBOR BLVD<br>WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086-6761   | 5.76%  |

| <b>Westwood Salient MLP &amp; Energy Infrastructure Fund – C Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH<br>BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932  | 33.79% |
|   | SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE/EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMERS OF UBS FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES INC<br>ATTN DEPARTMENT MANAGER<br>1000 HARBOR BLVD<br>WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086-6761 | 27.03% |
|   | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS<br>FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100                            | 18.62% |
|   | WELLS FARGO CLEARING<br>SERVICES/A/C 1699-0135<br>ONE NORTH JEFFERSON<br>AVENUE<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103   | 7.40%  |

| <b>Westwood Salient MLP &amp; Energy Infrastructure Fund – Institutional Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH<br>BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932  | 48.31% |
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT, 4TH<br>FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995      | 12.78% |
|   | SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE/EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF CUSTOMERS OF UBS FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES INC<br>ATTN DEPARTMENT MANAGER<br>1000 HARBOR BLVD<br>WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086-6761 | 8.98%  |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS   | 12.27% |
|   | BAND & CO C/O US BANK NA<br>PO BOX 1787<br>MILWAUKEE, WI 53201-1787  | 5.45%  |

| Westwood Salient MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund – Ultra Class Shares |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | ASCENSUS TRUST COMPANY<br>FBO/WAINWRIGHT<br>INVESTMENT COUNSEL LLC 4<br>380551<br>P.O. BOX 10758<br>FARGO, ND 58106   | 44.42% |
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES LLC/FOR THE<br>EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 39.74% |
|  | STATE STREET BANK FBO<br>TRANSAMERICA/VARIOUS<br>RETIREMENT PLANS<br>440 MAMARONECK AVE<br>HARRISON, NY 10528   | 15.83% |

| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund – A Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES LLC<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995  | 18.71% |
|   | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 14.73% |
|   | PERSHING LLC<br>1 PERSHING PLZ<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399-0002   | 14.62% |
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS | 14.12% |

| Westwood Real Estate Income Fund – Institutional Class Shares |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.,<br>INC./SPECIAL CUSTODY<br>ACCOUNT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS<br>OPERATIONS           | 55.71% |
|   | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES<br>LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR<br>THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103 | 11.72% |

|  |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
|  | NFS LLC FOR THE NFS LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD 4 <sup>TH</sup> FL<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 10.98% |
|  | RAYMOND JAMES/OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS<br>HOUSE ACCT FIRM 92500015<br>ATTN COURTNEY WALLER<br>880 CARILLON PKWY<br>SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33716-1100                   | 7.33%  |
|  | LPL FINANCIAL LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 7.11%  |

**Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund – A Class Shares**

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932   | 42.09% |
|  | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103                                 | 19.27% |
|  | SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT FOR THE/EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMERS OF UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC<br>ATTN DEPARTMENT MANAGER<br>1000 HARBOR BLVD<br>WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086-6761 | 9.13%  |
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310   | 7.02%  |
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC/SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905   | 5.77%  |

**Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund – C Class Shares**

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103 | 38.11% |
|--|---|--------|

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH<br>BARNEY LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE<br>BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932 | 35.81% |
|  | PERSHING LLC<br>1 PERSHING PLZ<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399-0002  | 8.99%  |
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO<br>INC/SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C<br>FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL<br>FUNDS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905   | 6.88%  |

**Westwood Broadmark Tactical Growth Fund – Institutional Class Shares**

|  |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
|  | MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF ITS CUSTOMERS<br>1 NEW YORK PLAZA FL 12<br>NEW YORK, NY 10004-1932  | 34.78% |
|  | WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES<br>LLC/SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR<br>THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF<br>CUSTOMER<br>2801 MARKET ST<br>SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103                                 | 26.62% |
|  | SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCOUNT<br>FOR THE/EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF CUSTOMERS OF UBS FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES INC<br>ATTN DEPARTMENT MANAGER<br>1000 HARBOR BLVD<br>WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086-6761 | 23.87% |
|  | NFS LLC FOR THE NFS LLC FOR THE<br>EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR<br>CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD 4TH<br>FL<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995                | 7.39%  |

**Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund – A Class Shares**

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL<br>SERVICES LLC/FOR THE<br>EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 48.06% |
|--|---|--------|

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
|  | SEI PRIVATE TRUST<br>COMPANY/C/O GWP US<br>ADVISORS<br>1 FREEDOM VALLEY DRIVE<br>OAKS, PA 19456 | 29.36% |
|  | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091                                  | 20.15% |

| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund – Institutional Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 99.24% |

| <b>Westwood Broadmark Tactical Plus Fund – F Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
|   | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES<br>LLC/FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN: MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT<br>4TH FL<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 99.74% |

| <b>Westwood Alternative Income Fund – A Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC/SPECIAL<br>CUSTODY A/C<br>FBO CUSTOMERS<br>211 MAIN STREET<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905 | 50.50% |
|  | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DR<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091   | 21.34% |
|  | ASCENSUS TRUST COMPANY<br>FBO/THE VALLE COMPANY<br>401(K) PLAN 4709<br>P.O. BOX 10758<br>FARGO, ND 58106           | 7.42%  |

| <b>Westwood Alternative Income Fund – Institutional Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC<br>FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD, 4 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 58.07% |
|  | LPL FINANCIAL<br>4707 EXECUTIVE DRIVE<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091  | 29.23% |

|  |   |       |
|--|---|-------|
|  | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO<br>INC/SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C<br>FBO CUSTOMERS<br>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS<br>211 MAIN ST<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-1905 | 7.42% |
|--|---|-------|

|  |  |        |
|--|--|--------|
| <b>Westwood Alternative Income Fund – Ultra Class Shares</b> |  |        |
|  | NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC<br>FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT<br>OF OUR CUSTOMERS<br>499 WASHINGTON BLVD, 4 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995 | 96.11% |

Persons beneficially owning more than 25% of a Fund’s outstanding shares may be deemed to “control” the Fund within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Shareholders controlling a Fund may have a significant impact on any shareholder vote of the Fund.

**APPENDIX A  
TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS**

| <b>Name and Year of Birth</b>                  | <b>Length of Time Served</b> | <b>Position(s) held with Trust</b>                             | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>  | <b>Number of Funds in the Trust Overseen By Trustee</b> | <b>Directorship(s) of Public Companies Held By Trustee During Past 5 Years</b>   |
|--|------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Independent Trustees:</b>                   |                              |  |   |   |  |
| Janine L. Cohen^<br>Year of Birth: 1952        | Since 2016                   | Chairperson (2019 to present)<br><br>Trustee (2016 to present) | Retired since 2013; previously Chief Financial Officer from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer from 2008 to 2013 at AER Advisors, Inc.   | 27  | n/a  |
| Robert E. Morrison^<br>Year of Birth: 1957     | Since 2019                   | Trustee (2019 to present; and previously 2012 to 2014)         | Managing Director at Midwest Trust and FCI Advisors (2022 to present); Senior Vice President and National Practice Lead for Investment, Huntington National Bank/Huntington Private Bank (2014 to 2022); CEO, CIO, President of 5 Star Investment Management Company (2006 to 2014) | 27  | n/a  |
| Clifford N. Schireson^<br>Year of Birth: 1953  | Since 2019                   | Trustee (2019 to present)                                      | Retired; Founder of Schireson Consulting, LLC (2017 to 2022); Director of Institutional Services for Brandes Investment Partners, LP (2004 to 2017)   | 27  | Trustee of Beacon Pointe Multi-Alternative Fund (2024 to present); Trustee of Booster Income Opportunities Fund (2024 to present); Trustee of 83 Investment Group Income Fund (2024 to present); Trustee of Sardis Credit Opportunities Fund (2025 to present); Trustee of IDA Private Access Fund (2025 to present); Trustee of Private Debt and Income Fund (2025 to present); and Trustee of the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (2019 to 2025) |
| Jacqueline A. Williams^<br>Year of Birth: 1954 | Since 2019                   | Trustee (2019 to present)                                      | Managing Member of Custom Strategy Consulting, LLC (2017 to present); Managing Director of Global Investment Research (2005 to 2017), Cambridge Associates, LLC   | 27  | n/a  |
| Keith Shintani^<br>Year of Birth: 1963         | Since January 1, 2024        | Trustee (January 1, 2024 to present)                           | Senior Vice President of Relationship Management at U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (1998 to 2022); Director of Finance at   | 27  | Trustee of the Matrix Advisors Fund Trust (2023 to present)  |

|  |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|
|  |  |  | Charles Schwab Investment Management (January 1997 to December 1997); Manager of Mutual Fund Operations of PIMCo Advisors L.P. (1993 to 1995); Variable Products Manager of Pacific Life Insurance Company (1989 to 1993); Senior Accountant of Deloitte and Touche. (1986 to 1989) |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|

^ Address is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

| Name and Year of Birth                          | Length of Time Served   | Position(s) held with Trust   | Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years   |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| Todd E. Heim^<br>Year of Birth: 1967            | 2014 to present         | President<br>(2021 to present)<br><br>Vice President<br>(2014 to 2021)  | Senior Vice President, Relationship Management (2023 to present) and Vice President, Relationship Management (2018 to 2023)   |
| Shannon Thibeaux-Burgess<br>Year of Birth: 1970 | 2023 to present         | Vice President  | Senior Vice President, Relationship Management with Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2022 to present); Head of Regulatory Service with J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. (2020 to 2022); Chief Administrative Officer of Fund Administration, Legal of State Street Bank (2013 to 2020) |
| Daniel D. Bauer^<br>Year of Birth: 1977         | 2016 to present         | Treasurer<br>(January 2024 to present)<br><br>Assistant Treasurer<br>(2016 to December 2023)  | Vice President of Fund Accounting (2022 to present), Assistant Vice President of Fund Accounting (2020 to 2022), and AVP, Assistant Mutual Fund Controller (2015 to 2020) of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC  |
| Angela A. Simmons^<br>Year of Birth: 1975       | 2022 to present         | Assistant Treasurer   | Vice President of Financial Administration (2022 to present) and Assistant Vice President, Financial Administration (2015 to 2022) of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC   |
| Leo R. Payne<br>Year of Birth: 1966             | January 2025 to present | Assistant Treasurer   | Vice President of Tax of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC  |
| Karen Jacoppo-Wood^<br>Year of Birth: 1966      | 2023 to present         | Secretary   | Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2022 to present); Managing Director and Managing Counsel (2019 to 2022) of State Street Bank and Trust Company  |
| Natalie S. Anderson^<br>Year of Birth: 1975     | 2016 to present         | Assistant Secretary   | Director of Legal Administration (March 2024 to present); Legal Administration Manager (2016 to March 2024) of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC  |
| Jesse Hallee^<br>Year of Birth: 1976            | 2023 to present         | Assistant Secretary   | Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (June 2019 to present)   |
| Gweneth K. Gosselink^<br>Year of Birth: 1955    | 2020 to present         | Chief Compliance Officer  | Vice President, Compliance Officer (2023 to present) of Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC; Assistant Vice President, Compliance Officer at Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2019 to 2023); CCO Consultant at GKG Consulting, LLC (2019 to 2021)                        |
| Martin R. Dean^<br>Year of Birth: 1963          | 2016 to present         | Assistant Chief Compliance Officer<br>(2020 to present)<br><br>Interim Chief Compliance Officer<br>(2019 to 2020)<br><br>Assistant Chief Compliance Officer<br>(2016 to 2017) | President of Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (February 2023 to present); Senior Vice President, Head of Fund Compliance (2020 to January 2023) and Vice President & Director of Fund Compliance of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 to 2020)                    |

^ Address is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246.

## APPENDIX B - DESCRIPTION OF RATINGS

### Description of Ratings

The various ratings used by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (each an “NRSRO”) are described below. A rating by an NRSRO represents the organization’s opinion as to the credit quality of the security being rated. However, the ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality or guarantees as to the creditworthiness of an issuer. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell, or hold a security, because it does not take into account market value or suitability for a particular investor. When a security has received a rating from more than one NRSRO, each rating is evaluated independently. Ratings are based on current information furnished by the issuer or obtained by the NRSROs from other sources that they consider reliable. Ratings may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of such information, or for other reasons.

The following descriptions of securities ratings have been published by Moody’s Investors Services, Inc. (“Moody’s”), S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”), and Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”), respectively.

### Description of Moody’s Global Ratings

Ratings assigned on Moody’s global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risk of financial obligations issued 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 eleven months 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. The highest four ratings are deemed to be Investment Grade Debt Securities by the Adviser.

### Description of Moody’s Global Long-Term Ratings

**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 judged to be 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.

**C** 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.

## Hybrid Indicator (hyb)

The hybrid indicator (hyb) 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.

## Description of Moody's Global Short-Term Ratings

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 obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

Moody's employs the following short-term ratings:

**P-1** Ratings of Prime-1 reflect a superior ability to repay short-term obligations.

**P-2** Ratings of Prime-2 reflect a strong ability to repay short-term obligations.

**P-3** Ratings of Prime-3 reflect 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.

## Description of Moody's U.S. Municipal Short-Term and Demand Obligation Ratings

Moody's uses the global short-term Prime rating scale for commercial paper issued by U.S. 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, Moody's uses one of two other short-term rating scales, the Municipal Investment Grade (MIG) and Variable Municipal Investment Grade (VMIG) scales discussed below.

**MIG Ratings** - Moody's uses the MIG scale for U.S. municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other short term obligations, which typically mature in three years or less. Under certain circumstances, Moody's uses 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.

## Description of Moody's Demand Obligation Ratings

For variable rate demand obligations ("VRDOs"), Moody's assigns both a long-term rating and a short-term payment obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer's ability to meet scheduled principal and interest payments. The short-term payment obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to meet any purchase price payment obligation resulting from optional tenders ("on demand") and/or mandatory tenders of the VRDO. The short-term payment obligation rating uses the VMIG scale. Transitions of VMIG ratings with conditional

liquidity support differ from transitions of Prime ratings reflecting 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 obligations with conditional liquidity support.

For VRDOs, we typically assign a VMIG rating if the frequency of the payment obligation is less than every three years. If the frequency of the payment obligation is less than three years, but the obligation is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the VMIG short-term rating is not assigned and it is denoted as "NR".

For VRDOs., we typically assigns a VMIG rating if the frequency of the payment obligation is less than every three years. If the frequency of the payment obligation is less than three years but the obligation is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the VMIG short-term rating is not assigned and it is denoted as "NR".

Industrial development bonds in the U.S. where the obligor is a corporate may carry a VMIG rating that reflects Moody's view of the relative likelihood of default and loss. In these cases, liquidity assessment is based on the liquidity of the corporate obligor.

**VMIG 1** This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

**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.

**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.

**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 a sufficiently strong short-term rating or may lack the structural or legal protections.

### **Description of S&P's Issue Credit Ratings**

An S&P 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's 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 issue credit ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market, typically with an original maturity of no more than 365 days. Short-term issue credit ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. S&P would typically assign a long-term issue credit rating to an obligation with an original maturity of greater than 365 days. However, the ratings S&P assigns to certain instruments may diverge from these guidelines based on market practices. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

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

- The likelihood of payment—the capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitments on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;
- The nature and provisions of the financial obligation, and the promise S&P imputes; and
- The protection afforded by, and relative position of, the financial obligation in the event of a 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 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.)

NR indicates that a rating has not been assigned or is no longer assigned.

#### **Description of S&P's Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings\***

**AAA** An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments 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 commitments 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 commitments 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 weaken the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments 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 exposure 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 that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments 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 commitments on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitments 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 commitments 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 commitments 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 expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

**C** 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 believes that such payments will be made within the next five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or the next 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. A rating on an obligation is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

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

### **Description of S&P's Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

**A-1** A short-term obligation rated 'A-1' is rated in the highest category by S&P. 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.

**C** 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 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. A rating on an obligation is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

### **Description of S&P's Municipal Short-Term Note Ratings**

An S&P U.S. municipal note rating reflects S&P's 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's 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.

S&P's municipal short-term note ratings 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 debt restructuring, 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.

### **Description of Fitch's Credit Ratings**

Fitch's credit ratings are forward-looking opinions on the relative ability of an entity or obligation to meet financial commitments.

Fitch's credit rating scale for issuers and issues is expressed using the categories 'AAA' to 'BBB' (investment grade) and 'BB' to 'D' (speculative grade) with an additional +/- for AA through CCC levels indicating relative differences of probability of default or recovery of issues. The terms "investment grade" and "speculative grade" are market conventions and do not imply any recommendation or endorsement of a specific security for investment purposes. Investment grade categories indicate relatively low to moderate credit risk, while ratings in the speculative categories either signal either a higher level of credit risk or that a default has already occurred.

Fitch may also disclose issues relating to a rated issuer that are not and have not been rated. Such issues are also denoted as 'NR' on its web page.

Fitch's credit ratings do not directly address any risk other than credit risk. Credit ratings do not deal with the risk of a market value loss due to changes in interest rates, liquidity and/or other market considerations. However, market risk may be considered to the extent that it influences the ability of an issuer to pay or refinance a financial commitment.

Ratings nonetheless do not reflect market risk to the extent that they influence the size or other conditionality of the obligation to pay upon a commitment (for example, payments linked to performance of an equity index).

Credit ratings are indications of the likelihood of repayment in accordance with the terms of the issuance. In limited cases, Fitch may include additional considerations (i.e. rate to a higher or lower standard than that implied in the obligation's documentation).

### **Description of Fitch's Long-Term Corporate Finance Obligations Ratings**

**AAA** Highest credit quality. 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

**AA** Very high credit quality. 'AA' ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

**A** High credit quality. 'A' ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

**BBB** Good credit quality. 'BBB' ratings indicate that expectations of credit risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

**BB** Speculative. 'BB' ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to credit risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.

**B** Highly speculative. 'B' ratings indicate that material credit risk is present.

**CCC** Substantial credit risk. 'CCC' ratings indicate that substantial credit risk is present.

**CC** Very high levels of credit risk. ‘CC’ ratings indicate very high levels of credit risk.

**C** Exceptionally high levels of credit risk. ‘C’ ratings indicate exceptionally high levels of credit risk.

Ratings in the categories of ‘CCC’, ‘CC’ and ‘C’ can also relate to obligations or issuers that are in default. In this case, the rating does not opine on default risk but reflects the recovery expectation only.

Defaulted obligations typically are not assigned ‘RD’ or ‘D’ ratings, but are instead rated in the ‘CCC’ to ‘C’ rating categories, depending on their recovery prospects and other relevant characteristics. This approach better aligns obligations that have comparable overall expected loss but varying vulnerability to default and loss.

### **Description of Fitch’s Short-Term Ratings**

A short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-term deposit ratings may be adjusted for loss severity. Short-Term Ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as “short term” based on market convention (a long-term rating can also be used to rate an issue with short maturity). Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations, and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets.

Fitch’s short-term ratings are as follows:

**F1** Highest short-term credit quality. Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2** Good short-term credit quality. Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

**F3** Fair short-term credit quality. The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

**B** Speculative short-term credit quality. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C** High short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

**RD** Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically applicable to entity ratings only.

**D** Default. Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

## APPENDIX C – PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR VOTING PROXIES

#### 1. PURPOSE; DELEGATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to describe the policies and procedures for voting proxies received from issuers whose securities are held by each series (individually, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”) of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”). The Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) believes that each Fund’s Investment Adviser is in the best position to make individual voting decisions for such Fund. Therefore, subject to the oversight of the Board, each Fund’s Investment Adviser is hereby delegated the duty to make proxy voting decisions for such Fund, and to implement and undertake such other duties as set forth in, and consistent with, these Policies and Procedures.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

Proxy. A proxy permits a shareholder to vote without being present at annual or special meetings. A proxy is the form whereby a person who is eligible to vote on corporate matters transmits written instructions for voting or transfers the right to vote to another person in place of the eligible voter. Proxies are generally solicited by management, but may be solicited by dissident shareholders opposed to management’s policies or strategies.

Proxy Manager. Proxy manager, as used herein, refers to the individual, individuals or committee of individuals appointed by the investment advisers to each Fund (each, an “Investment Adviser”) as being responsible for supervising and implementing these Policies and Procedures.

#### 3. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(E)(iii) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, all proxies from Exchange Traded Funds (“ETFs”) or other Investment Companies voted by a Fund, registered in the name of the Fund, will have the following voting instructions typed on the proxy form: “Vote these shares in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such shares. The beneficial owner of these shares is a registered investment company.”

#### 4. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO OTHER PORTFOLIO SECURITIES

Fiduciary Considerations. Proxies with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are voted solely in the interests of the shareholders of the Trust. Any conflict of interest must be resolved in the way that will most benefit the shareholders.

Management Recommendations. Since the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in a company, the recommendation of management on any issue should be given substantial weight. The vote with respect to most issues presented in proxy statements should be cast in accordance with the position of the company’s management, unless it is determined that supporting management’s position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning the stock. However, each issue should be considered on its own merits, and the position of the company’s management should not be supported in any situation where it is found not to be in the best interests of the Trust’s shareholders.

#### 5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Trust recognizes that under certain circumstances an Investment Adviser may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of a Fund. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, situations where an Investment

Adviser or one or more of its affiliates, including officers, directors or employees, has or is seeking a client relationship with the issuer of the security that is the subject of the proxy vote. The Investment Adviser shall periodically inform its employees that they are under an obligation to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Investment Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of a Fund, both as a result of the employee's personal relationships and due to circumstances that may arise during the conduct of the Investment Adviser's business, and to bring any conflict of interest of which they become aware to the attention of the proxy manager. With respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies, the Investment Adviser shall not vote proxies relating to such issuers on behalf of a Fund until it has determined that the conflict of interest is not material or a method of resolving such conflict of interest has been determined in the manner described below. A conflict of interest will be considered material to the extent that it is determined that such conflict has the potential to influence the Investment Adviser's decision-making in voting a proxy. Materiality determinations will be based upon an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. If the proxy manager determines that a conflict of interest is not material, the Investment Adviser may vote proxies notwithstanding the existence of a conflict. If the conflict of interest is determined to be material, either (i) the conflict shall be disclosed to the Trust's Committee of Independent Trustees (the "Committee") and the Investment Adviser shall follow the instructions of the Committee or (ii) the Investment Adviser shall vote the issue in question based upon the recommendation of an independent third party under a contractual arrangement approved by the Committee. The proxy manager shall keep a record of all materiality decisions and report them to the Committee on an annual basis.

## **6. ROUTINE PROPOSALS**

Proxies for routine proposals (such as election of directors, selection of independent public accountants, stock splits and increases in capital stock) with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies should generally be voted in favor of management.

## **7. PROXY MANAGER APPROVAL**

Votes on non-routine matters and votes against a management's recommendations with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are subject to approval by the proxy manager.

## **8. PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES**

Proxy voting will be conducted in compliance with the policies and practices described herein and is subject to the proxy manager's supervision. A reasonable effort should be made to obtain proxy material and to vote in a timely fashion. Each Investment Adviser shall maintain records regarding the voting of proxies under these Policies and Procedures.

## **9. FORM N-PX**

A record of each proxy vote will be entered on Form N-PX. A copy of each Form N-PX will be signed by the President of the Trust. The Form is to be filed by August 31 each year. Each reporting period covered by the Form N-PX runs from July 1 to June 30. The Trust will disclose in its annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders and in its registration statement (in the SAI) filed with the SEC on or after August 31 that each Fund's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is available without charge upon request and is also available on the SEC's Website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## **10. INVESTMENT ADVISERS' VOTING PROCEDURES**

The Trust acknowledges that the Investment Advisers to the various Funds have adopted voting policies and procedures for their clients that have been delivered to the Trust. To the extent that an Investment Adviser's policies and procedures are consistent with these Policies and Procedures, the Investment Adviser may implement them with

respect to voting proxies on behalf of each Fund managed by such Investment Adviser. However, the provisions of paragraph 5 of these Policies and Procedures relating to conflicts of interest shall supersede any comparable provisions of any Investment Adviser's policies and procedures.

Securities Lending: If a Fund engages in securities lending, the proxy voting procedures of the Adviser of such Fund will include information on the recall of lent securities for voting purposes. More information can be found in the Securities Lending Procedures of the Trust.

## **APPENDIX D – PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **WESTWOOD MANAGEMENT CORP. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROXY VOTING**

#### **Policy.**

Westwood, as a matter of policy and as a fiduciary to our clients, has a responsibility for voting proxies for portfolio securities in a manner that is consistent with the best economic interests of the clients. Our Firm maintains written policies and procedures as to the handling, research, voting and reporting of proxy voting and makes appropriate disclosures about our Firm's proxy policies and practices. Our policy and practice includes the responsibility to monitor corporate actions, receive and vote client proxies and disclose any potential conflicts of interest. In addition, our policy and practice is to make information available to clients about the voting of proxies for their portfolio securities and to maintain relevant and required records.

#### **Firm Specific Policy.**

Westwood has engaged Broadridge for assistance with the proxy voting process for our clients. Broadridge is a leading provider of full-service proxy voting services to the global financial industry. Westwood has also engaged Glass Lewis for assistance with proxy research and analysis. Glass Lewis provides complete analysis and voting recommendations on all proposals and is designed to assist investors in mitigating risk and improving long-term value. In most cases, Westwood agrees with Glass Lewis's recommendations; however, ballots are reviewed bi-monthly by our analysts and we may choose to vote differently than Glass Lewis if we believe it to be in the client's best interest. In addition, Westwood will implement "echo voting" (voting pro rata with all other shareholders) for investment company clients relying on Investment Company Act §12(d)(1)(F) and Rule 12d1-3 in order to allow certain purchases of other investment companies in excess of limits that would otherwise apply.

#### **Responsibility.**

Westwood's Data Management Team has the responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of our proxy voting policy, practices, disclosures and record keeping, including outlining our voting guidelines in our procedures.

#### **Background.**

Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders, and reasonable care and diligence must be taken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised.

Investment advisers who are registered with the SEC, and who exercise voting authority with respect to client securities, are required by Rule 206(4)-6 of the Advisers Act to (a) adopt and implement written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that client securities are voted in the best interests of clients, which must include how an adviser addresses material conflicts that may arise between an adviser's interests and those of its clients, (b) disclose to clients how they may obtain information from the adviser with respect to the voting of proxies for their securities, (c) describe a summary of its proxy voting policies and procedures and, upon request, to furnish a copy to its clients, and (d) to maintain certain records relating to the adviser's proxy voting activities when the adviser does have proxy voting authority.

#### **Procedure.**

Westwood has adopted the following procedures to implement the Firm's proxy voting policy, in addition to adopting the Glass Lewis Proxy Voting Guidelines. Westwood conducts reviews to monitor and ensure the Firm's policy is observed, implemented properly and amended or updated, as appropriate:

##### **Proxy Voting Records.**

With respect to proxy record keeping, the Data Management Team maintains complete files for all clients. These files include a listing of all proxy materials sent on behalf of our clients along with individual copies

of each response. Client access to these files can be arranged upon request. A voting summary will be furnished upon request.

#### **Voting Procedures.**

- a. All employees forward proxy materials received on behalf of clients to Broadridge. Westwood has engaged Broadridge for assistance with the proxy voting process for our clients and Glass Lewis provides voting recommendations;
- b. Broadridge has access to holders' records and determines which client accounts hold the security to which the proxy relates;
- c. Absent material conflicts, Broadridge, with the vote recommendations from Glass Lewis, determines how Westwood should vote the proxy in accordance with applicable voting guidelines;
- d. Westwood's analysts review the Glass Lewis proxy voting recommendations on a bi-monthly basis. The analysts may choose to vote differently than Glass Lewis if they believe it is in the best interest of the client or where a different vote is warranted in light of the respective investment strategy;
- e. If Westwood chooses to vote differently than Glass Lewis, then Westwood overwrites the Glass Lewis recommendation on the ProxyEdge platform. If Westwood agrees with the Glass Lewis recommendations, no action is necessary; and,
- f. Broadridge completes the proxy in a timely and appropriate manner.
- g. For certain investment companies managed by Westwood and approved by the CCO (each a "Westwood 12d1F Fund"), Westwood will implement echo voting for shares of other investment companies (each an "Acquired Fund") held by a Westwood 12d1F Fund. The Data Management Team will override any Glass Lewis proxy voting recommendations with respect to shares of an Acquired Funds held by a Westwood 12d1F Fund, and will instead, vote all such Acquired Fund shares pro rata with all other shareholders of each respective Acquired Fund. The Data Management Team will record any votes made with echo voting as overrides to the Glass Lewis recommendations.

#### **Disclosure.**

- a. Westwood provides required disclosures in Form ADV Part 2A, which summarizes these proxy voting policies and procedures and includes information whereby clients may request information regarding how Westwood voted the client's proxies;
- b. Westwood's disclosure summary includes a description of how clients may obtain a copy of the Firm's proxy voting policies and procedures. Westwood's proxy voting practice is disclosed in the Firm's advisory agreements.

#### **Client Requests for Information.**

- a. All client requests for information regarding proxy votes, or regarding policies and procedures that are received by any supervised person should be forwarded to the Data Management Team; and
- b. In response to any request, the Data Management Team prepares a written response with the information requested, and as applicable, includes the name of the issuer, the proposal voted upon, and how Westwood voted the client's proxy with respect to each proposal about which the client inquired.

#### **Voting Guidelines.**

- a. Westwood has engaged Broadridge and Glass Lewis for assistance with the proxy voting process for our clients; and
- b. Westwood analysts review the Glass Lewis proxy voting recommendations using the following guidelines:
  - i. In the absence of specific voting guidelines from the client, Westwood votes proxies in the best interests of each client;

- ii. Westwood's policy is to vote all proxies from a specific issuer the same way for each client absent qualifying restrictions or other mandates from a client;
- iii. Clients are permitted to place reasonable restrictions and mandates on Westwood's voting authority in the same manner that they may place such restrictions on the actual selection of account securities;
- iv. Westwood generally votes in favor of routine corporate housekeeping proposals such as the election of directors and selection of auditors absent conflicts of interest raised by an auditor's non-audit services;
- v. Westwood generally votes against proposals that cause board members to become entrenched or cause unequal voting rights; and
- vi. In reviewing proposals, Westwood further considers the opinion of management, the effect on management, and the effect on shareholder value and the issuer's business practices.

## APPENDIX E – PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### BROADMARK ASSET MANAGEMENT LLC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROXY VOTING

#### *Statement of Policy*

Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised. When Broadmark has discretion to vote the proxies of its clients, it will vote those proxies in the best interest of its clients and in accordance with these policies and procedures. Broadmark employs the services of Broadridge, an unaffiliated proxy firm, to assist in the electronic record keeping and management of the proxy process with respect to client securities.

#### *Proxy Voting Procedures*

Broadridge, through its ProxyEdge voting service, notifies Broadmark of annual meetings and ballots and provides the ability to manage, track, reconcile and report proxy voting through electronic delivery of ballots, online voting, integrated reporting and record keeping. The Director of Investment Operations is responsible for monitoring and cross referencing holdings and account information pertaining to the proxy received from ProxyEdge while the Chief Compliance Officer oversees the process to assure that all proxies are being properly voted and appropriate records are being retained.

All proxies received by Broadmark are sent to the Portfolio Manager. The Portfolio Manager then reviews the information and votes according to the guidelines set forth below.

#### *Voting Guidelines*

In the absence of specific voting guidelines from the client, Broadmark will vote proxies in the best interests of each particular client, which may result in different voting results for proxies for the same issuer. Broadmark believes that voting proxies in accordance with the following guidelines is in the best interests of its clients.

- Generally, Broadmark will vote in favor of routine corporate housekeeping proposals, including election of directors (where no corporate governance issues are implicated), selection of auditors, and increases in or reclassification of common stock.
- Generally, Broadmark will vote against proposals that make it more difficult to replace members of the issuer's board of directors, including proposals to stagger the board, cause management to be overrepresented on the board, introduce cumulative voting, introduce unequal voting rights, and create supermajority voting

For other proposals, Broadmark shall determine whether a proposal is in the best interests of its clients and may take into account the following factors, among others:

- whether the proposal was recommended by management and Broadmark's opinion of management;
- whether the proposal acts to entrench existing management; and
- whether the proposal fairly compensates management for past and future performance.

#### *Conflicts of Interest*

The Chief Compliance Officer with the Portfolio Manager will identify any conflicts that exist between the interests of Broadmark and its clients. This examination will include a review of the relationship of Broadmark and its affiliates with the issuer of each security and any of the issuer's affiliates to determine if

the issuer is a client of Broadmark or an affiliate of Broadmark or has some other relationship with Broadmark or a client of Broadmark.

If a material conflict exists, Broadmark will determine whether voting in accordance with the voting guidelines and factors described above is in the best interests of the client. Broadmark will also determine whether it is appropriate to disclose the conflict to the affected clients and, except in the case of clients that are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”), give the clients the opportunity to vote their proxies themselves. In the case of ERISA clients, if the Investment Management Agreement reserves to the ERISA client the authority to vote proxies when Broadmark determines it has a material conflict that affects its best judgment as an ERISA fiduciary, Broadmark will give the ERISA client the opportunity to vote the proxies themselves.