

# STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# Bluerock Total Income+ Real Estate Fund

Class A Shares (TIPRX), Class C Shares (TIPPX), Class I Shares (TIPWX), Class L Shares (TIPLX) and Class M Shares (TIPMX) of Beneficial Interest

### BLUEROCK TOTAL INCOME+ REAL ESTATE FUND

Principal Executive Offices 1345 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor, New York, NY 10105 1-844-819-8287

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus. This SAI should be read in conjunction with the Class A, Class C, Class I, Class L and Class M shares' prospectuses of Bluerock Total Income+ Real Estate Fund, each dated February 1, 2024, (each a "Prospectus" and collectively, the "Prospectuses"), each which may be supplemented from time to time. The Prospectuses are hereby incorporated by reference into this SAI (legally made a part of this SAI). Capitalized terms used but not defined in this SAI have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus. This SAI does not include all information that a prospective investor should consider before purchasing the Fund's securities.

You should obtain and read the relevant share class Prospectus and any related Prospectus supplement prior to purchasing any of the Fund's securities. A copy of the Prospectuses may be obtained without charge by calling the Fund toll-free at 1-844-819-8287 or by visiting http://www.bluerockfunds.com. Information on the website is not incorporated herein by reference. The registration statement of which the Prospectuses are a part can be reviewed and copied at the Public Reference Room of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-202-551-8090. The Fund's filings with the SEC also are available to the public on the SEC's Internet web site at www.sec.gov. Copies of these filings may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following E-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549.



 $\label{eq:linear_constraint} Investment\ Advisor\ |\ \textbf{Bluerock}\ \textbf{Fund}\ \textbf{Advisor}, \\ \textbf{LLC}$ 

The date of this SAI is February 1, 2024

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### GENERAL INFORMATION AND HISTORY

Bluerock Total Income+ Real Estate Fund is a continuously offered, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that is operated as an interval fund (the "Fund" or the "Trust"). The Fund was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on May 25, 2012. The Fund's principal office is located at 1345 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor, New York, NY 10105, and its telephone number is 1-844-819-8287. The investment objective and principal investment strategies of the Fund, as well as the principal risks associated with the Fund's investment strategies, are set forth in the Prospectuses. Certain additional investment information is set forth below. The Fund may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest. All shares of the Fund have equal rights and privileges. Each share of the Fund is entitled to one vote on all matters as to which shares are entitled to vote. In addition, each share of the Fund is entitled to participate, on a class-specific basis, equally with other shares (i) in dividends and distributions declared by the Fund and (ii) on liquidation to its proportionate share of the assets remaining after satisfaction of outstanding liabilities. Shares of the Fund are fully paid, non-assessable and fully transferable when issued and have no pre-emptive, conversion or exchange rights. Fractional shares have proportionately the same rights, including voting rights, as are provided for a full share.

The Fund engages in continuous offerings of: Class A, Class C, Class I, Class L and Class M shares. Each class of shares is offered by a separate prospectus. Each share class represents an interest in the same assets of the Fund, has the same rights and is identical in all material respects except that (i) each class of shares may be subject to different (or no) sales loads, (ii) each class of shares may bear different (or no) distribution and shareholder servicing fees; (iii) each class of shares may have different shareholder features, such as minimum investment amounts; (iv) certain other class-specific expenses will be borne solely by the class to which such expenses are attributable, including transfer agent fees attributable to a specific class of shares, printing and postage expenses related to preparing and distributing materials to current shareholders of a specific class, registration fees paid by a specific class of shares, the expenses of administrative personnel and services required to support the shareholders of a specific class, litigation or other legal expenses relating to a class of shares, Trustees' fees or expenses paid as a result of issues relating to a specific class of shares and accounting fees and expenses relating to a specific class of shares and (v) each class has exclusive voting rights with respect to matters relating to its own distribution arrangements. The Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board" or "Trustees") may classify and reclassify the shares of the Fund into additional classes of shares at a future date.

# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

# **Investment Objectives**

The Fund's primary investment objective is to generate current income while secondarily seeking long-term capital appreciation with low to moderate volatility and low correlation to the broader markets.

### **Fundamental Policies**

The Fund's stated fundamental policies, which may only be changed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (the shares), are listed below. For the purposes of this SAI, "majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund" means the vote, at an annual or special meeting of shareholders, duly called, (a) of 67% or more of the shares present at such meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present or represented by proxy; or (b) of more than 50% of the outstanding shares, whichever is less. The Fund may not:

(1) Borrow money, except to the extent permitted by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (which currently limits borrowing to no more than 33-1/3% of the value of the Fund's total assets, including the value of the assets purchased with the proceeds of its indebtedness, if any). The Fund may borrow for investment purposes, for temporary liquidity, or to finance repurchases of its shares.

- (2) Issue senior securities, except to the extent permitted by Section 18 of the 1940 Act (which currently limits the issuance of a class of senior securities that is indebtedness to no more than 33-1/3% of the value of the Fund's total assets or, if the class of senior security is stock, to no more than 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets).
  - (3) Purchase securities on margin, but may sell securities short and write put and call options.
- (4) Underwrite securities of other issuers, except insofar as the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") in connection with the disposition of its portfolio securities. The Fund may invest in restricted securities (those that must be registered under the Securities Act before they may be offered or sold to the public) to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.
- (5) Invest more than 25% of the market value of its assets in the securities of companies or entities engaged in any one industry, except the real estate industry. This limitation does not apply to investment in the securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests over 25% of its assets in the securities of companies in the real estate industry.
- (6) Purchase or sell commodities, commodity contracts, including commodity futures contracts, unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other investments, except that the Fund may invest in securities or other instruments backed by or linked to commodities, and invest in companies that are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities, and may invest in commodity pools and other entities that purchase and sell commodities and commodity contracts.
- (7) Make loans to others, except (a) where each loan is represented by a note executed by the borrower, (b) through the purchase of debt securities in accordance with its investment objectives and policies, (c) to the extent the entry into a repurchase agreement is deemed to be a loan, and (d) by loaning portfolio securities.

### Other Fundamental Policies

- (1) In addition, the Fund has adopted a fundamental policy that it will make quarterly repurchase offers for no less than for 5% of the Fund's shares outstanding at net asset value ("NAV") less any early withdrawal charge, unless suspended or postponed in accordance with regulatory requirements, and each repurchase pricing shall occur no later than the 14th day after the Repurchase Request Deadline, or the next business day if the 14th is not a business day.
- (2) The Fund may invest in real estate or interests in real estate, securities that are secured by or represent interests in real estate (e.g. mortgage loans evidenced by notes or other writings defined to be a type of security), mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including real estate investment trusts).

If a restriction on the Fund's investments is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a subsequent change in the percentage of Fund assets invested in certain securities or other instruments, or change in average duration of the Fund's investment portfolio, resulting from changes in the value of the Fund's total assets, will not be considered a violation of the restriction; provided, however, that the asset coverage requirement applicable to borrowings shall be maintained in the manner contemplated by applicable law.

### **Non-Fundamental Policies**

The following are additional investment limitations of the Fund and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval.

(1) <u>80% Investment Policy.</u> The Fund has adopted a policy to invest at least 80% of its assets (defined as net assets plus the amount of any borrowing for investment purposes) in real estate industry securities, as defined in the Prospectus. Shareholders of the Fund will be provided with at least 60 days prior notice of any change in the Fund's 80% policy. The notice will be provided in a separate written document containing the following, or similar, statement, in boldface type: "Important Notice Regarding Change in Investment Policy." The statement will also appear on the envelope in which the notice is delivered, unless the notice is delivered separately from other communications to the shareholder.

If a restriction on a Fund's investments is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a subsequent change in the percentage of Fund assets invested in certain securities or other instruments, or change in average duration of a Fund's investment portfolio, resulting from changes in the value of a Fund's total assets, will not be considered a violation of the restriction; provided, however, that the asset coverage requirement applicable to borrowings shall be maintained in the manner contemplated by applicable law.

# **Certain Portfolio Securities and Other Operating Policies**

As discussed in the Prospectus, the Fund invests in securities of Institutional Investment Funds, Other Public Investment Vehicles, Real Estate Related Debt Securities and other real estate industry securities. No assurance can be given that any or all investment strategies, or the Fund's investment program, will be successful. The Fund's investment advisor is Bluerock Fund Advisor, LLC (the "Advisor"). The Advisor is responsible for allocating the Fund's assets among various securities using its investment strategies, subject to policies adopted by the Board. Additional information regarding the types of securities and financial instruments is set forth below.

### **Convertible Securities**

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are hybrid securities that have characteristics of both bonds and common stocks and are subject to risks associated with both debt securities and equity securities. Convertible securities are similar to fixed-income securities because they usually pay a fixed interest rate (or dividend) and are obligated to repay principal on a given date in the future. The market value of fixed-income and preferred securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and tends to increase as interest rates decline. Convertible securities have characteristics of a fixedincome security and are particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates when their conversion value is lower than the value of the bond or preferred share. Fixed-income and preferred securities also are subject to credit risk, which is the risk that an issuer of a security may not be able to make principal and interest or dividend payments on the security as they become due. Fixed-income and preferred securities also may be subject to prepayment or redemption risk. If a convertible security held by the Fund is called for redemption, the Fund will be required to surrender the security for redemption, convert it into the issuing company's common stock or cash or sell it to a third party at a time that may be unfavorable to the Fund. In addition, the Fund may invest in fixed-income and preferred securities rated less than investment grade that are sometimes referred to as high yield or "junk bonds." These securities are speculative investments that carry greater risks and are more susceptible to real or perceived adverse economic and competitive industry conditions than higher quality securities. Such securities also may be subject to resale restrictions. The lack of a liquid market for these securities could decrease the Fund's share price. Convertible securities have characteristics similar to common stocks especially when their conversion value is the same as the value of the bond or preferred share. The price of equity securities may rise or fall because of economic or political changes. Stock prices in general may decline over short or even extended periods of time. Market prices of equity securities in broad market segments may be adversely affected by a prominent issuer having experienced losses or by the lack of earnings or such an issuer's failure to meet the market's expectations with respect to new products or services, or even by factors wholly unrelated to the value or condition of the issuer, such as changes in interest rates.

### **Institutional Investment Funds**

The Fund attempts to achieve its investment objectives by allocating its capital among a select group of institutional asset managers with expertise in managing portfolios of real estate and real estate related securities. Institutional Investment Funds typically accept investments on a continuous basis, have quarterly repurchases, and do not have a defined termination date.

In addition to diversification across property type and geographic markets, Institutional Investment Funds may diversify by differing underlying economic drivers, including anticipated job growth, population growth or inflation. No specific limits have been established within the Fund's investment guidelines for property type and geographic investments; however, many of the Institutional Investment Funds have NAV limitations for any one individual property held by such Funds relative to the NAV of the Institutional Investment Fund's overall portfolio. While some institutional asset managers will seek diversification across property types, certain Institutional Investment Funds may have a more specific focus and not seek such diversification, but instead utilize an investment strategy utilizing expertise within specific or multiple property categories.

The Institutional Investment Funds may utilize leverage, pursuant to their operative documents, as a way to seek or enhance returns. Dependent upon the investment strategy, geographic focus and/or other economic or property specific factors, each Institutional Investment Fund will have differing limitations on the utilization of leverage. Such limitations are Institutional Investment Fund specific and may apply to an overall portfolio limitation as well as a property specific limitation. The Fund intends to limit its direct borrowing and the overall leverage of its portfolio to an amount that does not exceed 33 1/3% of the Fund's gross asset value.

### **Real Estate Related Debt Securities**

The Fund may invest in real estate related debt securities. The Advisor makes all investment decisions with respect to non-publicly traded real estate related debt securities, utilizing research and information provided by RREEF America L.L.C. ("RREEF"), a sub-advisor to the Fund.

# **K-Notes**

The Fund may invest in Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Structured Pass-Through Certificates, known as "K-Notes." K-Notes are securitized interests in pools of multifamily mortgages that are assembled by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") and issued by special purpose trusts. K-Notes are issued with varying levels of maturity and seniority. Some K-Notes are repurchased and reissued by Freddie Mac with a Freddie Mac guarantee, while other K-Notes do not have a Freddie Mac guarantee. The Fund expects to invest in the privately offered subordinate classes of K-Notes. Because more-senior classes have payment priority over subordinate classes of K-Notes, the value of subordinate K-Notes is highly sensitive to the default rate and foreclosure recovery rate on the underlying apartment loans. Subordinate K-Notes are also subject to liquidity risk because they are not available to the investing public and have a limited secondary market composed of institutional investors.

### **Money Market Instruments**

The Fund may invest, for defensive purposes or otherwise, some or all of its assets in high quality fixed-income securities, money market instruments, and money market mutual funds, or hold cash or cash equivalents in such amounts as the Fund or RREEF deems appropriate under the circumstances. Pending allocation of this offering proceeds and thereafter, from time to time, the Fund also may invest in these instruments and Other Public Investment Vehicles. Money market instruments are high quality, short-term fixed-income obligations, which generally have remaining maturities of one year or less, and may include U.S. Government securities, commercial paper, certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances issued by domestic branches of U.S. banks that are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC"), and repurchase agreements.

# **Other Investment Companies**

The Fund may invest in securities of other investment companies, including exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"). The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by investment companies in which it invests, in addition to the management fees (and other expenses) paid by the Fund. The Fund's investments in other investment companies are subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the 1940 Act, including in certain circumstances a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in the securities of all investment companies. In addition, Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act provides that the provisions of paragraph 12(d)(1) shall not apply to securities purchased or otherwise acquired by the Fund if (i) immediately after such purchase or acquisition not more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such registered investment company is owned by the Fund and all affiliated persons of the Fund; and (ii) the Fund has not, and is not proposing to offer or sell any security issued by it through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price which includes a sales load of more than 1.5%. An investment company that issues shares to the Fund pursuant to paragraph 12(d)(1)(F) shall not be required to redeem its shares in an amount exceeding 1% of such investment company's total outstanding shares in any period of less than thirty days. The Fund (or the Advisor acting on behalf of the Fund) must comply with the following voting restrictions: when the Fund exercises voting rights, by proxy or otherwise, with respect to investment companies owned by the Fund, the Fund will either seek instruction from the Fund's shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies and vote in accordance with such instructions, or vote the shares held by the Fund in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such security. Further, the Fund may rely on Rule 12d1-3, which allows unaffiliated investment companies to exceed the 5% Limitation and the 10% Limitation, provided the aggregate sales loads any investor pays does not exceed the limits on sales loads established by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") for funds of funds. Many ETFs, however, have obtained exemptive relief from the SEC to permit unaffiliated funds (such as the Fund) to invest in their shares beyond these statutory limits, subject to certain conditions and pursuant to contractual arrangements between the ETFs and the investing funds. The Fund may rely on these exemptive orders in investing in ETFs.

ETFs are shares of unaffiliated investment companies issuing shares which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national stock exchange. Much like an index mutual fund, an ETF represents a portfolio of securities, which is often designed to track a particular market segment or index. An investment in an ETF, like one in any investment company, carries the same risks as those of its underlying securities. An ETF may fail to accurately track the returns of the market segment or index that it is designed to track, and the price of an ETF's shares may fluctuate or lose money. In addition, because they, unlike other investment companies, are traded on an exchange, ETFs are subject to the following risks: (i) the market price of the ETF's shares may trade at a premium or discount to the ETF's net asset value; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF may not develop or be maintained; and (iii) there is no assurance that the requirements of the exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the ETF will continue to be met or remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting ETFs should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected.

Although not a principal investment strategy, the Fund may not invest more than 10% of its assets in private funds employing hedging strategies (commonly known as "hedge funds", i.e., investment funds that would be investment companies but for the exemptions under Rule 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) under the 1940 Act). Among other things, the hedge funds may invest in U.S. and non-U.S. equity and debt securities and may engage in leverage, short selling and derivative transactions. Hedge funds typically offer their securities privately without registration under the Securities Act, in large minimum denominations (often at least \$1 million) to a limited number of high net worth individual and institutional investors hedge funds are not registered as investment companies under the 1940 Act pursuant to an exemption from registration under the 1940 Act.

Typically, investment managers of hedge funds are compensated through asset-based fees and incentive-based allocations. The hedge funds employ a variety of "alternative" investment strategies to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns (i.e., returns adjusted to take into account the volatility of those returns) with low correlation to the broad equity and fixed-income markets. "Alternative" investment strategies, unlike "relative return strategies," are generally managed without reference to the performance of equity, debt and other markets. Alternative investment strategies permit the managers of hedge funds to use leveraged or short sale positions to take advantage of perceived inefficiencies in the global capital markets. Alternative investment strategies differ from the investment programs of traditional registered investment companies, such as mutual funds. "Traditional" investment companies are generally characterized by long-only investments and restricted use of leverage.

# **Special Investment Techniques**

The Fund may use a variety of special investment instruments and techniques to hedge against various risks or other factors and variables that may affect the values of the Fund's portfolio securities. The Fund may employ different techniques over time, as new instruments and techniques are introduced or as a result of regulatory developments. Some special investment techniques that the Fund may use may be considered speculative and involve a high degree of risk, even when used for hedging purposes. A hedging transaction may not perform as anticipated, and the Fund may suffer losses as a result of its hedging activities.

### Derivatives

**Generally**. The Fund may engage in transactions involving options and futures and other derivative financial instruments. Derivatives can be volatile and involve various types and degrees of risk. By using derivatives, the Fund may be permitted to increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, to which the portfolio is exposed.

A small investment in derivatives could have a substantial impact on the Fund's performance. The market for many derivatives is, or suddenly can become, illiquid. Changes in liquidity may result in significant and rapid changes in the prices for derivatives. If the Fund were to invest in derivatives at an inopportune time, or the Advisor evaluates market conditions incorrectly, the Fund's derivative investment could negatively impact the Fund's return, or result in a loss. In addition, the Fund could experience a loss if its derivatives were poorly correlated with its other investments, or if the Fund were unable to liquidate its position because of an illiquid secondary market.

**Options and Futures.** The Fund may engage in the use of options and futures contracts, including options on baskets of specific securities, or other derivative instruments written by broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries. These transactions may be effected on securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market, or they may be negotiated directly with counterparties. In cases where instruments are purchased over-the-counter or negotiated directly with counterparties, the Fund is subject to the risk that the counterparty will be unable or unwilling to perform its obligations under the contract. These transactions may also be illiquid and, if so, it might be difficult to close out a position.

The Fund may purchase call and put options on specific securities. The Fund may also write and sell covered or uncovered call options for both hedging purposes and to pursue the Fund's investment objectives. A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and obligates the writer to buy, the underlying security at a stated price at any time before the option expires. Similarly, a call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and obligates the writer to sell, the underlying security at a stated price at any time before the option expires.

In a covered call option, the Fund owns the underlying security. The sale of such an option exposes the Fund to a potential loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security during the term of the option. Using covered call options might expose the Fund to other risks, as well. For example, the Fund might be required to continue holding a security that the Fund might otherwise have sold to protect against depreciation in the market price of the security. The Fund is also exposed to price declines in the underlying security.

In an uncovered call option, the Fund does not own the underlying security. The sale of such an option exposes the Fund to potentially unlimited loss if the market for the instrument for which the call is written appreciates instead of depreciating. The Fund does not anticipate writing uncovered call options frequently.

Transactions using options, either covered or uncovered (other than options that the Fund has purchased), expose the Fund to an obligation to another party. The Fund will not enter into any such transactions unless it owns either (i) an offsetting ("covered") position in securities or other options or (ii) cash or liquid securities with a value sufficient at all times to cover its potential obligations not covered as provided in (i) above ("uncovered"). The Fund will comply with SEC guidelines regarding cover for these instruments and, if the guidelines so require, set aside cash or liquid securities in a segregated account with the custodian in the prescribed amount. Under current SEC guidelines, the Fund will segregate assets to cover transactions in which the Fund writes or sells options.

Assets used as cover or held in a segregated account cannot be sold while the position in the corresponding option is open, unless they are replaced with similar assets. As a result, the commitment of a large portion of the Fund's assets to cover or segregated accounts could impede portfolio management or the Fund's ability to meet redemption requests or other current obligations.

When writing options, the Fund may close its position by purchasing an option on the same security with the same exercise price and expiration date as the option that it has previously written on the security. If the amount paid to purchase an option is less or more than the amount received from the sale, the Fund will, accordingly, realize a profit or loss. To close out a position as a purchaser of an option, the Fund would liquidate the position by selling the option previously purchased.

The use of derivatives that are subject to regulation by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "CFTC") by the Fund could cause the Fund to be a commodity pool, which would require the Fund to comply with certain rules of the CFTC. However, the Fund intends to conduct its operations to avoid regulation as a commodity pool. In connection with its management of the Fund, the Advisor has claimed such an exclusion from the definition of a commodity pool operator under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). Therefore, it is not subject to the registration and regulatory requirements of the CEA.

Successful use of futures also is subject to the Advisor's ability to correctly predict movements in the relevant market. To the extent that a transaction is entered into for hedging purposes, successful use is also subject to the Advisor's ability to evaluate the appropriate correlation between the transaction being hedged and the price movements of the futures contract.

The Fund may also purchase and sell stock index futures contracts. A stock index futures contract obligates the Fund to pay or receive an amount of cash equal to a fixed dollar amount specified in the futures contract, multiplied by the difference between the settlement price of the contract on the contract's last trading day, and the value of the index based on the stock prices of the securities that comprise it at the opening of trading in those securities on the next business day. The Fund may purchase and sell interest rate futures contracts, which represent obligations to purchase or sell an amount of a specific debt security at a future date at a specific price.

**Options on Securities Indexes.** The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options on stock indexes listed on national securities exchanges or traded in the over-the-counter market for hedging or speculative purposes. A stock index fluctuates with changes in the market values of the stocks included in the index. Accordingly, successful use of options on stock indexes will be subject to the Advisor's ability to correctly evaluate movements in the stock market generally, or of a particular industry or market segment. Uncovered call options expose the Fund to potentially unlimited liability. Uncovered put options expose the Fund to potential losses equal to the strike price of the put option less the premium received.

Swap Agreements. The Fund may enter into a variety of swap agreements, including equity, interest rate, and index swap agreements. The Fund is not limited to any particular form of swap agreement if the Advisor determines that other forms are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives and policies. Swap agreements are contracts entered into by two parties (primarily institutional investors) for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than a year. In a standard swap transaction, the 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. Additional forms of swap agreements include (i) interest rate caps, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent interest rates exceed a specified rate or "cap;" (ii) interest rate floors, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent interest rates fall below a specified level or "floor;" and (iii) 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 certain minimum or maximum levels.

Generally, the Fund's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement will 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 the parties. The risk of loss is limited to the net amount of interest payments that a party is contractually required to make. As such, if the counterparty to a swap defaults, the Fund's risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that it is entitled to receive.

### **Non-Diversified Status**

Because the Fund is "non-diversified" under the 1940 Act, it is subject only to certain federal tax diversification requirements. Under federal tax laws, the Fund may, with respect to 50% of its total assets, invest up to 25% of its total assets in the securities of any issuer. With respect to the remaining 50% of the Fund's total assets, (i) the Fund may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer, and (ii) the Fund may not acquire more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer. These tests apply at the end of each quarter of the taxable year and are subject to certain conditions and limitations under the Code. These tests do not apply to investments in United States Government Securities and regulated investment companies.

# When-Issued, Delayed Delivery and Forward Commitment Securities

To reduce the risk of changes in securities prices and interest rates, the Fund may purchase securities on a forward commitment, when- issued or delayed delivery basis. This means that delivery and payment occur a number of days after the date of the commitment to purchase. The payment obligation and the interest rate receivable with respect to such purchases are determined when the Fund enters into the commitment, but the Fund does not make payment until it receives delivery from the counterparty. The Fund may, if it is deemed advisable, sell the securities after it commits to a purchase but before delivery and settlement takes place.

Securities purchased on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis are subject to changes in value based upon the public's perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and changes (either real or anticipated) in the level of interest rates. Purchasing securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis can present the risk that the yield available in the market when the delivery takes place may be higher than that obtained in the transaction itself. Purchasing securities on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis when the Fund is fully, or almost fully invested, results in a form of leverage and may cause greater fluctuation in the value of the net assets of the Fund. In addition, there is a risk that securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis may not be delivered, and that the purchaser of securities sold by the Fund on a forward basis will not honor its purchase obligation. In such cases, the Fund may incur a loss.

### REPURCHASES AND TRANSFERS OF SHARES

# **Repurchase Offers**

The Board has adopted a resolution setting forth the Fund's fundamental policy that it will conduct quarterly repurchase offers (the "Repurchase Offer Policy"). The Repurchase Offer Policy sets the interval between each repurchase offer at one quarter and provides that the Fund shall conduct a repurchase offer each quarter (unless suspended or postponed in accordance with regulatory requirements). The Repurchase Offer Policy also provides that the repurchase pricing shall occur not later than the 14th day after the Repurchase Request Deadline or the next business day if the 14th day is not a business day. The Fund's Repurchase Offer Policy is fundamental and cannot be changed without shareholder approval. The Fund may, for the purpose of paying for repurchased shares, be required to liquidate portfolio holdings earlier than the Advisor would otherwise have liquidated these holdings. Such liquidations may result in losses, and may increase the Fund's portfolio turnover.

# Repurchase Offer Policy Summary of Terms

- 1. The Fund will make repurchase offers at periodic intervals pursuant to Rule 23c-3 under the 1940 Act, as that rule may be amended from time to time.
- 2. The repurchase offers will generally be made quarterly.

- 3. The Fund must receive repurchase requests submitted by shareholders in response to the Fund's repurchase offer on or before the date specified in the repurchase offer, which will be within 21 to 42 days of the date the repurchase offer is made (or the preceding business day if the New York Stock Exchange is closed on that day) (the "Repurchase Request Deadline").
- 4. The maximum time between the Repurchase Request Deadline and the next date on which the Fund determines the net asset value applicable to the purchase of shares (the "Repurchase Pricing Date") is 14 calendar days (or the next business day if the fourteenth day is not a business day).

The Fund may not condition a repurchase offer upon the tender of any minimum amount of shares. The Fund may deduct from the repurchase proceeds an early withdrawal charge that is paid to the Fund and that is reasonably intended to compensate the Fund for expenses directly related to the repurchase. The early withdrawal charge may not exceed 2% of the proceeds. Generally, the Fund does not charge an early withdrawal charge. However, Class A shareholders who tender for repurchase Class A shares that were purchased in amounts of \$1,000,000 or more and that have been held, less than one year (365 days) following such shareholder's initial purchase will be subject to an early withdrawal charge of 1.00% of the original purchase price of the shares repurchased by the Fund. Additionally, Class C shareholders who tender for repurchase of Class C shares that have been held, less than one year (365 days) following such shareholder's initial purchase, will be subject to an early withdrawal charge of 1.00% of the value of the original purchase price. The Fund's distributor, ALPS Distributors, Inc. (the "Distributor"), may waive the imposition of the early withdrawal charge in the following shareholder situations: (1) shareholder death or (2) shareholder disability. Any such waiver does not imply that the early withdrawal charge will be waived at any time in the future or that such early withdrawal charge will be waived for any other shareholder. Class I, Class L and Class M shares are not subject to an early withdrawal charge.

**Procedures:** All periodic repurchase offers must comply with the following procedures:

<u>Repurchase Offer Amount:</u> Each quarter, the Fund may offer to repurchase at least 5% and no more than 25% of the Fund's outstanding shares on the Repurchase Request Deadline (the "Repurchase Offer Amount"). The Board shall determine the quarterly Repurchase Offer Amount.

<u>Shareholder Notification:</u> At least 21 days before each Repurchase Request Deadline, the Fund shall send to each shareholder of record and to each beneficial owner of the shares that are the subject of the repurchase offer a notification ("Shareholder Notification") providing the following information:

- 1. A statement that the Fund is offering to repurchase its shares from shareholders at net asset value;
- 2. Any fees applicable to such repurchase, if any;
- 3. The Repurchase Offer Amount;
- 4. The dates of the Repurchase Request Deadline, Repurchase Pricing Date, and the date by which the Fund must pay shareholders for any shares repurchased (which shall not be more than seven days after the Repurchase Pricing Date) (the "Repurchase Payment Deadline");
- 5. The risk of fluctuation in net asset value between the Repurchase Request Deadline and the Repurchase Pricing Date, and the possibility that the Fund may use an earlier Repurchase Pricing Date;
- 6. The procedures for shareholders to request repurchase of their shares and the right of shareholders to withdraw or modify their repurchase requests until the Repurchase Request Deadline;
- 7. The procedures under which the Fund may repurchase such shares on a pro rata basis if shareholders tender more than the Repurchase Offer Amount;
- 8. The circumstances in which the Fund may suspend or postpone a repurchase offer;

- 9. The net asset value of the shares computed no more than seven days before the date of the notification and the means by which shareholders may ascertain the net asset value thereafter; and
- 10. The market price, if any, of the shares on the date on which such net asset value was computed, and the means by which shareholders may ascertain the market price thereafter.

The Fund must file Form N-23c-3 ("Notification of Repurchase Offer") and three copies of the Shareholder Notification with the SEC within three business days after sending the notification to shareholders.

<u>Notification of Beneficial Owners</u>: Where the Fund knows that shares subject of a repurchase offer are held of record by a broker, dealer, voting trustee, bank, association or other entity that exercises fiduciary powers in nominee name or otherwise, the Fund must follow the procedures for transmitting materials to beneficial owners of securities that are set forth in Rule 14a-13 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

<u>Repurchase Requests:</u> Repurchase requests must be submitted by shareholders by the Repurchase Request Deadline. The Fund shall permit repurchase requests to be withdrawn or modified at any time until the Repurchase Request Deadline, but shall not permit repurchase requests to be withdrawn or modified after the Repurchase Request Deadline.

Repurchase Requests in Excess of the Repurchase Offer Amount: If shareholders tender more than the Repurchase Offer Amount, the Fund may, but is not required to, repurchase an additional amount of shares not to exceed 2% of the outstanding shares of the Fund on the Repurchase Request Deadline. If the Fund determines not to repurchase more than the Repurchase Offer Amount, or if shareholders tender shares in an amount exceeding the Repurchase Offer Amount plus 2% of the outstanding shares on the Repurchase Request Deadline, the Fund shall repurchase the shares tendered on a pro rata basis. This policy, however, does not prohibit the Fund from:

- 1. Accepting all repurchase requests by persons who own, beneficially or of record, an aggregate of not more than 100 shares and who tender all of their stock for repurchase, before prorating shares tendered by others, or
- 2. Accepting by lot shares tendered by shareholders who request repurchase of all shares held by them and who, when tendering their shares, elect to have either (i) all or none or (ii) at least a minimum amount or none accepted, if the Fund first accepts all shares tendered by shareholders who do not make this election.

<u>Suspension or Postponement of Repurchase Offers:</u> The Fund shall not suspend or postpone a repurchase offer except pursuant to a vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of the Fund, and only:

- 1. If the repurchase would cause the Fund to lose its status as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code;
- 2. If the repurchase would cause the shares that are the subject of the offer that are either listed on a national securities exchange or quoted in an inter-dealer quotation system of a national securities association to be neither listed on any national securities exchange nor quoted on any inter-dealer quotation system of a national securities association;
- 3. For any period during which the New York Stock Exchange or any other market in which the securities owned by the Fund are principally traded is closed, other than customary week-end and holiday closings, or during which trading in such market is restricted;
- 4. For any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal by the Fund of securities owned by it is not reasonably practicable, or during which it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund fairly to determine the value of its net assets; or
- 5. For such other periods as the SEC may by order permit for the protection of shareholders of the Fund.

If a repurchase offer is suspended or postponed, the Fund shall provide notice to shareholders of such suspension or postponement. If the Fund renews the repurchase offer, the Fund shall send a new Shareholder Notification to shareholders.

Computing Net Asset Value: The Fund's current net asset value per share ("NAV") shall be computed no less frequently than weekly, and daily on the five business days preceding a Repurchase Request Deadline, on such days and at such specific time or times during the day as set by the Board. Currently, the Board has determined that the Fund's NAV shall be determined daily following the close of the New York Stock Exchange. The Fund's NAV need not be calculated on:

- 1. Days on which changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio securities will not materially affect the current NAV of the shares;
- 2. Days during which no order to purchase shares is received, other than days when the NAV would otherwise be computed; or
- 3. Customary national, local, and regional business holidays described or listed in the Prospectuses.

Liquidity Requirements: From the time the Fund sends a Shareholder Notification to shareholders until the Repurchase Pricing Date, a percentage of the Fund's assets equal to at least 100% of the Repurchase Offer Amount (the "Liquidity Amount") shall consist of assets that individually can be sold or disposed of in the ordinary course of business, at approximately the price at which the Fund has valued the investment, within a period equal to the period between a Repurchase Request Deadline and the Repurchase Payment Deadline, or of assets that mature by the next Repurchase Payment Deadline, and/or through access to a line of credit. This requirement means that individual assets must be salable under these circumstances. It does not require that the entire Liquidity Amount must be salable. In the event that the Fund's assets fail to comply with this requirement, the Board shall cause the Fund to take such action as it deems appropriate to ensure compliance.

<u>Liquidity Policy</u>: The Board may delegate day-to-day responsibility for evaluating liquidity of specific assets to the Fund's investment advisor, but shall continue to be responsible for monitoring the investment advisor's performance of its duties and the composition of the portfolio. Accordingly, the Board has approved this policy that is reasonably designed to ensure that the Fund's portfolio assets are sufficiently liquid so that the Fund can comply with its fundamental policy on repurchases and comply with the liquidity requirements in the preceding paragraph.

- 1. In evaluating liquidity, the following factors are relevant, but not necessarily determinative:
  - a. The frequency of trades and quotes for the security.
  - b. The number of dealers willing to purchase or sell the security and the number of potential purchasers.
  - c. Dealer undertakings to make a market in the security.
  - d. The nature of the marketplace trades (e.g., the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offer and the mechanics of transfer).
  - e. The size of the Fund's holdings of a given security in relation to the total amount of outstanding of such security or to the average trading volume for the security.

- f. The availability of the line of credit.
- 2. If market developments impair the liquidity of a security, the investment advisor should review the advisability of retaining the security in the portfolio. The investment advisor should report the basis for its determination to retain a security at the next Board meeting.
- 3. The Board shall review the overall composition and liquidity of the Fund's portfolio on a quarterly basis.
- 4. These procedures may be modified as the Board deems necessary.

<u>Registration Statement Disclosure:</u> The Fund's registration statement must disclose its intention to make or consider making such repurchase offers.

Annual Report Disclosure: The Fund shall include in its annual report to shareholders the following:

- 1. Disclosure of its fundamental policy regarding periodic repurchase offers.
- 2. Disclosure regarding repurchase offers by the Fund during the period covered by the annual report, which disclosure shall include:
  - a. the number of repurchase offers,
  - b. the repurchase offer amount and the amount tendered in each repurchase offer,
  - c. and the extent to which in any repurchase offer the Fund repurchased stock pursuant to the procedures in this section.

Advertising: The Fund, or any underwriter for the Fund, must comply, as if the Fund were an open-end investment company, with the provisions of Section 24(b) of the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder and file, if necessary, with FINRA or the SEC any advertisement, pamphlet, circular, form letter, or other sales literature addressed to or intended for distribution to prospective investors.

# **Involuntary Repurchases**

The Fund may, in accordance with Section 23 of the 1940 Act, and any applicable rules thereunder, at any time, repurchase, at net asset value, shares held by a shareholder, or any person acquiring shares from or through a shareholder, without shareholder consent if: the shares have been transferred to or have vested in any other person other than by operation of law as the result of the death, dissolution, bankruptcy or incompetency of a shareholder; ownership of the shares by the shareholder or other person will cause the Fund to be in violation of, or require registration of the shares, or subject the Fund to additional registration or regulation under, the securities, commodities or other laws of the United States or any other relevant jurisdiction; continued ownership of the shares may be harmful or injurious to the business or reputation of the Fund or may subject the Fund or any shareholders to an undue risk of adverse tax or other fiscal consequences; the shareholder owns shares having an aggregate net asset value less than an amount determined from time to time by the Trustees; or it would be in the interests of the Fund, as determined by the Board, for the Fund to repurchase the Shares.

#### **Transfers of Shares**

No person may become a substituted shareholder without the written consent of the Board, which consent may be withheld for any reason in the Board's sole and absolute discretion. Shares may be transferred only (i) by operation of law pursuant to the death, bankruptcy, insolvency or dissolution of a shareholder or (ii) with the written consent of the Board, which may be withheld in its sole and absolute discretion. The Board may, in its discretion, delegate to the Advisor its authority to consent to transfers of shares. Each shareholder and transferee is required to pay all expenses, including attorneys and accountants fees, incurred by the Fund in connection with such transfer.

### Other Information About Determination of NAV

The Fund may hold investments, such as private placements or other non-traded securities or temporarily illiquid securities, for which market quotations are not readily available or are determined to be unreliable. These investments will be valued at their fair market value as determined in good faith by the Advisor, in its capacity as the Board's valuation designee, pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act. As the valuation designee, the Advisor executes the Fund's valuation policies and acts under the Board's oversight. The Board and the Advisor may enlist third party service providers, such as a fair value team composed of one of more representatives from the Advisor and the Fund. Representatives from the Administrator participate in each meeting of the fair value committee in an advisory capacity. The Advisor may also enlist the Sub-Advisors (defined below) or third-party consultants (such as an audit firm or financial officer of a security issuer) on an as-needed basis to assist in determining a security-specific fair value. The Board reviews the execution of this process and the resultant fair value prices quarterly to assure the process produces reliable results.

# Valuation Designee and Valuation Process.

The Fund's investments are valued collectively via inputs from each group supporting the Advisor. For example, fair value determinations are required for the following investments: (i) investments for which market quotations are insufficient or not readily available on a particular business day (including securities for which there is a short and temporary lapse in the provision of a price by the regular pricing source), (ii) investments for which, in the judgment of the Advisor, the prices or values available do not represent the fair value of the instrument. Factors which may cause the Advisor or to make such a judgment include, but are not limited to, the following: only a bid price or an asked price is available; the spread between bid and asked prices is substantial; the frequency of sales; the thinness of the market; the size of reported trades; and actions of the securities markets, such as the suspension or limitation of trading; (iii) investments determined to be illiquid; and (iv) investments with respect to which an event that will affect the value thereof has occurred (a "significant event") since the closing prices were established on the principal exchange on which they are traded, but prior to the Fund's calculation of its net asset value.

### **Standards for Fair Value Determinations.**

As a general principle, the fair value of an investment is the amount that the Fund might reasonably expect to realize upon its current sale. The Fund has adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures ("ASC 820"). In accordance with ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that the Fund would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. ASC 820 establishes a three-tier hierarchy to maximize the use of observable market data and minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk, for example, the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value including such a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, developed based on the best information available under the circumstances.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments relating to ASC 820. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below.

- Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.
- Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The Advisor as valuation designee takes into account relevant factors and surrounding circumstances, which may include: (i) the nature and pricing history (if any) of the investment; (ii) whether any dealer quotations for the investment are available; (iii) possible valuation methodologies that could be used to determine the fair value of the investment; (iv) the recommendation of Portfolio Manager of the Fund with respect to the valuation of the investment; (v) whether the same or similar investments are held by other funds managed by the Advisor (or a Sub-Advisor) or other funds and the method used to price the investment in those funds; (vi) the extent to which the fair value to be determined for the investment will result from the use of data or formulae produced by independent third parties and (vii) the liquidity or illiquidity of the market for the investment.

Board Oversight. The Board meets at least quarterly to consider the valuations provided by the Advisor.

### MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

The Board has overall responsibility to manage and control the business affairs of the Fund, including the complete and exclusive authority to oversee and to establish policies regarding the management, conduct and operation of the Fund's business. The Board exercises the same powers, authority and responsibilities on behalf of the Fund as are customarily exercised by the board of directors of a registered investment company organized as a corporation. The business of the Trust is managed under the direction of the Board in accordance with the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and the Trust's By-laws (the "Governing Documents"), each as amended from time to time, which have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are available upon request. The Board consists of five individuals, three of whom are not "interested persons" (as defined under the 1940 Act) of the Trust, the Advisor, any Sub-Advisor or the Distributor ("Independent Trustees"). Pursuant to the Governing Documents of the Trust, the Trustees shall elect officers including a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Principal Executive Officer and a Principal Financial Officer. The Board retains the power to conduct, operate and carry on the business of the Trust and has the power to incur and pay any expenses, which, in the opinion of the Board, are necessary or incidental to carry out any of the Trust's purposes. The Trustees, officers, employees and agents of the Trust, when acting in such capacities, shall not be subject to any personal liability except for his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of his or her duties.

# **Board Leadership Structure**

The Trust is led by Mr. Ramin Kamfar, who has served as the Chairman of the Board since the Trust was organized in 2012. Additionally, under certain 1940 Act governance guidelines that apply to the Trust, the Independent Trustees will meet in executive session, at least quarterly. Under the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust and By-Laws, the Chairman of the Board is responsible for (a) presiding at board meetings, (b) calling special meetings on an as-needed basis, (c) execution and administration of Trust policies including (i) setting the agendas for board meetings and (ii) providing information to board members in advance of each board meeting and between board meetings. The Trust believes that its Chairman, the chair of the Audit Committee, and, as an entity, the full Board, provide effective leadership that is in the best interests of the Trust and each shareholder.

# **Board Risk Oversight**

The Board is comprised of five trustees, three of whom are Independent Trustees, with a standing independent Audit Committee with a separate chair. The Board is responsible for overseeing risk management, and the full Board regularly engages in discussions of risk management and receives compliance reports that inform its oversight of risk management from the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer at quarterly meetings and on an ad hoc basis, when and if necessary. The Audit Committee considers financial and reporting risk within its area of responsibilities. Generally, the Board believes that its oversight of material risks is adequately maintained through the compliance-reporting chain where the Chief Compliance Officer is the primary recipient and communicator of such risk-related information.

# **Trustee Qualifications**

Generally, the Trust believes that each Trustee is competent to serve because of their individual overall merits including: (i) experience, (ii) qualifications, (iii) attributes and (iv) skills.

Mr. Kamfar has over 30 years of experience in various aspects of real estate, mergers and acquisitions, private equity investing, investment banking, public and private financings, and retail operations, and possesses deep institutional knowledge and industry expertise. He also possesses deep corporate finance and operational experience from both the perspective of an investment banker and of an executive. Mr. Kamfar received an M.B.A. degree with distinction in Finance in 1988 from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a B.S. degree with distinction in Finance in 1985 from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Mr. Majumder is a partner at the law firm of Frost Brown Todd, LLP where he focuses his practice on corporate and securities transactions primarily in the energy (oil & gas, coal, and renewables), mining, health care, and information technology industry verticals. He represents underwriters, placement agents, and issuers in both public and private offerings of securities; public and privately-held companies in both cross-border and domestic mergers and acquisitions (M&A); private equity funds, hedge funds, and venture capital funds in connection with their formation as well as their investments; and companies receiving private equity and venture capital financing. Prior to Frost Brown Todd, Mr. Majumder was a partner at the law firm of Reed Smith, where he serves as the co-office managing partner of the firm's Dallas office and firm wide co-head of the firm's India practice. Prior to Reed Smith, Mr. Majumder was a partner at the law firm of Perkins Coie until May 2019, where he served as the Managing Partner of the firm's Dallas office and firmwide Co-Chair of its India practice. Mr. Majumder specializes in corporate and securities transactions with an emphasis on the representation of underwriters, placement agents and issuers in both public and private offerings, private investment in public equity (PIPE) transactions and venture capital and private equity funds. Prior to Perkins Coie, Mr. Majumder was a partner in the law firm of K&L Gates LLP from May 2005 to March 2013. From January 2000 to April 2005, Mr. Majumder was a partner at the firm of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP. Through his law practice, Mr. Majumder has gained significant experience relating to the acquisition of a number of types of real property assets including raw land, improved real estate and oil and gas interests. He is an active member of the Park Cities Rotary Club, a charter member of the Dallas Chapter of The Indus Entrepreneurs and an Associates Board member of the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University. Mr. Majumder received a J.D. degree in 1993 from Washington and Lee University School of Law, and a B.A. degree in 1990 from Trinity University.

Mr. Tio is a Senior Managing Director for the commercial finance team at Greystone, where he specializes in real estate lending and investment advisory services. Prior to Greystone, Mr. Tio was a Senior Managing Director for Ackman-Ziff Real Estate Capital Advisors, where he was an advisor and principal in many commercial, residential, and hospitality deals on the East Coast. Mr. Tio's experience as a managing director for commercial real estate-related departments of several investment firms has given him strong understanding of the commercial real estate and distressed real estate markets. Prior to serving in these executive positions, Mr. Tio was involved in real estate investment, financing, sales and brokerage for 25 years. Mr. Tio received a B.S. degree in Biochemistry in 1982 from Hofstra University.

Mr. Adamiyatt has served as Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer of the Fund since 2018 and as Trustee since 2019. Mr. Adamiyatt serves as an Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Strategy Officer of Bluerock, where he oversees the finance and control functions as well as directing strategy and business development for the firm's asset management platform. Mr. Adamiyatt joined Bluerock in 2018 after a career spanning 30 years as a financial services executive, serving as both a Senior Investment Banker and a Chief Financial Officer of a publicly traded company. Prior to joining Bluerock, Mr. Adamiyatt was an Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of Earthport Plc, a financial technology company listed on the London Stock Exchange. During his investment banking career, Mr. Adamiyatt held senior leadership and management positions at several global investment banks, serving as Head of Financial Institutions Group at UBS Americas and Bear Stearns as well as Co-Head of Financial Institutions M&A at Lehman Brothers. He was a member of the investment banking operating, business review and fairness opinion committees during his tenure as an Investment Banker. Mr. Adamiyatt was educated at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, and Oxford University.

Mr. Jafarnia currently serves as General Counsel, and Co-Founder for Opto Investments, Inc. Prior to Opto, Mr. Jafarnia served as General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer at Artivest Holdings, Inc., from October 2018 until February 2021, and as Chief Compliance Officer for the Altegris KKR Commitments Fund. Prior to Artivest, Mr. Jafarnia served as Managing Director for Legal and Business Development at Provasi Capital Partners LP. Prior to that, from October 2014 to December 2017, he served as Senior Vice President of W.P. Carey Inc. (NYSE: WPC), as well as Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of Carey Credit Advisors, Inc. and as Chief Compliance Officer and General Counsel of Carey Financial, LLC. Prior to joining W. P. Carey Inc., Mr. Jafarnia served as Counsel to two American Lawyer Global100 law firms in New York. From March 2014 to October 2014, Mr. Jafarnia served as Counsel in the REIT practice group at the law firm of Greenberg Traurig, LLP. From August 2012 to March 2014, Mr. Jafarnia served as Counsel in the Financial Services & Products Group and was a member of the REIT practice group of Alston & Bird, LLP, Between 2004 and 2012, Mr. Jafarnia served as a senior executive, in-house counsel, and Chief Compliance Officer for several alternative investment program sponsors, including, among others, American Realty Capital, a real estate investment program sponsor, and its affiliated broker-dealer, Realty Capital Securities, LLC. In addition, Mr. Jafarnia has served as a non-executive independent member of the board of directors for two publicly traded companies: 1) Ashford Hospitality Trust, Inc. (NYSE: AHT) since January 2013; and 2) Bluerock Residential Growth REIT, Inc. (NYSE American: BRG) since June 2019. Mr. Jafarnia received an LL.M. in Securities and Financial Regulation in 2011 from Georgetown University Law Center, a J.D. degree in 1992 from Temple University, and a B.A. degree in Economics and Government in 1988 from the University of Texas at Austin.

Following is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust and their principal occupations over the last five years. Unless otherwise noted, the address of each Trustee and Officer is c/o ALPS Fund Services, Inc., 1290 Broadway, Suite 1000, Denver, CO 80203.

# **Independent Trustees**

Name, Year of Birth	Position/Term of Office*	Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex** Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships held by Trustee During Last Five Years
Bobby Majumder, 1968	Trustee Since 2012	Partner, Frost Brown Todd, LLP (September 2021 – Present); Partner, Reed Smith (May 2019 – August 2021); Partner, Perkins Coie LLP (2013 – May 2019).	2	Bluerock Residential Growth REIT, Inc. (2009 – 2022); Bluerock High Income Institutional Credit Fund (2022 – Present); Bluerock Homes Trust, Inc. (2021 – Present).
Romano Tio, 1960	Trustee Since 2012	Senior Managing Director, Greystone (real estate lending, investment and advisory company) (2021 – Present); Senior Managing Director, Ackman-Ziff Real Estate Capital Advisors (2017 – 2021).	2	Bluerock Residential Growth REIT, Inc. (2009 – 2022); Bluerock High Income Institutional Credit Fund (2022 – Present); Bluerock Homes Trust, Inc. (2021 – Present).
Kamal Jafarnia, 1966	Trustee Since 2021	General Counsel for Opto Investments, Inc. (fintech and investment management firm) (2021 – Present); General Counsel and CCO for Artivest Holdings and Altegris Investment Management (fintech enablement platform) (2018 – 2021).	2	Ashford Hospitality Trust, Inc. (2013 - Present); Bluerock Residential Growth REIT, Inc. (2019 – 2022); Bluerock High Income Institutional Credit Fund (2022 – Present); Bluerock Homes Trust, Inc. (2021 – Present).

# **Interested Trustees and Officers**

Name, Year of Birth	Position/Term of Office*	Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex** Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships held by Trustee During Last 5 Years
Ramin Kamfar, 1963	Trustee Since 2012	Chairman, Bluerock Real Estate, LLC (2002 – Present); Chairman, Bluerock Fund Advisor, LLC (2012 – Present); and Bluerock Asset Management, LLC (2018 – Present).	2	Bluerock Residential Growth REIT (2008 – 2022); Bluerock High Income Institutional Credit Fund (2021 – Present); Bluerock Homes Trust, Inc. (2021 – Present).
Simon Adamiyatt, 1962	Trustee Since 2019  Treasurer/ Chief Financial Officer Since 2018	Executive Director, Bluerock Real Estate, LLC (2018 – Present).	1	n/a
Jordan Ruddy, 1963	President Since 2013	Chief Operating Officer, Bluerock Real Estate, LLC (2002 – Present); President, Bluerock Fund Advisor, LLC (2013 – Present); President, Bluerock Asset Management, LLC (2020 – Present); Director, Bluerock Asset Management, LLC (2018 – 2020).	n/a	n/a
Jason Emala, 1978	Secretary Since 2018	General Counsel/Chief Legal Officer/Chief Compliance Officer of the Advisor and various Bluerock entities (2018 – Present).	n/a	n/a
Lucas Foss, 1977	Chief Compliance Officer Since 2022	Director, Fund Compliance and Governance, SS&C ALPS (November 2017 – Present); President ALPS Series Trust & Financial Investors Trust (August 2022 – Present), CCO of SPDR® S&P500® ETF Trust, SPDR® Dow Jones® Industrial Average ETF Trust, SPDR® S&P MIDCAP 400® ETF Trust and Bluerock Total Income + Real Estate.	n/a	n/a

<sup>\*</sup> The term of office for each Trustee and officer listed above will continue indefinitely.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Fund Complex currently includes the Trust and Bluerock High Income Institutional Credit Fund.

### **Board Committees**

# **Audit Committee**

The Board has an Audit Committee that consists of each Trustee that is not an "interested person" of the Trust within the meaning of the 1940 Act. The Audit Committee's responsibilities include: (i) recommending to the Board the selection, retention or termination of the Trust's independent auditors; (ii) reviewing with the independent auditors the scope, performance and anticipated cost of their audit; (iii) discussing with the independent auditors certain matters relating to the Trust's financial statements, including any adjustment to such financial statements recommended by such independent auditors, or any other results of any audit; (iv) reviewing on a periodic basis a formal written statement from the independent auditors with respect to their independence, discussing with the independent auditors any relationships or services disclosed in the statement that may impact the objectivity and independence of the Trust's independent auditors and recommending that the Board take appropriate action in response thereto to satisfy itself of the auditor's independence; and (v) considering the comments of the independent auditors and management's responses thereto with respect to the quality and adequacy of the Trust's accounting and financial reporting policies and practices and internal controls. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to an Audit Committee Charter. Due to the size of the Board, the Audit Committee is also responsible for seeking and reviewing nominee candidates for consideration as Trustees as is from time to time considered necessary or appropriate. The Audit Committee reviews all nominations of potential trustees made by Fund management and by Fund shareholders, which includes all information relating to the recommended nominees that is required to be disclosed in solicitations or proxy statements for the election of directors, including without limitation the biographical information and the qualifications of the proposed nominees. Nomination submissions must be accompanied by a written consent of the individual to stand for election if nominated by the Board and to serve if elected by the shareholders, and such additional information must be provided regarding the recommended nominee as reasonably requested by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee meets to consider nominees as is necessary or appropriate. The Audit Committee is also responsible for reviewing and setting Independent Trustee compensation from time to time when considered necessary or appropriate. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Audit Committee held three meetings.

# Trustee Ownership

The following table indicates the dollar range of equity securities that each Trustee beneficially owned in the Fund as of December 31, 2023.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies
Bobby Majumder	\$50,001-\$100,000	\$50,001–\$100,000
Ramin Kamfar	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Romano Tio	\$50,001-\$100,000	\$50,001–\$100,000
Kamal Jafarnia	\$10,001-\$50,000	\$10,001–\$50,000
Simon Adamiyatt	\$10,001 -\$50,000	\$10,001 -\$50,000

# **Compensation**

Each Trustee who is not affiliated with the Trust or the Advisor receives an annual fee of \$60,000, paid quarterly, of which \$40,000 is paid in cash and the remaining \$20,000 is paid in the equivalent amount of the Fund shares, as well as reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred attending the meetings. None of the executive officers receive compensation from the Trust.

The table below details the amount of compensation the Trustees earned during the Fund's fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. The Trust does not have a bonus, profit sharing, pension or retirement plan.

Name and Position	Aggregate Compensation From Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From Trust Paid to Directors
Interested Trustees				
Simon Adamiyatt	\$0	None	None	\$0
Ramin Kamfar	\$0	None	None	\$0
Independent Trustees				
Bobby Majumder	\$60,000	None	None	\$60,000
Romano Tio	\$60,000	None	None	\$60,000
Kamal Jafarnia	\$60,000	None	None	\$60,000

### **CODES OF ETHICS**

Each of the Fund, the Advisor, the Sub-Advisors, and the Distributor has adopted a code of ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act (collectively the "Ethics Codes"). Rule 17j-1 and the Ethics Codes are designed to prevent unlawful practices in connection with the purchase or sale of securities by covered personnel ("Access Persons"). The Ethics Codes permit Access Persons, subject to certain restrictions, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund. Under the Ethics Codes, Access Persons may engage in personal securities transactions, but are required to report their personal securities transactions for monitoring purposes. In addition, certain Access Persons are required to obtain approval before investing in initial public offerings or private placements. The Codes of Ethics can be reviewed and copies at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-202-551-8090. The codes are available on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov, and also may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549.

### PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures ("Policies") on behalf of the Trust, which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Advisor, subject to the Board's continuing oversight. The Policies require that the Advisor vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Fund and shareholders. The Policies also require the Advisor to present to the Board, at least annually, the Advisor's Proxy Policies and a record of each proxy voted by the Advisor on behalf of the Fund, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Advisor involving a conflict of interest. The Advisor has delegated certain proxy voting responsibilities to RREEF for the portfolio securities that it manages; provided that to the extent RREEF's proxy voting policy is inconsistent with the proxy voting guidelines set forth in the Advisor's proxy voting policies and procedures, the Advisor's proxy voting guidelines will control.

Where a proxy proposal raises a material conflict between the interests of the Advisor or RREEF any affiliated person(s) of the Advisor/RREEF, the Distributor or any affiliated person of the Distributor, or any affiliated person of the Trust and the Fund's or its shareholder's interests, the Advisor/RREEF (as applicable) will resolve the conflict by voting in accordance with the policy guidelines or at the Trust's directive using the recommendation of an independent third party. If the third party's recommendations are not received in a timely fashion, the Advisor will abstain from voting. A copy of the Advisor's proxy voting policies is attached hereto as Appendix A and a copy of the proxy voting policy utilized by RREEF is attached hereto as Appendix B.

Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities held by the Fund during the most recent 12-month period ending June 30 is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling the Fund toll-free at 1-844-819-8287; and (2) on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's website at http://www.sec.gov. In addition, a copy of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures are also available by calling toll-free at 1-844-819-8287 and will be sent within three business days of receipt of a request.

### CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS

A principal shareholder is any person who owns (either of record or beneficially) 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a fund. A control person is one who owns, either directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. The Fund's principal shareholders as of January 3, 2024 are listed in the chart below. Each shareholder listed below is a record shareholder, holding shares for the benefit of others.

Class	Α	Shares	

Cl 1	
<b>Shares Owned</b>	Percentage of Class
7,574,682.58	29.03%
4,030,375.99	15.45%
3,919,526.71	15.02%
3,873,098.30	14.84%
	7,574,682.58 4,030,375.99 3,919,526.71

### **Class C Shares**

Name and Address	<b>Shares Owned</b>	Percentage of Class
PERSHING LLC		
PO BOX 2052		
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07303-2052	7,175,297.26	37.68%
LPL FINANCIAL LLC		
4707 EXECUTIVE DR.		
SAN DIEGO CA, 92121-3091	2,056,740.66	10.80%
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC		
499 WASHINGTON BLVD		
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995	1,651,724.53	8.67%

#### **Class I Shares**

Name and Address	<b>Shares Owned</b>	Percentage of Class
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC 211 MAIN STREET		
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 92121	47,767,808.68	36.99%
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC 499 WASHINGTON BLVD JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995	25,746,811.45	19.94%
PERSHING LLC PO BOX 2052 JERSEY CITY, NJ 07303-2052	22,680,688.80	17.56%
LPL FINANCIAL SERVICES 1055 LPL WAY FORT MILL SC 29715-8101	14,633,755.16	11.33%
ROBERT W BAIRD & CO. INC. 777 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE MILWAUKEE, WI 53202	7,003,684.54	5.42%

# Class L Shares

Name and Address	<b>Shares Owned</b>	Percentage of Class
PERSHING LLC		
PO BOX 2052		
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07303-2052	1,918,180.26	56.49%
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC 499 WASHINGTON BLVD	60 <b>2</b> 242 4 <b>5</b>	47.740
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310-1995	602,312.47	17.74%
LPL FINANCIAL LLC 4707 EXECUTIVE DR.		
SAN DIEGO CA, 92121-3091	201,254.71	5.93%

### **Class M Shares**

Name and Address	<b>Shares Owned</b>	Percentage of Class
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC		
1 NEW YORK PLAZA		
NEW YORK, NY 10004	4,650,778.10	99.09%

As of January 3, 2024, the Trustees and officers, as a group, owned less than 1.00% of the shares of the Fund

# INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

# **The Advisor**

Bluerock Fund Advisor, LLC, located at 1345 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor, New York, NY 10105, serves as the Fund's investment advisor. The Advisor is registered with the SEC as an investment advisor under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended ("Advisers Act"). The Advisor is a Delaware limited liability company formed in May 2012. The Advisor is controlled by Ramin Kamfar through his ownership of the Manager of Advisor. Mr. Kamfar also serves as a Trustee of the Trust.

Under the general supervision of the Board, the Advisor will carry out the investment and reinvestment of the net assets of the Fund, will furnish continuously an investment program with respect to the Fund, and will determine which securities should be purchased, sold or exchanged. In addition, the Advisor will supervise and provide oversight of the Fund's service providers. The Advisor will furnish to the Fund office facilities, equipment and personnel for servicing the management of

the Fund. The Advisor will compensate all Advisor personnel who provide services to the Fund. In return for these services, facilities and payments, the Fund has agreed to pay the Advisor as compensation under the Investment Management Agreement a monthly management fee computed at the annual rate of 1.50% of the Fund's daily net assets. The Advisor may employ research services and service providers to assist in the Advisor's market analysis and investment selection. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, the Advisor earned \$38,094,692 in advisory fees, of which \$549,344 were waived and \$32,630 of previously waived fees were recouped. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, the Advisor earned \$77,004,479 in advisory fees, of which \$0 were waived and \$501,484 of previously waived fees were recouped. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Advisor earned \$99,210,524 in advisory fees, of which \$4,183 were waived and \$0 of previously waived fees were recouped.

The Advisor and the Fund have entered into an expense limitation and reimbursement agreement (the "Expense Limitation Agreement") under which the Advisor has agreed contractually to waive its fees and to pay or absorb the ordinary operating expenses of the Fund to the extent that such expenses exceed 1.95%, 2.70%, 1.70%, 2.20%, and 2.45% per annum (excluding any taxes, interest, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, and extraordinary expenses, such as litigation or reorganization costs, but including organizational costs and offering costs) of the Fund's average daily net assets attributable to Class A, Class C, Class I, Class L and Class M shares, respectively (the "Expense Limitation"). In consideration of the Advisor's agreement to limit the Fund's expenses, the Fund has agreed to repay the Advisor in the amount of any fees the Advisor previously waived and or Fund expenses reimbursed, subject to the limitations that: (1) the reimbursement will be made if payable not more than three years from the date incurred; (2) the reimbursement may not be made if it would cause the Expense Limitation then in effect or in effect at the time of the waiver to be exceeded; and (3) the reimbursement is approved by the Board. The Expense Limitation Agreement will remain in effect, at least until January 31, 2025, unless and until the Board approves its modification or termination. This agreement may be terminated only by the Board on 60 days' written notice to the Advisor. After January 31, 2025, the Expense Limitation Agreement may be renewed at the Advisor's and Board's discretion.

### **Sub-Advisor – Mercer**

The Advisor has entered into a Sub-Advisory Agreement with Mercer Investments, LLC ("Mercer" and together with RREEF, the "Sub-Advisors"), 99 High Street, Boston, MA 02110, a registered advisor under the Advisers Act, to provide both ongoing research and opinions of institutional asset managers and their investment funds to the Advisor on behalf of the Fund as well as recommendations for the selection of investment funds to the Advisor. Under the terms of the Sub-Advisory Agreement, Mercer receives fees from the Advisor (not the Fund) as follows: 0.025% of the Fund's assets invested in publicly traded real estate securities, and 0.15% for up to \$250 million in total Fund assets, 0.13% for \$250 million to \$500 million in total Fund assets, 0.12% for \$500 million to \$750 million in total Fund assets, 0.08% for \$1 billion to \$1.3 billion in total Fund assets, 0.07% for \$1.3 billion to \$1.5 billion in total Fund assets, 0.06% for \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion in total Fund assets, 0.04% for \$2.5 billion to \$2.5 billion in total Fund assets, 0.045% for \$2.5 billion to \$3 billion in total Fund assets, 0.03% for \$3 billion to \$4 billion in total Fund assets, 0.02% for \$4 billion to \$4.5 billion in total Fund assets, 0.025% for \$4.5 billion to \$5 billion in total Fund assets, 0.02% for \$5 billion to \$5.5 billion in total Fund assets, 0.010% for \$6 billion or more in total Fund assets invested in private real estate assets.

# **Sub-Advisor – RREEF**

The Advisor has entered into a First Amended and Restated Sub-Advisory Agreement with RREEF, 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Floor 26, Chicago, IL 60606, a registered adviser under the Advisers Act, to provide investment management for a portion, generally less than 20%, of the Fund's portfolio. In addition, RREEF provides the Adviser with research and information that the Advisor uses to make investment decisions with respect to non-publicly traded real estate related debt securities. Under the terms of the First Amended and Restated Sub-Advisory Agreement, RREEF receives fees from the Advisor (not the Fund). For the portion of the Fund invested in liquid real assets, sub-advisory fees are calculated at an annual rate of 0.60% for up to \$50 million in assets allocated to RREEF, 0.55% for \$50 million to \$100 million in assets allocated to RREEF, and 0.50% for greater than \$100 million in assets allocated to RREEF. For the portion of the Fund which is invested in non-publicly traded real estate related debt securities, sub-advisory fees are calculated at an annual rate of 0.75% for up to \$350 million in assets allocated to RREEF, 0.60% in excess of \$350 million through \$700 million in assets allocated to RREEF, and 0.55% for assets in excess of \$700 million allocated to RREEF.

RREEF is a wholly-owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS"). DWS, is, in turn, an affiliate of Deutsche Bank AG ("DB") due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS. Consistent with its fiduciary relationships with the Fund, RREEF continues to serve as a sub-advisor to the Fund, subject to oversight by the Advisor.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The Advisor and the Sub-Advisors may provide investment advisory and other services, directly and through affiliates, to various entities and accounts other than the Fund ("Advisor Accounts"). The Fund has no interest in these activities. The Advisor and the Sub-Advisors and the investment professionals, who on behalf of the Advisor or a Sub-Advisor, provide investment advisory services to the Fund, are engaged in substantial activities other than on behalf of the Fund, may have differing economic interests in respect of such activities, and may have conflicts of interest in allocating their time and activity between the Fund and the Advisor Accounts. Such persons devote only so much time to the affairs of the Fund as in their judgment is necessary and appropriate. Set out below are practices that the Advisor follows.

### **Participation in Investment Opportunities**

Directors, principals, officers, employees and affiliates of the Advisor may buy and sell securities or other investments for their own accounts and may have actual or potential conflicts of interest with respect to investments made on behalf of the Fund. As a result of differing trading and investment strategies or constraints, positions may be taken by directors, principals, officers, employees and affiliates of the Advisor, or by the Advisor for the Advisor Accounts, if any, that are the same as, different from or made at a different time than, positions taken for the Fund.

# **Conflicts of Interest Regarding RREEF**

- Real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest may arise when a portfolio manager has day-to-day portfolio management responsibilities with respect to more than one fund or account, including the following:
- Certain investments may be appropriate for the Fund and also for other clients advised by RREEF, including other client accounts managed by the fund's portfolio management team. Investment decisions for the Fund and other clients are made with a view to achieving their respective investment objectives and after consideration of such factors as their current holdings, availability of cash for investment and the size of their investments generally. A particular security may be bought or sold for only one client or in different amounts and at different times for more than one but less than all clients. Likewise, because clients of RREEF may have differing investment strategies, a particular security may be bought for one or more clients when one or more other clients are selling the security. The investment results achieved for the Fund may differ from the results achieved for other clients of RREEF. In addition, purchases or sales of the same security may be made for two or more clients on the same day. In such event, such transactions will be allocated among the clients in a manner believed by RREEF to be most equitable to each client, generally utilizing a pro rata allocation methodology. In some cases, the allocation procedure could potentially have an adverse effect or positive effect on the price or amount of the securities purchased or sold by the Fund. Purchase and sale orders for the fund may be combined with those of other clients of RREEF in the interest of achieving the most favorable net results to the fund and the other clients.

- To the extent that a portfolio manager has responsibilities for managing multiple client accounts, a portfolio manager will need to divide time and attention among relevant accounts. RREEF attempts to minimize these conflicts by aligning its portfolio management teams by investment strategy and by employing similar investment models across multiple client accounts.
- In some cases, an apparent conflict may arise where RREEF has an incentive, such as a performance-based fee, in managing one account and not with respect to other accounts it manages. RREEF will not determine allocations based on whether it receives a performance-based fee from the client. Additionally, RREEF has in place supervisory oversight processes to periodically monitor performance deviations for accounts with like strategies.
- RREEF and its affiliates and the investment team of the Fund may manage other mutual funds and separate accounts on a long only or a long-short basis. The simultaneous management of long and short portfolios creates potential conflicts of interest including the risk that short sale activity could adversely affect the market value of the long positions (and vice versa), the risk arising from sequential orders in long and short positions, and the risks associated with receiving opposing orders at the same time. RREEF has adopted procedures that it believes are reasonably designed to mitigate these and other potential conflicts of interest. Included in these procedures are specific guidelines developed to provide fair and equitable treatment for all clients whose accounts are managed by each fund's portfolio management team. RREEF and the portfolio management team have established monitoring procedures, a protocol for supervisory reviews, as well as compliance oversight to ensure that potential conflicts of interest relating to this type of activity are properly addressed.

RREEF is owned by the DWS Group, a multinational global financial services firm that is a majority owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank AG. Therefore, RREEF is affiliated with a variety of entities that provide, and/or engage in commercial banking, insurance, brokerage, investment banking, financial advisory, broker-dealer activities (including sales and trading), hedge funds, real estate and private equity investing, in addition to the provision of investment management services to institutional and individual investors. Since Deutsche Bank, its affiliates, directors, officers and employees ("Deutsche Bank") are engaged in businesses and have interests in addition to managing asset management accounts, such wide ranging activities involve real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest. These interests and activities include potential advisory, transactional and financial activities and other interests in securities and companies that may be directly or indirectly purchased or sold by Deutsche Bank for its clients' advisory accounts. RREEF may take investment positions in securities in which other clients or related persons within Deutsche Bank have different investment positions. There may be instances in which RREEF is purchasing or selling for its client accounts, or pursuing an outcome in the context of a workout or restructuring with respect to, securities in which Deutsche Bank is undertaking the same or differing strategy in other businesses or other client accounts. These are considerations of which advisory clients should be aware and which may cause conflicts that could be to the disadvantage of RREEF's advisory clients, including the Fund. RREEF has instituted business and compliance policies, procedures and disclosures that are designed to identify, monitor and mitigate conflicts of interest and, as appropriate, to report them to the Fund's Board.

# **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

# **Advisor Portfolio Managers**

Jordan Ruddy and Adam Lotterman are the Advisor's Portfolio Managers. They have primary responsibility for management of the Fund's investment portfolio and have served the Fund in this capacity since October 2013, subject to oversight by the Fund's Investment Committee. Mr. Ruddy does not receive compensation from the Advisor, but is compensated for his duties with an affiliate of the Advisor. Mr. Lotterman receives a salary and discretionary bonus from an affiliate of the Advisor and a share of the profits, if any, through his ownership share in the Advisor. Because the Fund's Portfolio Managers may manage assets for other pooled investment vehicles and/or other accounts (including institutional clients, pension plans and certain high net worth individuals) (collectively "Client Accounts"), or may be affiliated with such Client Accounts, there may be an incentive to favor one Client Account over another, resulting in conflicts of interest. For example, the Advisor may, directly or indirectly, receive fees from Client Accounts that are higher than the fee it receives from the Fund, or it may, directly or indirectly, receive a performance-based fee on a Client Account. In those instances, a portfolio manager may have an incentive to not favor the Fund over the Client Accounts. The Advisor has adopted trade allocation and other policies and procedures that it believes are reasonably designed to address these and other conflicts of interest.

As of September 30, 2023, the Advisor's Portfolio Managers owned Fund shares in the following amounts:

Portfolio Managers	Dollar Range of Shares Owned
Jordan Ruddy	\$100,001 to \$500,000
Adam Lotterman	\$500,001 to \$1,000,000

As of September 30, 2023, the Advisor's Portfolio Managers were responsible for the management of the following types of accounts in addition to the Fund:

Jordan Ruddy

Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	0	0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	0	0	\$0

### Adam Lotterman

Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	0	0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	0	0	\$0

# **RREEF Portfolio Managers**

David W. Zonavetch, Bob Thomas, and John W. Vojticek serve as the Fund's RREEF Portfolio Managers and, subject to the Advisor's oversight, oversee a portion of investment portfolio of the Fund. Mr. Zonavetch and Mr. Vojticek have served as Portfolio Managers to the Fund since May 2016. Mr. Thomas has served as a Portfolio Manager to the Fund since January 2018. RREEF, including its employees and affiliates are part of DWS. The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group") and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C., which offers advisory services. DWS seeks to offer its investment professionals competitive short-term and long-term compensation based on continuous, above average, fund performance relative to the market. This includes measurement of short and long-term performance against industry and portfolio benchmarks.

As employees of DWS, RREEF Portfolio Managers are paid are paid by RREEF on a total compensation basis, which includes: (i) fixed pay (base salary) and (ii) variable compensation. Fixed pay is the key and primary element of compensation for the majority of the RREEF Portfolio Managers and reflects the value of the individual's role and function within the organization. It rewards factors that an employee brings to the organization such as skills and experience, while reflecting regional and divisional specifics. Fixed pay levels play a significant role in ensuring competitiveness of RREEF in the labor market, thus benchmarking provides a valuable input when determining fixed pay levels. Variable compensation is a discretionary compensation element that enables RREEF to provide an additional reward to employees, including the RREEF Portfolio Managers, for their performance and behaviors, while reflecting DWS affordability and the financial situation of DWS. Variable compensation aims to: (i) recognize that every employee contributes to the DWS's success through the franchise component of Variable Compensation (Franchise Component), (ii) reflect individual performance, investment performance, behaviors and culture through discretionary individual VC (Individual Component), and (iii) reward outstanding contributions at the junior levels through the discretionary Recognition Award. Employee seniority as well as divisional and regional specifics determine which VC elements are applicable for a given employee and the conditions under which they apply. Both Franchise and Individual Components may be awarded in shares or other share-based instruments and other deferral arrangements.

Variable compensation for DWS employees, including the RREEF Portfolio Managers, can be delivered via cash, restricted equity awards, and/or restricted incentive awards or restricted compensation. Restricted compensation may include: (i) notional fund investments; (ii) restricted equity or notional equity; (iii) restricted cash; or (iv) such other form as DWS may decide in its sole discretion. Variable compensation comprises a greater proportion of total compensation as an employee's, including the RREEF Portfolio Manager's, seniority and total compensation level increase. Proportion of variable compensation delivered via a long-term incentive award, which is subject to performance and forfeiture provisions, will increase significantly as the amount of the variable compensation increases. In addition, additional forfeiture and claw back provisions, including complete forfeiture and claw back of variable compensation, may apply in certain circumstances. For key investment professionals, in particular, a portion of any long-term incentives will be in the form of notional investments aligned, where possible, to the funds they manage.

In general, RREEF seeks to offer their investment professionals, including the RREEF Portfolio Managers, competitive short-term and long-term compensation based on continuous, above average, fund performance relative to the market. This includes measurement of short and long-term performance against industry and portfolio benchmarks. To evaluate RREEF's investment professionals, including the RREEF Portfolio Managers, in light of and consistent with the compensation principles set forth above, RREEF reviews investment performance for all accounts managed in relation to the appropriate Morningstar peer group universe with respect to a fund, iMoneyNet peer group with respect to a money market fund or relevant benchmark index(es) set forth in the governing documents with respect to each other account type. The ultimate goal of this process is to evaluate the degree to which investment professionals deliver investment performance that meets or exceeds their clients' risk and return objectives. When determining total compensation, RREEF considers a number of quantitative, qualitative and other factors: (i) Quantitative measures (e.g. one-, three- and five-year pre-tax returns versus the appropriate Morningstar peer group universe for a fund, or versus the appropriate iMoneyNet peer group for a money market fund, taking risk targets into account) are utilized to measure performance; (ii) Qualitative measures (e.g. adherence to, as well as contributions to, the enhancement of the investment process) are included in the performance review; and (iii) Other factors (e.g. non-investment related performance, teamwork, adherence to compliance rules, risk management and "living the values" of RREEF) are included as part of a discretionary component of the review process, giving management the ability to consider additional markers of performance on a subjective basis. Furthermore, it is important to note that RREEF functions within a controlled environment based upon the risk limits established by DWS Group's risk division, in conjunction with DWS Group management. Because risk consideration is inherent in all business activities, performance assessment factors in an employee's ability to assess and manage risk.

As of September 30, 2023, the RREEF Portfolio Managers owned no Fund shares. The following table shows the other accounts managed by the RREEF Portfolio Managers as of September 30, 2023. For purposes of this table, "similarly managed accounts" include all accounts that are managed: (i) by the same RREEF Portfolio Managers that are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund; and (ii) with an investment style, objective, policies and strategies substantially similar to those that are used to manage the Fund.

### **David Zonavetch**

Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	4	\$1,478,360,239	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	16	\$1,756,773,746	2	\$52,652,944
Other Accounts	14	\$2,535,767,110	4	\$343,085,161

#### **Bob Thomas**

Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	4	\$1,478,360,239	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	16	\$1,756,773,746	2	\$52,652,944
Other Accounts	14	\$2,535,767,110	4	\$343,085,161

John Vojticek

Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	<b>Total Assets By</b>	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	7	\$7,195,383,740	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	35	\$7,354,125,411	4	\$322,683,055
Other Accounts	44	\$10,303,201,296	10	\$749,750,678

In addition to the accounts above, RREEF Portfolio Managers may manage accounts in a personal capacity that may include holdings that are similar to, or the same as, those of the Fund. RREEF has in place a Code of Ethics that is designed to address conflicts of interest and that, among other things, imposes restrictions on the ability of portfolio managers and other "access persons" to invest in securities that may be recommended or traded in each fund and other client accounts.

# **Distributor**

ALPS Distributors, Inc., located at 1290 Broadway, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80203, serves as the principal underwriter and distributor for the shares of the Trust pursuant to a distribution agreement with the Trust (the "Distribution Agreement"). The Distributor is registered as a broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and each U.S. state's securities laws and is a member of FINRA. The Distribution Agreement provides that the Distributor, as agent in connection with the distribution of Fund shares, will use best efforts to facilitate the sale of the Fund's shares. The Distributor did not retain as compensation any amounts paid to it by the Fund in the past three fiscal years.

# ALLOCATION OF BROKERAGE

Specific decisions to purchase or sell securities for the Fund are made by the Portfolio Managers who are employees of the Advisor or RREEF. The Advisor and RREEF are authorized by the Trustees to allocate the orders placed on behalf of the Fund to brokers or dealers who may, but need not, provide research or statistical material or other services to the Fund or the Advisor for the Fund's use. Such allocation is to be in such amounts and proportions as the Advisor may determine. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, the Fund paid \$276,372 in brokerage commissions. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, the Fund paid \$189,867 in brokerage commissions. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund paid \$64,057 in brokerage commissions.

In selecting a broker or dealer to execute each particular transaction, the Advisor and/or RREEF will take the following into consideration: execution capability, trading expertise, accuracy of execution, commission rates, reputation and integrity, fairness in resolving disputes, financial responsibility and responsiveness.

Brokers or dealers executing a portfolio transaction on behalf of the Fund may receive a commission in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for executing the transaction if the Advisor and/or RREEF, as appropriate, determines in good faith that such commission is reasonable in relation to the value of brokerage and research services provided to the Fund. In allocating portfolio brokerage, the Advisor and/or RREEF may select brokers or dealers who also provide brokerage, research and other services to other accounts over which the Advisor and/or RREEF exercises investment discretion. Some of the services received as the result of Fund transactions may primarily benefit accounts other than the Fund, while services received as the result of portfolio transactions effected on behalf of those other accounts may primarily benefit the Fund.

# Affiliated Party Brokerage

The Advisor and its affiliates (and the Sub-Advisors) will not purchase securities or other property from, or sell securities or other property to, the Fund, except that the Fund may in accordance with rules under the 1940 Act engage in transactions with accounts that are affiliated with the Fund as a result of common officers, directors, advisors, members, managing general partners or common control. These transactions would be effected in circumstances in which the Advisor determined that it would be appropriate for the Fund to purchase and another client to sell, or the Fund to sell and another client to purchase, the same security or instrument each on the same day.

The Advisor places its trades under a policy adopted by the Trustees pursuant to Section 17(e) and Rule 17(e)(1) under the 1940 Act which places limitations on the securities transactions effected through Bluerock Capital Markets, LLC, a broker-dealer that is affiliated with the Advisor. The Fund may execute portfolio trades through Bluerock Capital Markets, LLC. The policy of the Fund with respect to brokerage is reviewed by the Trustees from time to time, and transactions affected through Bluerock Capital Markets, LLC are reviewed by the Trustees quarterly. Because of the possibility of further regulatory developments affecting the securities exchanges and brokerage practices generally, the foregoing practices may be modified. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2021, September 30, 2022 and September 30, 2023 the Fund did not pay any affiliated brokerage commissions.

#### TAX STATUS

The following discussion is general in nature and should not be regarded as an exhaustive presentation of all possible tax ramifications. All shareholders should consult a qualified tax advisor regarding their investment in the Fund.

The Fund intends to qualify as regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), which requires compliance with certain requirements concerning the sources of its income, diversification of its assets, and the amount and timing of its distributions to shareholders. Such qualification does not involve supervision of management or investment practices or policies by any government agency or bureau. By so qualifying, the Fund should not be subject to federal income or excise tax on its net investment income or net capital gain, which are distributed to shareholders in accordance with the applicable timing requirements. Net investment income and net capital gain of the Fund will be computed in accordance with Section 852 of the Code. Net investment income is made up of dividends and interest less expenses. Net capital gain for a fiscal year is computed by taking into account any capital loss carryforward of the Fund.

As of September 30, 2023, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed Ordinary Income	Undistributed Long-Term Gains	Post October Loss and Late Year Loss	Capital Loss Carry Forward	Other Book/Tax Differences	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Total Accumulated Earnings/ (Accumulated Losses)
\$0	\$0	\$(8,311,535)	\$0	\$(143,035,494)	\$606,601,309	\$455,254,280

The difference between book basis and tax basis distributable earnings and unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) is primarily attributable to the tax deferral of losses on wash sales and tax adjustments for partnerships.

The Fund intends to distribute all of its net investment income, any excess of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses, and any excess of net long-term capital gains over net short-term capital losses in accordance with the timing requirements imposed by the Code and therefore should not be required to pay any federal income or excise taxes. Distributions of net investment income will be made quarterly and net capital gain will be made after the end of each fiscal year, and no later than December 31 of each year. Both types of distributions will be in shares of the Fund unless a shareholder elects to receive cash.

To be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code, the Fund must also (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, net income from certain publicly traded partnerships and gains from the sale or other disposition of securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to the business of investing in such securities or currencies, and (b) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each fiscal quarter, (i) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund's assets is represented by cash, U.S. government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies, and other securities (for purposes of this calculation, generally limited in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the market value of the Fund's assets and 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer) and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested in the securities of (other than U.S. government securities or the securities of other regulated investment companies) any one issuer, two or more issuers which the Fund controls and which are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses, or the securities of certain publicly traded partnerships.

If the Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M in any fiscal year, it will be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. As such, the Fund would be required to pay income taxes on its net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, at the rates generally applicable to corporations. Shareholders of the Fund generally would not be liable for income tax on the Fund's net investment income or net realized capital gains in their individual capacities. Distributions to shareholders, whether from the Fund's net investment income or net realized capital gains, would be treated as taxable dividends to the extent of current or accumulated earnings and profits of the Fund.

The Fund is subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on certain undistributed amounts of ordinary income and capital gain under a prescribed formula contained in Section 4982 of the Code. The formula requires payment to shareholders during a calendar year of distributions representing at least 98% of the Fund's ordinary income for the calendar year and at least 98.2% of its capital gain net income (i.e., the excess of its capital gains over capital losses) realized during the one- year period ending October 31 during such year plus 100% of any income that was neither distributed nor taxed to the Fund during the preceding calendar year. Under ordinary circumstances, the Fund expects to time its distributions so as to avoid liability for this tax.

The following discussion of tax consequences is for the general information of shareholders that are subject to tax. Shareholders that are IRAs or other qualified retirement plans are exempt from income taxation under the Code.

Distributions of taxable net investment income and the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income.

Distributions of net capital gain ("capital gain dividends") generally are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gain, regardless of the length of time the shares of the Fund have been held by such shareholders.

A redemption of Fund shares by a shareholder will result in the recognition of taxable gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized and the shareholder's tax basis in his or her Fund shares. Such gain or loss is treated as a capital gain or loss if the shares are held as capital assets. However, any loss realized upon the redemption of shares within six months from the date of their purchase will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as capital gain dividends during such six-month period. All or a portion of any loss realized upon the redemption of shares may be disallowed to the extent shares are purchased (including shares acquired by means of reinvested dividends) within 30 days before or after such redemption.

Distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain will be taxable as described above, whether received in additional cash or shares. Shareholders electing to receive distributions in the form of additional shares will have a cost basis for federal income tax purposes in each share so received equal to the net asset value of a share on the reinvestment date.

All distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain, whether received in shares or in cash, must be reported by each taxable shareholder on his or her federal income tax return. Dividends or distributions declared in October, November or December as of a record date in such a month, if any, will be deemed to have been received by shareholders on December 31, if paid during January of the following year. Redemptions of shares may result in tax consequences (gain or loss) to the shareholder and are also subject to these reporting requirements.

Under the Code, the Fund will be required to report to the Internal Revenue Service all distributions of taxable income and capital gains as well as gross proceeds from the redemption or exchange of Fund shares, except in the case of certain exempt shareholders. Under the backup withholding provisions of Section 3406 of the Code, distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain and proceeds from the redemption or exchange of the shares of a regulated investment company may be subject to withholding of federal income tax in the case of non- exempt shareholders who fail to furnish the investment company with their taxpayer identification numbers and with required certifications regarding their status under the federal income tax law, or if the Fund is notified by the IRS or a broker that withholding is required due to an incorrect TIN or a previous failure to report taxable interest or dividends. If the withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions and proceeds, whether taken in cash or reinvested in additional shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld.

Payments to a shareholder that is either a foreign financial institution ("FFI") or a non-financial foreign entity ("NFFE") within the meaning of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FACTA") may be subject to a generally nonrefundable 30% withholding tax on: (a) income dividends paid by the Fund and (b) certain capital gain distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Fund shares paid by the Fund after December 30, 2018. FACTA withholding tax generally can be avoided: (a) by an FFI, subject to any applicable intergovernmental agreement or exemption, if it enters into a valid agreement with the IRS to, among other requirements, report required information relating to certain direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts held by U.S. persons with the FFI and (b) by an NFFE, if it: (i) certifies that it has no substantial U.S. persons or owners or (ii) if it does have such owners, reports the information relating to them. The Fund may disclose the information that it receives from its shareholders to the IRS, non-U.S. taxing authorities or other parties as necessary to comply with FACTA. Withholding also may be required if a foreign entity that is a shareholder of the Fund fails to provide the Fund with appropriate certifications or other documentation concerning its status under FACTA.

Certain U.S. Income Tax Information for Non-U.S. Investors. Non-U.S. investors in the Fund (shareholders who, as to the United States, are nonresident alien individuals, foreign trusts or estates, foreign corporations, or foreign partnerships) may be subject to U.S. income and withholding tax and are subject to special U.S. tax certification requirements. Non-U.S. investors should consult their tax advisors about the applicability of U.S. tax and withholding and the use of the appropriate forms to certify their status.

In general. The United States imposes a flat 30% withholding tax (or a withholding tax at a lower treaty rate) on U.S. source dividends, including on income dividends paid to shareholders by the Fund, subject to certain exemptions described below. However, notwithstanding such exemptions from U.S. withholding at the source, any dividends and distributions of income and capital gains, including the proceeds from the sale of Fund shares, will be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 24% if the shareholder fails to properly certify that the shareholder is not a U.S. person.

Capital gain dividends. In general, capital gain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders, as paid from its net long-term capital gains, other than long-term capital gains realized on disposition of U.S. real property interests (see the discussion below), are not subject to U.S. withholding tax unless the shareholder is a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year.

Interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends. Certain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as "interest-related dividends" and paid from its "qualified net interest income" from U.S. sources are not subject to U.S. withholding tax. "Qualified interest income" includes, in general, U.S. source (i) bank deposit interest, (ii) short-term original issue discount, (iii) interest (including original issue discount, market discount, or acquisition discount) on an obligation that is in registered form, unless it is earned on an obligation issued by a corporation or partnership in which the Fund is a 10-percent shareholder or is contingent interest, and (iv) any interest-related dividend from another regulated investment company. Similarly, short-term capital gain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as paid from its net short-term capital gains, other than short-term capital gains realized on disposition of U.S. real property interests (see the discussion below), are not subject to U.S. withholding tax unless the shareholder was a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year.

The Fund reserves the right to not report interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends. Additionally, the Fund's reporting of interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends may not be passed through to shareholders by intermediaries who have assumed tax reporting responsibilities for this income in managed or omnibus accounts due to systems limitations or operational constraints.

Other net investment income. Ordinary dividends paid by the Fund to non-U.S. investors on the income earned on portfolio investments in (i) the stock of domestic and foreign corporations and (ii) the debt of foreign issuers generally will be subject to U.S. withholding tax. Foreign shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a rate of 30% on the income resulting from an election to pass-through foreign tax credits to shareholders but may not be able to claim a credit or deduction with respect to the withholding tax for the foreign tax treated as having been paid by them.

*Income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business*. If the income from the Fund is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business carried on by a foreign shareholder, then ordinary income dividends, capital gain dividends and any gains realized upon the sale or tender of shares of the Fund will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the rates applicable to U.S. citizens or domestic corporations and require the filing of a nonresident U.S. income tax return.

Investment in U.S. real property. The Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ("FIRPTA") makes a non-U.S. person subject to U.S. tax on disposition of a U.S. real property interest ("USRPI") as if the person were a U.S. person. Such gain is sometimes referred to as FIRPTA gain. If the Fund is a U.S. real property holding corporation ("USRPHC") and is not domestically controlled, any gain realized on the sale or exchange of Fund shares by a non-U.S. shareholder that owns at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of disposition more than 5% of a class of Fund shares or (any foreign shareholder if shares in the Fund are not considered regularly traded on an established securities market) would be FIRPTA gain. The Fund will be a USRPHC if, in general, 50% or more of the fair market value of the Fund's assets consists of U.S. real property interests, including stock of certain U.S. REITs.

The Code provides a look-through rule for distributions of FIRPTA gain when a RIC is classified as a qualified investment entity. A RIC will be classified as a qualified investment entity if, in general, 50% or more of the RIC's assets consist of interests in U.S. REITs and other USRPHCs. If a RIC is a qualified investment entity and the non-U.S. shareholder owns more than 5% of a class of Fund shares at any time during the one-year period ending on the date of the FIRPTA distribution, the FIRPTA distribution to the non-U.S. shareholder is treated as gain from the disposition of a USRPI, causing the distribution to be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the corporate income tax rate, and requiring the non-US shareholder to file a nonresident U.S. income tax return. In addition, even if the non-U.S. shareholder does not own more than 5% of a class of Fund shares, but the Fund is a qualified investment entity, the FIRPTA distribution will be taxable as ordinary dividends (rather than as a capital gain or short-term capital gain dividend) subject to withholding at 30% or lower treaty rate.

FIRPTA "wash sale" rule. If the Fund is a qualified investment entity that is domestically controlled (i.e., less than 50% in value of the Fund has been owned directly or indirectly by non-U.S. shareholders during the 5-year period ending on the date of disposition) and a non-U.S. shareholder of the Fund (i) disposes of its interest in the Fund during the 30-day period preceding a FIRPTA distribution, (ii) acquires an identical stock interest during the 61-day period beginning the first day of such 30-day period preceding the FIRPTA distribution, and (iii) does not in fact receive the FIRPTA distribution in a manner that subjects the non-U.S. shareholder to tax under FIRPTA, then the non-U.S. shareholder is required to pay U.S. tax on an amount equal to the amount of the distribution that was not taxed under FIRPTA as a result of the disposition. These rules also apply to substitute dividend payments and other similar arrangements; the portion of the substitute dividend or similar payment treated as FIRPTA gain equals the portion of the RIC distribution such payment is in lieu of that otherwise would have been treated as FIRPTA gain.

U.S. tax certification rules. Special U.S. tax certification requirements may apply to non-U.S. shareholders both to avoid U.S. backup withholding imposed at a rate of 24% and to obtain the benefits of any treaty between the United States and the shareholder's country of residence. In general, if you are a non-U.S. shareholder, you must provide a Form W-8 BEN (or other applicable Form W-8) to establish that you are not a U.S. person, to claim that you are the beneficial owner of the income and, if applicable, to claim a reduced rate of, or exemption from, withholding as a resident of a country with which the United States has an income tax treaty. A Form W-8 BEN provided without a U.S. taxpayer identification number will remain in effect for a period beginning on the date signed and ending on the last day of the third succeeding calendar year unless an earlier change of circumstances makes the information on the form incorrect. Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding.

The tax consequences to a non-U.S. shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of an applicable tax treaty may be different from those described herein. Non-U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund, including the applicability of foreign tax.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

Each share represents a proportional interest in the assets of the Fund. Each share has one vote at shareholder meetings, with fractional shares voting proportionally, on matters submitted to the vote of shareholders. There are no cumulative voting rights. Shares do not have pre-emptive or conversion or redemption provisions. In the event of a liquidation of the Fund, shareholders are entitled to share pro rata in the net assets of the Fund available for distribution to shareholders after all expenses and debts have been paid.

#### **Compliance Service Provider**

SS&C / ALPS Fund Services, Inc., located at 1290 Broadway, Suite 1000, Denver, CO 80203, provides a Chief Compliance Officer to the Fund as well as related compliance services pursuant to a consulting agreement between SS&C / ALPS Fund Services, Inc. and the Fund.

#### Administrator

SS&C / ALPS Fund Services, Inc. ("ALPS"), located at 1290 Broadway, Suite 1000, Denver, CO 80203, serves as the Fund's administrator and fund accountant pursuant to a fund services agreement between ALPS and the Fund. For its services as administrator and fund accountant, the Fund pays ALPS the greater of a minimum fee or fees based on the annual net assets of the Fund (with such minimum fees subject to an annual cost of living adjustment) plus out of pocket expenses. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund paid ALPS \$1,604,881 for administrative and accounting services. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, the Fund paid ALPS \$1,371,376 for administrative and accounting services. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, the Fund paid ALPS \$965,426 for administrative and accounting services.

# **Transfer Agent**

SS&C Global Investor & Distribution Solutions, Inc. ("SS&C GIDS"), at PO Box 219445, Kansas City, MO 64121-9445, serves as the Fund's Transfer Agent. For its services as transfer agent, the Fund pays SS&C GIDS the greater of a minimum fee or fees based on the annual net assets of the Fund (with such minimum fees subject to an annual cost of living adjustment) plus out of pocket expenses.

# **Legal Counsel**

Thompson Hine LLP, 41 South High Street, Suite 1700, Columbus, Ohio 43215, acts as legal counsel to the Fund.

# Custodian

UMB Bank, N.A ("UMB Bank"), with principal offices at 1010 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, serves as the custodian of the Fund's assets, and may maintain custody of the Fund's assets with domestic and foreign sub-custodians (which may be banks, trust companies, securities depositories and clearing agencies) approved by the Trustees. Assets of the Fund are not held by the Advisor or commingled with the assets of other accounts other than to the extent that securities are held in the name of a custodian in a securities depository, clearing agency or omnibus customer account of such custodian.

# INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Cohen & Company, Ltd. is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund and audits the Fund's financial statements. Cohen & Company, Ltd. is located at 1835 Market St., Suite 310, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Financial Statements and independent registered public accounting firm's report thereon contained in the Fund's annual report dated September 30, 2023, are incorporated by reference in this Statement of Additional Information. The Fund's annual report is available upon request, without charge, by calling the Fund toll-free at 1-844-819-8287.

# APPENDIX A BLUEROCK FUND ADVISOR, LLC PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### PROXY VOTING POLICY

Background: Pursuant to Rule 206(4)-6 and Rule 204-2 under the Advisers Act, it is a fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative act, practice or course of business, within the meaning of Section 206(4) of the Advisers Act, for an investment adviser to exercise voting authority with respect to client securities, unless (i) the adviser has adopted and implemented written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that the adviser votes proxies in the best interests of its clients, (ii) the adviser describes its proxy voting procedures to its clients and provides copies on request, and (iii) the adviser discloses to clients how they may obtain information on how the adviser voted their proxies.

Policy: The Advisor will vote proxies on behalf of its individual clients. In order to fulfill its responsibilities under the Advisors Act, the Advisor has adopted the following policies and procedures for proxy voting with regard to companies in the investment portfolio of the Fund(s).

# **Voting Proxies**

- 1. All proxies sent to clients that are actually received by the Advisor (to vote on behalf of the client) will be provided to the Operations Unit.
- 2. The Operations Unit will generally adhere to the following procedures (subject to limited exception):
  - (a) A written record of each proxy received by the Advisor (on behalf of its clients) will be kept in the Advisor's files:
  - (b) The Operations Unit will determine which of the Advisor holds the security to which the proxy relates;
  - (c) Prior to voting any proxies, the Operations Unit will determine if there are any conflicts of interest related to the proxy in question in accordance with the general guidelines set forth below. If a conflict is identified, the Operations Unit will then make a determination (which may be in consultation with outside legal counsel) as to whether the conflict is material.
  - (d) If no material conflict is identified pursuant to these procedures, the Operations Unit will vote the proxy in accordance with the guidelines set forth below. The Operations Unit will deliver the proxy in accordance with instructions related to such proxy in a timely and appropriate manner

#### Conflicts of Interest

1. As stated above, in evaluating how to vote a proxy, the Operations Unit will first determine whether there is a conflict of interest related to the proxy in question between Advisor and its Advisory Clients. This examination will include (but will not be limited to) an evaluation of whether the Advisor (or any affiliate of the Advisor) has any relationship with the company (or an affiliate of the company) to which the proxy relates outside of an investment in such company by a client of the Advisor.

- If a conflict is identified and deemed "material" by the Operations Unit, the Advisor will determine whether voting in accordance with the proxy voting guidelines outlined below is in the best interests of the client (which may include utilizing an independent third party to vote such proxies).
- With respect to material conflicts, the Advisor will determine whether it is appropriate to disclose the conflict to affected clients give such clients the opportunity to vote the proxies in question themselves. However, with respect to ERISA clients whose advisory contract reserves the right to vote proxies when the Advisor has determined that a material conflict exists that affects its best judgment as a fiduciary to the ERISA client, the Advisor will:
  - (a) Give the ERISA client the opportunity to vote the proxies in question themselves; or
  - (b) Follow designated special proxy voting procedures related to voting proxies pursuant to the terms of the investment management agreement with such ERISA clients (if any).

#### **Proxy Voting Guidelines**

- 1. The Advisor, when acting on behalf of the Fund, must comply with the following voting restrictions unless it is determined that the Fund is not relying on Section 12(d)(1)(F) and or Rule 12d1-3:
  - a. when the Fund exercises voting rights, by proxy or otherwise, with respect to any investment company owned by the Fund, the Fund will either
    - i. seek instruction from the Fund's shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies and vote in accordance with such instructions, or
    - ii. vote the shares held by the Fund in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such security.

# Disclosure of Procedures

A summary of above these proxy voting procedures will be included in Part 2 of the Advisor's Form ADV and a Fund client's SAI, as applicable, and will be updated whenever these policies and procedures are updated. Clients will be provided with contact information as to how they can obtain information about:

(a) the Advisor's proxy voting procedures (i.e., a copy of these procedures); and (b) how the Advisor voted proxies that are relevant to the affected client.

# Record-keeping Requirements

The Operations Unit will be responsible for maintaining files relating to the Advisor's proxy voting procedures. Records will be maintained and preserved for five years from the end of the fiscal year during which the last entry was made on a record, with records for the first two years kept in the offices of the Advisor. Records of the following will be included in the files:

- 1. Copies of these proxy voting policies and procedures, and any amendments thereto;
- 2. A copy of each proxy statement that the Advisor actually received; provided, however, that the Advisor may rely on obtaining a copy of proxy statements from the SEC's EDGAR system for those proxy statements that are so available;

- 3. A record of each vote that the Advisor casts;
- 4. A copy of any document that the Advisor created that was material to making a decision how to vote the proxies, or memorializes that decision (if any); and
- 5. A copy of each written request for information on how the Advisor voted such client's proxies and a copy of any written response to any request for information on how the Advisor voted proxies on behalf of clients.

#### APPENDIX B

# RREEF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Proxy Voting Policy and Guidelines – DWS



#### 1. SCOPE

DWS has adopted and implemented the following Policies and Guidelines, which it believes are reasonably designed to ensure that proxies are voted in the best economic interest of clients and in accordance with its fiduciary duties and local regulation. This Proxy Voting Policy and Guidelines – DWS ("Policy and Guidelines") shall apply to all accounts managed by US domiciled advisers and to all US client accounts managed by non- US regional offices. Non-US regional offices are required to maintain procedures and to vote proxies as may be required by law on behalf of their non-US clients. In addition, DWS's proxy policies reflect the fiduciary standards and responsibilities for ERISA accounts.

The attached guidelines represent a set of global recommendations that were determined by the Global Proxy Voting Sub-Committee ("the GPVSC"). These guidelines were developed to provide DWS with a comprehensive list of recommendations that represent how DWS will generally vote proxies for its clients. The recommendations derived from the application of these guidelines are not intended to influence the various DWS legal entities either directly or indirectly by parent or affiliated companies. In addition, the organizational structures and documents of the various DWS legal entities allows, where necessary or appropriate, the execution by individual DWS subsidiaries of the proxy voting rights independently of any parent or affiliated company. This applies in particular to non US fund management companies. The individuals that make proxy voting decisions are also free to act independently, subject to the normal and customary supervision by the Management/Boards of these DWS legal entities.

#### 2. DWS'S PROXY VOTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Proxy votes are the property of DWS's advisory clients. As such, DWS's authority and responsibility to vote such proxies depend upon its contractual relationships with its clients or other delegated authority. DWS has delegated responsibility for effecting its advisory clients' proxy votes to Institutional Shareholder Services ("ISS"), an independent third-party proxy voting specialist. ISS votes DWS's advisory clients' proxies in accordance with DWS's proxy guidelines or DWS's specific instructions. Where a client has given specific instructions as to how a proxy should be voted, DWS will notify ISS to carry out those instructions. Where no specific instruction exists, DWS will follow the procedures in voting the proxies set forth in this document. Certain Taft-Hartley clients may direct DWS to have ISS vote their proxies in accordance with Taft-Hartley Voting Guidelines.

Clients may in certain instances contract with their custodial agent and notify DWS that they wish to engage in securities lending transactions. In such cases, it is the responsibility of the custodian to deduct the number of shares that are on loan so that they do not get voted twice. To the extent a security is out on loan and DWS determines that a proxy vote (or other shareholder action) is materially important to the client's account, DWS may request, on a best efforts basis, that the agent recall the security prior to the record date to allow DWS to vote the securities.

For purposes of this document, "clients" refers to persons or entities: (i) for which DWS serves as investment adviser or sub- adviser; (ii) for which DWS votes proxies; and (iii) that have an economic or beneficial ownership interest in the portfolio securities of issuers soliciting such proxies.

#### 3. POLICIES

# 3.1. Proxy Voting Activities are Conducted in the Best Economic Interest of Clients

DWS has adopted the following Policies and Guidelines to ensure that proxies are voted in accordance with the best economic interest of its clients, as determined by DWS in good faith after appropriate review.

#### 3.2. The Global Proxy Voting Sub-Committee

The Global Proxy Voting Sub-Committee is an internal working group established by the applicable DWS's Investment Risk Oversight Committee pursuant to a written charter. The GPVSC is responsible for overseeing DWS's proxy voting activities, including:

- Adopting, monitoring and updating guidelines, attached as Attachment A (the "Guidelines"), that provide how DWS will generally vote proxies pertaining to a comprehensive list of common proxy voting matters;
- Voting proxies where: (i) the issues are not covered by specific client instruction or the Guidelines; (ii) the Guidelines specify that the issues are to be determined on a case-by-case basis; or (iii) where an exception to the Guidelines may be in the best economic interest of DWS's clients; and
- Monitoring Proxy Vendor Oversight's proxy voting activities (see below).

DWS's Proxy Vendor Oversight, a function of DWS's Operations Group, is responsible for coordinating with ISS to administer DWS's proxy voting process and for voting proxies in accordance with any specific client instructions or, if there are none, the Guidelines, and overseeing ISS' proxy responsibilities in this regard.

# 3.3. Availability of Proxy Voting Policies and Proxy Voting Record

Copies of this Policy, as it may be updated from time to time, is made available to clients as required by law and otherwise at DWS's discretion. Clients may also obtain information on how their proxies were voted by DWS as required by law and otherwise at DWS's discretion. Note, however, that DWS must not selectively disclose its investment company clients' proxy voting records. Proxy Vendor Oversight will make proxy voting reports available to advisory clients upon request. The investment companies' proxy voting records will be disclosed to shareholders by means of publicly-available annual filings of each company's proxy voting record for the 12-month periods ending June 30 (see Section 6 below), if so required by relevant law.

#### 4. PROCEDURES

The key aspects of DWS's proxy voting process are delineated below.

### 4.1. The GPVSC's Proxy Voting Guidelines

The Guidelines set forth the GPVSC's standard voting positions on a comprehensive list of common proxy voting matters. The GPVSC has developed and continues to update the Guidelines based on consideration of current corporate governance principles, industry standards, client feedback, and the impact of the matter on issuers and the value of the investments.

The GPVSC will review the Guidelines as necessary to support the best economic interests of DWS's clients and, in any event, at least annually. The GPVSC will make changes to the Guidelines, whether as a result of the annual review or otherwise, taking solely into account the best economic interests of clients. Before changing the Guidelines, the GPVSC will thoroughly review and evaluate the proposed change and the reasons therefore, and the GPVSC Chair will ask GPVSC members whether anyone outside of the DWS organization (but within Deutsche Bank and its affiliates) or any entity that identifies itself as an DWS advisory client has requested or attempted to influence the proposed change and whether any member has a conflict of interest with respect to the proposed change. If any such matter is reported to the GPVSC Chair, the Chair will promptly notify the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee and will defer the approval, if possible. Lastly, the GPVSC will fully document its rationale for approving any change to the Guidelines.

The Guidelines may reflect a voting position that differs from the actual practices of the public company(ies) within the Deutsche Bank organization or of the investment companies for which DWS or an affiliate serves as investment adviser or sponsor. Investment companies, particularly closed-end investment companies, are different from traditional operating companies. These differences may call for differences in voting positions on the same matter. Further, the manner in which DWS votes investment company proxies may differ from proposals for which a DWS-advised or sponsored investment company solicits proxies from its shareholders. As reflected in the Guidelines, proxies solicited by closed-end (and open-end) investment companies are voted in accordance with the Guidelines.

# 4.2. Specific Proxy Voting Decisions Made by the GPVSC

Proxy Vendor Oversight will refer to the GPVSC all proxy proposals: (i) that are not covered by specific client instructions or the Guidelines; or (ii) that, according to the Guidelines, should be evaluated and voted on a case-by-case basis.

Additionally, if Proxy Vendor Oversight,<sup>2</sup> the GPVSC Chair or any member of the GPVSC, a Portfolio Manager, a Research Analyst or a sub-adviser believes that voting a particular proxy in accordance with the Guidelines may not be in the best economic interests of clients, that individual may bring the matter to the attention of the GPVSC Chair and/or Proxy Vendor Oversight.

Proxy Vendor Oversight generally monitors upcoming proxy solicitations for heightened attention from the press or the industry and for novel or unusual proposals or circumstances, which may prompt Proxy Vendor Oversight to bring the solicitation to the attention of the GPVSC Chair. DWS Portfolio Managers, DWS Research Analysts and sub-advisers also may bring a particular proxy vote to the attention of the GPVSC Chair, as a result of their ongoing monitoring of portfolio securities held by advisory clients and/or their review of the periodic proxy voting record reports that the GPVSC Chair distributes to DWS portfolio managers and DWS research analyst

If Proxy Vendor Oversight refers a proxy proposal to the GPVSC or the GPVSC determines that voting a particular proxy in accordance with the Guidelines is not in the best economic interests of clients, the GPVSC will evaluate and vote the proxy, subject to the procedures below regarding conflicts.

The GPVSC endeavors to hold meetings to decide how to vote particular proxies sufficiently before the voting deadline so that the procedures below regarding conflicts can be completed before the GPVSC's voting determination.

# 4.3. Proxies that Cannot Be Voted or Instances When DWS Abstains from Voting

In some cases, the GPVSC may determine that it is in the best economic interests of its clients not to vote certain proxies, or that it may not be feasible to vote certain proxies. If the conditions below are met with regard to a proxy proposal, DWS will abstain from voting:

- Neither the Guidelines nor specific client instructions cover an issue;
- > ISS does not make a recommendation on the issue; and
- The GPVSC cannot convene on the proxy proposal at issue to make a determination as to what would be in the client's best interest. (This could happen, for example, if the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee found that there was a material conflict or if despite all best efforts being made, the GPVSC quorum requirement could not be met).

In addition, it is DWS's policy not to vote proxies of issuers subject to laws of those jurisdictions that impose restrictions upon selling shares after proxies are voted, in order to preserve liquidity. In other cases, it may not be possible to vote certain proxies, despite good faith efforts to do so. For example, some jurisdictions do not provide adequate notice to shareholders so that proxies may be voted on a timely basis. Voting rights on securities that have been loaned to third-parties transfer to those third-parties, with loan termination often being the only way to attempt to vote proxies on the loaned securities. Lastly, the GPVSC may determine that the costs to the client(s) associated with voting a particular proxy or group of proxies outweighs the economic benefits expected from voting the proxy or group of proxies.

Proxy Vendor Oversight will coordinate with the GPVSC Chair regarding any specific proxies and any categories of proxies that will not or cannot be voted. The reasons for not voting any proxy shall be documented.

#### 4.4. Conflict of Interest Procedures

# 4.4.1. Procedures to Address Conflicts of Interest and Improper Influence

*Overriding Principle.* In the limited circumstances where the GPVSC votes proxies,<sup>3</sup> the GPVSC will vote those proxies in accordance with what it, in good faith, determines to be the best economic interests of DWS's clients.<sup>4</sup>

As mentioned above, the GPVSC votes proxies where: (i) neither a specific client instruction nor a Guideline directs how the proxy should be voted; (ii) where the Guidelines specify that an issue is to be determined on a case-by-case basis; or (iii) where voting in accordance with the Guidelines may not be in the best economic interests of clients.

4 Proxy Vendor Oversight, who serves as the non-voting secretary of the GPVSC, may receive routine calls from proxy solicitors and other parties interested in a particular proxy vote. Any contact that attempts to exert improper pressure or influence shall be reported to the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee.

Independence of the GPVSC. As a matter of Compliance policy, the GPVSC and Proxy Vendor Oversight are structured to be independent from other parts of Deutsche Bank. Members of the GPVSC and the employee responsible for Proxy Vendor Oversight are employees of DWS. As such, they may not be subject to the supervision or control of any employees of Deutsche Bank Corporate and Investment Banking division ("CIB"). Their compensation cannot be based upon their contribution to any business activity outside of DWS without prior approval of Legal and Compliance. They can have no contact with employees of Deutsche Bank outside of DWS regarding specific clients, business matters, or initiatives without the prior approval of Legal and Compliance. They furthermore may not discuss proxy votes with any person outside of DWS (and within DWS only on a need to know basis).

Conflict Review Procedures. The "Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee" within DWS monitors for potential material conflicts of interest in connection with proxy proposals that are to be evaluated by the GPVSC. The Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee members include DWS Compliance, the chief compliance officers of the advisors and the DWS Funds. Promptly upon a determination that a proxy vote shall be presented to the GPVSC, the GPVSC Chair shall notify the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee. The Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee shall promptly collect and review any information deemed reasonably appropriate to evaluate, in its reasonable judgment, if DWS or any person participating in the proxy voting process has, or has the appearance of, a material conflict of interest. For the purposes of this policy, a conflict of interest shall be considered "material" to the extent that a reasonable person could expect the conflict to influence, or appear to influence, the GPVSC's decision on the particular vote at issue. GPVSC should provide the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee a reasonable amount of time (no less than 24 hours) to perform all necessary and appropriate reviews. To the extent that a conflicts review cannot be sufficiently completed by the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee the proxies will be voted in accordance with the standard Guidelines.

The information considered by the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee may include without limitation information regarding: (i) DWS client relationships; (ii) any relevant personal conflict known by the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee or brought to the attention of that sub-committee; and (iii) any communications with members of the GPVSC (or anyone participating or providing information to the GPVSC) and any person outside of the DWS organization (but within Deutsche Bank and its affiliates) or any entity that identifies itself as an DWS advisory client regarding the vote at issue. In the context of any determination, the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee may consult with and shall be entitled to rely upon all applicable outside experts, including legal counsel.

Upon completion of the investigation, the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee will document its findings and conclusions. If the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee determines that: (i) DWS has a material conflict of interest that would prevent it from deciding how to vote the proxies concerned without further client consent; or (ii) certain individuals should be recused from participating in the proxy vote at issue, the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee will so inform the GPVSC Chair.

If notified that DWS has a material conflict of interest as described above, the GPVSC chair will obtain instructions as to how the proxies should be voted either from: (i) if time permits, the affected clients; or (ii) in accordance with the standard Guidelines. If notified that certain individuals should be recused from the proxy vote at issue, the GPVSC Chair shall do so in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

Note: Any DWS employee who becomes aware of a potential, material conflict of interest in respect of any proxy vote to be made on behalf of clients shall notify Compliance or the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee. Compliance shall call a meeting of the Conflict of Interest Management Sub-Committee to evaluate such conflict and determine a recommended course of action.

Procedures to be followed by the GPVSC. At the beginning of any discussion regarding how to vote any proxy, the GPVSC Chair (or his or her delegate) will inquire as to whether any GPVSC member (whether voting or ex officio) or any person participating in the proxy voting process has a personal conflict of interest or has actual knowledge of an actual or apparent conflict that has not been reported to the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee.

The GPVSC Chair also will inquire of these same parties whether they have actual knowledge regarding whether any Director, officer, or employee outside of the DWS organization (but within Deutsche Bank and its affiliates) or any entity that identifies itself as an DWS advisory client, has: (i) requested that DWS, Proxy Vendor Oversight (or any member thereof), or a GPVSC member vote a particular proxy in a certain manner; (ii) attempted to influence DWS, Proxy Vendor Oversight (or any member thereof), a GPVSC member or any other person in connection with proxy voting activities; or (iii) otherwise communicated with a GPVSC member, or any other person participating or providing information to the GPVSC regarding the particular proxy vote at issue and which incident has not yet been reported to the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee.

If any such incidents are reported to the GPVSC Chair, the Chair will promptly notify the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee and, if possible, will delay the vote until the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee can complete the conflicts report. If a delay is not possible, the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee will instruct the GPVSC" (i) whether anyone should be recused from the proxy voting process or (ii) whether DWS should vote the proxy in accordance with the standard guidelines, seek instructions as to how to vote the proxy at issue from ISS or, if time permits, the affected clients. These inquiries and discussions will be properly reflected in the GPVSC's minutes.

Duty to Report. Any DWS employee, including any GPVSC member (whether voting or ex officio), that is aware of any actual or apparent conflict of interest relevant to, or any attempt by any person outside of the DWS organization (but within Deutsche Bank and its affiliates) or any entity that identifies itself as an DWS advisory client to influence how DWS votes its proxies has a duty to disclose the existence of the situation to the GPVSC Chair (or his or her designee) and the details of the matter to the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee. In the case of any person participating in the deliberations on a specific vote, such disclosure should be made before engaging in any activities or participating in any discussion pertaining to that vote.

Recusal of Members. The GPVSC will recuse from participating in a specific proxy vote any GPVSC members (whether voting or ex officio) and/or any other person who: (i) are personally involved in a material conflict of interest; or (ii) who, as determined by the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee, have actual knowledge of a circumstance or fact that could affect their independent judgment, in respect of such vote. The GPVSC will also exclude from consideration the views of any person (whether requested or volunteered) if the GPVSC or any member thereof knows, or if the Conflicts of Interest Management Sub-Committee has determined, that such other person has a material conflict of interest with respect to the particular proxy or has attempted to influence the vote in any manner prohibited by these policies.

If, after excluding all relevant GPVSC voting members pursuant to the paragraph above, there are three or more GPVSC voting members remaining, those remaining GPVSC members will determine how to vote the proxy in accordance with these Policies and Guidelines. If there are fewer than three GPVSC voting members remaining, the GPVSC Chair will vote the proxy in accordance with the standard Guidelines or will obtain instructions as to how to have the proxy voted from, if time permits, the affected clients and otherwise from ISS.

# 4.4.2. Investment Companies and Affiliated Public Companies

Investment Companies. As reflected in the Guidelines, all proxies solicited by open-end and closed-end investment companies are voted in accordance with the pre-determined guidelines of ISS, unless the investment company client directs DWS to vote differently on a specific proxy or specific categories of proxies. However, regarding investment companies for which DWS or an affiliate serves as investment adviser or principal underwriter, such proxies are voted in the same proportion as the vote of all other shareholders (i.e., "mirror" or "echo" voting). Master Fund proxies solicited from feeder Funds are voted in accordance with applicable provisions of Section 12 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Investment Company Act").

Subject to participation agreements with certain Exchange Traded Funds ("ETF") issuers that have received exemptive orders from the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") allowing investing DWS Funds to exceed the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Investment Company Act, DWS will echo vote proxies for ETFs in which Deutsche Bank holds more than 25% of outstanding voting shares globally when required to do so by participation agreements and SEC orders.

Affiliated Public Companies. For proxies solicited by non-investment company issuers of or within the DWS or Deutsche Bank organization (e.g., shares of DWS or Deutsche Bank), these proxies will be voted in the same proportion as the vote of other shareholders (i.e., "mirror" or "echo" voting). In markets where mirror voting is not permitted, DWS will "Abstain" from voting such shares.

Note: With respect to the DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (registered under the Investment Company Act), the Fund is not required to engage in echo voting and the investment adviser will use these Guidelines and may determine, with respect to the DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, to vote contrary to the positions in the Guidelines, consistent with the Fund's best interest.

# 4.4.3. Other Procedures that Limit Conflicts of Interest

DWS and other entities in the Deutsche Bank organization have adopted a number of policies, procedures, and internal controls that are designed to avoid various conflicts of interest, including those that may arise in connection with proxy voting, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct—DB Group;
- ➤ Conflicts of Interest Policy DWS Group;
- ➤ Code of Ethics DWS US;

- ➤ Code of Ethics DWS ex US
- ➤ Code of Professional Conduct US.

The GPVSC expects that these policies, procedures, and internal controls will greatly reduce the chance that the GPVSC (or its members) would be involved in, aware of, or influenced by an actual or apparent conflict of interest.

All impacted business units are required to adopt, implement, and maintain procedures to ensure compliance with this Section. At a minimum, such procedures must: (i) assign roles and responsibilities for carrying out the procedures, including responsibility for periodically updating the procedures; (ii) identify clear escalation paths for identified breaches of the procedures; and (iii) contain a legend or table mapping the procedures to this Section (e.g., cross-referencing Section or page numbers).

#### 5. RECORDKEEPING

At a minimum, the following records must be properly maintained and readily accessible in order to evidence compliance with this Policy.

- > DWS will maintain a record of each proxy vote cast by DWS that includes among other things, company name, meeting date, proposals presented, vote cast, and shares voted.
- > Proxy Vendor Oversight maintains records for each of the proxy ballots it votes. Specifically, the records include, but are not limited to:
  - The proxy statement (and any additional solicitation materials) and relevant portions of annual statements;
  - Any additional information considered in the voting process that may be obtained from an issuing company, its agents, or proxy research firms;
  - Analyst worksheets created for stock option plan and share increase analyses; and
  - Proxy Edge print-screen of actual vote election.
- DWS will: (i) retain this Policy and the Guidelines; (ii) will maintain records of client requests for proxy voting information; and (iii) will retain any documents Proxy Vendor Oversight or the GPVSC prepared that were material to making a voting decision or that memorialized the basis for a proxy voting decision.
- The GPVSC also will create and maintain appropriate records documenting its compliance with this Policy, including records of its deliberations and decisions regarding conflicts of interest and their resolution.
- With respect to DWS's investment company clients, ISS will create and maintain records of each company's proxy voting record for the 12-month periods ending June 30. DWS will compile the following information for each matter relating to a portfolio security considered at any shareholder meeting held during the period covered by the report (and with respect to which the company was entitled to vote):
  - The name of the issuer of the portfolio security;

- The exchange ticker symbol of the portfolio security (if symbol is available through reasonably practicable means);
- The Council on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures ("CUSIP") number for the portfolio security (if the number is available through reasonably practicable means);
- The shareholder meeting date;
- A brief identification of the matter voted on:
- Whether the matter was proposed by the issuer or by a security holder;
- Whether the company cast its vote on the matter;
- How the company cast its vote (e.g., for or against proposal, or abstain; for or withhold regarding election of Directors); and
- Whether the company cast its vote for or against Management.

Note: This list is intended to provide guidance only in terms of the records that must be maintained in accordance with this policy. In addition, please note that records must be maintained in accordance with the Records Management Policy - Deutsche Bank Group and applicable policies and procedures thereunder.

With respect to electronically stored records, "properly maintained" is defined as complete, authentic (unalterable), usable and backed-up. At a minimum, records should be retained for a period of not less than six years (or longer, if necessary to comply with applicable regulatory requirements), the first three years in an appropriate DWS office.

#### 6. OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITES

Proxy Vendor Oversight will review a reasonable sampling of votes on a regular basis to ensure that ISS has cast the votes in a manner consistent with the Guidelines. Proxy Vendor Oversight will provide the GPVSC with a quarterly report of its review and identify any issues encountered during the period. Proxy Vendor Oversight will also perform a post season review once a year on certain proposals to assess whether ISS voted consistent with the Guidelines.

In addition, the GPVSC will, in cooperation with Proxy Vendor Oversight and DWS Compliance, consider, on at least an annual basis, whether ISS has the capacity and competence to adequately analyze the matters for which it is responsible. This includes whether ISS has effective polices, and methodologies and a review of ISS's policies and procedures with respect to conflicts.

The GPVSC also monitors the proxy voting process by reviewing summary proxy information presented by ISS to determine, among other things, whether any changes should be made to the Guidelines. This review will take place at least quarterly and is documented in the GPVSC's minutes.



# STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Class A Shares (TIPRX), Class C Shares (TIPPX), Class I Shares (TIPWX), Class L Shares (TIPLX) and Class M Shares (TIPMX) of Beneficial Interest

**February 1, 2024**