

**Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542**

**California Municipal Portfolio of Funds, Series 55**

**GUGGENHEIM®**

**PROSPECTUS PART A DATED NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

*A portfolio containing securities selected by  
Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC*

An investment can be made in the underlying funds directly rather than through the trust. These direct investments can be made without paying the sales charge, operating expenses and organizational costs of the trust.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

## INVESTMENT SUMMARY

*Use this Investment Summary to help you decide whether an investment in this trust is right for you. More detailed information can be found later in this prospectus.*

### Overview

Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542 is a unit investment trust that consists of the California Municipal Portfolio of Funds, Series 55 (the “trust”). Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC (“Guggenheim Funds” or the “sponsor”) serves as the sponsor of the trust.

The trust is scheduled to terminate in approximately two years.

### Investment Objective

The trust seeks to provide current income and the potential for capital appreciation.

### Principal Investment Strategy

Under normal circumstances, the trust will invest at least 80% of the value of its assets in closed-end investment companies (“Closed-End Funds”) and shares of exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) that invest substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds, the income from which is exempt from regular federal and California state income taxes. The trust contains common shares of Closed-End Funds and ETFs, the majority of which contain portfolios that invest substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds, which are rated investment-grade by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

See “Description of Ratings” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information regarding the ratings criteria.

## Security Selection

The sponsor has selected for the portfolio Closed-End Funds believed to have the best potential to achieve the trust’s investment objective. The trust seeks to provide monthly income that is exempt from federal and California state income taxes by investing in Closed-End Funds that invest in California municipal bonds. However, the trust may invest up to 20% of the value of its assets in Closed-End Funds that invest substantially all of their assets in municipal bonds that are exempt from regular federal income tax but not from California state income tax. Municipal bonds generally offer investors the potential for stable tax-free income. However, a portion of the income may be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals as well as federal, state and local taxes. For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, exempt-interest dividends may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations.

When selecting Closed-End Funds for inclusion in this portfolio the sponsor looks at numerous factors. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- **Investment Objective.** The sponsor favors funds that have a clear investment objective in line with the trust’s objective and, based upon a review of publicly available information, appear to be maintaining it.
- **Premium/Discount.** The sponsor favors funds that are trading at a discount relative to their peers and relative to their long-term average.
- **Consistent Dividend.** The sponsor favors funds that have a history of paying a consistent and competitive dividend.

- **Performance.** The sponsor favors funds that have a history of strong relative performance (based on market price and net asset value) when compared to their peers and an applicable benchmark.

The sponsor has selected for the portfolio ETFs believed to have the best potential to achieve the trust’s investment objective. The trust seeks to provide monthly income that is exempt from federal and California state income taxes by investing in ETFs that invest in California municipal bonds. Municipal bonds generally offer investors the potential for stable tax-free income. However, a portion of the income may be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals as well as federal, state and local taxes. For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, exempt-interest dividends may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations.

The sponsor will seek to select ETFs for inclusion in the trust portfolio that invests substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds. When selecting the ETFs the sponsor looks at numerous factors. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- **Liquidity.** The sponsor selects ETFs that demonstrate adequate liquidity for the trust’s needs.
- **Investment Objective.** The sponsor favors ETFs that have a clear investment objective in line with the trust’s objective and, based upon a review of publicly available information, appear to be maintaining it.

As of the Inception Date, the ETFs comprised approximately 38% of the trust’s portfolio.

## **Exchange-Traded Funds**

ETFs are investment pools that hold securities. ETFs provide an efficient and relatively simple way to invest in that they offer investors the opportunity to buy and sell an entire basket of securities with a single transaction throughout the trading day. ETFs are often built like an index fund, but trade like a stock on an exchange. ETFs generally offer advantages similar to those found in index funds such as low operating costs, performance designed to track an index, the potential for high tax efficiency and consistent investment strategies. Unlike conventional mutual funds, ETFs normally issue and redeem shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value in large specified blocks of shares, known as “creation units.” Market makers, large investors and institutions deal in creation units. The trust will buy shares of the ETFs on the exchanges and will incur brokerage costs.

## **Future Trusts**

The sponsor may create future trusts that follow the same general investment strategy. One such trust is expected to be available approximately three months after the trust’s initial date of deposit (the “*Inception Date*”) and upon the trust’s termination. Each trust is designed to be part of a longer term strategy.

### Essential Information (as of the Inception Date)

Inception Date	November 25, 2025
Unit Price	\$10.00
Termination Date	November 29, 2027
Distribution Date	25th day of each month (commencing December 25, 2025, if any)
Record Date	15th day of each month (commencing December 15, 2025, if any)

#### CUSIP Numbers

Cash Distributions	
Standard Accounts	40178M640
Fee Account Cash	40178M665

Reinvested Distributions	
Standard Accounts	40178M657
Fee Account Reinvest	40178M673

Ticker	CECAEX
--------	--------

### Portfolio Diversification

Security Type	Approximate Portfolio Percentage
Closed-End Funds	62.00%
Exchange-Traded Funds	38.00
Total	100.00%

Minimum Investment	
All accounts	1 unit

### Principal Risks

As with all investments, you may lose some or all of your investment in the trust. No assurance can be given that the trust's investment objective will be achieved. The trust also might not perform as well as you expect. This can happen for reasons such as these:

- **Securities prices can be volatile.** The value of your investment may fall over time. Market value fluctuates in response to various factors. These can include stock market movements, purchases or sales of securities by the trust, government policies, litigation,

and changes in interest rates, inflation, the financial condition of the securities' issuer or even perceptions of the issuer. Changes in legal, political, regulatory, tax and economic conditions may cause fluctuations in markets and securities prices, which could negatively impact the value of the trust. Additionally, events such as war, terrorism, natural and environmental disasters and the spread of infectious illnesses or other public health emergencies may adversely affect the economy, various markets and issuers. For example, the ongoing conflicts in the Ukraine and Gaza, the outbreak of the coronavirus disease, and federal regulatory restrictions on U.S. corporate issuer investments in China and Russia have all recently affected issuers and markets. The complete economic impact of any such future event may be difficult or impossible to predict. Units of the trust are not deposits of any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

- **The trust includes Closed-End Funds.** Closed-End Funds are actively managed investment companies that invest in various types of securities. Closed-End Funds issue common shares that are traded on a securities exchange. Closed-End Funds are subject to various risks, including management's ability to meet the Closed-End Fund's investment objective and to manage the Closed-End Fund's portfolio during periods of market turmoil and as investors' perceptions regarding Closed-End Funds or their underlying investments change. Closed-End Funds are not

redeemable at the option of the shareholder and they may trade in the market at a discount to their net asset value. Closed-End Funds may also employ the use of leverage which increases risk and volatility.

- **The trust invests in shares of ETFs.** ETFs are investment pools that hold other securities. The ETFs in the trust may be passively-managed index funds that seek to replicate the performance or composition of a recognized securities index. ETFs are subject to various risks, including management's ability to meet the fund's investment objective. Shares of ETFs may trade at a premium or discount from their net asset value in the secondary market. If the trust has to sell an ETF share when the share is trading at a premium or a discount, the trust will receive a price that is more than or less than, respectively, the ETF's net asset value. If the trust has to buy an ETF share when the share is trading at a premium or a discount, the trust will buy at a price that is more than or less than, respectively, the ETF's net asset value. ETF shares purchased at a premium may experience losses should the premium be reduced over time. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that the net asset value of the ETF shares may decrease. The amount of such discount from net asset value is subject to change from time to time in response to various factors. The underlying ETF has management and operating expenses. Consequently, you will bear not only your share of your trust's expenses, but also the expenses of the underlying ETFs. By investing in ETFs, the trust incurs greater

expenses than you would incur if you invested directly in the ETFs.

- **The trust is subject to an ETF's index correlation risk.** To the extent that an underlying ETF is an index tracking ETF, index correlation risk is the risk that the performance of an ETF will vary from the actual performance of the fund's target index, known as "tracking error." This can happen due to fund expenses, transaction costs, market impact, corporate actions (such as mergers and spin-offs) and timing variances.
- **The Closed-End Funds and ETFs are subject to annual fees and expenses, including a management fee.** Unitholders of the trust will bear these fees in addition to the fees and expenses of the trust. See "Fees and Expenses" for additional information.
- **The value of the fixed-income securities in the Closed-End Funds and ETFs will generally fall if interest rates, in general, rise.** Typically, fixed-income securities with longer periods before maturity are more sensitive to interest rate changes. No one can predict whether interest rates will rise or fall in the future.
- **A Closed-End Fund, ETF or an issuer of securities held by a Closed-End Fund or ETF may be unwilling or unable to make principal payments and/or to declare distributions in the future, may call a security before its stated maturity, or may reduce the level of distributions declared.** Issuers may suspend dividends during the life of

the trust. This may result in a reduction in the value of your units.

- **The financial condition of a Closed-End Fund, ETF or an issuer of securities held by a Closed-End Fund or ETF may worsen, resulting in a reduction in the value of your units.** This may occur at any point in time, including during the primary offering period.
- **Certain Closed-End Funds or ETFs held by the trust may invest in securities that are rated as investment-grade by only one rating agency.** As a result, such split-rated securities may have more speculative characteristics and are subject to a greater risk of default than securities rated as investment-grade by more than one rating agency.
- **All of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs held by the trust invest in municipal bonds, and the majority of these Closed-End Funds and ETFs invest substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds.** Municipal bonds are long-term fixed rate debt obligations that decline in value with increases in interest rates, an issuer's worsening financial condition, a drop in bond ratings or when there is a decrease in the federal income tax rate. Typically, bonds with longer periods before maturity are more sensitive to interest rate changes. Additionally, legislative changes, the strength of state and local economies, business development and the condition of the securities markets may negatively affect the value the municipal bonds. Municipal bonds may also be called or redeemed prior

to their stated maturity, an event which is more likely to occur when interest rates fall. In such an occurrence, a Closed-End Fund or ETF in which the trust invests may not be able to reinvest the money it receives in other bonds that have as high a yield or as long a maturity. Municipal bonds generally generate income exempt from federal income taxation, but may be subject to the alternative minimum tax on individuals. For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, interest on the bonds may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations. In addition, some or all of the income generated by a Closed-End Fund or ETF may not be exempt from regular federal or California state income taxes and as a result, the related income paid by the trust may also be subject to regular federal and state income taxes. Capital gains, if any, may be subject to tax. Because the Closed-End Funds and ETFs are concentrated in bonds of issuers located in California, there may be more risk than if the bonds were issued by issuers located in several states.

- **The trust is susceptible California state specific risk as the majority of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs in which the trust invests invest substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds.** Because the trust includes Closed-End Funds and ETFs containing bonds of issuers located in California, there may be more risk than if the bonds were issued by issuers located in several states. The financial condition of California is affected by various national and local, economic, social and environmental



policies and conditions and may have an effect on the value of the units in the trust. Additionally, Constitutional and statutory limitations imposed on the State and its local governments concerning taxes, bond indebtedness and other matters may constrain the revenue-generating capacity of the State and its local governments and, therefore, the ability of the issuers of the bonds to satisfy their obligations.

- **Economic conditions may lead to limited liquidity and greater volatility.** The markets for fixed-income securities, such as those held by certain Closed-End Funds and ETFs, may experience periods of illiquidity and volatility. General market uncertainty and consequent repricing risk have led to market imbalances of sellers and buyers, which in turn have resulted in significant valuation uncertainties in a variety of fixed-income securities. These conditions resulted, and in many cases continue to result in, greater volatility, less liquidity, widening credit spreads and a lack of price transparency, with many debt securities remaining illiquid and of uncertain value. These market conditions may make valuation of some of the securities held by a Closed-End Fund or ETF uncertain and/or result in sudden and significant valuation increases or declines in its holdings.
- **Share prices or distributions on the securities in the trust may decline during the life of the trust.** There is no guarantee that share prices of the securities in the trust will not decline and that the issuers of the securities will declare distributions in the future and, if

declared, whether they will remain at current levels or increase over time.

- **The trust may be susceptible to potential risks through breaches in cybersecurity.** A breach in cybersecurity refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the trust to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption or lose operational capacity. Such events could cause the sponsor of the trust to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss. In addition, cybersecurity breaches of the trust's third-party service providers, or issuers in which the trust invests, can also subject the trust to many of the same risks associated with direct cybersecurity breaches.
- **The trust is subject to risks arising from various operational factors and their service providers.** Operational factors include, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the trust's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or systems failures. Additionally, the trust may be subject to the risk that a service provider may not be willing or able to perform their duties as required or contemplated by their agreements with the trust. Although the trust seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures, there is no way to completely protect against such risks.

- **Inflation may lead to a decrease in the value of assets or income from investments.**
- **The sponsor does not actively manage the portfolio.** The trust will generally hold, and may, when creating additional units, continue to buy, the same securities even though a security's outlook, market value or yield may have changed.

See "Investment Risks" in Part A of the prospectus and "Risk Factors" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

### **Tax Status**

**Federal Tax.** Some dividends on the securities in the trust may be designated as "capital gains dividends" for federal tax purposes, generally taxable to you as long-term capital gains. Some dividends on the securities in the trust may qualify as "exempt-interest dividends," which generally are excluded from your gross income for federal income tax purposes. Some or all of the exempt-interest dividends, however, may be taken into account in determining the alternative minimum tax on individuals, and may have other tax consequences (*e.g.*, they may affect the amount of your social security benefits that are taxed). For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, exempt-interest dividends may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations. Other dividends on the securities in the trust will generally be taxable to you as ordinary income. See "Tax Status" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

**California Tax.** Chapman and Cutler LLP has examined the income tax laws of the State of California to determine its applicability to the trust and to the holders of units in the trust who are full-time residents of the State of

California. See "California State Taxes" in Part B of the prospectus for further information regarding California state tax applicable to the trust and California unitholders.

### **Who Should Invest**

You should consider this investment if:

- You want current income and diversification;
- The trust represents only a portion of your overall investment portfolio; and
- The trust is part of a longer term investment strategy.

You should not consider this investment if:

- You are unwilling to accept the risks involved with owning Closed-End Funds that hold municipal bonds;
- You are seeking a short-term investment or an investment to be used as a trading vehicle;
- You are seeking an aggressive high-growth investment strategy;
- You are uncomfortable with the risks of an unmanaged investment in securities; or
- You want capital preservation.



## Fees and Expenses

The amounts below are estimates of the direct and indirect fees and expenses that you may incur based on a \$10 unit price. Actual expenses may vary.

<b>Investor Fees</b>	<b>Percentage of Public Offering Price (4)</b>	<b>Amount Per 100 Units</b>
<b>Initial sales fee</b>		
<b>paid on purchase (1)</b>	0.00%	\$ 0.00
<b>Deferred sales fee (2)</b>	2.25	22.50
<b>Creation and development fee (3)</b>	0.50	5.00
<b>Maximum sales fees</b> (including creation and development fee)	2.75%	\$27.50
<b>Estimated organization costs</b> (amount per 100 units as a percentage of the public offering price)	0.2410%	\$2.410
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>Approximate % of Public Offering Price (4)</b>	<b>Amount Per 100 Units</b>
Trustee's fee	0.1050%	\$ 1.050
Sponsor's supervisory fee	0.0300	0.300
Evaluator's fee	0.0350	0.350
Bookkeeping and administrative fee	0.0350	0.350
Estimated other trust operating expenses (5)	0.0159	0.159
Estimated acquired fund expenses (6)	2.3200	23.200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.5409%</b>	<b>\$25.409</b>

- (1) The initial sales fee provided above is based on the unit price on the Inception Date. The combination of the initial and deferred sales charge comprises what we refer to as the "transactional sales charge." The initial sales charge is equal to the difference between the maximum sales charge and the sum of any remaining deferred sales charge and creation and development fee ("C&D Fee"). The percentage and dollar amount of the initial sales fee will vary as the unit price varies and after deferred fees begin. When the Public Offering Price per unit equals \$10, there is no initial sales charge. If the price you pay for your units exceeds \$10 per unit, you will pay an initial sales charge. Despite the variability of the initial sales fee, each unitholder is obligated to pay the entire applicable maximum sales fee.

- (2) The deferred sales charge is a fixed dollar amount equal to \$0.225 per unit and is deducted in monthly installments of \$0.075 per unit on the last business day of March 2026 through May 2026. The percentage provided is based on a \$10 per unit Public Offering Price as of the Inception Date and the percentage amount will vary over time. If the price you pay for your units exceeds \$10 per unit, the deferred sales fee will be less than 2.25% of the Public Offering Price unit. If the price you pay for your units is less than \$10 per unit, the deferred sales fee will exceed 2.25% of the Public Offering Price. If units are redeemed prior to the deferred sales fee period, the entire deferred sales fee will be collected. If you purchase units after the first deferred sales fee payment has been assessed, your maximum sales fee will consist of an initial sales fee and the amount of any remaining deferred sales fee payments.
- (3) The C&D Fee compensates the sponsor for creating and developing your trust. The actual C&D Fee is \$0.050 per unit and is paid to the sponsor at the close of the initial offering period, which is expected to be approximately three months from the Inception Date. Units purchased after the close of the initial offering period do not pay the C&D Fee. The percentages provided are based on a \$10 unit as of the Inception Date and the percentage amount will vary over time. If the unit price exceeds \$10 per unit, the C&D Fee will be less than 0.50% of the Public Offering Price; if the unit price is less than \$10 per unit, the C&D Fee will exceed 0.50% of the Public Offering Price. However, in no event will the maximum sales fee exceed 2.75% of a unitholder's initial investment.
- (4) Based on 100 units with a \$10 per unit Public Offering Price as of the Inception Date.
- (5) The estimated trust operating expenses are based upon an estimated trust size. Because certain of the operating expenses are fixed amounts, if the trust does not reach such estimated size or falls below the estimated size over its life, the actual amount of the operating expenses may exceed the amounts reflected. In some cases, the actual amount of the operating expenses may greatly exceed the amounts reflected. Other operating expenses do not include brokerage costs and other transactional fees.
- (6) Although not an actual trust operating expense, the trust, and therefore the unitholders of the trust, will indirectly bear similar operating expenses of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs held by the trust in the estimated amount provided above. Estimated Closed-End Fund and ETF expenses are based upon the net asset value of the number of Closed-End Fund and ETF shares held by the trust per unit multiplied by the Annual Operating Expenses of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs for the most recent fiscal year. Unitholders will therefore indirectly pay higher expenses than if the underlying Closed-End Funds or ETFs were held directly. Please note that the sponsor or an affiliate may be engaged as a service provider to certain Closed-End Funds or ETFs held by your trust and therefore certain fees paid by your trust to such Closed-End Funds or ETFs will be paid to the sponsor or an affiliate for its services to such Closed-End Funds or ETFs.

### Example

This example helps you compare the costs of this trust with other unit trusts and mutual funds. In the example we assume that you reinvest your investment in a new trust every other year with the maximum sales fees, the trust's operating expenses do not change and the trust's annual return is 5%. Your actual returns and expenses will vary. Based on these assumptions, you would pay these expenses for every \$10,000 you invest:

1 year	\$ 560
3 years	1,385
5 years	2,221
10 years	4,200

These amounts are the same regardless of whether you sell your investment at the end of a period or continue to hold your investment. The example does not consider any brokerage fees the trust pays or any transaction fees that broker-dealers may charge for processing redemption requests.

See "Expenses of the Trust" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

## Trust Portfolio

### Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542

### California Municipal Portfolio of Funds, Series 55

### The Trust Portfolio as of the Inception Date, November 25, 2025

Ticker	Company Name (1)	Percentage of Aggregate Offer Price	Initial Shares	Per Share Price	Cost To Portfolio (2)
<b>CLOSED-END FUNDS (62.00%)</b>					
VCV	Invesco California Value Municipal Income Trust	10.00%	1,390	\$ 10.7900	\$ 14,998
NVG	Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund	5.00	594	12.6200	7,496
NEA	Nuveen AMT-Free Quality Municipal Income Fund	5.00	661	11.3400	7,496
NCA	Nuveen California Municipal Value Fund	2.00	329	9.1122	2,998
NAC	Nuveen California Quality Municipal Income Fund	20.00	2,558	11.7300	30,005
NAD	Nuveen Quality Municipal Income Fund	5.00	629	11.9200	7,498
PCQ	PIMCO California Municipal Income Fund	15.00	2,577	8.7300	22,497
<b>EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS (38.00%)</b>					
PWZ	Invesco California AMT-Free Municipal Bond ETF	10.00	619	24.2500	15,011
CMF	iShares California Muni Bond ETF	14.00	365	57.5800	21,017
VTEC	Vanguard California Tax-Exempt Bond ETF	14.00	209	100.5300	21,011
					<u>\$ 150,027</u>

- (1) All securities are represented entirely by contracts to purchase securities, which were entered into by the trust on the trust's inception date. All contracts for securities are expected to be settled by the initial settlement date for the purchase of units.
- (2) Valuation of securities was performed as of the Evaluation Time on November 24, 2025. For securities quoted on a national exchange, including the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc., securities are generally valued at the closing sale price using the market value per share. For foreign securities traded on a foreign exchange, if any, securities are generally valued at the closing sale price on the applicable exchange converted into U.S. dollars. The trust's investments are classified as Level 1, which refers to security prices determined using quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

### How to Buy Units

You can buy units of your trust on any business day by contacting your financial professional. Public offering prices of units are available daily on the Internet at **www.guggenheiminvestments.com**. The unit price includes:

- the value of the securities,
- organization costs,
- the maximum sales fee (which includes an initial sales fee, if applicable, a deferred sales fee and the creation and development fee), and
- cash and other net assets in the portfolio.

We often refer to the purchase price of units as the “*offer price*” or the “*Public Offering Price*.” We must receive your order to buy units prior to the close of the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) to give you the price for that day. If we receive your order after this time, you will receive the price computed on the next business day.

***Value of the Securities.*** The sponsor serves as the evaluator of your trust (the “*evaluator*”). We cause the trustee to determine the value of the securities as of the close of the New York Stock Exchange on each day that the exchange is open (the “*Evaluation Time*”).

***Pricing the Securities.*** The value of securities is generally determined by using the last sale price for securities traded on a national or foreign securities exchange or the NASDAQ Stock Market. In some cases we will price a

security based on the last asked or bid price in the over-the-counter market or by using other recognized pricing methods. We will only do this if a security is not principally traded on a national or foreign securities exchange or the NASDAQ Stock Market, or if the market quotes are unavailable or inappropriate.

If applicable, the trustee or its designee will value foreign securities primarily traded on foreign exchanges at their fair value which may be other than their market prices if the market quotes are unavailable or inappropriate.

The trustee determined the initial prices of the securities shown in “Trust Portfolio” for your trust in this prospectus. Such prices were determined as described above at the close of the New York Stock Exchange on the business day before the date of this prospectus. On the first day we sell units we will compute the unit price as of the close of the New York Stock Exchange or the time the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission becomes effective, if later.

***Organization Costs.*** During the initial offering period, part of your purchase price includes a per unit amount sufficient to reimburse us for some or all of the costs of creating your trust. These costs include the costs of preparing the registration statement and legal documents, legal fees, federal and state registration fees, the portfolio consulting fee, if applicable, and the initial fees and expenses of the trustee. Your trust will sell securities to reimburse us for these costs at the end of the initial offering period or after six months, at the discretion of the sponsor. The estimated organization costs shown under the “Investment Summary – Fees and Expenses” section are based upon an estimated trust size. Because certain of the organization costs are fixed amounts, if the trust does not reach such

estimated size, the actual amount of organization costs may exceed the estimated amounts. However, the sponsor has agreed to cap the organization costs so that you will not pay more than 0.80% of the public offering price (\$8.00 per 100 units) in organization costs.

***Transactional Sales Fee.*** You pay a fee when you buy units. We refer to this fee as the “*transactional sales fee*.” The transactional sales fee for the trust typically has only a deferred component of 2.25% of the Public Offering Price, based on a \$10 unit. This percentage amount of the transactional sales fee is based on the unit price on the Inception Date. Because the transactional sales fee equals the difference between the maximum sales fee and the C&D Fee, the percentage and dollar amount of the transactional sales fee will vary as the unit price varies.

The transactional sales fee does not include the C&D Fee which is described in “Fees and Expenses” in Part A of the prospectus and under “Expenses of the Trust” in Part B of the prospectus.

***Initial Sales Fee.*** On the date of deposit, the trust does not charge an initial sales fee. However, you will be charged an initial sales fee if you purchase your units after the first deferred sales fee payment has been assessed or if the price you pay for your units exceeds \$10 per unit. The initial sales fee, which you will pay at the time of purchase, is equal to the difference between the maximum sales fee (2.75% of the Public Offering Price) and the sum of the maximum remaining deferred sales fee and the C&D Fee (initially \$0.275 per unit). The dollar amount and percentage amount of the initial sales fee will vary over time.

***Deferred Sales Fee.*** We defer payment of the rest of the transactional sales fee through the

deferred sales fee (\$0.225 per unit). You pay any remaining deferred sales fee when you sell or redeem units. The trust may sell securities to meet the trust’s obligations with respect to the deferred sales fee. Thus, no assurance can be given that the trust will retain its present size and composition for any length of time.

In limited circumstances and only if deemed in the best interests of unitholders, the sponsor may delay the payment of the deferred sales fee from the dates listed under “Fees and Expenses.”

When you purchase units of your trust, if your total maximum sales fee is less than the fixed dollar amount of the deferred sales fee and the C&D Fee, the sponsor will credit you the difference between your maximum sales fee and the sum of the deferred sales fee and the C&D Fee at the time you buy units by providing you with additional units.

***Advisory and Fee Accounts.*** We eliminate your transactional sales fee for purchases made through registered investment advisers, certified financial planners or registered broker-dealers who charge periodic fees in lieu of commissions or who charge for financial planning or for investment advisory or asset management services or provide these services as part of an investment account where a comprehensive “wrap fee” is imposed (a “*Fee Account*”).

This discount applies during the initial offering period and in the secondary market. Your financial professional may purchase units with the Fee Account CUSIP numbers to facilitate purchases under this discount, however, we do not require that you buy units with these CUSIP numbers to qualify for the discount. If you purchase units with these special CUSIP numbers, you should be aware that you may have the distributions automatically reinvest into additional units of your trust or receive cash

distributions. We reserve the right to limit or deny purchases of units not subject to the transactional sales fee by investors whose frequent trading activity we determine to be detrimental to your trust. We, as sponsor, will receive and you will pay the C&D Fee. See “Expenses of the Trust” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

***Employees.*** We do not charge the portion of the transactional sales fee that we would normally pay to your financial professional for purchases made by officers, directors and employees and their family members (spouses, children under the age of 21 living in the same household and parents) of Guggenheim Funds and its affiliates, or by employees of selling firms, their affiliates and their family members (spouses, children under the age of 21 living in the same household and parents). You pay only the portion of the fee that the sponsor retains. Such purchases are also subject to the C&D Fee. This discount applies during the initial offering period and in the secondary market. Only those broker-dealers that allow their employees to participate in employee discount programs will be eligible for this discount. All employee discounts are subject to the policies of the related selling firm, including any eligibility limitations enforced by the selling firm.

***Certain Self-Directed Brokerage Platforms.*** Eligible purchases of units through E\*TRADE and/or any other Morgan Stanley self-directed brokerage platform will be executed at the public offering price less the portion of the transactional sales fee that would be paid to distribution firms. You pay only the portion of the fee that the sponsor retains. Such purchases are also subject to the C&D fee. This discount applies during the initial offering period and in the secondary market.

***Dividend Reinvestment Plan.*** We do not charge any transactional sales fee when you

reinvest distributions from your trust into additional units of the trust. Since the deferred sales fee is a fixed dollar amount per unit, your trust must charge the deferred sales fee per unit regardless of this discount. If you elect the distribution reinvestment plan, we will credit you with additional units with a dollar value sufficient to cover the amount of any remaining deferred sales fee that will be collected on such units at the time of reinvestment. The dollar value of these units will fluctuate over time. This discount applies during the initial offering period and in the secondary market.

See “Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units” in Part B of the prospectus for more information regarding buying units.

***How We Distribute Units.*** We sell units to the public through broker-dealers and other firms. We pay part of the sales fee you pay to these distribution firms when they sell units. The distribution fee paid is 2.00% of the Public Offering Price per unit.

Eligible dealer firms and other selling agents that sell units of Guggenheim Funds unit trusts in the primary market to financial intermediaries other than the sponsor are eligible to receive additional compensation for volume sales. Such payments will be in addition to the regular concessions paid to dealer firms as set forth in the applicable trust’s prospectus. For this volume concession, Guggenheim Investment Grade Corporate Trust 3-7 Year, Investment Grade Corporate Trust 3-7 Year, Guggenheim Investment Grade Corporate Trust 5-8 Year and Guggenheim Short Duration High Yield Trust are designated as “Fixed Income Trusts” and all other Guggenheim Funds unit trusts are designated as “Equity Trusts.” Sales of units from the following Guggenheim Funds unit trust strategies will not count toward this volume concession: Advisory Series: Guggenheim



Investment Grade Corporate Trust 3-7 Year; Advisory Series: Investment Grade Corporate 3-7 Year Trust; Blue Chip Growth Portfolio, CDA; ARK Early Stage Disruptors Portfolio, CDA; Dow 50 Value Dividend Portfolio, CDA; Kensho Space Exploration & Innovation Portfolio, CDA and S&P Dividend Aristocrats Select 25 Strategy Portfolio, CDA. Eligible dealer firms and other selling agents who, during the previous consecutive 12-month period through the end of the most recent month, sold primary market units of eligible Guggenheim Funds unit investment trusts to financial intermediaries other than the sponsor in the dollar amounts shown below will be entitled to up to the following additional sales concession on primary market sales of units during the current month of unit investment trusts sponsored by us:

Total Sales (in millions)	Additional Concession for Equity Trust Units	Additional Concession for Fixed Income Trust Units
\$25 but less than \$100	0.035%	0.035%
\$100 but less than \$150	0.050%	0.050%
\$150 but less than \$250	0.075%	0.075%
\$250 but less than \$1,000	0.100%	0.100%
\$1,000 but less than \$5,000	0.125%	0.100%
\$5,000 but less than \$7,500	0.150%	0.100%
\$7,500 or more	0.175%	0.100%

Dealer firms or other selling agents deemed to be an underwriter for a Fixed Income Trust will not be eligible to receive the above sales concession on the underwritten units for that trust. However, Fixed Income Trust units sold in an underwriting to financial intermediaries other

than the sponsor will be included in the total sales calculation when determining the appropriate sales concession level for the dealer firm or other selling agent. Please see the respective Fixed Income Trust's prospectus for more information.

To the extent a dealer firm or other selling agent collects from the sponsor onboarding or due diligence fees associated with the onboarding of a Guggenheim Funds unit investment trust, the sponsor may determine that such fees will reduce the amount of the additional sales concession paid to that firm or agent.

Eligible unit trusts include Fixed Income Trusts and Equity Trusts sold in the primary market to financial intermediaries other than the sponsor. Redemptions of units during the primary offering period will reduce the amount of units used to calculate the volume concessions. In addition, dealer firms will not receive volume concessions on the sale of units which are not subject to a transactional sales fee. However, such sales will be included in determining whether a firm has met the sales level breakpoints for volume concessions.

Guggenheim Funds reserves the right to modify or terminate the volume concession program at any time. The sponsor may also pay to certain dealers an administrative fee for information or service used in connection with the distribution of trust units. Such amounts will be in addition to any concessions received for the sale of units.

In addition to the concessions described above, the sponsor may pay additional compensation out of its own assets to broker-dealers that meet certain sales targets and that have agreed to provide services relating to the trust to their customers.

***Other Compensation and Benefits to Broker-Dealers.*** The sponsor, at its own expense and out of its own profits, may provide additional compensation and benefits to broker-dealers who sell shares of units of your trust and other Guggenheim products. This compensation is intended to result in additional sales of Guggenheim products and/or compensate broker-dealers and financial advisors for past sales. A number of factors are considered in determining whether to pay these additional amounts. Such factors may include, but are not limited to, the level or type of services provided by the intermediary, the level or expected level of sales of Guggenheim products by the intermediary or its agents, the placing of Guggenheim products on a preferred or recommended product list, access to an intermediary's personnel, and other factors.

The sponsor makes these payments for marketing, promotional or related expenses, including, but not limited to, expenses of entertaining retail customers and financial advisers, advertising, sponsorship of events or seminars, obtaining information about the breakdown of unit sales among an intermediary's representatives or offices, obtaining shelf space in broker-dealer firms and similar activities designed to promote the sale of the sponsor's products. The sponsor may make such payments to many intermediaries that sell Guggenheim products. The sponsor may also make certain payments to, or on behalf of, intermediaries to defray a portion of their costs incurred for the purpose of facilitating unit sales, such as the costs of developing trading or purchasing trading systems to process unit trades.

Payments of such additional compensation, some of which may be characterized as "revenue sharing," may create an incentive for financial intermediaries and their agents to sell or recommend a Guggenheim product, including

your trust, over products offered by other sponsors or fund companies. These arrangements will not change the price you pay for your units.

We generally register units for sale in various states in the United States. We do not register units for sale in any foreign country. It is your financial professional's responsibility to make sure that units are registered or exempt from registration if you are a foreign investor or if you want to buy units in another country. This prospectus does not constitute an offer of units in any state or country where units cannot be offered or sold lawfully. We may reject any order for units in whole or in part.

We may gain or lose money when we hold units in the primary or secondary market due to fluctuations in unit prices. The gain or loss is equal to the difference between the price we pay for units and the price at which we sell or redeem them. We may also gain or lose money when we deposit securities to create units. For example, we lost the amount set forth in your "Trust Portfolio" on the initial deposit of securities into your trust.

See "Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

## **How to Sell Your Units**

You can sell your units on any business day by contacting your financial professional or, in some cases, the trustee. Unit prices are available daily on the Internet at **[www.guggenheiminvestments.com](http://www.guggenheiminvestments.com)** or through your financial professional. We often refer to the sale price of units as the "*liquidation price*." You pay any remaining deferred sales fee when you sell or redeem your units. Certain broker-dealers may charge a transaction fee for processing unit redemptions or sale requests.

Until the end of the initial offering period or six months after the Inception Date, at the discretion of the sponsor, the price at which the trustee will redeem units and the price at which the sponsor may repurchase units include organization costs. After such period, the amount paid will not include such organization costs. If units of the trust are redeemed prior to the deferred sales fee period, the entire deferred sales fee will be collected.

***Selling Units.*** We do not intend to but may maintain a secondary market for units. This means that if you want to sell your units, we may buy them at the current price which is based on their net asset value. We may then resell the units to other investors at the Public Offering Price or redeem them for the redemption price. Our secondary market repurchase price is generally the same as the redemption price. Certain broker-dealers might also maintain a secondary market in units. You should contact your financial professional for current unit prices to determine the best price available. We may discontinue our secondary market at any time without notice. Even if we do not make a market, you will be able to redeem your units with the trustee on any business day for the current price.

***Redeeming Units.*** You may also be able to redeem your units directly with the trustee, The Bank of New York Mellon, on any day the New York Stock Exchange is open. The trustee must receive your completed redemption request prior to the close of the New York Stock Exchange for you to receive the unit price for a particular day. (For what constitutes a completed redemption request, see “Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units–Redemption” in Part B of the prospectus.) If your request is received after that time or is incomplete in any way, you will receive the next price computed after the trustee receives your completed request. Rather than contacting the trustee directly, your financial

professional may also be able to redeem your units by using the Investors’ Voluntary Redemptions and Sales (IVORS) automated redemption service offered through Depository Trust Company.

If you redeem your units, the trustee will generally send you a payment for your units no later than two business days after it receives all necessary documentation. At the sponsor’s discretion, certain redemptions may be made by an in-kind distribution of the securities underlying the units in lieu of cash.

You can generally request an in-kind distribution of the securities underlying your units if you own units worth at least \$25,000 or you originally paid at least that amount for your units and you have held your units through the end of the initial offering period. This option is generally available only for securities traded and held in the United States and is not available within 30 business days of the trust’s termination. We may modify or discontinue this option at any time without notice. If you request an in-kind distribution of the securities underlying units of your trust, you may incur any distribution or service fees (Rule 12b-1 fees) applicable to those securities.

For more complete information regarding selling or redeeming your units, see “Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units” in Part B of the prospectus.

## **Distributions**

***Dividends.*** Your trust generally pays dividends from its net investment income, if any, along with any excess capital on each distribution date to unitholders of record on the preceding record date. You can elect to:

- reinvest distributions in additional units of your trust at no fee, or
- receive distributions in cash.

You may change your election by contacting your financial professional or the trustee. Once you elect to participate in a reinvestment program, the trustee will automatically reinvest your distributions into additional units at their net asset value two business days prior to the distribution date. We waive the sales fee for reinvestments into units of your trust. We cannot guarantee that units will always be available for reinvestment. If units are unavailable, you will receive cash distributions. We may discontinue these options at any time without notice.

Distributions will be made from the Income and Capital Accounts on the distribution date provided the aggregate amount available for distribution equals at least 0.1% of the net asset value of your trust. Undistributed money in the Income and Capital Accounts will be distributed in the next month in which the aggregate amount available for distribution equals or exceeds 0.1% of the net asset value of your trust.

In some cases, your trust might pay a special distribution if it holds an excessive amount of principal pending distribution. For example, this could happen as a result of a merger or similar transaction involving a company whose security is in your portfolio. The amount of your distributions will vary from time to time as companies change their dividends or default on interest payments, trust expenses change or as a result of changes in a trust's portfolio.

***Reinvest in Your Trust.*** You can keep your money working by electing to reinvest your distributions in additional units of your trust. The easiest way to do this is to have your financial professional purchase units with one of the

Reinvestment CUSIP numbers listed in the "Investment Summary" section of this prospectus. You may also make or change your election by contacting your financial professional or the trustee. This reinvestment option may be subject to availability or limitation by the broker-dealer or selling firm. In certain circumstances, broker-dealers may suspend or terminate the offering of a reinvestment option at any time.

***Reports.*** The trustee will send your financial professional a statement showing income and other receipts of your trust for each distribution. Each year the trustee will also provide an annual report on your trust's activity and certain tax information. Annual reports for 2022 and future years will not be distributed by the trustee in paper form. The annual reports are posted to the sponsor's website ([www.guggenheiminvestments.com](http://www.guggenheiminvestments.com)) in the UIT Literature link and retrievable by CUSIP. You may also request one be sent to you by calling the sponsor at 800-621-9944. You can request copies of security evaluations to enable you to complete your tax forms and audited financial statements for your trust, if available.

See "Administration of the Trust" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

## **Investment Risks**

***All investments involve risk.*** This section describes the main risks that can impact the value of the securities in your trust. You should understand these risks before you invest. You could lose some or all of your investment in your trust. Recently, equity markets have experienced significant volatility. If the value of the securities in your trust falls, the value of your units will also fall. We cannot guarantee that your trust will achieve its objective or that your investment return will be positive over any period.

**Market risk.** Market risk is the risk that a particular security in the trust, the trust itself or securities in general may fall in value. Market value may be affected by a variety of factors including:

- General securities markets movements;
- Changes in the financial condition of an issuer or a sector;
- Changes in perceptions about an issuer or a sector;
- Interest rates and inflation;
- Governmental policies and litigation; and
- Purchases and sales of securities by the trust.

Changes in legal, political, regulatory, tax and economic conditions may cause fluctuations in markets and securities prices, which could negatively impact the value of the trust. Additionally, events such as war, terrorism, natural and environmental disasters and the spread of infectious illnesses or other public health emergencies may adversely affect the economy, various markets and issuers. For example, the ongoing conflicts in the Ukraine and Gaza, the outbreak of the coronavirus disease, and federal regulatory restrictions on U.S. corporate issuer investments in China and Russia have all recently affected issuers and markets. The complete economic impact of any such future event may be difficult or impossible to predict.

Even though we carefully supervise your portfolio, you should remember that we do not manage your portfolio. Your trust will not sell a security solely because the market value falls as is possible in a managed fund.

**Closed-End Fund risk.** The trust invests in Closed-End Funds. Closed-End Funds are subject to various risks, including management's ability to meet the Closed-End Fund's investment objective and to manage the Closed-End Fund's portfolio during periods of market turmoil and as investors' perceptions regarding Closed-End Funds or their underlying investments change.

Shares of Closed-End Funds frequently trade at a discount from their net asset value in the secondary market. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that the net asset value of Closed-End Fund shares may decrease. The amount of such discount from net asset value is subject to change from time to time in response to various factors.

Certain Closed-End Funds included in the trusts may employ the use of leverage in their portfolios through the issuance of preferred stock. While leverage often serves to increase the yield of a Closed-End Fund, this leverage also subjects the Closed-End Fund to increased risks, including the likelihood of increased volatility and the possibility that the Closed-End Fund's common share income will fall if the dividend rate on the preferred shares or the interest rate on any borrowings rises. In addition, Closed-End Funds are subject to their own annual fees and expenses, including a management fee. Such fees reduce the potential benefits associated with owning a Closed-End Fund and are in addition to your trust's expenses.

**Exchange-traded funds risk.** The trust invests in shares of ETFs, which are investment pools that hold other securities. The ETFs in the trust may be passively-managed index funds that seek to replicate the performance or composition of a recognized securities index. The ETFs held by the trust are either open-end management investment companies or unit investment trusts



registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Unlike mutual funds or unit investment trusts, ETFs generally do not sell or redeem their individual shares at net asset value. ETFs generally sell and redeem shares in large blocks, often referred to as “creation units,” however, the sponsor does not intend to sell or redeem ETFs in this manner. Shares of ETFs are listed on securities exchanges for trading, which allows investors to purchase and sell individual ETF shares at current market prices throughout the day. The trust will purchase and sell ETF shares on these securities exchanges. ETFs therefore possess characteristics of traditional open-end mutual funds and unit investment trusts, which issue redeemable shares, and of corporate common stocks or closed-end funds, which generally issue shares that trade at negotiated prices on securities exchanges and are not redeemable.

ETFs are subject to various risks, including management’s ability to meet the fund’s investment objective. The trust is also subject to the risks to which the underlying ETFs may be subject, as well as management and operating expenses. You will bear not only your share of your trust’s expenses, but also the expenses of the ETFs. By investing in the ETFs, the trust incurs greater expenses than you would incur if you invested directly in the ETFs. Shares of ETFs may trade at a premium or discount from their net asset value in the secondary market. If the trust has to sell an ETF share when the share is trading at a premium or a discount, the trust will receive a price that is more than or less than, respectively, the ETF’s net asset value. If the trust has to buy an ETF share when the share is trading at a premium or a discount, the trust will buy at a price that is more than or less than, respectively, the ETF’s net asset value. ETF shares purchased at a premium may experience losses should the premium be reduced over time. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that the net asset value of the ETF shares may decrease. The

amount of such discount from net asset value is subject to change from time to time in response to various factors.

***Index correlation risk.*** Index correlation risk is the risk that the performance of an index-tracking ETF will vary from the actual performance of the ETF’s target index, known as “tracking error.” This can happen due to fund expenses, transaction costs, market impact, corporate actions (such as mergers and spin-offs) and timing variances. Some ETFs use a technique called “representative sampling,” which means that the ETF invests in a representative sample of securities in its target index rather than all of the index securities. The use of representative sampling could increase the risk of a tracking error.

***Municipal bond risk.*** The Closed-End Funds and ETFs held by the trust invest in municipal bonds, which are subject to various risks. The primary risk associated with an investment in municipal bonds is that the issuer or an insurer of the municipal bond will default on principal and/or interest payments when due on the municipal bond. In addition, fixed-rate municipal bonds are subject to further risks, including the risk that the value of such municipal bonds will decline with increases in interest rates or a decrease in the federal or state (if applicable) income tax rate.

Certain municipal bonds held by the Closed-End Funds and ETFs may be original issue discount bonds and/or zero coupon bonds. Original issue discount bonds are bonds originally issued at less than the market interest rate. Zero coupon bonds are original issue discount bonds that do not provide for the payment of any current interest. Zero coupon bonds are subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than bonds of comparable quality that pay current income.



Certain municipal bonds held by the Closed-End Funds and ETFs may have been purchased by the sponsor or issuers of the securities in a trust on a “when issued” basis. Municipal bonds purchased on a “when issued” basis have not yet been issued by their governmental entity on the initial date of deposit (although such governmental entity had committed to issue such municipal bonds). In the case of these and/or certain other municipal bonds, the delivery of the municipal bonds may be delayed (“delayed delivery”) or may not occur.

Certain municipal bonds held by the Closed-End Funds and ETFs are subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity date pursuant to sinking fund or call provisions. A call or redemption provision is more likely to be exercised when the offering price valuation of a bond is higher than its call or redemption price. Such price valuation is likely to be higher in periods of declining interest rates.

Dividends on certain of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs in your trust will not qualify as “exempt-interest dividends,” which generally are excluded from your gross income for federal income tax purposes. Some or all of the exempt-interest dividends, however, may be taken into account in determining the alternative minimum tax on individuals, and may have other tax consequences (*e.g.*, they may affect the amount of your social security benefits that are taxed). For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, exempt-interest dividends may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations.

***California state specific risk.*** Because the trust includes Closed-End Funds and ETFs containing bonds of issuers located in California, there may be more risk than if the bonds were issued by issuers located in several states. The financial condition of California is affected by

various national and local, economic, social and environmental policies and conditions and may have an effect on the value of the units in the trust. Additionally, Constitutional and statutory limitations imposed on the State and its local governments concerning taxes, bond indebtedness and other matters may constrain the revenue-generating capacity of the State and its local governments and, therefore, the ability of the issuers of the bonds to satisfy their obligations.

The economic vitality of California and its various regions and, therefore, the ability of the State and its local governments to satisfy the bonds, are affected by numerous factors, such as natural disasters, weakness in the technology sector and fluctuations in the energy supply. In addition, California’s population increase has resulted in traffic congestion, school overcrowding and high housing costs which have caused an increased demand for government services and which may impede future economic growth.

The state is a party to numerous lawsuits in which an adverse final decision could materially affect the state’s governmental operations and consequently its ability to pay debt service on its obligations.

As of November 25, 2025, all outstanding general obligation bonds of the state of California are rated “AA-” with a stable outlook by Standard & Poor’s.

***Interest rate risk.*** Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of securities held by a Closed-End Fund or ETF in your trust will decline in value because of a rise in interest rates. Generally, securities that pay fixed rates of return will increase in value when interest rates decline and decrease in value when interest rates rise. Typically, securities that pay fixed rates of return with longer periods before maturity are more

sensitive to interest rate changes. No one can predict whether interest rates will rise or fall in the future.

***Credit and dividend payment risk.*** Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of a security or a Closed-End Fund or ETF is unable or unwilling to make dividend interest and/or principal payments. High-yield or “junk” securities that are rated below investment-grade are generally more susceptible to credit risk than investment-grade securities.

***Call risk.*** Call risk is the risk that securities held by a Closed-End Fund or ETF in your trust can be prepaid or “called” by the issuer before their stated maturity. If securities are called, your income will decline and you may not be able to reinvest the money you receive at as high a yield. Also, an early call at par of a security trading at a premium will reduce your return. Securities held by your trust are more likely to be called when interest rates decline. This would result in early returns of principal to the Closed-End Funds in your trust. The securities may also be subject to special or extraordinary call provisions and “mandatory put” features that may cause the securities to be removed from a fund prior to maturity or stated call dates. High-yield or “junk” securities that are rated below investment-grade are generally more susceptible to this risk than investment-grade securities.

***Security quality risk.*** Security quality risk is the risk that a reduction in a security’s rating may decrease its value, the value of a Closed-End Fund and the value of your investment in your trust. Securities ratings may be reduced at any time, including during the primary offering period of your trust.

***Split-ratings risk.*** Split-rated securities are those securities that, at the time of investment, are rated below investment-grade by one rating

agency, so long as at least one other rating agency rates such securities within the four highest grades (i.e., investment-grade quality). This means that a split-rated security may be regarded by one rating agency as having predominately speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer’s capacity to pay interest and repay principal, and accordingly subject to a greater risk of default. The prices of split-rated securities, in the view of one but not all rating agencies, may be more sensitive than securities without a split-rating to negative developments, such as a decline in the issuer’s revenues or a general economic downturn.

***Limited liquidity and volatility risk.*** The markets for fixed-income securities, such as those held by certain Closed-End Funds held by your trust, may experience periods of illiquidity and volatility. General market uncertainty and consequent repricing risk have led to market imbalances of sellers and buyers, which in turn have resulted in significant valuation uncertainties in a variety of fixed-income securities. These conditions resulted, and in many cases continue to result in, greater volatility, less liquidity, widening credit spreads and a lack of price transparency, with many debt securities remaining illiquid and of uncertain value. These market conditions may make valuation of some of the securities held by a Closed-End Fund uncertain and/or result in sudden and significant valuation increases or declines in its holdings. In addition, illiquidity and volatility in the credit markets may directly and adversely affect the setting of dividend rates on the shares of the Closed-End Funds.

***Cybersecurity risk.*** The trust may be susceptible to potential risks through breaches in cybersecurity. A breach in cybersecurity refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the trust to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption or lose

operational capacity. Such events could cause the sponsor of the trust to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss. Cybersecurity breaches may involve unauthorized access to digital information systems utilized by the trust through “hacking” or malicious software coding, but may also result from outside attacks such as denial-of-service attacks through efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users. In addition, cybersecurity breaches of the trust’s third-party service providers, or issuers in which the trust invests, can also subject the trust to many of the same risks associated with direct cybersecurity breaches. The sponsor of the trust and third-party service providers have established risk management systems designed to reduce the risks associated with cybersecurity. However, there is no guarantee that such efforts will succeed, especially because the trust does not directly control the cybersecurity systems of issuers or third-party service providers.

***Operational and service provider risk.*** The trust is subject to risks arising from various operational factors and its service providers. Operational factors include, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the trust’s service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or systems failures. Additionally, the trust may be subject to the risk that a service provider may not be willing or able to perform their duties as required or contemplated by their agreements with the trust. Although the trust seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures, there is no way to completely protect against such risks.

***Litigation and legislation risk.*** Your trust is also subject to litigation and legislation risk. From time to time, various legislative initiatives

are proposed in the United States and abroad which may have a negative impact on certain issuers represented in the trust. In addition, litigation regarding any of the issuers of the securities or of the sectors represented by these issuers, may raise potential bankruptcy concerns and may negatively impact the share prices of these securities. We cannot predict what impact any pending or threatened litigation or any bankruptcy concerns will have on the prices of the securities.

***Inflation risk.*** Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investments will be less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money.

***Significant unitholders risk.*** There may be unitholders of the trust who hold a significant portion of the trust and, as result, a redemption by such significant holder may have a material impact on the size, expenses and viability of the trust.

See “Risk Factors” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

## **How the Trust Works**

***Your Trust.*** Your trust is a unit investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the Securities Act of 1933. We created your trust under a trust agreement between Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC (as sponsor, evaluator and supervisor) and The Bank of New York Mellon (as trustee). To create your trust, we deposited contracts to purchase securities with the trustee along with an irrevocable letter of credit or other consideration to pay for the securities. In exchange, the trustee delivered units of your trust to us. Each unit represents an undivided interest in the assets of your trust. These units remain outstanding until redeemed or until your trust terminates.

***Changing Your Portfolio.*** Your trust is not a managed fund. Unlike a managed fund, we designed your portfolio to remain relatively fixed after its inception. Your trust will generally buy and sell securities:

- to pay expenses,
- to issue additional units or redeem units,
- in limited circumstances to protect the trust,
- to avoid direct or indirect ownership of a passive foreign investment company,
- to make required distributions or avoid imposition of taxes on the trust, or
- as permitted by the trust agreement.

You will not be able to dispose of or vote any of the securities in your trust. As the holder of the securities, the trustee will vote the securities and will endeavor to vote the securities such that the securities are voted as closely as possible in the same manner and the same general proportion as are the securities held by owners other than your trust. However, the trustee may not be able to vote the securities in your trust that are traded on foreign exchanges.

Your trust will generally reject any offer for securities or property other than cash in exchange for the securities in its portfolio. However, if a public tender offer has been made for a security or a merger or acquisition has been announced affecting a security, your trust may either sell the security or accept a tender offer for cash if the supervisor determines that the sale or tender is in the best interest of unitholders. The trustee will distribute any cash proceeds to unitholders. If your trust receives securities or

property other than cash, it may either hold the securities or property in its portfolio or sell the securities or property and distribute the proceeds. For example, this could happen in a merger or similar transaction.

Only the trustee may vote the shares of the Closed-End Funds and ETFs held in your trust. The trustee will vote the shares in the same general proportion as the shares held by other shareholders of each Closed-End Fund and ETF.

We will increase the size of your trust as we sell units. When we create additional units, we will seek to replicate the existing portfolio. In certain cases, the trustee may need additional time to acquire the securities necessary to create units and consequently, the trust may not be fully invested at all times, which may impact the trust's performance. When your trust buys securities, it will pay brokerage or other acquisition fees. You could experience a dilution of your investment because of these fees and fluctuations in security prices between the time we create units and the time your trust buys the securities. When your trust buys or sells securities, we, acting in an agency capacity, may direct that the trust places orders with and pays brokerage commissions to brokers that sell units or are affiliated with your trust. We will not select firms to handle these transactions on the basis of their sale of units of your trust or any other products sponsored by us. We cannot guarantee that your trust will keep its present size and composition for any length of time.

***Termination of Your Trust.*** Your trust will terminate no later than the termination date listed in the "Investment Summary" section of this prospectus. The trustee may terminate your trust early if the value of the trust is less than \$1 million or less than 40% of the value of the securities in the trust at the end of the initial

offering period. At this size, the expenses of your trust may create an undue burden on your investment. Investors owning two-thirds of the units in your trust may also vote to terminate the trust early. We may also terminate your trust in other limited circumstances.

The trustee will notify you of any termination and sell any remaining securities. The trustee will send your final distribution to you within a reasonable time following liquidation of all the securities after deducting final expenses. Your termination distribution may be less than the price you originally paid for your units.

See “Administration of the Trust” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

### **General Information**

***Guggenheim Funds.*** Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC specializes in the creation, development and distribution of investment solutions for advisors and their valued clients. We operate as a subsidiary of Guggenheim Partners, LLC.

During our history we have been active in public and corporate finance, have underwritten closed-end funds and have distributed bonds, mutual funds, closed-end funds, exchange-traded funds, structured products and unit trusts in the primary and secondary markets. We are a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). If we fail to or cannot perform our duties as sponsor or become bankrupt, the trustee may replace us, continue to operate your trust without a sponsor, or terminate your trust. You can contact us at 227 W. Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606 or by using the contacts listed on the back cover of this prospectus. Guggenheim Funds personnel may from time to time maintain a position in certain securities held by your trust.

Guggenheim Funds and your trust have adopted a code of ethics requiring Guggenheim Funds’ employees who have access to information on trust transactions to report personal securities transactions. The purpose of the code is to avoid potential conflicts of interest and to prevent fraud, deception or misconduct with respect to your trust.

See “Administration of the Trust” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

***The Trustee.*** The Bank of New York Mellon is the trustee of your trust. It is a trust company organized under New York law. You can contact the trustee by calling the telephone number on the back cover of this prospectus or write to Unit Investment Trust Division, 240 Greenwich Street, 22W Floor, New York, NY 10286. We may remove and replace the trustee in some cases without your consent. The trustee may also resign by notifying the sponsor and investors.

See “Administration of the Trust” in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.

### **Expenses**

Your trust will pay various expenses to conduct its operations. The “Investment Summary” section of this prospectus shows the estimated amount of these expenses.

Your trust will pay a fee to the trustee for its services. The trustee also benefits when it holds cash for your trust in non-interest bearing accounts. Your trust will reimburse the sponsor as supervisor and evaluator for providing portfolio supervisory services, evaluating your portfolio and performing bookkeeping and administrative services. Our reimbursements may exceed the costs of the services we provide to your trust but will not exceed the costs of services provided to all Guggenheim Funds unit



investment trusts in any calendar year. In addition, the trustee may reimburse the sponsor out of its own assets for services performed by employees of the sponsor in connection with the operation of your trust. All of these fees may adjust for inflation without your approval.

Your trust will pay a fee to the sponsor for creating and developing your trust, including determining the trust's objective, policies, composition and size, selecting service providers and information services, and for providing other similar administrative and ministerial functions. Your trust pays this "creation and development fee" of \$0.05 per unit from the assets of your trust as of the close of the initial public offering period. The sponsor does not use the fee to pay distribution expenses or as compensation for sales efforts.

Your trust will also pay its general operating expenses, including any licensing fees. Your trust may also pay expenses such as trustee expenses (including legal and auditing expenses), organization expenses, various governmental charges, fees for extraordinary trustee services, costs of taking action to protect your trust, costs of indemnifying the trustee and Guggenheim Funds, legal fees and expenses, expenses incurred in contacting you and costs incurred to reimburse the trustee for advancing funds to meet distributions. Your trust may pay the costs of updating its registration statement each year. The trustee may sell securities to pay trust expenses.

Your trust, and therefore the unitholders of your trust, will also indirectly bear the expenses of the underlying Closed-End Funds and ETFs. While your trust will not pay these expenses directly out of its assets, these expenses are shown under "Annual Fund Operating Expenses of the Trust" in the "Fees and Expenses" section of the prospectus to illustrate the impact of these

expenses. Please note that the sponsor or an affiliate may be engaged as a service provider to certain Closed-End Funds and ETFs held by your trust and therefore certain fees paid by your trust to such Closed-End Funds and ETFs will be paid to the sponsor or an affiliate for its services to such Closed-End Funds.

See "Expenses of the Trust" in Part B of the prospectus for additional information.



## **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

### **Sponsor and Unitholders**

### **Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542**

#### **Opinion on the financial statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition, including the trust portfolio on page 11 of Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542 (the “Trust”) as of November 25, 2025, the initial date of deposit, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as of November 25, 2025, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC, the Sponsor. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Trust’s financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Trust in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Trust is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audit we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of cash or irrevocable letter of credit deposited for the purchase of securities as shown in the statement of financial condition as of November 25, 2025 by correspondence with The Bank of New York Mellon, Trustee. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Grant Thornton LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more of the unit investment trusts, sponsored by Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC and its predecessor since 2002.

Chicago, Illinois  
November 25, 2025

## Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542

### Statement of Financial Condition as of the Inception Date, November 25, 2025

#### *Investment in securities*

Contracts to purchase underlying securities backed by letter of credit (1)(2)	\$ 150,027
	<u>\$ 150,027</u>

#### *Liabilities and interest of unitholders*

##### Liabilities:

Organization costs (3)	\$ 362
Creation and development fee (6)	750
Deferred sales fee (4)	3,376
	<u>4,488</u>

##### Interest of unitholders:

Cost to unitholders (5)	150,027
Less: initial sales fee (4)	—
Less: organization costs, C&D and deferred sales fees (3)(4)(5)(6)	4,488
	<u>145,539</u>

Total	<u>\$ 150,027</u>
-------	-------------------

Number of units	<u>15,003</u>
-----------------	---------------

Net Asset Value per Unit	<u>\$ 9.701</u>
--------------------------	-----------------

- 
- (1) Aggregate cost of the securities is based on the closing sale price, generally the last business day prior to the trust inception date.
  - (2) A letter of credit has been deposited with The Bank of New York Mellon, trustee, covering the funds necessary for the purchase of the securities in the trust represented by purchase contracts.
  - (3) A portion of the Public Offering Price represents an amount sufficient to pay for all or a portion of the costs incurred in establishing the trust. These costs have been estimated at \$2.410 per 100 units of the trust. A distribution will be made as of the close of the initial offering period or six months after the initial date of deposit (at the discretion of the sponsor) to an account maintained by the trustee from which this obligation of the investors will be satisfied. Organization costs will not be assessed to units that are redeemed prior to the close of the initial offering period or six months after the initial date of deposit (at the discretion of the sponsor). To the extent that actual organization costs are greater than the estimated amount, the sponsor has agreed to cap the organization costs so that not more than \$8.00 per 100 units of the trust will be deducted from the assets of the trust.
  - (4) The aggregate cost to unitholders includes a maximum sales fee, which consists of an initial sales fee, if applicable, a deferred sales fee and a creation and development fee. If units are purchased after the first deferred sales fee has been assessed or if the price you pay for your units exceeds \$10 per unit, an initial sales fee is charged, which is equal to the difference between the maximum sales fee and the sum of the remaining deferred sales fee and the creation and development fee. On the Inception Date, the maximum sales fee is 2.75% of the Public Offering Price (equivalent to 2.75% of the net amount invested). The deferred sales fee is equal to \$0.225 per unit.
  - (5) The aggregate cost to investors includes the applicable sales fee, assuming no reduction of sales fees.
  - (6) The trust is committed to pay a creation and development fee of \$5.00 per 100 units at the close of the initial public offering period. The creation and development fee will not be assessed to units that are redeemed prior to the close of the initial offering period.

## **GUGGENHEIM DEFINED PORTFOLIOS**

### **GUGGENHEIM PORTFOLIO PROSPECTUS**

#### **PART B DATED NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

*The prospectus for a Guggenheim Defined Portfolio (a “trust”) is divided into two parts. Part A of the prospectus relates exclusively to a particular trust or trusts and provides specific information regarding each trust’s portfolio, strategies, investment objectives, expenses, financial highlights, income and capital distributions, hypothetical performance information, risk factors and optional features. Part B of the prospectus provides more general information regarding the Guggenheim Defined Portfolios. You should read both parts of the prospectus and retain them for future reference. Except as provided in Part A of the prospectus, the information contained in this Part B will apply to each trust.*

#### **Contents**

General Information .....	2
Investment Policies.....	2
Risk Factors .....	3
Administration of the Trust .....	27
Expenses of the Trust .....	33
Portfolio Transactions and Brokerage Allocation ....	35
Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units .....	35
Taxes .....	39
Experts .....	44
Description of Ratings .....	44

## **General Information**

Each trust is one of a series of separate unit investment trusts created under the name Guggenheim Defined Portfolios and registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the Securities Act of 1933. Each trust was created as a common law trust on the inception date described in the prospectus under the laws of the state of New York. Each trust was created under a trust agreement among Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC (as sponsor, evaluator and supervisor) and The Bank of New York Mellon (as trustee).

When your trust was created, the sponsor delivered to the trustee securities or contracts for the purchase thereof for deposit in the trust and the trustee delivered to the sponsor documentation evidencing the ownership of units of the trust. After your trust is created, the sponsor may deposit additional securities in the trust, contracts to purchase additional securities along with cash (or a bank letter of credit in lieu of cash) to pay for such contracted securities or cash (including a letter of credit) with instructions to purchase additional securities. Such additional deposits will be in amounts which will seek to replicate, as closely as practicable, the portfolio immediately prior to such deposits. If the sponsor deposits cash, existing and new investors may experience a dilution of their investments and a reduction in their anticipated income because of fluctuations in the prices of the securities between the time of the cash deposit and the purchase of the securities and because the trust will pay the associated brokerage fees.

A trust consists of (i) the securities listed under “Trust Portfolio” in the prospectus as may continue to be held from time to time in the trust; (ii) any additional securities acquired and held by the trust pursuant to the provisions of the trust agreement; and (iii) any cash held in the accounts of the trust. Neither the sponsor nor the trustee shall be liable in any way for any failure in any of the securities. However, should any contract for the purchase of any of the securities initially deposited in a trust fail, the sponsor will, unless substantially all of the moneys held in the trust to cover such purchase are reinvested in substitute securities in accordance with the trust agreement, refund the cash and sales charge attributable to such failed contract to all unitholders on the next distribution date.

## **Investment Policies**

The trust is a unit investment trust and is not an “actively managed” fund. Traditional methods of investment management for a managed fund typically involve frequent changes in a portfolio of securities on the basis of economic, financial and market analysis. The portfolio of a trust, however, will not be actively managed and therefore the adverse financial condition of an issuer will not necessarily require the sale of its securities from a portfolio.

Unitholders will not be able to dispose of or vote any of the securities in a trust. As the holder of the securities, the trustee will vote the securities and will endeavor to vote the securities such that the securities are voted as closely as possible in the same manner and the same general proportion as are the securities held by owners other than such trust. However, the trustee may not be able to vote the securities in a trust that are traded on foreign exchanges.

The trust agreement provides that the sponsor may (but need not) direct the trustee to dispose of a security in certain events such as the issuer having defaulted on the payment on any of its outstanding obligations, the issuer having qualified as a passive foreign investment company under the Internal Revenue Code or the price of a security has declined to such an extent or other such credit factors exist so that in the opinion of the sponsor the retention of such securities would be detrimental to the trust. If a public tender offer has been made for a security or a merger or acquisition has been announced affecting a security, the trustee may either sell the security or accept a tender offer for cash if the supervisor determines that the sale or tender is in the best interest of unitholders. The trustee will distribute any cash proceeds to unitholders. Pursuant to the trust agreement and with limited exceptions, the trustee may sell any securities or other properties acquired in exchange for securities such as those acquired in connection with a merger or other transaction. If offered such new or exchanged securities or property other than cash, the trustee shall reject the offer. However, in the event such securities or property are nonetheless acquired by the trust, they may be accepted for deposit in a trust and either sold by the trustee or held in a trust pursuant to the direction of the sponsor. Proceeds from the sale of securities (or any securities or other property received by the trust in exchange for securities) are credited to the Capital Account for distribution to unitholders or to meet redemptions.

Except as stated in the trust agreement, or in the prospectus, the acquisition by the trust of any securities other than the portfolio securities is prohibited. The trustee may sell securities, designated by the sponsor, from the trust for the purpose of redeeming units of a trust tendered for redemption and the payment of expenses and for such other purposes as permitted under the trust agreement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the trustee is authorized to reinvest any funds held in the Capital or Income Accounts, pending distribution, in U.S. Treasury obligations which mature on or before the next applicable distribution date. Any obligations so acquired must be held until they mature and proceeds therefrom may not be reinvested.

Proceeds from the sale of securities (or any securities or other property received by a trust in exchange for securities) are credited to the Capital Account of a trust for distribution to unitholders or to meet redemptions. Except for failed securities and as provided in the prospectus or in the trust agreement, the acquisition by a trust of any securities other than the portfolio securities is prohibited. The trustee may sell securities from a trust for limited purposes, including redeeming units tendered for redemption and the payment of expenses.

## **Risk Factors**

***Stocks.*** An investment in units of a trust should be made with an understanding of the risks inherent in an investment in equity securities, including the risk that the financial condition of issuers of the securities may become impaired or that the general condition of the stock market may worsen (both of which may contribute directly to a decrease in the value of the securities and thus, in the value of the units) or the risk that holders of common stock have a right to receive payments from the issuers of those stocks that is generally inferior to that of creditors of, or holders of debt obligations issued by, the issuers and that the rights of holders of common stock generally rank inferior to the rights of holders of preferred stock. You could lose some or all of your investment in the trust. Common stocks are especially susceptible to general stock market movements and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence in and

perceptions of the issuers change. These perceptions are based on unpredictable factors including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies, inflation and interest rates, economic expansion or contraction, and global or regional political, economic or banking crises.

Holders of common stock incur more risk than the holders of preferred stocks and debt obligations because common stockholders, as owners of the entity, have generally inferior rights to receive payments from the issuer in comparison with the rights of creditors of, or holders of debt obligations or preferred stock issued by the issuer. Holders of common stock of the type held by a trust have a right to receive dividends only when and if, and in the amounts, declared by the issuer's board of directors and to participate in amounts available for distribution by the issuer only after all other claims on the issuer have been paid or provided for. By contrast, holders of preferred stock have the right to receive dividends at a fixed rate when and as declared by the issuer's board of directors, normally on a cumulative basis, but do not participate in other amounts available for distribution by the issuing corporation. Cumulative preferred stock dividends must be paid before common stock dividends and any cumulative preferred stock dividend omitted is added to future dividends payable to the holders of cumulative preferred stock. Preferred stocks are also entitled to rights on liquidation which are senior to those of common stocks. Moreover, common stocks do not represent an obligation of the issuer and therefore do not offer any assurance of income or provide the degree of protection of capital debt securities. Indeed, the issuance of debt securities or even preferred stock will create prior claims for payment of principal, interest, liquidation preferences and dividends which could adversely affect the ability and inclination of the issuer to declare or pay dividends on its common stock or the rights of holders of common stock with respect to assets of the issuer upon liquidation or bankruptcy. Further, unlike debt securities which typically have a stated principal amount payable at maturity (whose value, however, will be subject to market fluctuations prior thereto), common stocks have neither a fixed principal amount nor a maturity and have values which are subject to market fluctuations for as long as the stocks remain outstanding. The value of the securities in a portfolio thus may be expected to fluctuate over the entire life of a trust to values higher or lower than those prevailing at the time of purchase.

The sponsor's buying and selling of the securities, especially during the initial offering of units of the trust or to satisfy redemptions of units may impact upon the value of the underlying securities and the units. The publication of the list of the securities selected for the trust may also cause increased buying activity in certain of the stocks comprising the portfolio. After such announcement, investment advisory and brokerage clients of the sponsor and its affiliates may purchase individual securities appearing on the list during the course of the initial offering period or may purchase warrants issued by the sponsor or its affiliates which are based on the performance of the securities on the list. The sponsor or its affiliates may also purchase securities as a hedge against its risk on the warrants (although generally the sponsor and its affiliates will not purchase securities for their own account until after the trust portfolio has been acquired). Such buying activity in the stock of these companies or issuance of the warrants prior to the purchase of the securities by the trust may cause the trust to purchase stocks at a higher price than those buyers who effect purchases by the trust.

***Fixed Portfolio.*** Investors should be aware that the trust is not "managed" and as a result, the adverse financial condition of a company will not result in the elimination of its securities from the portfolio of the trust except under extraordinary circumstances. Investors should note in particular that the securities were selected on the basis of the criteria set forth in the prospectus and that the trust may continue to purchase or



hold securities originally selected through this process even though the evaluation of the attractiveness of the securities may have changed. A number of the securities in the trust may also be owned by other clients of the sponsor. However, because these clients may have differing investment objectives, the sponsor may sell certain securities from those accounts in instances where a sale by the trust would be impermissible, such as to maximize return by taking advantage of market fluctuations. In the event a public tender offer is made for a security or a merger or acquisition is announced affecting a security, the sponsor may instruct the trustee to tender or sell the security on the open market when, in its opinion, it is in the best interest of the unitholders of the unit to do so. Although the portfolio is regularly reviewed and evaluated and the sponsor may instruct the trustee to sell securities under certain limited circumstances, securities will not be sold by the trust to take advantage of market fluctuations or changes in anticipated rates of appreciation. As a result, the amount realized upon the sale of the securities may not be the highest price attained by an individual security during the life of the trust. The prices of single shares of each of the securities in the trust vary widely, and the effect of a dollar of fluctuation, either higher or lower, in stock prices will be much greater as a percentage of the lower-price stocks' purchase price than as a percentage of the higher-price stocks' purchase price.

***Closed-End Fund Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust may invest in the common stock of closed-end funds ("*Closed-End Funds*"). Closed-End Funds are actively managed investment companies which invest in various types of securities. Closed-End Funds issue shares of common stock that are traded on a securities exchange. Closed-End Funds are subject to various risks, including management's ability to meet the Closed-End Fund's investment objective, and to manage the Closed-End Fund portfolio when the underlying securities are redeemed or sold, during periods of market turmoil and as investors' perceptions regarding Closed-End Funds or their underlying investments change.

Shares of Closed-End Funds frequently trade at a discount from their net asset value in the secondary market. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that the net asset value of Closed-End Fund shares may decrease. The amount of such discount from net asset value is subject to change from time to time in response to various factors.

Certain of the Closed-End Funds included in a trust may employ the use of leverage in their portfolios through the issuance of preferred stock. While leverage often serves to increase the yield of a Closed-End Fund, this leverage also subjects the Closed-End Fund to increased risks, including the likelihood of increased volatility and the possibility that the Closed-End Fund's common share income will fall if the dividend rate on the preferred shares or the interest rate on any borrowing rises.

***Municipal Bond Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in municipal bonds. If this is the case, an investment in units should be made with an understanding of the risks which an investment in municipal bonds entails.

***Failure of issuers to pay interest and/or principal.*** The primary risk associated with an investment in municipal bonds is that the issuer or an insurer of the municipal bond will default on principal and/or interest payments when due on the municipal bond. Such a default would have the effect of lessening the income generated by each trust and/or the value of the trust's units. The bond ratings assigned by major rating organizations are an indication of the issuer's ability to make interest and principal payments when due on its

municipal bonds. Subsequent to the initial date of deposit the rating assigned to a municipal bond may decline. Neither the sponsor nor the trustee shall be liable in any way for any default, failure or defect in any bond.

*Fixed-rate bonds.* Municipal bonds are subject to the risk that the value of such municipal bonds (and, therefore, of the units) will decline with increases in interest rates or a decrease in the federal or state (if applicable) income tax rate. Inflation and economic recession are two of the major factors, among others, which contribute to fluctuations in interest rates and the values of fixed-rate municipal bonds.

*Original issue discount bonds and zero coupon bonds.* Certain municipal bonds may be original issue discount bonds and/or zero coupon bonds. Original issue discount bonds are bonds originally issued at less than the market interest rate. Zero coupon bonds are original issue discount bonds that do not provide for the payment of any current interest. Zero coupon bonds are subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than bonds of comparable quality that pay current income. For federal income tax purposes, original issue discount on tax-exempt bonds must be accrued over the term of the bonds. On sale or redemption of the bonds, the difference between (i) the amount realized (other than amounts treated as tax-exempt income); and (ii) the tax basis of such bonds (properly adjusted, in the circumstances described below, for the accrual of original issue discount) will generally be treated as taxable gain or loss.

*“When issued” and “delayed delivery” bonds.* Certain municipal bonds have been purchased by the sponsor or issuers of the securities in a trust on a “when issued” basis. Municipal bonds purchased on a “when issued” basis have not yet been issued by their governmental entity on the initial date of deposit (although such governmental entity had committed to issue such municipal bonds). In the case of these and/or certain other municipal bonds, the delivery of the municipal bonds may be delayed (“delayed delivery”) or may not occur. The effect of a trust containing “delayed delivery” or “when issued” municipal bonds is that unitholders who purchased their units prior to the date such municipal bonds are actually delivered to the trustee may have to make a downward adjustment in the tax basis of their units. Such downward adjustment may be necessary to account for interest accruing on such “when issued” or “delayed delivery” municipal bonds during the time between their purchase of units and delivery of such municipal bonds to a trust.

*Redemption or sale prior to maturity.* Certain municipal bonds are subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity date pursuant to sinking fund or call provisions. A call or redemption provision is more likely to be exercised when the offering price valuation of a bond is higher than its call or redemption price. Such price valuation is likely to be higher in periods of declining interest rates. Certain municipal bonds may be sold or redeemed or otherwise mature.

*Market discount.* Certain municipal bonds have current market values below face value. A primary reason for the market value of such municipal bonds being less than face value at maturity is that the interest rate of such municipal bonds is at lower rates than the current market interest rate for comparably rated municipal bonds. Municipal bonds selling at market discounts tend to increase in market value as they approach maturity. A market discount tax-exempt municipal bond held to maturity will have a larger portion of its total return in the form of taxable ordinary income and less in the form of tax-exempt income than a comparable municipal bond bearing interest at current market rates.

*General obligation bonds.* Certain municipal bonds may be general obligations of a governmental entity that are secured by the taxing power of the entity. General obligation bonds are backed by the issuer's pledge of its full faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. The taxing power of any governmental entity may be limited, however, by provisions of state constitutions or laws. An entity's credit will depend on many factors: tax base, reliance on federal or state aid, and factors that are beyond the entity's control.

*Appropriations bonds.* Certain municipal bonds may be municipal bonds that are, in whole or in part, subject to and dependent upon either the governmental entity making appropriations from time to time or the continued existence of special temporary taxes which require legislative action for their reimposition. The availability of any appropriation is subject to the willingness or ability of the governmental entity to continue to make such special appropriations or to reimpose such special taxes. The obligation to make lease payments exists only to the extent of the monies available to the governmental entity therefor, and no liability is incurred by the governmental entity beyond the monies so appropriated. Once an annual appropriation is made, the governmental entity's obligation to make lease rental payments is absolute and unconditional regardless of any circumstances or occurrences which might arise. In the event of non-appropriation, certificateholders' or bondowners' sole remedy (absent credit enhancement) generally is limited to repossession of the collateral for resale or releasing. In the event of non-appropriation, the sponsor may instruct the trustee to sell such municipal bonds.

*Industrial development revenue bonds ("IDRs").* IDRs, including pollution control revenue bonds, are tax-exempt securities issued by states, municipalities, public authorities or similar entities to finance the cost of acquiring, constructing or improving various projects. These projects are usually operated by corporate entities. IDRs are not general obligations of governmental entities backed by their taxing power. Issuers are only obligated to pay amounts due on the IDRs to the extent that funds are available from the unexpended proceeds of the IDRs or receipts or revenues of the issuer. Payment of IDRs is solely dependent upon the creditworthiness of the corporate operator of the project or corporate guarantor. Such corporate operators or guarantors that are industrial companies may be affected by many factors which may have an adverse impact on the credit quality of the particular company or industry.

*Hospital and health care facility bonds.* The ability of hospitals and other health care facilities to meet their obligations with respect to revenue bonds issued on their behalf is dependent on various factors. Some such factors are the level of payments received from private third-party payors and government programs and the cost of providing health care services. There can be no assurance that payments under governmental programs will remain at levels comparable to present levels or will be sufficient to cover the costs associated with their bonds. It also may be necessary for a hospital or other health care facility to incur substantial capital expenditures or increased operating expenses to effect changes in its facilities, equipment, personnel and services. Hospitals and other health care facilities are additionally subject to claims and legal actions by patients and others in the ordinary course of business. There can be no assurance that a claim will not exceed the insurance coverage of a health care facility or that insurance coverage will be available to a facility.

*Housing bonds.* Multi-family housing revenue bonds and single family mortgage revenue bonds are state and local housing issues that have been issued to provide financing for various housing projects. Multi-family housing revenue bonds are payable primarily from mortgage loans to housing projects for low to moderate

income families. Single-family mortgage revenue bonds are issued for the purpose of acquiring notes secured by mortgages on residences. The ability of housing issuers to make debt service payments on their obligations may be affected by various economic and non-economic factors. Such factors include: occupancy levels, adequate rental income in multi-family projects, the rate of default on mortgage loans underlying single family issues and the ability of mortgage insurers to pay claims. All single family mortgage revenue bonds and certain multi-family housing revenue bonds are prepayable over the life of the underlying mortgage or mortgage pool. Therefore, the average life of housing obligations cannot be determined. However, the average life of these obligations will ordinarily be less than their stated maturities. Mortgage loans are frequently partially or completely prepaid prior to their final stated maturities. To the extent that these obligations were valued at a premium when a unitholder purchased units, any prepayment at par would result in a loss of capital to the unitholder and reduce the amount of income that would otherwise have been paid to unitholders.

*Power bonds.* The ability of utilities to meet their obligations with respect to bonds they issue is dependent on various factors. These factors include the rates they may charge their customers, the demand for a utility's services and the cost of providing those services. Utilities may also be subject to extensive regulations relating to the rates which they may charge customers. Utilities can experience regulatory, political and consumer resistance to rate increases. Utilities engaged in long-term capital projects are especially sensitive to regulatory lags in granting rate increases. Utilities are additionally subject to increased costs due to governmental environmental regulation and decreased profits due to increasing competition. Any difficulty in obtaining timely and adequate rate increases could adversely affect a utility's results of operations. The sponsor cannot predict at this time the ultimate effect of such factors on the ability of any issuers to meet their obligations with respect to municipal bonds.

*Water and sewer revenue bonds.* Water and sewer bonds are generally payable from user fees. The ability of state and local water and sewer authorities to meet their obligations may be affected by a number of factors. Some such factors are the failure of municipalities to utilize fully the facilities constructed by these authorities, declines in revenue from user charges, the possible inability to obtain rate increases, rising construction and maintenance costs, impact of environmental requirements, the difficulty of obtaining or discovering new supplies of fresh water, the effect of conservation programs, the impact of "no growth" zoning ordinances and the continued availability of federal and state financial assistance and of municipal bond insurance for future bond issues.

*Education, university and college bonds.* The ability of educational institutions, including universities and colleges, to meet their obligations is dependent upon various factors. Some of these factors include the size and diversity of their sources of revenues, enrollment, reputation, management expertise, the availability and restrictions on the use of endowments and other funds, the quality and maintenance costs of campus facilities. Also, in the case of public institutions, the financial condition of the relevant state or other governmental entity and its policies with respect to education may affect an institution's ability to make payment on its own.

*Lease rental bonds.* Lease rental bonds are predominantly issued by governmental authorities that have no taxing power or other means of directly raising revenues. Rather, the authorities are financing vehicles created solely for the construction of buildings or the purchase of equipment that will be used by a state or local government. Thus, the bonds are subject to the ability and willingness of the lessee government to meet

its lease rental payments which include debt service on the bonds. Lease rental bonds are subject to the risk that the lessee government is not legally obligated to budget and appropriate for the rental payments beyond the current fiscal year. These bonds are also subject to the risk of abatement in many states as rental bonds cease in the event that damage, destruction or condemnation of the project prevents its use by the lessee. Also, in the event of default by the lessee government, there may be significant legal and/or practical difficulties involved in the reletting or sale of the project.

*Capital improvement facility bonds.* Capital improvement bonds are bonds issued to provide funds to assist political subdivisions or agencies of a state through acquisition of the underlying debt of a state or local political subdivision or agency. The risks of an investment in such bonds include the risk of possible prepayment or failure of payment of proceeds on and default of the underlying debt.

*Solid waste disposal bonds.* Municipal bonds issued for solid waste disposal facilities are generally payable from tipping fees and from revenues that may be earned by the facility on the sale of electrical energy generated in the combustion of waste products. The ability of solid waste disposal facilities to meet their obligations depends upon the continued use of the facility, the successful and efficient operation of the facility and, in the case of waste-to-energy facilities, the continued ability of the facility to generate electricity on a commercial basis. Also, increasing environmental regulation of the federal, state and local level has a significant impact on waste disposal facilities. While regulation requires most waste producers to use waste disposal facilities, it also imposes significant costs on the facilities.

*Moral obligation bonds.* Certain bonds may be “moral obligation” bonds. If an issuer of moral obligation bonds is unable to meet its obligations, the repayment of the bonds becomes a moral commitment but not a legal obligation of the state or municipality in question. Thus, such a commitment generally requires appropriation by the state legislature and accordingly does not constitute a legally enforceable obligation of debt of the state. The agencies or authorities generally have no taxing power.

*Refunded bonds.* Refunded bonds are typically secured by direct obligations of the U.S. Government, or in some cases obligations guaranteed by the U.S. Government, placed in an escrow account maintained by an independent trustee until maturity or a predetermined redemption date. These obligations are generally non-callable prior to maturity or the predetermined redemption date. In a few isolated instances to date, however, bonds which were thought to be escrowed to maturity have been called for redemption prior to maturity.

*Airport, port and highway revenue bonds.* Certain facility revenue bonds are payable from and secured by the revenues from the ownership and operation of particular facilities, such as airports, highways and port authorities. Airport operating income may be affected by the ability of airlines to meet their obligations under the agreements with airports. Similarly, payment on bonds related to other facilities is dependent on revenues from the projects, such as use fees from ports, tolls on turnpikes and bridges and rents from buildings. Payment may be adversely affected by reduction in revenues due to such factors and increased cost of maintenance or decreased use of a facility. The sponsor cannot predict what effect conditions may have on revenues which are dependent for payment on these bonds.



*Special tax bonds.* Special tax bonds are payable for and secured by the revenues derived by a municipality from a particular tax. Examples of special taxes are a tax on the rental of a hotel room, on the purchase of food and beverages, on the rental of automobiles or on the consumption of liquor. Special tax bonds are not secured by the general tax revenues of the municipality, and they do not represent general obligations of the municipality. Payment on special tax bonds may be adversely affected by a reduction in revenues realized from the underlying special tax. Also, should spending on the particular goods or services that are subject to the special tax decline, the municipality may be under no obligation to increase the rate of the special tax to ensure that sufficient revenues are raised from the shrinking taxable base.

*Tax allocation bonds.* Tax allocation bonds are typically secured by incremental tax revenues collected on property within the areas where redevelopment projects, financed by bond proceeds are located. Municipal bond payments are expected to be made from projected increases in tax revenues derived from higher assessed values of property resulting from development in the particular project area and not from an increase in tax rates. Special risk considerations include: variations in taxable values of property in the project area; successful appeals by property owners of assessed valuations; substantial delinquencies in the payment of property taxes; or imposition of any constitutional or legislative property tax rate decrease.

*Transit authority bonds.* Mass transit is generally not self-supporting from fare revenues. Additional financial resources must be made available to ensure operation of mass transit systems as well as the timely payment of debt service. Often such financial resources include federal and state subsidies, lease rentals paid by funds of the state or local government or a pledge of a special tax. If fare revenues or the additional financial resources do not increase appropriately to pay for rising operating expenses, the ability of the issuer to adequately service the debt may be adversely affected.

*Convention facility bonds.* Municipal bonds in the convention facilities category include special limited obligation securities issued to finance convention and sports facilities payable from rental payments and annual governmental appropriations. The governmental agency is not obligated to make payments in any year in which the monies have not been appropriated to make such payments. In addition, these facilities are limited use facilities that may not be used for purposes other than as convention centers or sports facilities.

*Correctional facility bonds.* Municipal bonds in the correctional facilities category include special limited obligation securities issued to construct, rehabilitate and purchase correctional facilities payable from governmental rental payments and/or appropriations.

*Tobacco settlement bonds.* Tobacco settlement bonds are municipal obligations that are backed entirely by expected revenues to be derived from lawsuits settled between governmental entities and American tobacco companies involving tobacco related deaths and illnesses. The settlements primarily involve Phillip Morris; R.J. Reynolds; Brown & Williamson, a division of British American Tobacco; and Lorillard, a division of the Loews Corporation. Revenues from approximately 17 other companies are also providing part of the settlement payments. Because tobacco settlement bonds are backed by a single source of revenue—the payments from tobacco companies, the creditworthiness of the bonds depends in large part, on the ability of these companies to meet their obligations. Risk factors facing tobacco companies include: reduced cigarette consumption, increased taxes on cigarettes, continuing litigation and the possibility of bankruptcy. The initial and annual payments made by the tobacco companies will be adjusted based on a



number of factors, the most important of which is domestic cigarette consumption. If the volume of cigarettes shipped in the U.S. by manufacturers participating in the settlement decreases significantly, payments due from them will also decrease. Demand for cigarettes in the U.S. could continue to decline due to price increases needed to recoup the cost of payments by tobacco companies. Demand could also be affected by: anti-smoking campaigns, tax increases, reduced advertising, enforcement of laws prohibiting sales to minors; elimination of certain sales venues such as vending machines; and the spread of local ordinances restricting smoking in public places.

***California State Risks.*** The California Municipal Portfolio of Funds, Series 55 (the “*California Trust*”) is susceptible to political, economic or regulatory factors affecting issuers of California municipal obligations (the “*California Municipal Obligations*”). These include the possible adverse effects of certain California constitutional amendments, legislative measures, voter initiatives and other matters that are described below. The information provided below is only a brief summary of the complex factors affecting the financial situation in California and is derived from sources that are generally available to investors and are believed to be accurate. No independent verification has been made of the accuracy or completeness of any of the following information. It is based in part on information obtained from various State and local agencies in California or contained in official statements for various California Municipal Obligations.

***Economic Outlook.*** After two years of rapid economic expansion spurred by pandemic-related federal stimulus, mounting economic headwinds began to push California’s economy toward a downturn during the year ended June 30, 2023. In an effort to maintain stable price growth and slow inflation, the Federal Reserve Board repeatedly enacted large interest rate increases, raising rates by 500 basis points between March 2022 and May 2023. The increased cost of borrowings meant that California businesses had less access to capital to expand operations and hire new workers. After record-high unemployment during the pandemic, and a rapid and steady descent thereafter, the number of unemployed workers in California rose by nearly 120,000 during the 2022-23 fiscal year, resulting in a 0.7% increase to California’s unemployment rate. Economic difficulties were evident in California government as well, as California conformed with federal actions postponing tax payment deadlines in response to widespread California flooding disasters in December 2022 and January 2023. Collections data showed a severe revenue decline, with total income tax collections down by 25.0% in fiscal year 2022-23.

As of June 2023, California’s real gross domestic product (GDP) had reached \$3.8 trillion, an increase of 5.8% during fiscal year 2022-23, compared to growth of 7.5% during the 2021-22 fiscal year, to \$3.6 trillion. California’s economic growth slowed but did not trail far behind that of the United States GDP, which increased by 6.4% during fiscal year 2022-23.

The California real estate market continued to experience a downshift in June 2023 as a result of the rise in interest rates. The median price of homes in California was \$837,850 as of June 2023, a slight decrease of 2.4% from the prior year and a nominal increase of 2.2% over a two-year span. This stabilization in home prices is in sharp contrast to the appreciation that occurred during the pandemic, as the median price of homes in California at June 2023 was still 33.8% higher than in June 2020. By comparison, the national median home price decreased by 0.9% from the prior year to \$410,100 in June 2023. The housing market saw 30-year fixed mortgage rates rise to an average of 6.7% in June 2023, compared to 5.5% in

June 2022. The rate increase impacted sales of existing single-family homes; in June 2023 sales were down 19.7% from the prior year. New active listings declined by 34.0%, the largest year-over-year decrease since May 2021. The number of new privately owned residential units in California also decreased during fiscal year 2022-23 by approximately 14,199 units. Despite the dampening of the California real estate market as a result of high home prices and rising interest rates, the market could see some improvement as buyer demand stabilizes, inflation subsides, and mortgage rates and housing supply conditions improve.

The real estate market was not the only segment of California's economy that was adjusting during the 2022-23 fiscal year. New light vehicle registrations increased by 11.6% in the first six months of 2023 compared to the prior year, due to the cessation of pandemic-induced supply chain interruptions that significantly impacted sales in the second half of 2022.

Unemployment insurance claims per week, which were reduced by roughly half to 299,000 at the end of the 2021-22 fiscal year, rose significantly as California issued approximately 385,000 claims per week to unemployed workers by June 30, 2023. The unemployment rate responded comparably, increasing to 4.6% by the end of fiscal year 2022-23, compared to 3.9% at the end of the prior period. During fiscal year 2022-23, the increase of approximately 150,000 new non-farm jobs was a steep regression from the increase of one million jobs in each of the two immediately preceding fiscal years. Five of California's 11 major industry sectors experienced job growth. The private education and health services sector saw growth for two consecutive years, with a 3.8% gain in jobs during fiscal year 2021-22 and another 169,000 jobs added in fiscal year 2022-23, an increase of 5.8%. The private education and health services sector includes jobs in private educational services as well as health care and social assistance.

Californians' personal income exhibited modest gains, increasing 4.8% during the period; this was less than the national increase of 5.6%. Since 2011, personal income of Californians has grown an average of 5.4% annually, due largely to the low unemployment rate sustained during the majority of this period. Comparatively, personal income in the United States grew an average of 4.8% during the same period. Effective January 1, 2023, California's minimum wage increased to \$15.50 per hour. The minimum wage continued to increase to \$16.00 per hour on January 1, 2024, with fast food restaurant employees' minimum wage increasing to \$20.00 per hour on April 1, 2024, and certain health care workers receiving the \$20.00 per hour minimum wage between October 15, 2024, and January 1, 2025. In spite of the long-term growth trend of personal earnings for Californians and other positive economic growth factors, ongoing inflationary pressures and elevated Federal Reserve interest rates will continue to pose a risk to the state's economy.

*Net Assets.* The primary government's combined deficit net position (governmental and business-type activities) improved by \$7.9 billion (17.2%), from a negative \$45.8 billion, as restated, to a negative \$37.9 billion at June 30, 2023.

The primary government's \$134.9 billion net investment in capital assets, such as land, buildings, equipment, and infrastructure (roads, bridges, and other immovable assets), comprise a significant portion of its net position. This amount of capital assets is net of any outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. California uses capital assets when providing services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although California's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, the

resources needed to repay this debt must come from other sources because California cannot use the capital assets to pay off the liabilities.

The primary government's deficit net position includes another \$76.5 billion, which represents resources that are externally restricted as to how they may be used, such as resources pledged to debt service. As of June 30, 2023, the primary government's combined unrestricted deficit net position was \$249.4 billion—\$218.2 billion for governmental activities and \$31.1 billion for business-type activities.

*General Fund.* As shown on the Balance Sheet, the General Fund (California's main operating fund) ended fiscal year 2022-23 with assets of \$133.6 billion; liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of \$69.6 billion; and nonspendable, restricted, committed, and assigned fund balances of \$4.0 billion, \$24.8 billion, \$4.2 billion, and \$20.7 billion, respectively. This left the General Fund with an unassigned fund balance of \$10.3 billion, a decrease of \$26.2 billion from the prior year. Total assets of the General Fund decreased by \$34.9 billion (20.7%) from the prior fiscal year, and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources decreased by \$24.9 billion (26.3%) over the prior year.

As shown on the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances, General Fund expenditures exceeded revenues by \$1.4 billion (\$192.4 billion in revenues and \$191.0 billion in expenditures). Approximately \$182.5 billion (94.8%) of General Fund revenue is derived from California's largest three taxes—personal income taxes (\$112.7 billion), corporation taxes (\$36.7 billion), and the sales and use taxes (\$33.1 billion). A total of \$494 million in revenue is included in the General Fund as a result of fund classifications made to comply with generally accepted governmental accounting principles. These revenues are not considered General Fund revenues for any budgetary purposes or for California's Budgetary/Legal Basis Annual Report.

During fiscal year 2022-23, total General Fund revenue decreased by \$6.7 billion (3.4%), mainly due to a decrease in intergovernmental revenue and personal income taxes. Meanwhile, General Fund expenditures increased by \$0.1 billion (0.1%). The largest component of the expenditure increase was health and human services, which rose by \$13.4 billion. The General Fund ended the fiscal year with a fund balance of \$64.0 billion, a decrease of \$9.1 billion from the prior year's restated ending fund balance of \$73.1 billion. The General Fund's ending fund balance includes \$22.3 billion restricted for budget stabilization if the Governor must declare a budget emergency during an economic crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Budget Outlook.* California's fiscal year 2024-25 Budget Act was enacted on June 26, 2024, and includes projections of fiscal year 2024-25 General Fund revenues, expenditures, and reserves. General Fund revenues are anticipated to be \$207.2 billion, an increase of \$17.0 billion (8.9%) from revised fiscal year 2023-24 revenue estimates, primarily due to projected increases of \$9.3 billion in corporation taxes, \$5.4 billion in personal income taxes, and \$1.5 billion in other revenue sources. General Fund expenditures for fiscal year 2024-25 are budgeted at \$211.5 billion, a decrease of \$11.6 billion (5.2%) compared to the fiscal year 2023-24 estimates. The Budget again avoids new significant ongoing commitments and, after subsidizing expenditures through transfers, preserves a total of \$22.2 billion in budgetary reserves: \$17.6 billion in the BSA for fiscal emergencies, \$3.5 billion in California's operating reserve, and \$1.1 billion in the PSSSA.

The 2024-25 Budget Act maintains California's commitments to increase funding for K-12 schools and higher education, combat the impacts of climate change, and address homelessness. The Budget allocates total funding of \$133.8 billion for K-12 education programs, and \$44.6 billion for higher education programs in 2024-25. The Budget also maintains \$44.6 billion in climate investments over eight years to integrate climate solutions with equity and economic opportunity. Additionally, as part of California's continued focus on homelessness, the Budget includes \$1.3 billion in new funding for homelessness programs.

Emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, California experienced significant revenue volatility, seeing unprecedented revenue growth quickly followed by a sharp and deep correction back toward historical trends. In addressing a \$46.8 billion deficit, the Budget maintains the multi-year fiscal structure by providing positive balances in the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties (SFEU), California's "Rainy Day" fund, for both the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years. Additionally, the Budget includes commitments to support further budget resilience. Part of the budget agreement reached proposes additional legislation requiring California to set aside a portion of anticipated surplus funds to be allocated in a subsequent Budget Act, adding further fiscal protection so that California does not commit future anticipated surplus revenues until those revenues have been realized.

*Capital Assets.* As of June 30, 2023, California's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities amounted to \$172.0 billion (net of accumulated depreciation/amortization). California's capital assets include land, state highway infrastructure, collections, buildings and other depreciable property, intangible assets, and construction/development in progress. The buildings and other depreciable property account includes buildings, improvements other than buildings, equipment, certain infrastructure assets, certain books, and other capitalized and depreciable property. Intangible assets include computer software, land use rights, patents, copyrights, and trademarks. Infrastructure assets are items that normally are immovable, such as roads and bridges, and can be preserved for a greater number of years than can most capital assets.

As of June 30, 2023, California's capital assets increased by \$6.4 billion, or 3.9% over the prior fiscal year. The majority of the increase is attributed to net additions to buildings and other depreciable property of \$4.0 billion, construction/development in progress of \$1.2 billion, and California highway infrastructure of \$1.0 billion.

*Debt Administration.* At June 30, 2023, California had total bonded debt outstanding of \$110.1 billion. Of this amount, \$79.4 billion (72.1%) represents general obligation bonds, which are backed by the full faith and credit of California. The current portion of general obligation bonds outstanding is \$4.0 billion and the long-term portion is \$75.4 billion. The remaining \$30.7 billion (27.9%) of bonded debt outstanding represents revenue bonds, which are secured solely by specified revenue sources. The current portion of revenue bonds outstanding is \$1.4 billion and the long-term portion is \$29.3 billion.

During the fiscal year, California issued a total of \$8.8 billion in new general obligation bonds to fund various capital projects and other voter-approved costs related to K-12 schools and higher education facilities, transportation improvements and high-speed rail, water quality and environmental protection, and other public purposes.

*Budgetary Control.* California's annual budget is primarily prepared on a modified accrual basis for governmental funds. The Governor recommends a budget for approval by the Legislature each year. This recommended budget includes estimated revenues, but revenues are not included in the annual budget bill adopted by the Legislature. Under state law, California cannot adopt a spending plan that exceeds estimated revenues.

Under the California Constitution, money may be drawn from the treasury only through a legal appropriation. The appropriations contained in the Budget Act, as approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, are the primary sources of annual expenditure authorizations and establish the legal level of control for the annual operating budget. The budget can be amended throughout the year by special legislative action, budget revisions by the Department of Finance, or executive orders of the Governor. Amendments to the original budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, increased the spending authority for the budgetary/legal basis-reported General Fund, Transportation Funds, Environmental and Natural Resources Funds, and the Health Care Related Programs Funds.

Appropriations are generally available for expenditure or encumbrance either in the year appropriated or for a period of three years if the legislation does not specify a period of availability. At the end of the availability period, the encumbering authority for the unencumbered balance lapses. Some appropriations continue indefinitely, while others are available until fully spent. Generally, encumbrances must be liquidated within two years from the end of the period in which the appropriation is available. If the encumbrances are not liquidated within this additional two-year period, the spending authority for these encumbrances lapses.

*Risk Management.* The primary government has elected, with a few exceptions, to be self-insured against loss or liability. The primary government generally does not maintain reserves. Losses are covered by appropriations from each fund responsible for payment in the year in which the payment occurs. California is permissively self-insured and, barring any extraordinary catastrophic event, the potential amount of loss faced by California is not considered material in relation to the primary government's financial position. Generally, the exceptions are when a bond resolution or a contract requires the primary government to purchase commercial insurance for coverage against property loss or liability. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year. In addition, no insurance settlement in the last three years has exceeded insurance coverage. All claim payments are on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, with workers' compensation benefits for self-insured agencies initially being paid by the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

The discounted liability for unpaid self-insurance claims of the primary government is estimated to be \$6.0 billion as of June 30, 2023. This estimate is primarily based on actuarial reviews of California's workers' compensation program and includes indemnity payments to claimants, as well as all other costs of providing workers' compensation benefits, such as medical care and rehabilitation. The estimate also includes the liability for unpaid services fees, industrial disability leave benefits, and incurred-but-not-reported amounts. The estimated total liability of approximately \$8.4 billion is discounted to \$6.0 billion using a 3.5% interest rate. Of the total discounted liability, \$634 million is a current liability, of which \$470 million is included in the General Fund, \$160 million in the special revenue funds, and \$5 million in the



internal service funds. The remaining \$5.4 billion is reported as other noncurrent liabilities in the government-wide Statement of Net Position.

*Ratings.* As of November 25, 2025, all outstanding general obligation bonds of the State of California are rated AA- with a stable outlook by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC, a subsidiary of S&P Global Inc. Any explanation concerning the significance of such ratings must be obtained from the rating agencies. There is no assurance that any ratings will continue for any period of time or that they will not be revised or withdrawn.

*Local Issuances.* It should be noted that the creditworthiness of obligations issued by local California issuers may be unrelated to the creditworthiness of obligations issued by the State of California, and there is no obligation on the part of California to make payment on such local obligations in the event of default. The foregoing information constitutes only a brief summary of some of the general factors which may impact certain issuers of bonds contained in the California Trust and does not purport to be a complete or exhaustive description of all adverse conditions to which the issuers of such obligations are subject.

Additionally, many factors including national economic, social and environmental policies and conditions, which are not within the control of the issuers of such bonds, could affect or could have an adverse impact on the financial condition of California and various agencies and political subdivisions thereof. The sponsor is unable to predict whether or to what extent such factors or other factors may affect the issuers of the bonds contained in the California Trust, the market value or marketability of such bonds or the ability of the respective issuers of such bonds acquired by the California Trust to pay interest on or principal of such bonds.

The foregoing information constitutes only a brief summary of some of the general factors which may impact certain issuers of bonds contained in the California Trust and does not purport to be a complete or exhaustive description of all adverse conditions to which the issuers of such obligations are subject. Additionally, many factors including national economic, social and environmental policies and conditions, which are not within the control of the issuers of such bonds, could affect or could have an adverse impact on the financial condition of the State and various agencies and political subdivisions thereof. The sponsor is unable to predict whether or to what extent such factors or other factors may affect the issuers of the bonds contained in the California Trust, the market value or marketability of such bonds or the ability of the respective issuers of such bonds acquired by the California Trust to pay interest on or principal of such bonds.

***Exchange-Traded Fund Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust may invest in the common stock of exchange-traded funds ("*ETFs*"). ETFs are investment pools that hold other securities. ETFs are either open-end management investment companies or unit investment trusts registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Unlike typical open-end funds or unit investment trusts, ETFs generally do not sell or redeem their individual shares at net asset value. In addition, securities exchanges list ETF shares for trading, which allows investors to purchase and sell individual ETF shares at current market prices throughout the day. ETFs therefore possess characteristics of traditional open-end funds and unit investment trusts, which issue redeemable shares, and of corporate common stocks or closed-end funds, which generally issue shares that trade at negotiated prices on securities exchanges and are not redeemable. ETFs are subject to various risks, including management's ability to meet the fund's investment objective. The underlying ETF has



management and operating expenses. You will bear not only your share of the trust's expenses, but also the expenses of the underlying ETF. By investing in an ETF, the trust incurs greater expenses than you would incur if you invested directly in the ETF.

Shares of ETFs may trade at a discount from their net asset value in the secondary market. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that the net asset value of the ETF shares may decrease. The amount of such discount from net asset value is subject to change from time to time in response to various factors.

***Market Discounts or Premiums.*** Certain of the securities may have been deposited at a market discount or premium principally because their dividend rates are lower or higher than prevailing rates on comparable securities. The current returns of market discount securities are lower than comparably rated securities selling at par because discount securities tend to increase in market value as they approach maturity. The current returns of market premium securities are higher than comparably rated securities selling at par because premium securities tend to decrease in market value as they approach maturity. Because part of the purchase price is returned through current income payments and not at maturity, an early redemption at par of a premium security will result in a reduction in yield to the trust. Market premium or discount attributable to dividend rate changes does not indicate market confidence or lack of confidence in the issue.

***Liquidity.*** Whether or not the securities are listed on a national securities exchange, the principal trading market for the securities may be in the over-the-counter market. As a result, the existence of a liquid trading market for the securities may depend on whether dealers will make a market in the securities. There can be no assurance that a market will be made for any of the securities, that any market for the securities will be maintained or of the liquidity of the securities in any markets made. In addition, a trust is restricted under the Investment Company Act of 1940 from selling securities to the sponsor. The price at which the securities may be sold to meet redemptions and the value of a trust will be adversely affected if trading markets for the securities are limited or absent.

***Additional Deposits.*** The trust agreement authorizes the sponsor to increase the size of a trust and the number of units thereof by the deposit of additional securities, or cash (including a letter of credit) with instructions to purchase additional securities, in such trust and the issuance of a corresponding number of additional units. If the sponsor deposits cash, existing and new investors may experience a dilution of their investments and a reduction in their anticipated income because of fluctuations in the prices of the securities between the time of the cash deposit and the purchase of the securities and because a trust will pay the associated brokerage fees. To minimize this effect, the trusts will attempt to purchase the securities as close to the evaluation time or as close to the evaluation prices as possible.

Some of the securities may have limited trading volume. The trustee, with directions from the sponsor, will endeavor to purchase securities with deposited cash as soon as practicable reserving the right to purchase those securities over the 20 business days following each deposit in an effort to reduce the effect of these purchases on the market price of those stocks. This could, however, result in the trusts' failure to participate in any appreciation of those stocks before the cash is invested. If any cash remains at the end of this period (and such date is within the 90-day period following the inception date) and cannot be invested in one or more stocks, at what the sponsor considers reasonable prices, it intends to use that cash to purchase each of the other securities in the original proportionate relationship among those securities. Similarly, at termination

of the trust, the sponsor reserves the right to sell securities over a period of up to nine business days to lessen the impact of its sales on the market price of the securities. The proceeds received by unitholders following termination of the trust will reflect the actual sales proceeds received on the securities, which will likely differ from the closing sale price on the termination date.

***Litigation and Legislation.*** At any time litigation may be initiated on a variety of grounds, or legislation may be enacted with respect to the securities in a trust or the issuers of the securities. There can be no assurance that future litigation or legislation will not have a material adverse effect on the trust or will not impair the ability of issuers to achieve their business goals.

***Financial Sector Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, certain of the issuers of securities in a trust may be involved in the financial sector. An investment in units of a trust containing securities of such issuers should be made with an understanding of the problems and risks inherent in the financial sector in general.

Companies in the financials sector include regional and money center banks, securities brokerage firms, asset management companies, savings banks and thrift institutions, specialty finance companies (e.g., credit card, mortgage providers), insurance and insurance brokerage firms, consumer finance firms, financial conglomerates, foreign banking and financial companies. Financial companies are subject to extensive governmental regulation which limits their activities and may affect their ability to earn a profit from a given line of business. Government regulation may change frequently and may have significant adverse consequences for companies in the financials sector, including effects not intended by the regulation. New legislation and regulatory changes could cause business disruptions, result in significant loss of revenue, limit financial firms' ability to pursue business opportunities, impact the value of business assets and impose additional costs that may adversely affect business. There can be no assurance as to the actual impact these laws and their implementing regulations, or any other governmental program, will have on any individual financial company or on the financial markets as a whole. Companies in the financials sector may also be the targets of hacking and potential theft of proprietary or customer information or disruptions in service, which could have a material adverse effect on their businesses.

Banks, thrifts and their holding companies are especially subject to the adverse effects of economic recession; volatile interest rates; portfolio concentrations in geographic markets, in commercial and residential real estate loans or any particular segment or industry; and competition from new entrants in their fields of business. Banks and thrifts are highly dependent on net interest margin. Banks and thrifts traditionally receive a significant portion of their revenues from consumer mortgage fee income as a result of activity in mortgage and refinance markets.

Banks, thrifts and their holding companies are subject to extensive federal regulation and, when such institutions are state-chartered, to state regulation as well. Such regulations impose strict capital requirements and limitations on the nature and extent of business activities that banks and thrifts may pursue. Furthermore, bank regulators have a wide range of discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement authority and may substantially restrict the permissible activities of a particular institution if deemed to pose significant risks to the soundness of such institution or the safety of the federal deposit insurance fund. Regulatory actions, such as increases in the minimum capital requirements applicable to banks and thrifts

and increases in deposit insurance premiums required to be paid by banks and thrifts to the FDIC, can negatively impact earnings and the ability of a company to pay dividends. Neither federal insurance of deposits nor governmental regulations, however, insures the solvency or profitability of banks or their holding companies, or insures against any risk of investment in the securities issued by such institutions.

The statutory requirements applicable to and regulatory supervision of banks, thrifts and their holding companies have increased significantly and have undergone substantial change in the recent past.

The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) require the expanded use of market value accounting by banks and have imposed rules requiring mark-to-market accounting for investment securities held in trading accounts or available for sale. Adoption of additional such rules may result in increased volatility in the reported health of the industry, and mandated regulatory intervention to correct such problems. Accounting Standards Codification 820, “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures” changed the requirements of mark-to-market accounting and determining fair value when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability has significantly decreased. These changes and other potential changes in financial accounting rules and valuation techniques may have a significant impact on the banking and financial services industries in terms of accurately pricing assets or liabilities. Additional legislative and regulatory changes may be forthcoming. For example, there have been substantial changes to the Community Reinvestment Act and fair lending laws, rules and regulations, and there can be no certainty as to the effect, if any, that such changes would have on the securities in a trust’s portfolio. In addition, from time to time the deposit insurance system is reviewed by Congress and federal regulators, and proposed reforms of that system could, among other things, further restrict the ways in which deposited moneys can be used by banks or change the dollar amount or number of deposits insured for any depositor. The sponsor makes no prediction as to what, if any, manner of bank and thrift regulatory actions might ultimately be adopted or what ultimate effect such actions might have on a trust’s portfolio.

The Federal Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (“BHC Act”) generally prohibits a bank holding company from (i) acquiring, directly or indirectly, more than 5% of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities of a bank or bank holding company; (ii) acquiring control of a bank or another bank holding company; (iii) acquiring all or substantially all the assets of a bank; or (iv) merging or consolidating with another bank holding company, without first obtaining FRB approval. In considering an application with respect to any such transaction, the FRB is required to consider a variety of factors, including the potential anti-competitive effects of the transaction, the financial condition and future prospects of the combining and resulting institutions, the managerial resources of the resulting institution, the convenience and needs of the communities the combined organization would serve, the record of performance of each combining organization under the Community Reinvestment Act and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, and the prospective availability to the FRB of information appropriate to determine ongoing regulatory compliance with applicable banking laws. In addition, the federal Change In Bank Control Act and various state laws impose limitations on the ability of one or more individuals or other entities to acquire control of banks or bank holding companies.

The FRB has issued a policy statement on the payment of cash dividends by bank holding companies in which the FRB expressed its view that a bank holding company experiencing earnings weaknesses should not pay cash dividends which exceed its net income or which could only be funded in ways that would

weaken its financial health, such as by borrowing. The FRB also may impose limitations on the payment of dividends as a condition to its approval of certain applications, including applications for approval of mergers and acquisitions. The sponsor makes no prediction as to the effect, if any, such laws will have on the securities in a trust or whether such approvals, if necessary, will be obtained.

Companies engaged in investment banking/brokerage and investment management include brokerage firms, broker/dealers, investment banks, finance companies and mutual fund companies. Earnings and share prices of companies in this industry are quite volatile, and often exceed the volatility levels of the market as a whole. Negative economic events in the credit markets have led some firms to declare bankruptcy, forced short-notice sales to competing firms, or required government intervention by the FDIC or through an infusions of Troubled Asset Relief Program funds. Consolidation in the industry and the volatility in the stock market have negatively impacted investors.

Additionally, government intervention has required many financial institutions to become bank holding companies under the BHC Act. Under the system of functional regulation established under the BHC Act, the FRB supervises bank holding companies as an umbrella regulator. The BHC Act and regulations generally restrict bank holding companies from engaging in business activities other than the business of banking and certain closely related activities. The FRB and FDIC have also issued substantial risk-based and leverage capital guidelines applicable to U.S. banking organizations. The guidelines define a three-tier framework, requiring depository institutions to maintain certain leverage ratios depending on the type of assets held. If any depository institution controlled by a financial or bank holding company ceases to meet capital or management standards, the FRB may impose corrective capital and/or managerial requirements on the company and place limitations on its ability to conduct broader financial activities. Furthermore, proposed legislation will allow the Treasury and the FDIC to create a resolution regime to “take over” bank and financial holding companies. The “taking over” would be based on whether the firm is in default or in danger of defaulting and whether such a default would have a serious adverse effect on the financial system or the economy. This mechanism would only be used by the government in exceptional circumstances to mitigate these effects. This type of intervention has unknown risks and costs associated with it, which may cause unforeseeable harm in the industry.

Companies involved in the insurance industry are engaged in underwriting, reinsuring, selling, distributing or placing of property and casualty, life or health insurance. Other growth areas within the insurance industry include brokerage, reciprocals, claims processors and multi-line insurance companies. Interest rate levels, general economic conditions and price and marketing competition affect insurance company profits. Property and casualty insurance profits may also be affected by weather catastrophes and other disasters. Life and health insurance profits may be affected by mortality and morbidity rates. Individual companies may be exposed to material risks including reserve inadequacy and the inability to collect from reinsurance carriers. Insurance companies are subject to extensive governmental regulation, including the imposition of maximum rate levels, which may not be adequate for some lines of business. Proposed or potential tax law changes may also adversely affect insurance companies’ policy sales, tax obligations, and profitability. In addition to the foregoing, profit margins of these companies continue to shrink due to the commoditization of traditional businesses, new competitors, capital expenditures on new technology and the pressures to compete globally.

In addition to the normal risks of business, companies involved in the insurance industry are subject to significant risk factors, including those applicable to regulated insurance companies, such as: (i) the inherent uncertainty in the process of establishing property-liability loss reserves, particularly reserves for the cost of environmental, asbestos and mass tort claims, and the fact that ultimate losses could materially exceed established loss reserves which could have a material adverse effect on results of operations and financial condition; (ii) the fact that insurance companies have experienced, and can be expected in the future to experience, catastrophe losses which could have a material adverse impact on their financial condition, results of operations and cash flow; (iii) the inherent uncertainty in the process of establishing property-liability loss reserves due to changes in loss payment patterns caused by new claims settlement practices; (iv) the need for insurance companies and their subsidiaries to maintain appropriate levels of statutory capital and surplus, particularly in light of continuing scrutiny by rating organizations and state insurance regulatory authorities, and in order to maintain acceptable financial strength or claims-paying ability rating; (v) the extensive regulation and supervision to which insurance companies' subsidiaries are subject, various regulatory initiatives that may affect insurance companies, and regulatory and other legal actions; (vi) the adverse impact that increases in interest rates could have on the value of an insurance company's investment portfolio and on the attractiveness of certain of its products; (vii) the need to adjust the effective duration of the assets and liabilities of life insurance operations in order to meet the anticipated cash flow requirements of its policyholder obligations; and (viii) the uncertainty involved in estimating the availability of reinsurance and the collectability of reinsurance recoverables. This enhanced oversight into the insurance industry may pose unknown risks to the sector as a whole.

The state insurance regulatory framework has, during recent years, come under increased federal scrutiny, and certain state legislatures have considered or enacted laws that alter and, in many cases, increase state authority to regulate insurance companies and insurance holding company systems. Further, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC") and state insurance regulators are re-examining existing laws and regulations, specifically focusing on insurance companies, interpretations of existing laws and the development of new laws. In addition, Congress and certain federal agencies have investigated the condition of the insurance industry in the United States to determine whether to promulgate additional federal regulation. The sponsor is unable to predict whether any state or federal legislation will be enacted to change the nature or scope of regulation of the insurance industry, or what effect, if any, such legislation would have on the industry.

All insurance companies are subject to state laws and regulations that require diversification of their investment portfolios and limit the amount of investments in certain investment categories. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations would cause non-conforming investments to be treated as non-admitted assets for purposes of measuring statutory surplus and, in some instances, would require divestiture.

Environmental pollution clean-up is the subject of both federal and state regulation. By some estimates, there are thousands of potential waste sites subject to clean up. The insurance industry is involved in extensive litigation regarding coverage issues. The Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 ("*Superfund*") and comparable state statutes ("*mini-Superfund*") govern the clean-up and restoration by "Potentially Responsible Parties" ("PRPs"). Superfund and the mini-Superfunds ("*Environmental Clean-up Laws*" or "*ECLs*") establish a mechanism to pay for clean-up of waste sites if PRPs fail to do so, and to assign liability to PRPs. The extent of liability to be allocated to a PRP is dependent on a variety of factors. The extent of clean-up necessary and the assignment of liability has not been fully



established. The insurance industry is disputing many such claims. Key coverage issues include whether Superfund response costs are considered damages under the policies, when and how coverage is triggered, applicability of pollution exclusions, the potential for joint and several liability and definition of an occurrence. Similar coverage issues exist for clean up and waste sites not covered under Superfund. An insurer's exposure to liability with regard to its insureds which have been, or may be, named as PRPs is uncertain. Superfund reform proposals have been introduced in Congress, but none have been enacted. There can be no assurance that any Superfund reform legislation will be enacted or that any such legislation will provide for a fair, effective and cost-efficient system for settlement of Superfund related claims.

While current federal income tax law permits the tax-deferred accumulation of earnings on the premiums paid by an annuity owner and holders of certain savings-oriented life insurance products, no assurance can be given that future tax law will continue to allow such tax deferrals. If such deferrals were not allowed, consumer demand for the affected products would be substantially reduced. In addition, proposals to lower the federal income tax rates through a form of flat tax or otherwise could have, if enacted, a negative impact on the demand for such products.

Major determinants of future earnings of companies in the financial services sector are the direction of the stock market, investor confidence, equity transaction volume, the level and direction of long-term and short-term interest rates, and the outlook for emerging markets. Negative trends in any of these earnings determinants could have a serious adverse effect on the financial stability, as well as the stock prices, of these companies. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that the issuers of the securities included in the trust will be able to respond in a timely manner to compete in the rapidly developing marketplace. In addition to the foregoing, profit margins of these companies continue to shrink due to the commoditization of traditional businesses, new competitors, capital expenditures on new technology and the pressures to compete globally.

***Foreign Securities Risk.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in foreign issuers, and therefore, an investment in such a trust involves some investment risks that are different in some respects from an investment in a trust that invests entirely in securities of domestic issuers. Those investment risks include future political and governmental restrictions which might adversely affect the payment or receipt of payment of dividends on the relevant securities, currency exchange rate fluctuations, exchange control policies, and the limited liquidity and small market capitalization of such foreign countries' securities markets. In addition, for foreign issuers that are not subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, there may be less publicly available information than is available from a domestic issuer. Also, foreign issuers are not necessarily subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to domestic issuers. However, due to the nature of the issuers of the securities included in the trust, the sponsor believes that adequate information will be available to allow the sponsor to provide portfolio surveillance.

Certain of the securities in the trust may be in ADR or GDR form. ADRs, American Depositary Receipts and GDRs, Global Depositary Receipts, represent common stock deposited with a custodian in a depository. American Depositary Receipts and Global Depositary Receipts (collectively, the "*Depositary Receipts*") are issued by a bank or trust company to evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. These instruments may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the securities



into which they may be converted. For purposes of the discussion herein, the terms ADR and GDR generally include American Depositary Shares and Global Depositary Shares, respectively.

Depositary Receipts may be sponsored or unsponsored. In an unsponsored facility, the depositary initiates and arranges the facility at the request of market makers and acts as agent for the Depositary Receipts holder, while the company itself is not involved in the transaction. In a sponsored facility, the issuing company initiates the facility and agrees to pay certain administrative and shareholder-related expenses. Sponsored facilities use a single depositary and entail a contractual relationship between the issuer, the shareholder and the depositary; unsponsored facilities involve several depositaries with no contractual relationship to the company. The depositary bank that issues Depositary Receipts generally charges a fee, based on the price of the Depositary Receipts, upon issuance and cancellation of the Depositary Receipts. This fee would be in addition to the brokerage commissions paid upon the acquisition or surrender of the security. In addition, the depositary bank incurs expenses in connection with the conversion of dividends or other cash distributions paid in local currency into U.S. dollars and such expenses are deducted from the amount of the dividend or distribution paid to holders, resulting in a lower payout per underlying shares represented by the Depositary Receipts than would be the case if the underlying share were held directly. Certain tax considerations, including tax rate differentials and withholding requirements, arising from the application of the tax laws of one nation to nationals of another and from certain practices in the Depositary Receipts market may also exist with respect to certain Depositary Receipts. In varying degrees, any or all of these factors may affect the value of the Depositary Receipts compared with the value of the underlying shares in the local market. In addition, the rights of holders of Depositary Receipts may be different than those of holders of the underlying shares, and the market for Depositary Receipts may be less liquid than that for the underlying shares. Depositary Receipts are registered securities pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933 and may be subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

For the securities that are Depositary Receipts, currency fluctuations will affect the United States dollar equivalent of the local currency price of the underlying domestic share and, as a result, are likely to affect the value of the Depositary Receipts and consequently the value of the securities. The foreign issuers of securities that are Depositary Receipts may pay dividends in foreign currencies which must be converted into United States dollars. Most foreign currencies have fluctuated widely in value against the United States dollar for many reasons, including supply and demand of the respective currency, the soundness of the world economy and the strength of the respective economy as compared to the economies of the United States and other countries. Therefore, for any securities of issuers (whether or not they are in Depositary Receipt form) whose earnings are stated in foreign currencies, or which pay dividends in foreign currencies or which are traded in foreign currencies, there is a risk that their United States dollar value will vary with fluctuations in the United States dollar foreign exchange rates for the relevant currencies.

***Preferred Stock Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in preferred stock. If this is the case, an investment in units should be made with an understanding of the risks which an investment in preferred stocks entails, including the risk that the financial condition of the issuers of the securities or the general condition of the preferred stock market may worsen, and the value of the preferred stocks and therefore the value of the units may decline. Preferred stocks may be susceptible to general stock market movements and to volatile increases and decreases of value as market

confidence in and perceptions of the issuers change. These perceptions are based on unpredictable factors, including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies, inflation and interest rates, economic expansion or contraction, market liquidity, and global or regional political, economic or banking crises. Preferred stocks are also vulnerable to congressional reductions in the dividends-received deduction which would adversely affect the after-tax return to the investors who can take advantage of the deduction. Such a reduction might adversely affect the value of preferred stocks in general. Holders of preferred stocks, as owners of the entity, have rights to receive payments from the issuers of those preferred stocks that are generally subordinate to those of creditors of, or holders of debt obligations or, in some cases, other senior preferred stocks of, such issuers. Preferred stocks do not represent an obligation of the issuer and, therefore, do not offer any assurance of income or provide the same degree of protection of capital as do debt securities. The issuance of additional debt securities or senior preferred stocks will create prior claims for payment of principal and interest and senior dividends which could adversely affect the ability and inclination of the issuer to declare or pay dividends on its preferred stock or the rights of holders of preferred stock with respect to assets of the issuer upon liquidation or bankruptcy. The value of preferred stocks is subject to market fluctuations for as long as the preferred stocks remain outstanding, and thus the value of the securities may be expected to fluctuate over the life of the trust to values higher or lower than those prevailing on the initial date of deposit.

***Hybrid Preferred Securities Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in hybrid preferred securities. Holders of hybrid preferred securities incur risks in addition to or slightly different than the typical risks of holding preferred stocks. Hybrid preferred securities are preferred securities that are typically issued by corporations, generally in the form of interest-bearing notes or preferred securities issued by corporations, or by an affiliated business trust of a corporation, generally in the form of beneficial interests in subordinated debentures issued by the corporation. Certain hybrid securities mature on the stated maturity date of the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures and may be redeemed or liquidated prior to the stated maturity date of such instruments for any reason on or after their stated call date or upon the occurrence of certain circumstances at any time. Unlike preferred stocks, distributions on the hybrid preferred securities are generally treated as interest rather than dividends for federal income tax purposes. Unlike most preferred stocks, distributions received from hybrid preferred securities are generally not eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Certain of the risks unique to certain hybrid preferred securities include: (i) distributions on trust preferred securities will be made only if interest payments on the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures are made; (ii) a corporation issuing the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures may defer interest payments on these instruments and if such election is made, distributions will not be made on the hybrid preferred securities during the deferral period; (iii) certain tax or regulatory events may trigger the redemption of the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures by the issuing corporation and result in prepayment of the hybrid preferred securities prior to their stated maturity date; (iv) future legislation may be proposed or enacted that may prohibit the corporation from deducting its interest payments on the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures for tax purposes, making redemption of these instruments likely; (v) a corporation may redeem the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures in whole at any time or in part from time to time on or after a stated call date; (vi) hybrid preferred securities holders have very limited voting rights; and (vii) payment of interest on the interest-bearing notes, preferred securities or subordinated debentures, and therefore distributions on the hybrid preferred securities, is dependent on the financial condition of the issuing corporation.

***Convertible Securities Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in convertible securities.

Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible fixed-income securities of similar credit quality because of the potential for capital appreciation. The market values of convertible securities tend to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, a convertible security's market value also tends to reflect the market price of the common stock of the issuing company, particularly when the stock price is greater than the convertible security's conversion price. The conversion price is defined as the predetermined price or exchange ratio at which the convertible security can be converted or exchanged for the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines below the conversion price, the price of the convertible security tends to be increasingly influenced more by the yield of the convertible security than by the market price of the underlying common stock. Thus, it may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock, and convertible securities generally have less potential for gain or loss than common stocks. However, mandatory convertible securities (as discussed below) generally do not limit the potential for loss to the same extent as securities convertible at the option of the holder. In the event of a liquidation of the issuing company, holders of convertible securities would be paid before that company's common stockholders. Consequently, an issuer's convertible securities generally entail less risk than its common stock. However, convertible securities fall below debt obligations of the same issuer in order of preference or priority in the event of a liquidation and are typically unrated or rated lower than such debt obligations. In addition, contingent payment, convertible securities allow the issuer to claim deductions based on its nonconvertible cost of debt, which generally will result in deduction in excess of the actual cash payments made on the securities (and accordingly, holders will recognize income in amounts in excess of the cash payments received).

Mandatory convertible securities are distinguished as a subset of convertible securities because the conversion is not optional and the conversion price at maturity is based solely upon the market price of the underlying common stock, which may be significantly less than par or the price (above or below par) paid. For these reasons, the risks associated with investing in mandatory convertible securities most closely resemble the risks inherent in common stocks. Mandatory convertible securities customarily pay a higher coupon yield to compensate for the potential risk of additional price volatility and loss upon conversion. Because the market price of a mandatory convertible security increasingly corresponds to the market price of its underlying common stock as the convertible security approaches its conversion date, there can be no assurance that the higher coupon will compensate for the potential loss.

***Senior Loan Risks.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust, may invest in senior loans.

Senior loans in which a Closed-End Fund or an ETF may invest:

- generally are of below investment-grade or "junk" credit quality;
- may be unrated at the time of investment;
- generally are not registered with the SEC or any state securities commission; and

- generally are not listed on any securities exchange.

The amount of public information available on senior loans generally will be less extensive than that available for other types of assets.

No reliable, active trading market currently exists for many senior loans, although a secondary market for certain senior loans has developed over the past several years. Senior loans are thus relatively illiquid. Liquidity relates to the ability of a Closed-End Fund or an ETF to sell an investment in a timely manner at a price approximately equal to its value on the Closed-End Fund's or the ETF's books. The illiquidity of senior loans may impair a Closed-End Fund's or an ETF's ability to realize the full value of its assets in the event of a voluntary or involuntary liquidation of such assets. Because of the lack of an active trading market, illiquid securities are also difficult to value and prices provided by external pricing services may not reflect the true value of the securities. However, many senior loans are of a large principal amount and are held by a large number of financial institutions. To the extent that a secondary market does exist for certain senior loans, the market may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods. The market for senior loans could be disrupted in the event of an economic downturn or a substantial increase or decrease in interest rates. This could result in increased volatility in the market and in the trusts' net asset value.

If legislation or state or federal regulators impose additional requirements or restrictions on the ability of financial institutions to make loans that are considered highly leveraged transactions, the availability of senior loans for investment by the Closed-End Funds or the ETFs may be adversely affected. In addition, such requirements or restrictions could reduce or eliminate sources of financing for certain borrowers. This would increase the risk of default. If legislation or federal or state regulators require financial institutions to dispose of senior loans that are considered highly leveraged transactions or subject such senior loans to increased regulatory scrutiny, financial institutions may determine to sell such senior loans. Such sales could result in depressed prices. If a Closed-End Fund or an ETF attempts to sell a senior loan at a time when a financial institution is engaging in such a sale, the price a Closed-End Fund or an ETF could get for the senior loan may be adversely affected.

Some senior loans are subject to the risk that a court, pursuant to fraudulent conveyance or other similar laws, could subordinate the senior loans to presently existing or future indebtedness of the borrower or take other action detrimental to lenders. Such court action could under certain circumstances include invalidation of senior loans. Any lender, which could include a Closed-End Fund or an ETF, is subject to the risk that a court could find the lender liable for damages in a claim by a borrower arising under the common laws of tort or contracts or anti-fraud provisions of certain securities laws for actions taken or omitted to be taken by the lenders under the relevant terms of a loan agreement or in connection with actions with respect to the collateral underlying the senior loan.

***Floating-Rate Securities Risk.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust, or issuers of securities held by a trust may invest in floating-rate securities. Certain Closed-End Funds or ETFs held by the trust may invest in securities that are structured as floating-rate instruments in which the interest rate payable on the obligations fluctuates on a periodic basis based upon changes in a base lending rate. As a result, the yield on these securities will generally decline in a falling interest rate environment, causing the Closed-End Funds

or the ETFs to experience a reduction in the income they receive from these securities. A sudden and significant increase in market interest rates may increase the risk of payment defaults and cause a decline in the value of these investments and the value of the Closed-End Funds or the ETFs held by the trust.

***Small-Capitalization and Mid-Capitalization Stocks Risk.*** If set forth in Part A of the prospectus, a trust may invest in small-capitalization or mid-capitalization stocks. Investing in small-capitalization stocks or mid-capitalization stocks may involve greater risk than investing in large-capitalization stocks, since they can be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements. Many small market capitalization companies (“*Small-Cap Companies*”) or middle market capitalization companies (“*Mid-Cap Companies*”) will have had their securities publicly traded, if at all, for only a short period of time and will not have had the opportunity to establish a reliable trading pattern through economic cycles. The price volatility of Small-Cap Companies and Mid-Cap Companies is relatively higher than larger, older and more mature companies. The greater price volatility of Small-Cap Companies and Mid-Cap Companies may result from the fact that there may be less market liquidity, less information publicly available or fewer investors who monitor the activities of these companies. In addition, the market prices of these securities may exhibit more sensitivity to changes in industry or general economic conditions. Some Small-Cap Companies or Mid-Cap Companies will not have been in existence long enough to experience economic cycles or to demonstrate whether they are sufficiently well managed to survive downturns or inflationary periods. Further, a variety of factors may affect the success of a company’s business beyond the ability of its management to prepare or compensate for them, including domestic and international political developments, government trade and fiscal policies, patterns of trade and war or other military conflict which may affect industries or markets or the economy generally.

## **Administration of the Trust**

***Distributions to Unitholders.*** Income received by a trust is credited by the trustee to the Income Account of the trust. Other receipts are credited to the Capital Account of a trust. Income received by a trust will be distributed on or shortly after the distribution dates each year shown in the prospectus on a pro rata basis to unitholders of record as of the preceding record date shown in the prospectus. However, if set forth in Part A of the prospectus that the trust will prorate distributions on an annual basis (“*Income Averaging*”), then income received by the trust will be distributed on a prorated basis of one-twelfth of the estimated annual income to the trust for the ensuing 12 months. All distributions will be net of applicable expenses. There is no assurance that any actual distributions will be made since all dividends received may be used to pay expenses. In addition, excess amounts from the Capital Account of a trust, if any, will be distributed at least annually to the unitholders then of record. Proceeds received from the disposition of any of the securities after a record date and prior to the following distribution date will be held in the Capital Account and not distributed until the next distribution date applicable to the Capital Account. The trustee shall be required to make a distribution from the Capital Account if the cash balance on deposit therein available for distribution shall be sufficient to distribute at least \$1.00 per 100 units. The trustee is not required to pay interest on funds held in the Capital or Income Accounts (but may itself earn interest thereon and therefore benefits from the use of such funds). The trustee is authorized to reinvest any funds held in the Capital or Income Accounts, pending distribution, in U.S. Treasury obligations which mature on or before the next applicable distribution date. Any obligations so acquired must be held until they mature and proceeds therefrom may not be reinvested.



The distribution to the unitholders as of each record date will be made on the following distribution date or shortly thereafter and shall consist of an amount substantially equal to such portion of the unitholders' pro rata share of the dividend distributions then held in the Income Account after deducting estimated expenses. Because dividends are not received by a trust at a constant rate throughout the year, such distributions to unitholders are expected to fluctuate. However, if the trust uses Income Averaging, the trust prorates the income distribution on an annual basis and annual income distributions are expected to vary from year to year. If the amount on deposit in the Income Account is insufficient for payment of the amount of income to be distributed on a monthly basis, the trustee shall advance out of its own funds and cause to be deposited in and credited to such Income Account such amount as may be required to permit payment of the monthly income distribution. The trustee shall be entitled to be reimbursed by the trust, without interest, out of income received by the trust subsequent to the date of such advance and subject to the condition that any such reimbursement shall be made only if it will not reduce the funds in or available for the Income Account to an amount less than required for the next ensuing distribution. Persons who purchase units will commence receiving distributions only after such person becomes a record owner. A person will become the owner of units, and thereby a unitholder of record, on the date of settlement provided payment has been received. Notification to the trustee of the transfer of units is the responsibility of the purchaser, but in the normal course of business such notice is provided by the selling broker-dealer.

The trustee will periodically deduct from the Income Account of a trust and, to the extent funds are not sufficient therein, from the Capital Account of a trust amounts necessary to pay the expenses of a trust. The trustee also may withdraw from said accounts such amounts, if any, as it deems necessary to establish a reserve for any governmental charges payable out of a trust. Amounts so withdrawn shall not be considered a part of a trust's assets until such time as the trustee shall return all or any part of such amounts to the appropriate accounts. In addition, the trustee may withdraw from the Income and Capital Accounts of a trust such amounts as may be necessary to cover redemptions of units.

***Distribution Reinvestment.*** Unitholders may elect to have distributions of capital (including capital gains) or dividends, if any, or both automatically invested into additional units of their trust without a sales fee.

Your trust will pay any deferred sales fee per unit regardless of any sales fee discounts. However, if you elect to have distributions on your units reinvested into additional units of your trust, you will be credited the amount of any remaining deferred sales charge on such additional units at the time of reinvestment.

Unitholders who are receiving distributions in cash may elect to participate in distribution reinvestment by filing with the Program Agent an election to have such distributions reinvested without charge. Such election must be received by the Program Agent at least ten days prior to the record date applicable to any distribution in order to be in effect for such record date. Any such election shall remain in effect until a subsequent notice is received by the Program Agent.

The Program Agent is The Bank of New York Mellon. All inquiries concerning participating in distribution reinvestment should be directed to The Bank of New York Mellon at its Unit Investment Trust Division office.



***Statements to Unitholders.*** With each distribution, the trustee will furnish to each registered holder a statement of the amount of income and the amount of other receipts, if any, which are being distributed, expressed in each case as a dollar amount per unit.

The accounts of a trust will not be audited annually unless the sponsor determines that such an audit would be in the best interest of the unitholders of the trust. If an audit is conducted, it will be done at the related trust's expense, by independent public accountants designated by the sponsor. The accountants' report will be furnished by the trustee to any unitholder upon written request. Within a reasonable period of time after the end of each calendar year, the trustee shall furnish to each person who at any time during the calendar year was a unitholder of a trust a statement, covering the calendar year, generally setting forth for the trust:

(A) As to the Income Account:

- (1) Income received;
- (2) Deductions for applicable taxes and for fees and expenses of the trust and for redemptions of units, if any; and
- (3) The balance remaining after such distributions and deductions, expressed in each case both as a total dollar amount and as a dollar amount representing the pro rata share of each unit outstanding on the last business day of such calendar year; and

(B) As to the Capital Account:

- (1) The dates of disposition of any securities and the net proceeds received therefrom;
- (2) Deductions for payment of applicable taxes and fees and expenses of the trust; and
- (3) The balance remaining after such distributions and deductions expressed both as a total dollar amount and as a dollar amount representing the pro rata share of each unit outstanding on the last business day of such calendar year; and

(C) The following information:

- (1) A list of the securities as of the last business day of such calendar year;
- (2) The number of units outstanding on the last business day of such calendar year;
- (3) The redemption price based on the last evaluation made during such calendar year; and

- (4) The amount actually distributed during such calendar year from the Income and Capital Accounts separately stated, expressed both as total dollar amounts and as dollar amounts per unit outstanding on the record dates for each such distribution.

***Rights of Unitholders.*** A unitholder may at any time tender units to the trustee for redemption. The death or incapacity of any unitholder will not operate to terminate a trust nor entitle legal representatives or heirs to claim an accounting or to bring any action or proceeding in any court for partition or winding up of a trust. No unitholder shall have the right to control the operation and management of a trust in any manner, except to vote with respect to the amendment of the trust agreement or termination of a trust.

***Amendment and Termination.*** The trust agreement may be amended by the trustee and the sponsor without the consent of any of the unitholders: (i) to cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any provision which may be defective or inconsistent; (ii) to change any provision thereof as may be required by the Securities and Exchange Commission or any successor governmental agency; (iii) to make such provisions as shall not materially adversely affect the interests of the unitholders; or (iv) to make such other amendments as may be necessary for a trust to qualify as a regulated investment company, in the case of a trust which has elected to qualify as such. The trust agreement with respect to any trust may also be amended in any respect by the sponsor and the trustee, or any of the provisions thereof may be waived, with the consent of the holders of units representing 66 2/3% of the units then outstanding of the trust, provided that no such amendment or waiver will reduce the interest of any unitholder thereof without the consent of such unitholder or reduce the percentage of units required to consent to any such amendment or waiver without the consent of all unitholders of the trust. In no event shall the trust agreement be amended to increase the number of units of a trust issuable thereunder, to permit the acquisition of any securities in addition to or in substitution for those initially deposited in the trust or to adversely affect the characterization of a trust as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes, except in accordance with the provisions of the trust agreement. The trustee shall promptly notify unitholders of the substance of any such amendment.

The trust agreement provides that a trust shall terminate upon the liquidation, redemption or other disposition of the last of the securities held in the trust but in no event is it to continue beyond the mandatory termination date set forth in Part A of the prospectus. If the value of a trust shall be less than the applicable minimum value stated in the prospectus, the trustee may, in its discretion, and shall, when so directed by the sponsor, terminate the trust. A trust may be terminated at any time by the holders of units representing 66 2/3% of the units thereof then outstanding. In addition, the sponsor may terminate a trust if it is based on a security index and the index is no longer maintained.

Beginning nine business days prior to, but no later than, the mandatory termination date described in the prospectus, the trustee may begin to sell all of the remaining underlying securities on behalf of unitholders in connection with the termination of the trust. The sponsor may assist the trustee in these sales and receive compensation to the extent permitted by applicable law. The sale proceeds will be net of any incidental expenses involved in the sales.

The trustee will attempt to sell the securities as quickly as it can during the termination proceedings without, in its judgment, materially adversely affecting the market price of the securities, but it is expected that all of the securities will in any event be disposed of within a reasonable time after a trust's termination.

The sponsor does not anticipate that the period will be longer than one month, and it could be as short as one day, depending on the liquidity of the securities being sold. The liquidity of any security depends on the daily trading volume of the security and the amount that the sponsor has available for sale on any particular day. Of course, no assurances can be given that the market value of the securities will not be adversely affected during the termination proceedings.

Within a reasonable period after termination, the trustee will sell any securities remaining in a trust and, after paying all expenses and charges incurred by the trust, will distribute to unitholders thereof their pro rata share of the balances remaining in the Income and Capital Accounts of the trust.

The sponsor currently intends, but is not obligated, to offer for sale units of a subsequent series of certain trusts at approximately one year after the inception date of such trusts. If the sponsor does offer such units for sale, unitholders may be given the opportunity to purchase such units at a public offering price. There is, however, no assurance that units of any new series of a trust will be offered for sale at that time, or if offered, that there will be sufficient units available for sale to meet the requests of any or all unitholders.

***The Trustee.*** The trustee is The Bank of New York Mellon, a trust company organized under the laws of New York. The Bank of New York Mellon has its Unit Investment Trust Division offices at 240 Greenwich Street, 22W Floor, New York, NY 10286, telephone 1-800-701-8178. The Bank of New York Mellon is subject to supervision and examination by the Superintendent of Banks of the State of New York and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and its deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to the extent permitted by law.

The trustee, whose duties are ministerial in nature, has not participated in selecting the portfolio of any trust. In accordance with the trust agreement, the trustee shall keep records of all transactions at its office. Such records shall include the name and address of, and the number of units held by, every unitholder of a trust. Such books and records shall be open to inspection by any unitholder at all reasonable times during usual business hours. The trustee shall make such annual or other reports as may from time to time be required under any applicable state or federal statute, rule or regulation. The trustee shall keep a certified copy or duplicate original of the trust agreement on file in its office available for inspection at all reasonable times during usual business hours by any unitholder, together with a current list of the securities held in each trust. Pursuant to the trust agreement, the trustee may employ one or more agents for the purpose of custody and safeguarding of securities comprising a trust.

Under the trust agreement, the trustee or any successor trustee may resign and be discharged of a trust created by the trust agreement by executing an instrument in writing and filing the same with the sponsor. The trustee or successor trustee must mail a copy of the notice of resignation to all unitholders then of record, not less than sixty days before the date specified in such notice when such resignation is to take effect. The sponsor upon receiving notice of such resignation is obligated to appoint a successor trustee promptly. If, upon such resignation, no successor trustee has been appointed and has accepted the appointment within thirty days after notification, the retiring trustee may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a successor. The sponsor may at any time remove the trustee, with or without cause, and appoint a successor trustee as provided in the trust agreement. Notice of such removal and appointment shall be mailed to each unitholder by the sponsor. Upon execution of a written acceptance of such appointment

by such successor trustee, all the rights, powers, duties and obligations of the original trustee shall vest in the successor. The trustee must be a corporation organized under the laws of the United States, or any state thereof, be authorized under such laws to exercise trust powers and have at all times an aggregate capital, surplus and undivided profits of not less than \$5,000,000.

***The Sponsor.*** Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC specializes in the creation, development and distribution of investment solutions for advisors and their valued clients. Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC was created as Ranson & Associates, Inc. in 1995 and is the successor sponsor to unit investment trusts formerly sponsored by EVEREN Unit Investment Trusts, a service of EVEREN Securities, Inc. Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC is also the sponsor and successor sponsor of Series of Ranson Unit Investment Trusts and The Kansas Tax-Exempt Trust and Multi-State Series of The Ranson Municipal Trust. On October 29, 2001, Ranson & Associates, Inc. was acquired by Claymore Group LLC. The sale to Claymore Group LLC was financed by a loan from The Bank of New York Mellon, the trustee. In November 2001, the sponsor changed its name from Ranson & Associates, Inc. to Claymore Securities, Inc. On October 14, 2009, Guggenheim Partners, LLC acquired Claymore Securities, Inc. Since the finalization of the acquisition, Claymore Securities, Inc. has been operating as a subsidiary of Guggenheim Partners, LLC. On September 27, 2010, Claymore Securities, Inc. officially changed its name to Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC.

Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC has been active in public and corporate finance, has underwritten closed-end funds and has sold bonds, mutual funds, closed-end funds, exchange-traded funds, structured products and unit investment trusts and maintained secondary market activities relating thereto. At present, Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC which is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), is the sponsor to each of the above-named unit investment trusts. The sponsor's office is located at 227 W. Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

If at any time the sponsor shall fail to perform any of its duties under the trust agreement or shall become incapable of acting or shall be adjudged a bankrupt or insolvent or shall have its affairs taken over by public authorities, then the trustee may (i) appoint a successor sponsor at rates of compensation deemed by the trustee to be reasonable and not exceeding such reasonable amounts as may be prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission; (ii) terminate the trust agreement and liquidate any trust as provided therein; or (iii) continue to act as trustee without terminating the trust agreement.

***The Supervisor and the Evaluator.*** Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC, the sponsor, also serves as evaluator and supervisor. The evaluator and supervisor may resign or be removed by the trustee in which event the trustee is to use its best efforts to appoint a satisfactory successor. Such resignation or removal shall become effective upon acceptance of appointment by the successor evaluator. If upon resignation of the evaluator no successor has accepted appointment within thirty days after notice of resignation, the evaluator may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a successor. Notice of such registration or removal and appointment shall be mailed by the trustee to each unitholder. As evaluator, Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC utilizes the trustee to perform certain evaluation services.

***Limitations on Liability.*** The sponsor is liable for the performance of its obligations arising from its responsibilities under the trust agreement, but will be under no liability to the unitholders for taking any action or refraining from any action in good faith pursuant to the trust agreement or for errors in judgment,

except in cases of its own gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct or its reckless disregard for its duties thereunder. The sponsor shall not be liable or responsible in any way for depreciation or loss incurred by reason of the sale of any securities.

The trust agreement provides that the trustee shall be under no liability for any action taken in good faith in reliance upon prima facie properly executed documents or for the disposition of moneys, securities or certificates except by reason of its own gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct, or its reckless disregard for its duties under the trust agreement, nor shall the trustee be liable or responsible in any way for depreciation or loss incurred by reason of the sale by the trustee of any securities. In the event that the sponsor shall fail to act, the trustee may act and shall not be liable for any such action taken by it in good faith. The trustee shall not be personally liable for any taxes or other governmental charges imposed upon or in respect of the securities or upon the interest thereof. In addition, the trust agreement contains other customary provisions limiting the liability of the trustee.

The unitholders may rely on any evaluation furnished by the evaluator and shall have no responsibility for the accuracy thereof. The trust agreement provides that the determinations made by the evaluator shall be made in good faith upon the basis of the best information available to it, provided, however, that the evaluator shall be under no liability to the trustee or unitholders for errors in judgment, but shall be liable for its gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct or its reckless disregard for its obligations under the trust agreement.

## **Expenses of the Trust**

The sponsor does not charge a trust an annual advisory fee. The sponsor will receive a portion of the sale commissions paid in connection with the purchase of units and will share in profits, if any, related to the deposit of securities in the trust. The sponsor and/or its affiliates do, also, receive an annual fee as set forth in Part A of the prospectus for maintaining surveillance over the portfolio and for performing certain administrative services for the trust (the “*Sponsor’s Supervisory Fee*”). In providing such supervisory services, the sponsor may purchase research from a variety of sources, which may include dealers of the trusts. If so provided in Part A of the prospectus, the sponsor may also receive an annual fee for providing bookkeeping and administrative services for a trust (the “*Bookkeeping and Administrative Fee*”). Such services may include, but are not limited to, the preparation of various materials for unitholders and providing account information to the unitholders. If so provided in Part A of the prospectus, the evaluator may also receive an annual fee for performing evaluation services for the trusts (the “*Evaluator’s Fee*”). In addition, if so provided in Part A of the prospectus, a trust may be charged an annual licensing fee to cover licenses for the use of service marks, trademarks, trade names and intellectual property rights and/or for the use of databases and research. The trust will bear all operating expenses. Estimated annual trust operating expenses are as set forth in Part A of the prospectus; if actual expenses are higher than the estimate, the excess will be borne by the trust. The estimated expenses include listing fees but do not include the brokerage commissions and other transactional fees payable by the trust in purchasing and selling securities.

The trustee receives for its services that fee set forth in Part A of the prospectus. The trustee’s fee, which is paid monthly, is based on the largest number of units of a trust outstanding at any time during the primary offering period. After the primary offering period, the fee shall accrue daily and be based on the number of

units outstanding on the first business day of each calendar year in which the fee is calculated or the number of units outstanding at the end of the primary offering period, as appropriate. The Sponsor's Supervisory Fee, the Bookkeeping and Administrative Fee and the Evaluator's Fee are paid monthly and are based on the largest number of units of a trust outstanding at any time during the primary offering period. After the primary offering period, these fees shall accrue daily and be based on the number of units outstanding on the first business day of each calendar year in which a fee is calculated or the number of units outstanding at the end of the primary offering period, as appropriate. The trustee benefits to the extent there are funds for future distributions, payment of expenses and redemptions in the Capital and Income Accounts since these Accounts are non-interest bearing and the amounts earned by the trustee are retained by the trustee. Part of the trustee's compensation for its services to a trust is expected to result from the use of these funds. In addition, the Sponsor's Supervisory Fee, Bookkeeping and Administrative Fee, Evaluator's Fee and the Trustee's Fee may be adjusted in accordance with the cumulative percentage increase of the United States Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index entitled "All Services Less Rent" since the establishment of the trust. In addition, with respect to any fees payable to the sponsor or an affiliate of the sponsor for providing bookkeeping and other administrative services, supervisory services and evaluation services, such individual fees may exceed the actual costs of providing such services for a trust, but at no time will the total amount received for such services, in the aggregate, rendered to all unit investment trusts of which Guggenheim Funds Distributors, LLC is the sponsor in any calendar year exceed the actual cost to the sponsor or its affiliates of supplying such services, in the aggregate, in such year. In addition, the trustee may reimburse the sponsor out of its own assets for services performed by employees of the sponsor in connection with the operation of your trust.

The trust will also pay a fee to the sponsor for creating and developing the trust, including determining the trust's objective, policies, composition and size, selecting service providers and information services, and for providing other similar administrative and ministerial functions. Your trust pays this "creation and development fee" as a fixed dollar amount at the close of the initial offering period. The sponsor does not use the fee to pay distribution expenses or as compensation for sales efforts.

The following additional charges are or may be incurred by the trust: (i) fees for the trustee's extraordinary services; (ii) expenses of the trustee (including legal and auditing expenses, but not including any fees and expenses charged by an agent for custody and safeguarding of securities) and of counsel, if any; (iii) various governmental charges; (iv) expenses and costs of any action taken by the trustee to protect the trust or the rights and interests of the unitholders; (v) indemnification of the trustee for any loss, liability or expense incurred by it in the administration of the trust not resulting from gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct on its part; (vi) indemnification of the sponsor for any loss, liability or expense incurred in acting in that capacity without gross negligence, bad faith or willful malfeasance or its reckless disregard for its obligations under the trust agreement; (vii) any offering costs incurred after the end of the initial offering period; and (viii) expenditures incurred in contacting unitholders upon termination of the trust. The fees and expenses set forth herein are payable out of a trust and, when owing to the trustee, are secured by a lien on the trust. Since the securities are all stocks, and the income stream produced by dividend payments, if any, is unpredictable, the sponsor cannot provide any assurance that dividends will be sufficient to meet any or all expenses of a trust. If the balances in the Income and Capital Accounts are insufficient to provide for amounts payable by the trust, the trustee has the power to sell securities to pay such amounts. These sales may result in capital gains or losses to unitholders. It is expected that the income stream produced by dividend



payments may be insufficient to meet the expenses of a trust and, accordingly, it is expected that securities will be sold to pay all of the fees and expenses of the trust.

The trust shall also bear the expenses associated with updating the trust's registration statement and maintaining registration or qualification of the units and/or a trust under federal or state securities laws subsequent to initial registration. Such expenses shall include legal fees, accounting fees, typesetting fees, electronic filing expenses and regulatory filing fees. The expenses associated with updating registration statements have been historically paid by a unit investment trust's sponsor.

## **Portfolio Transactions and Brokerage Allocation**

When a trust sells securities, the composition and diversity of the securities in the trust may be altered. In order to obtain the best price for a trust, it may be necessary for the supervisor to specify minimum amounts (such as 100 shares) in which blocks of securities are to be sold. In effecting purchases and sales of a trust's portfolio securities, the sponsor may direct that orders be placed with and brokerage commissions be paid to brokers, including brokers which may be affiliated with the trust, the sponsor or dealers participating in the offering of units.

## **Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Units**

**Public Offering Price.** Units of a trust are offered at the public offering price (which is based on the aggregate underlying value of the securities in the trust and includes the initial sales fee, if applicable, plus a pro rata share of any accumulated amounts in the accounts of the trust). The initial sales fee is equal to the difference between the maximum sales fee and the sum of the remaining deferred sales fee and the creation and development fee ("*C&D Fee*"). The maximum sales fee is set forth in Part A of the prospectus. The deferred sales fee and the C&D Fee will be collected as described in this prospectus. Units purchased subsequent to the initial deferred sales fee payment will be subject to the initial sales fee, the remaining deferred sales fee payments and the C&D Fee. Units sold or redeemed prior to such time as the entire applicable deferred sales fee has been collected will be assessed the remaining deferred sales fee at the time of such sale or redemption. During the initial offering period, a portion of the public offering price includes an amount of securities to pay for all or a portion of the costs incurred in establishing a trust ("*organization costs*"). These organization costs include the cost of preparing the registration statement, the trust indenture and other closing documents, registering units with the Securities and Exchange Commission and states, the initial audit of the trust portfolio, legal fees, fees paid to a portfolio consultant for assisting the sponsor in selecting the trust's portfolio, and the initial fees and expenses of the trustee. These costs will be deducted from a trust as of the end of the initial offering period or after six months, at the discretion of the sponsor. As indicated above, the initial public offering price of the units was established by dividing the aggregate underlying value of the securities by the number of units outstanding. Such price determination as of the opening of business on the date a trust was created was made on the basis of an evaluation of the securities in the trust prepared by the evaluator. After the opening of business on this date, the evaluator will appraise or cause to be appraised daily the value of the underlying securities as of the close of the New York Stock Exchange on days the New York Stock Exchange is open and will adjust the public offering price of the units commensurate with such valuation. Such public offering price will be effective for all orders properly received at or prior to the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each such day. Orders received

by the trustee, sponsor or any dealer for purchases, sales or redemptions after that time, or on a day when the New York Stock Exchange is closed, will be held until the next determination of price.

The value of the securities is determined on each business day by the evaluator based on the closing sale prices on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ National Market System or by taking into account the same factors referred to under “Computation of Redemption Price.”

***Public Distribution of Units.*** During the initial offering period, units of a trust will be distributed to the public at the public offering price thereof. Upon the completion of the initial offering, units which remain unsold or which may be acquired in the secondary market may be offered at the public offering price determined in the manner provided above.

The sponsor intends to qualify units of a trust for sale in a number of states. Units will be sold through dealers who are members of FINRA and through others. Broker-dealers and others will be allowed a concession or agency commission in connection with the distribution of units during the initial offering period as set forth in the prospectus.

The sponsor reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, any order for the purchase of units.

***Sponsor Profits.*** The sponsor will receive gross sales fees equal to the percentage of the public offering price of the units of a trust described in the prospectus. In addition, the sponsor may realize a profit (or sustain a loss) as of the date a trust is created resulting from the difference between the purchase prices of the securities to the sponsor and the cost of such securities to the trust. Thereafter, on subsequent deposits the sponsor may realize profits or sustain losses from such deposits. The sponsor may realize additional profits or losses during the initial offering period on unsold units as a result of changes in the daily market value of the securities in the trust.

***Market for Units.*** After the initial offering period, the sponsor may maintain a market for units of a trust offered hereby and continuously offer to purchase said units at prices, determined by the evaluator, based on the value of the underlying securities. Unitholders who wish to dispose of their units should inquire of their broker as to current market prices in order to determine whether there is in existence any price in excess of the redemption price and, if so, the amount thereof. Unitholders who sell or redeem units prior to such time as the entire deferred sales fee on such units has been collected will be assessed the amount of the remaining deferred sales fee at the time of such sale or redemption. The offering price of any units resold by the sponsor will be in accord with that described in the currently effective prospectus describing such units. Any profit or loss resulting from the resale of such units will belong to the sponsor. If the sponsor decides to maintain a secondary market, it may suspend or discontinue purchases of units of the trust if the supply of units exceeds demand, or for other business reasons.

***Redemption.*** A unitholder who does not dispose of units in the secondary market described above may cause units to be redeemed by the trustee by making a written request to the trustee at its Unit Investment Trust Division office in the city of New York. Unitholders must sign the request, and such transfer instrument, exactly as their names appear on the records of the trustee. If the amount of the redemption is \$500 or less

and the proceeds are payable to the unitholder(s) of record at the address of record, no signature guarantee is necessary for redemptions by individual account owners (including joint owners). Additional documentation may be requested, and a signature guarantee is always required, from corporations, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians or associations. The signatures must be guaranteed by a participant in the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program (“*STAMP*”) or such other signature guaranty program in addition to, or in substitution for, *STAMP*, as may be accepted by the trustee.

Redemption shall be made by the trustee no later than the second business day following the day on which a tender for redemption is received (the “*Redemption Date*”) by payment of cash equivalent to the redemption price, determined as set forth below under “Computation of Redemption Price,” as of the close of the New York Stock Exchange next following such tender, multiplied by the number of units being redeemed. Any units redeemed shall be canceled and any undivided fractional interest in the related trust extinguished. The price received upon redemption might be more or less than the amount paid by the unitholder depending on the value of the securities in the trust at the time of redemption. Unitholders who sell or redeem units prior to such time as the entire deferred sales fee on such units has been collected will be assessed the amount of the remaining deferred sales fee at the time of such sale or redemption. Certain broker-dealers may charge a transaction fee for processing redemption requests.

Under regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service, the trustee is required to withhold a specified percentage of the principal amount of a unit redemption if the trustee has not been furnished the redeeming unitholder’s tax identification number in the manner required by such regulations. Any amount so withheld is transmitted to the Internal Revenue Service and may be recovered by the unitholder only when filing a tax return. Under normal circumstances the trustee obtains the unitholder’s tax identification number from the selling broker. However, any time a unitholder elects to tender units for redemption, such unitholder should make sure that the trustee has been provided a certified tax identification number in order to avoid this possible “back-up withholding.” In the event the trustee has not been previously provided such number, one must be provided at the time redemption is requested. Any amounts paid on redemption representing unpaid dividends shall be withdrawn from the Income Account of a trust to the extent that funds are available for such purpose. All other amounts paid on redemption shall be withdrawn from the Capital Account for a trust.

Unitholders tendering units for redemption may request an in-kind distribution (a “*Distribution In Kind*”) from the trustee in lieu of cash redemption. A unitholder may request a Distribution In Kind of an amount and value of securities per unit equal to the redemption price per unit as determined as of the evaluation time next following the tender, provided that the tendering unitholder is (i) entitled to receive at least \$25,000 of proceeds as part of his or her distribution or if he paid at least \$25,000 to acquire the units being tendered; and (ii) the unitholder has elected to redeem at least thirty business days prior to the termination of the trust. If the unitholder meets these requirements, a Distribution In Kind will be made by the trustee through the distribution of each of the securities of the trust in book entry form to the account of the unitholder’s bank or broker-dealer at Depository Trust Company. The tendering unitholder shall be entitled to receive whole shares of each of the securities comprising the portfolio of the trust and cash from the Capital Account equal to the fractional shares to which the tendering unitholder is entitled. The trustee shall make any adjustments necessary to reflect differences between the redemption price of the units and the value of the securities distributed in kind as of the date of tender. If funds in the Capital Account are insufficient to cover the required cash distribution to the tendering unitholder, the trustee may sell securities. The in-kind redemption

option may be terminated by the sponsor at any time. The trustee is empowered to sell securities in order to make funds available for the redemption of units. To the extent that securities are sold or redeemed in kind, the size of a trust will be, and the diversity of a trust may be, reduced but each remaining unit will continue to represent approximately the same proportional interest in each security. Sales may be required at a time when securities would not otherwise be sold and may result in lower prices than might otherwise be realized. The price received upon redemption may be more or less than the amount paid by the unitholder depending on the value of the securities in the portfolio at the time of redemption.

Unitholders of a trust that holds closed-end funds or other investment company securities who request a Distribution In Kind will be subject to any 12b-1 Fees or other service or distribution fees applicable to the underlying securities.

The right of redemption may be suspended and payment postponed for more than two business days following the day on which tender for redemption is made (i) for any period during which the New York Stock Exchange is closed, other than customary weekend and holiday closings, or during which (as determined by the Securities and Exchange Commission) trading on the New York Stock Exchange is restricted; (ii) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal by the trustee of securities is not reasonably practicable or it is not reasonably practicable to fairly determine the value of the underlying securities in accordance with the trust agreement; or (iii) for such other period as the Securities and Exchange Commission may by order permit. The trustee is not liable to any person in any way for any loss or damage which may result from any such suspension or postponement.

***Computation of Redemption Price.*** The redemption price per unit (as well as the secondary market public offering price) will generally be determined on the basis of the last sale price of the securities in a trust. The redemption price per unit is the pro rata share of each unit in a trust determined generally on the basis of (i) the cash on hand in the trust or moneys in the process of being collected; and (ii) the value of the securities in the trust less (a) amounts representing taxes or other governmental charges payable out of the trust, (b) any amount owing to the trustee for its advances and (c) the accrued expenses or remaining deferred sales fees of the trust. During the initial offering period, the redemption price and the secondary market repurchase price will also include organizational costs. The evaluator may determine the value of the securities in the trust in the following manner: if the securities are listed on a national or foreign securities exchange or the NASDAQ National Market System, such evaluation shall generally be based on the last available sale price on or immediately prior to the Evaluation Time on the exchange or NASDAQ National Market System which is the principal market therefor, which shall be deemed to be the New York Stock Exchange if the securities are listed thereon (unless the evaluator deems such price inappropriate as a basis for evaluation) or, if there is no such available sale price on such exchange, at the last available bid prices (offer prices for primary market purchases) of the securities. Securities not listed on the New York Stock Exchange but principally traded on the NASDAQ National Market System will be valued at the NASDAQ National Market System's official closing price. If the securities are not so listed or, if so listed, the principal market therefor is other than on such exchange or there is no such available sale price on such exchange, such evaluation shall generally be based on the following methods or any combination thereof whichever the evaluator deems appropriate: (i) on the basis of the current bid price (offer prices for primary market purchases) for comparable securities (unless the evaluator deems such price inappropriate as a basis for evaluation); (ii) by determining the valuation of the securities on the bid side (offer side for primary market

purchases) of the market by appraisal; or (iii) by any combination of the above. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the evaluator or its designee, will generally value foreign securities primarily traded on foreign exchanges at their fair value which may be other than their market price. If the trust holds securities denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars, the evaluation of such security is based upon U.S. dollars based on current bid side (offer side for primary market purchases) exchange rates (unless the evaluator deems such prices inappropriate as a basis for valuation).

***Retirement Plans.*** A trust may be well suited for purchase by Individual Retirement Accounts, Keogh Plans, pension funds and other qualified retirement plans. Generally, capital gains and income received under each of the foregoing plans are deferred from federal taxation. All distributions from such plans are generally treated as ordinary income but may, in some cases, be eligible for special income averaging or tax deferred rollover treatment. Investors considering participation in any such plan should review specific tax laws related thereto and should consult their attorneys or tax advisers with respect to the establishment and maintenance of any such plan. Such plans are offered by brokerage firms and other financial institutions. The trust will lower the minimum investment requirement for IRA accounts to 1 unit. Fees and charges with respect to such plans may vary.

***Ownership of Units.*** Ownership of units will not be evidenced by certificates. All evidence of ownership of units will be recorded in book entry form at Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) through an investor’s brokers’ account. Units held through DTC will be registered in the nominee name of Cede & Co. Individual purchases of beneficial ownership interest in the trust will be made in book entry form through DTC. Ownership and transfer of units will be evidenced and accomplished by book entries made by DTC and its participants. DTC will record ownership and transfer of the units among DTC participants and forward all notices and credit all payments received in respect of the units held by the DTC participants. Beneficial owners of units will receive written confirmation of their purchases and sale from the broker dealer or bank from whom their purchase was made. Units are transferable by making a written request properly accompanied by a written instrument or instruments of transfer which should be sent registered or certified mail for the protection of the unitholder. Record holders must sign such written request exactly as their names appear on the records of the trust. The signatures must be guaranteed by a participant in the STAMP or such other signature guaranty program in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, as may be acceptable by the trustee.

Units may be purchased in denominations of one unit or any multiple thereof, subject to the minimum investment requirement. Fractions of units, if any, will be computed to three decimal places.

## **Taxes**

This section summarizes some of the main U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning units of the trust. This section is current as of the date of this prospectus. Tax laws and interpretations change frequently, and these summaries do not describe all of the tax consequences to all taxpayers. For example, these summaries generally do not describe your situation if you are a corporation, a non-U.S. person, a broker/dealer, or other investor with special circumstances. In addition, this section does not describe your state, local or foreign tax consequences.



This federal income tax summary is based in part on the advice and opinion of counsel to the sponsor. The Internal Revenue Service could disagree with any conclusions set forth in this section. In addition, our counsel may not have been asked to review, and may not have reached a conclusion with respect to the federal income tax treatment of the assets to be deposited in your trust. This may not be sufficient for you to use for the purpose of avoiding penalties under federal tax law.

As with any investment, you should seek advice based on your individual circumstances from your own tax advisor.

***Assets of the Trust.*** The trust is expected to hold shares (the “*RIC Shares*”) in funds qualifying as regulated investment companies (“*RICs*”) that are treated as interests in regulated investment companies for federal income tax purposes. It is possible that your trust will also hold other assets, including assets that are treated differently for federal income tax purposes from those described above, in which case you will have federal income tax consequences different from or in addition to those described in this section. All of the assets held by the trust constitute the “*Trust Assets*.” Neither our counsel nor we have analyzed the proper federal income tax treatment of the Trust Assets and thus neither our counsel nor we have reached a conclusion regarding the federal income tax treatment of the Trust Assets.

***Trust Status.*** If your trust is at all times operated in accordance with the documents establishing the trust and certain requirements of federal income tax law are met, the trust will not be taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. As a unit owner, you will be treated as the owner of a *pro rata* portion of each of the Trust Assets and as such you will be considered to have received a *pro rata* share of income (e.g., dividends and capital gains, if any) from each Trust Asset when such income would be considered to be received by you if you directly owned the Trust Assets. This is true even if you elect to have your distributions reinvested into additional units. In addition, the income from Trust Assets that you must take into account for federal income tax purposes is not reduced by amounts used to pay sales charges or trust expenses. Income from the Trust may also be subject to a 3.8 percent “Medicare tax”. This tax generally applies to your net investment income if your adjusted gross income exceeds certain threshold amounts, which are \$250,000 in the case of married couples filing joint returns and \$200,000 in the case of single individuals. Interest that is excluded from gross income, including exempt-interest dividends from the RIC Shares held by the trust, are generally not included in your net investment income for purposes of this tax.

***Your Tax Basis and Income or Loss Upon Disposition.*** If your trust disposes of Trust Assets, you will generally recognize gain or loss. If you dispose of your units or redeem your units for cash, you will also generally recognize gain or loss. To determine the amount of this gain or loss, you must subtract your tax basis in the related Trust Assets from your share of the total amount received in the transaction. You can generally determine your initial tax basis in each Trust Asset by apportioning the cost of your units, including sales charges, among the Trust Assets ratably according to their values on the date you acquire your units. In certain circumstances, however, you may have to adjust your tax basis after you acquire your units (for example, in the case of certain dividends that exceed a corporation’s accumulated earnings and profits).

If you are an individual, the maximum marginal stated federal tax rate for net capital gain is generally 20% (15% or 0% for taxpayers with taxable incomes below certain thresholds). Some capital gains, including



some portion of your capital gain dividends from the RIC Shares, may be taxed at a higher stated tax rate. Capital gains may also be subject to the Medicare tax described above.

Net capital gain equals net long-term capital gain minus net short-term capital loss for the taxable year. Capital gain or loss is long-term if the holding period for the asset is more than one year and is short-term if the holding period for the asset is one year or less. You must exclude the date you purchase your units to determine your holding period. The tax rates for capital gains realized from assets held for one year or less are generally the same as for ordinary income. The Internal Revenue Code, however, treats certain capital gains as ordinary income in special situations.

An election may be available to you to defer recognition of the gain attributable to a capital gain recognized if you make certain qualifying investments within a limited time. You should talk to your tax advisor about the availability of this deferral election and its requirements.

***Dividends from RIC Shares.*** Some dividends on the RIC Shares may be reported by the RIC as “capital gain dividends,” generally taxable to you as long-term capital gains. Some dividends on the RIC Shares held by the trust may qualify as “exempt-interest dividends,” which generally are excluded from your gross income for federal income tax purposes. Some or all of the exempt-interest dividends, however may be taken into account in determining the alternative minimum tax on individuals, and may have other tax consequences (e.g., they may affect the amount of your social security benefits that are taxed). For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, exempt-interest dividends may affect the corporate alternative minimum tax for certain corporations. Other dividends on the RIC Shares will generally be taxable to you as ordinary income. Certain ordinary income dividends from a RIC may qualify to be taxed at the same rates that apply to net capital gain (as discussed above), provided certain holding period requirements are satisfied and provided the dividends are attributable to qualifying dividends received by the RIC itself. Regulated investment companies are required to provide notice to their shareholders of the amount of any distribution that may be taken into account as a dividend that is eligible for the capital gains tax rates. If you hold a Unit for six months or less or if your trust holds a RIC Share for six months or less, any loss incurred by you related to the disposition of such RIC Share will generally be disallowed to the extent of the exempt-interest dividends you received. To the extent, if any, it is not disallowed, it will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any long-term capital gain distributions received (or deemed to have been received) with respect to such RIC Share. Distributions of income or capital gains declared on the RIC Shares in October, November or December will be deemed to have been paid to you on December 31 of the year they are declared, even when paid by the RIC during the following January. Some dividends on the RIC Shares may be eligible for a deduction for qualified business income. An election may be available to you to defer recognition of the gain attributable to a capital gain dividend if you make certain qualifying investments within a limited time. You should talk to your tax advisor about the availability of this deferral election and its requirements.

***Dividends Received Deduction.*** A corporation that owns units generally will not be entitled to the dividends received deduction with respect to many dividends received by the trust, because the dividends received deduction is generally not available for dividends from most foreign corporations or from RICs.

***In-Kind Distributions.*** Under certain circumstances as described in this prospectus, you may request an in-kind distribution of Trust Assets when you redeem your units at any time prior to 30 business days before

your trust's termination. However, this ability to request an in-kind distribution will terminate at any time that the number of outstanding units has been reduced to 10% or less of the highest number of units issued by your trust. By electing to receive an in-kind distribution, you will receive Trust Assets plus, possibly, cash. You will not recognize gain or loss if you only receive whole Trust Assets in exchange for the identical amount of your *pro rata* portion of the same Trust Assets held by your trust. However, if you also receive cash in exchange for a Trust Asset or a fractional portion of a Trust Asset, you will generally recognize gain or loss based on the difference between the amount of cash you receive and your tax basis in such Trust Asset or fractional portion.

***Treatment of Trust Expenses.*** Generally, for federal income tax purposes, you must take into account your full *pro rata* share of your trust's income, even if some of that income is used to pay trust expenses. You may deduct your *pro rata* share of each expense paid by your trust to the same extent as if you directly paid the expense. However, you may not be able to deduct some or all of these expenses.

Because some of the RICs pay exempt-interest dividends, which are treated as tax-exempt interest for federal income tax purposes, you will not be able to deduct some of your share of the trust expenses. In addition, you will not be able to deduct some of your interest expense for debt that you incur or continue to purchase or carry your units.

***Foreign Investors, Taxes and Investments.*** If you are a foreign investor (*i.e.*, an investor other than a U.S. citizen or resident or a U.S. corporation, partnership, estate or trust), you may not be subject to U.S. federal income taxes, including withholding taxes, on some or all of the income from your trust or on any gain from the sale or redemption of your units, provided that certain conditions are met. You should consult your tax advisor with respect to the conditions you must meet in order to be exempt for U.S. tax purposes. Distributions to, and the gross proceeds from dispositions of units by, (i) certain non-U.S. financial institutions that have not entered into an agreement with the U.S. Treasury to collect and disclose certain information and are not resident in a jurisdiction that has entered into such an agreement with the U.S. Treasury and (ii) certain other non-U.S. entities that do not provide certain certifications and information about the entity's U.S. owners, may be subject to a U.S. withholding tax of 30%. However, proposed regulations may eliminate the requirement to withhold on payments of gross proceeds from dispositions. You should also consult your tax advisor with respect to other U.S. tax withholding and reporting requirements.

Under certain circumstances, a RIC may elect to pass through to its shareholders certain foreign taxes paid by the RIC. If the RIC makes this election with respect to RIC Shares, you must include in your income for federal income tax purposes your portion of such taxes and you may be entitled to a credit or deduction for such taxes.

***New York Tax Status.*** Under the existing income tax laws of the State and City of New York, your trust will not be taxed as a corporation subject to the New York state franchise tax or the New York City general corporation tax. You should consult your tax advisor regarding potential foreign, state or local taxation with respect to your units.

**California State Taxes.** Chapman and Cutler LLP has examined the income tax laws of the State of California to determine their applicability to the trust and to the holders of units in such trust who are full time residents of the State of California (“California Unitholders”).

The assets of the trust will consist of shares in entities each of which is taxed as a regulated investment company (each a “RIC” and collectively, the “RICs”) for federal income tax purposes (the “RIC Shares”). Certain of such RICs will invest substantially all of their assets in California municipal bonds (the “California RICs”).

Neither the sponsor nor its counsel has independently examined the RIC Shares to be deposited in and held in the trust. In rendering its opinion, Chapman and Cutler LLP has assumed that: (i) each RIC qualifies as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes and (ii) at the close of each quarter of the taxable year of each California RIC, at least 50% of the value of such California RIC’s total assets consists of obligations the interest on which is exempt from the income tax imposed by the State of California that is applicable to individuals, trusts and estates (the “California Personal Income Tax”).

In the opinion of Chapman and Cutler LLP, counsel to the sponsor, in summary under existing California Law:

- 1) The trust is not an association taxable as a corporation for purposes of the California Corporation Tax Law, and each California Unitholder will be treated as the owner of a pro rata portion of the trust, and the income of such portion of the trust will be treated as the income of the California Unitholders under the California Personal Income Tax.
- 2) The portion of each dividend paid by a California RIC to the trust and distributed to a California Unitholder which (i) is excludable from California taxable income for purposes of the California Personal Income Tax if received directly by a California Unitholder, (ii) is properly reported as an exempt-interest dividend for California income tax purposes in written statements furnished to its shareholders and (iii) does not exceed the amount of interest received by the California RIC during its taxable year (minus certain non deductible expenses) on obligations the interest on which would be excludable from California taxable income for purposes of the California Personal Income Tax if received directly by a California Unitholder, will be excludable from California taxable income for purposes of the California Personal Income Tax when received by the trust and distributed to a California Unitholder. However, dividends other than exempt-interest dividends paid by a California RIC will generally be taxable for purposes of the California Personal Income Tax.
- 3) Each California Unitholder of the trust will generally recognize gain or loss for California Personal Income Tax purposes if the trustee disposes of a RIC Share (whether by redemption, sale or otherwise) or when the California Unitholder redeems or sells units of the trust, to the extent that such a transaction results in a recognized gain or loss to such California Unitholder for federal income tax purposes. However, there are certain differences between the recognition of gain or loss for federal income tax purposes and for California Personal Income Tax purposes, and California Unitholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers.

- 4) Under the California Personal Income Tax, a portion of the interest on indebtedness incurred or continued by a California Unitholder to purchase units in the trust is not deductible for purposes of the California Personal Income Tax.

Chapman and Cutler LLP has expressed no opinion with respect to taxation under any other provisions of the California law. This disclosure does not address the taxation of persons other than full time residents of California and relates only to California Unitholders subject to the California Personal Income Tax. Chapman and Cutler LLP has expressed no opinion with respect to the taxation of California Unitholders subject to the California Corporation Tax Law and such California Unitholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers. Please note, however, that dividends from the RIC Shares attributed to a California Unitholder that is subject to the California Corporation Tax Law may be includible in its gross income for purposes of determining its California franchise tax and its California income tax. Neither the Sponsor nor its counsel has independently examined any of the RIC Shares to be deposited and held in the trust or any assets to be held by the RICs or any documents or any opinions of counsel with respect thereto. Ownership of the units may result in other California tax consequences to certain taxpayers and prospective investors should consult their tax advisers as to the applicability of any such collateral consequences.

## **Experts**

***Legal Matters.*** Chapman and Cutler LLP, 320 South Canal Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606, acts as counsel for the trust and has passed upon the legality of the units.

***Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.*** The statement of financial condition, including the Trust Portfolio, appearing herein, has been audited by Grant Thornton LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon appearing elsewhere herein, and is included in reliance on such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## **Description of Ratings**

### ***Standard & Poor's Issue Credit Ratings***

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

Issue credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term. Short-term ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. In the U.S., for example, that means obligations with an original maturity of no more than 365 days, including commercial paper. Short-term

ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. The result is a dual rating, in which the short-term rating addresses the put feature, in addition to the usual long-term rating. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

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

### *Long-term issue credit ratings*

Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on the following considerations:

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

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

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| AAA | An obligation rated "AAA" has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor's. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.   |
| AA  | An obligation rated "AA" differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.  |
| A   | An obligation rated "A" is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong. |

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**D** An obligation rated “D” is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the “D” rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within the next five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or the next 30 calendar days. The “D” rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.



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

NR      This indicates that no rating has been requested, that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that Standard & Poor’s does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

**GUGGENHEIM DEFINED PORTFOLIOS**  
**GUGGENHEIM PORTFOLIO PROSPECTUS-PART B**  
**NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

**Where to Learn More**

You can contact us for free information about this and other investments.

**Visit us on the Internet**

<http://www.guggenheiminvestments.com>

**Call Guggenheim Funds**

(800) 345-7999

**Call The Bank of New York Mellon**

(800) 701-8178 (investors)

(800) 647-3383 (brokers)

**Additional Information**

This prospectus does not contain all information filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. To obtain a copy of this information (a duplication fee may be required):

**E mail:** [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov)

**Write:** Public Reference Room  
Washington, D.C. 20549-0102

**Visit:** <http://www.sec.gov> (EDGAR Database)

**Call:** 1-202-942-8090 (only for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room)

When units of the trust are no longer available, we may use this prospectus as a preliminary prospectus for a future trust. In this case you should note that:

*The information in this prospectus is not complete with respect to future trusts and may be changed. No one may sell units of a future trust until a registration statement is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell units and is not soliciting an offer to buy units in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.*

*(This page has been left blank intentionally.)*

*(This page has been left blank intentionally.)*

*(This page has been left blank intentionally.)*

Contents

Investment Summary

A concise description of essential information about the portfolio	2	Overview
	2	Investment Objective
	2	Principal Investment Strategy
	2	Security Selection
	3	Exchange-Traded Funds
	3	Future Trusts
	4	Essential Information
	4	Portfolio Diversification
	4	Principal Risks
	8	Tax Status
	8	Who Should Invest
	9	Fees and Expenses
	10	Example
	11	Trust Portfolio

Understanding Your Investment

Detailed information to help you understand your investment	12	How to Buy Units
	16	How to Sell Your Units
	17	Distributions
	18	Investment Risks
	23	How the Trust Works
	25	General Information
	25	Expenses
	27	Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
	28	Statement of Financial Condition

For the Table of Contents of Part B, see Part B of the prospectus.

Where to Learn More

You can contact us for free information about your investment.	<b>Visit us on the Internet</b> Guggenheiminvestments.com <b>Call Guggenheim Investments</b> 800 345 7999 <b>Call The Bank of New York Mellon</b> 800 701 8178 Investors / 800 647 3383 Brokers
--	--

Additional Information

This prospectus does not contain all information filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. To obtain or copy this information (a duplication fee may be required):

<b>E-mail:</b>	publicinfo@sec.gov
<b>Write:</b>	Public Reference Room, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102
<b>Visit:</b>	sec.gov (EDGAR Database)
<b>Call:</b>	202 942 8090 (only for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room)

<b>Refer to:</b>	<b>Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542</b> Securities Act file number: 333-290346 Investment Company Act file number: 811-03763
------------------	--

When units of the trust are no longer available, we may use this prospectus as a preliminary prospectus for a future trust.

The information in this prospectus is not complete with respect to future trusts and may be changed. No one may sell units of a future trust until a registration statement is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell units and is not soliciting an offer to buy units in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Guggenheim Defined Portfolios, Series 2542 Prospectus

California Municipal Portfolio of Funds, Series 55