

Edgar Filing: KARPUS MANAGEMENT INC - Form SC 13D/A

KARPUS MANAGEMENT INC  
Form SC 13D/A  
August 09, 2005

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D/A  
(Amendment No. 21)  
Under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934

Salomon Brothers Municipal Partners Fund II, Inc.  
(MPT)  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

794918102  
(CUSIP Number)

George W. Karpus, President  
Karpus Management, Inc. d/b/a  
Karpus Investment Management  
183 Sullys Trail  
Pittsford, New York 14534  
(585) 586-4680

(Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices  
and Communications)

August 8, 2005  
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the  
acquisition which is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this  
schedule because of Rule 13d-1 (b) (3) or (4), check the following box. [ ]

(Page 1 of 4 pages)  
There are no exhibits.

ITEM 1 Security and Issuer  
Common Stock  
Salomon Brothers Municipal Partners Fund II, Inc.  
Salomon Brothers Asset Management .  
125 Broad Street  
10th Floor, MF-2  
New York, New York 10004  
ITEM 2 Identity and Background

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a) Karpus Management, Inc. d/b/a Karpus Investment Management  
(?KIM?)

George W. Karpus, President, Director and Controlling Stockholder  
JoAnn VanDegriff, Vice President and Director  
Sophie Karpus, Director

b) 183 Sullys Trail  
Pittsford, New York 14534

c) Principal business and occupation - Investment Management for individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, corporations, endowments, trust and others, specializing in conservative asset management (i.e. fixed income investments).

d) None of George W. Karpus, JoAnn Van Degriff, or Sophie Karpus (?the Principals?) or KIM has been convicted in the past five years of any criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations).

e) During the last five years none of the principals or KIM has been a party to a civil proceeding as a result of which any of them is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

f) Each of the Principals is a United States citizen.

KIM is a New York corporation.

### ITEM 3 Source and Amount of Funds or Other Considerations

KIM, an independent investment advisor, has accumulated shares of MPT on behalf of accounts that are managed by KIM (?the Accounts?) under limited powers of attorney. All funds that have been utilized in making such purchases are from such Accounts.

### ITEM 4 Purpose of Transaction

KIM has purchased Shares for investment purposes. Being primarily a fixed income manager, with a specialty focus in the closed end fund sector, the profile of MPT fit the investment guidelines for various Accounts. Shares have been acquired since December 24, 1997.

### ITEM 5 Interest in Securities of the Issuer

a) As of the date of this Report, KIM owns 386,525 shares, which represents 6.43 % of the outstanding Shares. George Karpus presently owns 17,900 shares purchased on August 15 & 16, 2001 at \$12.60 (7,500 shares), August 21 & September 19 at \$12.71 (2,500 shares), April 14, 2003 at \$13.06 (600 shares), and May 6, 7 & 9 at \$13.40 (9400 shares). He sold on June 28, 2005 at \$ 13.50 (200 shares), June 29 at \$13.59 and \$ 13.60 (1000 shares), and June 30 at \$ 13.61 (100 shares), July 6, 2005 at \$ 13.53 (300 shares), July 7 & 11 at \$ 13.56 (200 shares), and July 14 at \$13.54 (300 shares). Jo Ann Van Degriff owns 1150 shares purchased on May 10, 2005 at \$12.70 .

None of the other Principals presently owns shares.

b) KIM has the sole power to dispose of and to vote all of such Shares under limited powers of attorney.

c) The first open market purchase occurred on December 24, 1997 as previously reported. Open market purchases for the last 60 days for the Accounts. There have been no dispositions and no acquisitions, other than by such open market purchases, during such period.

DATE

SHARES

PRICE PER

DATE

SHARES

PRICE PER

SHARE

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SHARE

6/28/2005  
-3000  
13.51

7/6/2005  
-3700  
13.53

6/29/2005  
-16000  
13.59

7/7/2005  
-300  
13.56  
6/30/2005  
-700  
13.60

7/11/2005  
-1400  
13.56

7/14/2005  
-4000  
13.54

7/19/2005  
6000  
13.42

The Accounts have the right to receive all dividends from, any proceeds from the sale of the Shares. KIM reserves the right to further accumulate or sell shares. None of the Accounts has an interest in shares constituting more than 5% of the Shares outstanding.

ITEM 6 Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings, or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer.

Except as described above, there are no contracts, arrangements, understandings or relationships of any kind among the Principals and KIM and between any of them and any other person with respect to any of MPT securities.

ITEM 7 Materials to be Filed as Exhibits  
Not applicable.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete, and correct.

Karpus Management, Inc.

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August 8, 2005  
Date

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Sharon L. Thornton, Senior Fixed Income Analyst/Portfolio Mgr  
Name/ Title

VIA OVERNIGHT, FAX, CERTIFIED MAIL

August 4, 2005

Robert I. Frenkel, Esq.  
Salomon Bros Municipal Partners II  
Secretary & Chief Legal Officer  
300 First Stamford Place ? 4th Floor  
Stamford, CT 06902

Dear Mr. Frenkel:

Karpus Management, Inc. d/b/a Karpus Investment Management (KIM), is the beneficial owner as of July 31, 2005, of 386,525 shares of the common stock of Salomon Brothers Municipal Partners Fund II (MPT) (the Fund) (approximately 6.435% of the outstanding common shares) as attested by Schedule 13D/A filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We have been the beneficial owner of the shares valued at more than \$2,000 for more than one year and expect to continue ownership through the date of the Fund's next shareholder meeting. KIM's first purchase of shares began on December 24, 1997. All such purchases have been made in the open market.

Pursuant to Rule 14-28(b) (2) (ii) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we (KIM) are hereby submitting the following proposal and supporting statement for inclusion in any and all proxy materials at the next meeting of shareholders. Attached is our Schedule 13D/A as electronically filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

PROPOSAL

KIM proposes that the Fund conduct a tender offer for up to 25% of the outstanding shares of the Fund at net asset value to be voted on by shareholders at the next meeting of shareholders. Should the Board of Directors recommend to shareholders that a new advisory agreement be ratified, we propose the tender offer for shares at net asset value be increased to include all shares that did not vote for the new investment advisory contract. This would include all abstentions and broker non-votes.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

According to the original prospectus, the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Investment Manager and the Investment Advisor, will review on an annual basis the possibility of further open market repurchases and/or tender offers for the common stock.

The Fund manager has provided exceptional net asset performance to shareholders, but has yet to close the discount to net asset value. Net asset performance from June 30, 2004 through June 30, 2005 has been 8.84%

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verses Morningstar Intermediate Municipal Fund return of 5.49% and Lehman 7 Year Municipal Index return of 5.91%. Yet the Fund continues to trade at a discount to net asset value!

KIM believes the current Fund Management and Board of Directors of MPT have not taken adequate measures to close this discount. For the time period of June 30, 2004 through June 30, 2005, MPT traded at an average discount of 12.27%. MPT has traded at a significant discount to NAV since 1994, over 10 years. What steps have been taken to close this discount?

The original prospectus stated "If, at any time after the second year following the offering, the Common Stock publicly trades for a substantial period of time at a substantial discount from the NAV, the Board of Directors will consider at its next regularly scheduled meeting, taking various actions designed to eliminate the discount, which may include recommending to shareholders the conversion of the Fund to an open-end investment company". This clearly dictates the original intent not to allow the fund to trade at significant discounts, protecting investor's economic interest in the Fund. Why has the Board ignored this intent to the detriment of shareholders? Every shareholder that has sold shares in the last 10 + years in the market place received less for their shares than they were entitled to. We believe the Board has breached their fiduciary responsibilities to these shareholders that sold at prices below NAV.

Additionally, MPT is plagued by low trading volume. From June 30, 2004 through June 30, 2005 average daily trading volume has been 6,776 shares. Large shareholders who do not agree with the possible changes in the fund management contract and who may wish to liquidate their position could severely depress the Fund's market price because of persistently low volume. Dissenters deciding to sell their shares could cause the discount to NAV to widen harming both existing shareholders and sellers. Dissenters have rights under the law that may provide net asset value for their shares. It is the fiduciary duty of the Board of Directors to allow Fund shareholders the ability to receive economic benefits from any management transition. Any merger to, or with, an open-end fund should benefit all shareholders and could create economies of scale that would reduce the expense ratio. Should the Board decide to open-end the Fund or to merge the Fund with another open-end fund our proposal for tender would be withdrawn.

END OF PROPOSAL

Very truly yours,

Sharon L. Thornton  
Senior Fixed Income Analyst/Portfolio Mgr.