

Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc.
Form DEF 14A
April 12, 2018

United States
Securities and Exchange Commission
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
(Rule 14a-101)
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant
Check the appropriate box:
Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12
Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure
Capital, Inc.
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD ON MAY 31, 2018

To the Stockholders of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc.:

The 2018 annual meeting of stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), will be held at the Company's offices located at 1906 Towne Center Boulevard, Suite 270, Annapolis, MD 21401, on May 31, 2018, at 9:30 am, Eastern Time, to consider and vote on the following matters:

- (1) The election of seven directors to serve on the Company's board of directors until the Company's 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualify;
- (2) The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018;
- (3) A non-binding advisory vote on our executive compensation; and
- (4) The transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof.

Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), we have provided access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") to our stockholders of record as of April 5, 2018 (the "Record Date"). The Notice contains instructions for your use of this process, including how to access our proxy statement and annual report over the Internet, how to authorize your proxy to vote online and how to request a paper copy of the proxy statement and annual report.

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting in person, it is very important that your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. You may authorize your proxy to vote your shares over the Internet as described in the Notice. Alternatively, if you received a paper copy of the proxy card by mail, please complete, date, sign and promptly return the proxy card in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided. You may also vote by telephone as described in your proxy card. If you vote your shares over the Internet, by mail or by telephone prior to the Annual Meeting, you may nevertheless revoke your proxy and cast your vote personally at the meeting.

Your proxy is being solicited by our board of directors. Our board of directors recommends that you vote (1) FOR the election of the nominees listed in the accompanying proxy statement to serve on our board of directors until our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualify, (2) FOR the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, and (3) FOR the approval of the compensation of the Named Executive Officers as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and other narrative disclosure in this proxy statement.

By Order of the Board,

/s/ Jeffrey W. Eckel

Jeffrey W. Eckel

President and Chief Executive Officer

Annapolis, Maryland

April 11, 2018

Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting to be held May 31, 2018. The proxy statement and our 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K are available at: <http://investors.hannonarmstrong.com>

PROXY STATEMENT
FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS
TO BE HELD ON MAY 31, 2018

This proxy statement is being furnished to stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by and on behalf of the board of directors of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the “Company,” “we,” “our” or “us”), for use at the Company’s 2018 annual meeting of stockholders (the “Annual Meeting”) to be held at the Company’s offices located at 1906 Towne Center Boulevard, Suite 270, Annapolis, MD 21401, on May 31, 2018, at 9:30 am, Eastern Time, or at any postponements or adjournments thereof.

Pursuant to the rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), we have provided access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, (the “Notice”) to our stockholders of record as of April 5, 2018. We believe that posting these materials on the Internet enables us to provide stockholders with the information that they need more quickly. It also lowers our costs of printing and delivering these materials and reduces the environmental impact of the Annual Meeting. The Notice and this proxy statement summarize the information you need to know to vote by proxy or in person at the Annual Meeting.

If you are a registered holder of shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Common Stock”), as of the close of business on the record date, the Notice was sent directly to you and you may vote your shares of Common Stock in person at the Annual Meeting or by proxy. If you hold shares of Common Stock in “street name” through a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer or other intermediary, the Notice was forwarded to you by such intermediary and you must follow the instructions provided by such intermediary regarding how to instruct such intermediary to vote your shares of Common Stock.

Shares of Common Stock represented by properly submitted proxies received by us prior to the Annual Meeting will be voted according to the instructions specified on such proxies. Any stockholder of record submitting a proxy retains the power to revoke such proxy at any time prior to its exercise at the Annual Meeting by (i) delivering a written notice of revocation to our secretary at Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc., 1906 Towne Centre Boulevard, Suite 370, Annapolis, MD 21401 prior to the Annual Meeting, (ii) submitting a later dated proxy or (iii) voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Attending the Annual Meeting will not automatically revoke a stockholder’s previously submitted proxy unless such stockholder votes in person at the Annual Meeting. If a proxy is properly authorized without specifying any voting instructions and not revoked prior to the Annual Meeting, the shares of Common Stock represented by such proxy will be voted (1) FOR the election of the nominees named in this proxy statement as directors, to serve on our board of directors until our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualify, (2) FOR the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018 and (3) FOR the approval of the compensation of the Named Executive Officers as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and other narrative disclosure in this proxy statement. If you hold your shares in street name and do not give the nominee holding shares for you (i.e., a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer or other intermediary) specific voting instructions on the election of directors or the non-binding advisory vote on our executive compensation, your shares will not be voted on these items, and a broker non-vote will occur. Broker non-votes and abstentions will have no effect on the voting results for any of the proposals. As to any other business which may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof, the persons named as proxy holders on your proxy card will vote the shares of Common Stock represented by properly submitted proxies in their discretion.

This proxy statement, the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the related proxy card are first being made available to stockholders on or about April 11, 2018.

ANNUAL REPORT

This proxy statement is accompanied by our Annual Report on Form 10-K as supplemented by the Form 10-K/A (excluding exhibits) for the year ended December 31, 2017, collectively, the “Form 10-K”.

VOTING SECURITIES AND RECORD DATE

Stockholders will be entitled to cast one vote for each share of Common Stock held of record at the close of business on April 5, 2018 (the “Record Date”) with respect to (i) the election of seven directors to serve on our board of directors until our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualify, (ii) the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, (iii) a non-binding advisory vote on the compensation of the Named Executive Officers as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and other narrative disclosure in this proxy statement and (iv) any other proposal for stockholder action that may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof.

Abstentions and broker non-votes are each included in the determination of the number of shares present at the Annual Meeting for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner (i.e., a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer or other intermediary) does not vote on a particular proposal because such nominee does not have discretionary voting power for that particular matter and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”), the only item to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting with respect to which such nominee will be permitted to exercise voting discretion is the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. Therefore, if you hold your shares in street name and do not give the nominee specific voting instructions on the election of directors or the non-binding advisory vote on our executive compensation, your shares will not be voted on these items, and a broker non-vote will occur. Broker non-votes and abstentions will have no effect on the voting results for any of the proposals.

The presence, in person or by proxy, of holders of Common Stock entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum. The disposition of business scheduled to come before the Annual Meeting, assuming a quorum is present, will require the following affirmative votes:

- for the election of a director, a plurality of all the votes cast in the election of directors at the Annual Meeting,
- for the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm, a majority of all the votes cast on the proposal and
- for the approval of the non-binding advisory resolution to approve the compensation of the Named Executive Officers, a majority of all the votes cast on the proposal.

The vote on compensation is advisory and not binding on our board of directors. However, our board of directors and the Compensation Committee value all stockholder feedback and will consider the outcome of the votes in reviewing executive compensation.

The board of directors knows of no other matters that may properly be brought before the Annual Meeting. If other matters are properly introduced, the persons named in the proxy as the proxy holders will vote on such matters in their discretion.

As of April 5, 2018, we had issued and outstanding 53,268,994 shares of Common Stock (which includes 1,442,441 shares of unvested restricted Common Stock).

1. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors

Our board of directors is currently comprised of seven directors: Jeffrey W. Eckel, Rebecca B. Blalock, Teresa M. Brenner, Mark J. Cirilli, Charles M. O’Neil, Richard J. Osborne and Steven G. Osgood. In accordance with our charter (the “Charter”) and Amended and Restated Bylaws (the “Bylaws”), each director will hold office until our next annual meeting of stockholders and until his or her successor has been duly elected and qualifies, or until the director’s earlier resignation, death or removal.

We seek highly qualified director candidates from diverse business, professional and educational backgrounds who combine a broad spectrum of experience and expertise with a reputation for the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values. We believe that, as a group, the nominees bring a diverse range of perspectives that contribute to the effectiveness of our board of directors as a whole. The procedures and considerations of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee of our board of directors (the “Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee”) in recommending qualified director candidates are described below under “Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Identification of Director Candidates” in this proxy statement. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee and our board of directors concluded that each of our director nominees should be nominated for election based on the qualifications and experience described in the biographical information below under “Information Regarding the Nominees for Election as Directors.”

Upon the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee, each of our current directors, Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O’Neil, Osborne, and Osgood and Meses. Blalock and Brenner have been nominated by our board of directors to stand for election as directors by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting to serve until our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualify. It is intended that the shares of Common Stock represented by properly submitted proxies will be voted by the persons named therein as proxy holders FOR the election of Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O’Neil, Osborne, and Osgood and Meses. Blalock and Brenner as directors, unless otherwise instructed. If the candidacy of Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O’Neil, Osborne, or Osgood and Meses. Blalock and Brenner should, for any reason, be withdrawn prior to the Annual Meeting, the proxies will be voted by the proxy holders in favor of such substituted candidates (if any) as shall be nominated by our board of directors. Our board of directors has no reason to believe that, if elected, any of Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O’Neil, Osborne, or Osgood and Meses. Blalock and Brenner will be unable or unwilling to serve as a director.

Information Regarding the Nominees for Election as Directors

The following information is furnished as of April 5, 2018 regarding the nominees for re-election as directors. Jeffrey W. Eckel, 59, has served as our president, chief executive officer and chairman of our board of directors since 2013. He was president and chief executive officer since 2000, and prior to that from 1985 to 1989 a senior vice president, of Hannon Armstrong Capital, LLC, the entity that operated our historical business prior to the consummation of our April 2013 initial public offering (our “IPO”) and which we refer to as our “Predecessor.” Mr. Eckel is a member of the board of directors of the Alliance To Save Energy and is a member of the President’s Council of Ceres, Inc., the Cornell University Program in Infrastructure Policy advisory board and on the Board of Trustees of The Nature Conservancy of Maryland and DC. He was appointed by the governor of Maryland to the board of the Maryland Clean Energy Center in 2011 where he served until 2016 while also serving as its chairman from 2012 to 2014. Mr. Eckel has over 35 years of experience in financing, owning and operating infrastructure and energy assets. Mr. Eckel received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Miami University in 1980 and a Master of Public Administration degree from Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, in 1981. He holds Series 24, 63 and 79 securities licenses. We believe Mr. Eckel’s extensive experience in managing companies operating in the energy sector and expertise in energy investments make him qualified to serve as our president and chief executive officer and as chairman of our board of directors.

Rebecca B. Blalock, 62, has served as one of our independent directors since March 2017. Ms. Blalock has been a partner at Advisory Capital LLC, which provides strategic consulting in the areas of energy and information technology since 2011. Previously, Ms. Blalock served in a variety of roles for over 30 years at Southern Company

and its subsidiaries, most recently as its Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer from 2002 to 2011. Ms. Blalock currently serves on the Board of Directors of Aspen Aerogels, Inc., an advanced materials technology company, and the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors. She also serves on the Advisory Boards of Gigabark and Sol America. Ms. Blalock is also a Trustee of the Woodruff Arts Foundation and serves on the Board of Councilors of The Carter Center. Ms. Blalock also served on the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute, a non-profit electric industry research institute, from 2013 to April 2018 and the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Community Foundation from 2011 to 2016. Ms. Blalock holds a BBA in Marketing from the State University of West Georgia and an MBA in Finance from Mercer University. In addition, Ms. Blalock has completed the Program for Management Development (PMD) at Harvard Business School and the Georgia Tech Professional Education Cybersecurity Program. We believe that Ms. Blalock's over 30 years of experience in the energy sector makes her qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

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Teresa M. Brenner, 54, has served as one of our independent directors since April 2016. Ms. Brenner retired from Bank of America Corporation in 2012, where she had served in a variety of roles for approximately 20 years, including most recently as a Managing Director and Associate General Counsel. Ms. Brenner served on the Board of Directors of Residential Capital, LLC from March 2013 to December 2013, during its restructuring and through the confirmation of its bankruptcy proceeding. Ms. Brenner has also held a variety of philanthropic roles, having served as a trustee of Temple Israel from 2012 to 2014 and as a director for Right Moves for Youth from 2006 to 2013, including as its chairperson from 2010 to 2012. Ms. Brenner received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alma College in 1984 and a Juris Doctorate from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1987. We believe Ms. Brenner's extensive experience in corporate governance, law and finance makes her qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

Mark J. Cirilli, 46, has served as one of our independent directors since 2013 and served as a director of the Predecessor from 2007. Mr. Cirilli has been the managing director of MissionPoint Partners, LLC, an impact investment advisor and asset management he cofounded, since 2016. Additionally, Mr. Cirilli has been a managing director of MissionPoint Capital Partners, LLC ("MissionPoint"), a private equity firm he co-founded that specializes in clean energy, since 2006. MissionPoint was the majority investor of the Predecessor from 2007 until the IPO. Mr. Cirilli serves on MissionPoint's Investment Committee and is a member of the board of directors for RE Community Holdings, LP, MPH Energy Holdings LP, Just Greens LLC, and is a board observer for OptiRTC Holdings LLC, all of which are MissionPoint's portfolio companies, Voltaix Inc. prior to its sale in September of 2013, Amonix, Inc. prior to resigning in August of 2013 and APX, Inc (formerly NYSE Blue, Inc) prior to its sale in August 2015. Additionally, Mr. Cirilli is on the investment advisory committee for Bigelow Tea and served on the board of directors of the state of Connecticut's Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority from September 2011 to April 2012 and the board of HA EnergySource from 2012 to 2016. Mr. Cirilli received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Fordham University in 1994 and a Masters in Business Administration from Columbia University in 2002. We believe Mr. Cirilli's extensive experience in investment management, corporate finance, accounting and business operations makes him qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

Charles M. O'Neil, 65, has served as one of our independent directors since 2013. Mr. O'Neil retired from ING Capital, LLC, at the end of 2015, where he served in a variety of executive and management roles for over 20 years, including as president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of ING Capital, LLC and Head of Structured Finance, Americas, the largest operating unit of ING Capital. Mr. O'Neil received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from The Pennsylvania State University in 1974 and a Master in Business Administration degree in International Finance from Fordham University in 1978. We believe Mr. O'Neil's experience of over 35 years in structured and project finance focusing on energy related projects makes him qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

Richard J. Osborne, 67, has served as one of our independent directors since 2013 and has served as our Lead Independent Director since April 2014. Mr. Osborne retired from Duke Energy Corporation in 2006, having served in a variety of executive roles including chief financial officer, chief risk officer, treasurer and group vice president for Public & Regulatory Affairs during his 31 years with the organization. Mr. Osborne also served as a director of Duke Energy Field Services, a joint venture between Duke Energy Corporation and ConocoPhillips, and as a director of TEPPCO Partners, LP, a master limited partnership managing mid-stream energy assets. He also chaired the Finance Divisions of the Southeastern Electric Exchange and Edison Electric Institute, and was a founding board member of the Committee of Chief Risk Officers. Subsequent to leaving Duke Energy, Mr. Osborne has executed consulting assignments for clients in, or serving, the energy industry. Mr. Osborne presently serves on the boards of Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte Ballet and the Penland School of Crafts. Mr. Osborne received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Economics from Tufts University in 1973 and a Master of Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1975. We believe that Mr. Osborne's over 35 years of experience in energy sector finance makes him qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

Steven G. Osgood, 61, has served as one of our independent directors since January 2015. Mr. Osgood has served as the chief executive officer of Square Foot Companies, LLC, a Cleveland, Ohio based private real estate company focused on self-storage and single-tenant properties since 2008. Mr. Osgood is also a trustee for National Storage Affiliates Trust, a real estate investment trust ("REIT") focused on the ownership of self-storage properties, since its

public offering in April 2015. Mr. Osgood serves as chair of the Investment Committee for the company and on its Audit Committee. From 2007 to 2008, Mr. Osgood served as chief financial officer of DuPont Fabros Technology, Inc., a Washington, DC based REIT that owns, operates and develops data center properties. From 2006 to 2007, he also previously served as chief financial officer of Global Signal, Inc., a wireless tower REIT, that was acquired by Crown Castle International Corp. in 2007. Prior to Global Signal, Mr. Osgood served as president and chief financial officer of U-Store-It Trust (now named CubeSmart), a Cleveland based self-storage REIT from the company's initial public offering in 2004 to 2006. Mr. Osgood served as chief financial officer of the Amsdell Companies, the predecessor of U-Store-It, from 1993 until 2004. Mr. Osgood is a former Certified Public Accountant and was a member of the auditing staff of Touche Ross & Co. from 1978 to 1982. He graduated from Miami University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978 and graduated from the University of San Diego with a Masters in Business Administration in 1987. Mr. Osgood also serves on the National Board of the Alzheimer's Association and is currently serving as its treasurer. We believe that Mr. Osgood's REIT experience and over 20 years of experience in corporate finance make him qualified to serve as a member of our board of directors.

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Our board of directors recommends a vote FOR the election of Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O'Neil, Osborne, and Osgood and Ms. Blalock and Brenner as directors.

A plurality of all the votes cast on the proposal at the Annual Meeting at which a quorum is present is necessary to elect a director. Proxies solicited by our board of directors will be voted FOR Messrs. Eckel, Cirilli, O'Neil, Osborne, and Osgood and Ms. Blalock and Brenner, unless otherwise instructed. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote, although they will be considered present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

We have a majority vote policy for the election of directors. In an uncontested election, any nominee for director who receives a greater number of votes "withheld" from his or her election than votes "for" such election is required to tender his or her resignation to our board of directors. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee is required to promptly consider the resignation and make a recommendation to our board of directors with respect to the tendered resignation. Our board of directors is required to take action with respect to this recommendation. Any director who tenders his or her resignation to our board of directors will not participate in the committee's consideration or board action regarding whether to accept such tendered resignation. The policy is more fully described below under the "Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Corporate Governance Guidelines—Majority Vote Policy" section of this proxy statement.

In accordance with our Charter and Bylaws, any vacancies occurring on our board of directors, including vacancies occurring as a result of the death, resignation, or removal of a director, or due to an increase in the size of the board of directors, may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is duly elected and qualifies. There is no familial relationship, as defined under the SEC regulations, among any of directors or executive officers. See "Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Director Independence."

2. RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee of our board of directors (the “Audit Committee”) has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. Our board of directors is requesting that our stockholders ratify this appointment of Ernst & Young LLP.

Ernst & Young LLP has audited our or our Predecessor's consolidated financial statements since 1983 and has also provided certain tax and other services to us.

Neither our Bylaws nor other governing documents or law require stockholder ratification of the Audit Committee’s appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm. However, our board of directors is submitting the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to the stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate practice. In the event that ratification of this appointment of independent registered public accounting firm is not approved at the Annual Meeting, the Audit Committee will review its future selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in our best interests.

Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting and will be provided with an opportunity to make a statement if so desired and to respond to appropriate inquiries from stockholders.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Fees

The following table summarizes the aggregate fees (including related expenses) billed to us for professional services provided by Ernst & Young LLP for 2017 and 2016.

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	For the Year Ended December 31, 2016
	(in thousands)	
Audit fees ⁽¹⁾	\$2,349	\$ 1,777
Audit-related fees ⁽²⁾	222	59
Tax fees ⁽³⁾	243	120
Total	\$2,814	\$ 1,956

Audit fees include fees and expenses related to the annual audit of the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries and our internal controls over financial reporting, the review of the consolidated financial statements (1) included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and for services associated with our public offerings, including review of the registration statement and related issuances of comfort letters and consents and other services related to SEC matters.

(2) Audit-related fees include fees and expenses related to agreed-upon procedures performed on certain of our securitization transactions.

(3) Tax fees include fees and expenses related to tax compliance and tax return preparation services, as well as tax planning and advisory services.

The Audit Committee’s charter provides that the Audit Committee shall review and pre-approve the engagement fees and the terms of all auditing and non-auditing services to be provided by the external auditors and evaluate the effect thereof on the independence of the external auditors. The chair of the committee is authorized to pre-approve any audit or non-audit service on behalf of the committee up to an amount of \$50,000, with such decisions presented to the full committee at its next meeting.

Our board of directors recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

A majority of all of the votes cast on this proposal at the Annual Meeting at which a quorum is present is required for its approval. Proxies solicited by our board of directors will be voted FOR this proposal, unless otherwise instructed. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote, although they will be considered present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

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3. STOCKHOLDER ADVISORY (NON-BINDING) VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (“Dodd-Frank Act”) enacted in July 2010 includes a provision, commonly referred to as “Say on Pay,” that entitles our stockholders to cast an advisory (non-binding) vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as disclosed in this proxy statement. At the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, our stockholders voted for a one-year interval for the advisory vote on executive compensation.

We believe that our compensation policies and practices are strongly aligned with the long-term interests of our stockholders. Stockholders are urged to read the Executive Compensation section of this proxy statement, and especially the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, which discusses our compensation philosophy and how our compensation policies and practices implement our philosophy.

As described more fully in that discussion, our compensation programs are designed to achieve the following objectives:

- aligning our management team’s interests with stockholders’ expectations;
- motivating and rewarding our management team to grow our assets and earnings in a manner that is consistent with prudent risk-taking and based on sound corporate governance practices; and
- attracting and retaining an experienced and effective management team while also maintaining an appropriate expense structure.

One of the guiding principles underlying the Compensation Committee’s executive compensation philosophy is that compensation should encourage and reward strong financial and operational performance. In furtherance of this philosophy, the Compensation Committee established the 2017 annual incentive plan with quantitative and qualitative performance goals based upon the Company’s strategic goals. The quantitative goals were intended to focus the named executive officers (“NEOs”) on the key financial metrics that impact the Company’s results and stockholder value, including core earnings ⁽¹⁾, net interest margin ⁽²⁾, efficiency ratio ⁽³⁾ and credit losses incurred. For the NEOs other than the chief executive officer, the qualitative goals included an evaluation of overall performance of the NEO. Set forth below is a graphical illustration of our core earnings and net interest margin growth from 2016 to 2017, as well as the improvement in our efficiency ratio from 2016 to 2017 where a lower percentage indicates increased efficiency. We realized no credit losses in 2017.

Core earnings is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of core earnings to (1) GAAP net income is located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

Net interest margin is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. It is calculated as interest income plus rental income plus core equity method investments earnings plus amortization of intangibles, less (2) interest expense. Core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. The other amounts are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

The efficiency ratio is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A lower efficiency ratio indicates a more efficient use of compensation and general and administrative expenses to generate revenue. It is (3) calculated as compensation and benefits expense plus general and administrative expense, divided by total revenue plus core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles. Compensation and benefits expense, general and administrative expense and total revenue are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Core equity method investments

earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

In addition, during 2017, we achieved the following milestones that we believe position us for future success:

• Closed approximately \$1 billion of transactions for the year

• Delivered 78% annual GAAP EPS growth and 6% annual Core EPS growth in 2017

• Over \$2.5 billion widely diversified pipeline.

• Over 25% annual growth in our balance sheet to approximately \$2.3 billion, diversified across approximately 175 separate investments

• Achieved a fixed-rate debt level of 92% as of December 31, 2017, up from 67% last year

An estimated 530,000 metric tons of annual CO₂ equivalent emissions or carbon emissions will be offset by our 2017 transactions equating to a CarbonCount® score of 0.56, or 0.56 metric tons per \$1,000 invested. Additionally, we achieved zero Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions from the operations of our business. For additional details related to these carbon emissions standards, see “Corporate Governance and Social and Responsibility—Environmental Impact”.

Rising short term interest rates, a flattening yield curve and spread compression in some markets influenced our decision to fix out interest rates and increase our liquidity in the second half of the year. The addition of longer maturity fixed-rate debt increased our interest expense and impacted our Core Earnings and Net Interest Margin performance against our goals. The Compensation Committee determined that the increase in fixed-rate debt was in the best interest of the Company and, based on their evaluation and discussion with the CEO, that the NEOs had performed at expected levels on their individual performance measures in connection with the annual incentive program, other than the CEO who was not subject to an individual performance measure. Given the performance and the decision to fix out interest rates, the Compensation Committee determined each NEO should receive approximately 80% of their targeted bonus value.

Overall, we believe these 2017 results provide us a solid foundation to achieve longer-term future success. Our compensation decisions for 2017 have considered the challenges faced and results achieved by our management team in 2017. See “Executive Compensation—Compensation, Discussion and Analysis” for additional details related to our compensation policies and practices and the achievement of our performance goals.

We are requesting your non-binding vote on the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that our stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Named Executive Officers as described in the proxy statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and narrative disclosure.”

Because your vote is advisory, it will not be binding upon us or our board of directors. However, the Compensation Committee, which is responsible for designing and administering our executive compensation programs, values your opinion and will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

Our board of directors recommends a vote FOR approval of the compensation of the Named Executive Officers as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and other narrative disclosure in this proxy statement.

If a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is required to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our Named Executive Officers. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MATTERS

Board of Directors

Our board of directors is responsible for overseeing our affairs. Our board of directors conducts its business through meetings and actions taken by written consent in lieu of meetings. Our board of directors intends to hold at least four regularly scheduled meetings per year and additional special meetings as necessary. For the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, our board of directors held nine meetings. All our directors attended at the least 75% of the meetings of our board of directors and of the committees of our board of directors on which they served during this period (during the period that they served), either in person or telephonically. All the directors then serving on our board of directors attended our 2017 annual meeting of stockholders. Our board of directors' policy, as set forth in our Corporate Governance Guidelines (the "Guidelines"), is to encourage and promote the attendance by each director at all scheduled meetings of our board of directors and all meetings of our stockholders.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Our board of directors has four standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee and the Finance and Risk Committee.

Audit Committee

Steven Osgood (Chair), Charles O'Neil and Richard Osborne are the current members of the Audit Committee. Our board of directors has determined that all of the members of the Audit Committee are independent as required by the NYSE listing standards, SEC rules governing the qualifications of Audit Committee members, the Guidelines, the Independence Standards (as defined below) and the written charter of the Audit Committee. Our board of directors has also determined, based upon its qualitative assessment of their relevant levels of knowledge and business experience (see "Election of Directors" in this proxy statement for a description of our directors' respective backgrounds and experience), that Mr. Osborne and Mr. Osgood each qualify as an "audit committee financial expert" for purposes of, and as defined by, the SEC rules and has the requisite accounting or related financial management expertise required by NYSE listing standards. In addition, our board of directors has determined that all of the members of the Audit Committee are financially literate as required by the NYSE listing standards.

The Audit Committee is responsible for engaging our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing with the independent registered public accounting firm the plans and results of the audit engagement, approving professional services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm, considering the range of audit and non-audit fees and reviewing the adequacy of our internal accounting controls.

The Audit Committee met nine times during 2017. These meetings were designed, among other things, to discharge our board of directors' responsibilities relating to our and our subsidiaries' corporate accounting and reporting practices, the quality and integrity of our consolidated financial statements, our compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, the performance, qualifications and independence of our external auditors, and the staffing, performance, budget, responsibilities and qualifications of our internal audit function. The Audit Committee also has responsibility for reviewing our policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, which responsibility is shared with the Finance and Risk Committee. The Audit Committee is also responsible for reviewing with management and external auditors our interim and audited annual financial statements as well as approving the filing of our financial statements, meeting with officers responsible for certifying our Annual Report on Form 10-K or any quarterly report on Form 10-Q prior to any such certification and reviewing with such officers disclosures related to any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls. The Audit Committee is charged with periodically discussing with our external auditors such auditors' judgments about the quality, not just the acceptability, of our accounting principles as applied in our consolidated financial statements.

The specific responsibilities of the Audit Committee are set forth in its written charter, which is available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com.

Compensation Committee

Mark Cirilli (Chair), Rebecca Blalock, and Steven Osgood are the current members of the Compensation Committee. Our board of directors has determined that each of the members of the Compensation Committee is independent as

required by the NYSE listing standards, SEC rules, the Guidelines, the Independence Standards (as defined below) and the written charter of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee, which met thirteen times during 2017, is responsible for, among other things, overseeing the approval, administration and evaluation of our compensation plans, policies and programs, and reviewing the compensation of our directors and executive officers. The specific responsibilities of the Compensation Committee are set forth in its written charter, a copy of which is available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com.

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Since 2016, the Compensation Committee has engaged FTI Consulting, Inc. (“FTI”), as an independent compensation consulting firm, to provide analysis and recommendations regarding (1) base salaries, annual bonuses and long-term incentive compensation for our executive management team, and (2) the director compensation program for independent members of our board of directors. The Compensation Committee also engaged Pay Governance LLC (“Pay Governance”), a compensation consulting firm, to review the setting of certain annual bonus targets for 2018. FTI and Pay Governance report directly to the Compensation Committee and they have not performed and do not currently provide any other services to management or the Company. The Compensation Committee has determined that FTI and Pay Governance are independent pursuant to the Compensation Committee charter.

Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee

Teresa Brenner (Chair) and Mark Cirilli are the current members of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee. Our board of directors has determined that all of the members of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee are independent as required by the NYSE listing standards, the Guidelines, the Independence Standards (as defined below) and the written charter of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee, which met ten times during 2017, is responsible for, among other things, reviewing periodically and making recommendations to our board of directors on the range of qualifications that should be represented on our board of directors and eligibility criteria for individual board membership, as well as seeking, considering and recommending to the board qualified candidates for election as directors and approving and recommending to the full board of directors the appointment of each of our officers and, if necessary, a lead independent director. For a discussion of the consideration of diversity in the process by which candidates for director are considered for nomination by the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee, and the process for identifying and evaluating nominees for director, including nominees recommended by security holders, please see “Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Identification of Director Candidates” in this proxy statement. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee reviews and makes recommendations on matters involving the general operation of our board of directors and our corporate governance and annually recommends nominees for each committee of our board of directors. The committee also periodically reviews the Company’s strategies, activities, policies, and communications regarding sustainability and other environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) related matters and makes recommendations to our board of directors. In this capacity, the committee reviews our CarbonCount® score discussed in the “Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Environmental Impact” section below. In addition, the committee annually facilitates the assessment of our board of directors’ performance as a whole and that of the individual directors and reports thereon to our board of directors. In February 2018, we changed the name to the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee from the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and amended its charter to further emphasize the committee responsibility for ESG oversight, including for our policies and communications.

The specific responsibilities of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee are set forth in its written charter, which is available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com.

Finance and Risk Committee

Charles O’Neil (Chair) and Rebecca Blalock are the current members of the Finance and Risk Committee, which was established by the board of directors in March 2017. Our board of directors has determined that all of the members of the Finance and Risk Committee are independent under the NYSE listing standards, the Guidelines, the Independence Standards (as defined below) and the written charter of the Finance and Risk Committee. The Finance and Risk Committee, which met ten times during 2017, has responsibility for the assessment, monitoring and oversight of matters relating to the Company’s financings. The Finance and Risk Committee also discusses and reviews policies and guidelines with respect to our risk assessment and risk management for various risks, including, but not limited to, our interest rate, counter-party, credit, capital availability and refinancing risks. The Finance and Risk Committee also reviews and assesses the adequacy of our insurance coverage and our cybersecurity policies and programs.

The specific responsibilities of the Finance and Risk Committee are set forth in its written charter, which is available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com.

Report of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has furnished the following report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017:

The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring the integrity of our consolidated financial statements, our system of internal controls, our risk management, the qualifications, independence and performance of our independent registered public accounting firm and our compliance with related legal and regulatory requirements. The Audit Committee has the sole authority and responsibility to select, determine the compensation of, evaluate and, when appropriate, replace our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee operates under a written charter adopted by our board of directors.

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Management is primarily responsible for our financial reporting process including the system of internal controls and for the preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Ernst & Young LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, is responsible for performing an independent audit of our annual consolidated financial statements and expressing an opinion as to their conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and on the effectiveness of the company's internal controls over financial reporting based on criteria established in 2013 by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Audit Committee's responsibility is to oversee and review the financial reporting process. The Audit Committee is not, however, professionally engaged in the practice of accounting or auditing and does not provide any expert or other special assurance as to such financial statements concerning compliance with laws, regulations or accounting principles generally accepted in the United States or as to auditor independence. The Audit Committee relies, without independent verification, on the information provided to it and on the representations made by our management and our independent registered public accounting firm. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP attended the Audit Committee meetings on at least a quarterly basis. These meetings were designed, among other things, to facilitate and encourage communication among the Audit Committee, management and Ernst & Young LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee reviewed and discussed the Company's audited financial statements with management and Ernst & Young LLP. The Audit Committee also discussed with Ernst & Young LLP matters that independent accounting firms must discuss with audit committees under generally accepted auditing standards and standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB"), including, among other things, matters related to the conduct of the audit of our consolidated financial statements and the matters required to be discussed by Auditing Standard No. 1301, Communications with Audit Committees, which included a discussion of Ernst & Young LLP's judgments about the quality (not just the acceptability) of our accounting principles as applied to financial reporting. The Audit Committee met with Ernst & Young LLP, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their audit.

The Audit Committee also discussed with Ernst & Young LLP their independence from us. Ernst & Young LLP provided to the Audit Committee the written disclosures and the letter required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent accountant's communication with audit committees concerning independence and represented that it is independent from us. The Audit Committee also received regular updates on the amount of fees and scope of audit and tax services provided by Ernst & Young LLP.

Based on the Audit Committee's review and these meetings, discussions and reports, and subject to the limitations on the Audit Committee's role and responsibilities referred to above and in its written charter, the Audit Committee recommended to our board of directors that our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC. The Audit Committee has also appointed Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018 and is presenting this selection to our stockholders for ratification.

Steven G. Osgood

Charles O'Neil

Richard Osborne

The foregoing Report of the Audit Committee shall not be deemed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or the Exchange Act, to be (i) "soliciting material" or "filed" or (ii) incorporated by reference by any general statement into any filing made by us with the SEC, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate such report by reference.

COMPENSATION OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

A director who is also an employee of the Company is referred to as an executive director. Executive directors do not receive compensation for serving on our board of directors. We pay directors' fees only to those directors who are independent under the NYSE listing standards. We have approved and implemented a compensation program for our independent directors that consists of an annual cash retainer fee and long-term equity awards as described below. We also reimburse each of our independent directors for his or her expenses incurred in connection with his or her board responsibilities. The following table summarizes the annual compensation received by our independent directors for 2017.

Summary Compensation Table

Name	Fees Paid or Earned in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) ⁽¹⁾	Total (\$)
Rebecca B. Blalock	35,208	64,991	100,199
Teresa M. Brenner	77,500	64,991	142,491
Mark J. Cirilli	80,000	64,991	144,991
Charles M. O'Neil	73,125	64,991	138,116
Richard J. Osborne	90,000	64,991	154,991
Steven G. Osgood	85,000	64,991	149,991

Each of Messrs. Cirilli, O'Neil, Osgood and Osborne, and Meses. Blalock and Brenner were granted 3,426 shares of restricted Common Stock in 2017 valued at \$18.97 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE at the date of grant. The shares of Common Stock granted in 2017 vest on March 5, 2019. As of December 31, 2017, each of Messrs. Cirilli, O'Neil and Osborne held 6,887 shares of unvested restricted Common Stock, Mr. Osgood held 8,627 shares of unvested restricted Common Stock, Ms. Brenner held 6,959 shares of unvested restricted Common Stock and Ms. Blalock held 3,426 shares of unvested restricted Common Stock.

The components of the independent director compensation are as follows:

• cash retainer of \$65,000 annually per director.

• cash retainer to the Chair of the Audit Committee of \$20,000 annually.

• cash retainer to the Lead Independent Director of \$25,000 annually.

• cash retainer to each of the Chairs of the Compensation Committee, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee and the Finance and Risk Committee of \$15,000 annually.

All cash fees described above are paid quarterly in arrears.

For 2018, the board targeted the annual stock grant to be \$65,000 and awarded each independent director 3,401 shares of restricted Common Stock valued at \$19.11 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE at the date of grant on April 4, 2018. The 2018 independent director awards vest on March 5, 2020.

Our directors are also subject to stock ownership guidelines, which are described in more detail as set forth below under "Executive Compensation—Compensation Discussion and Analysis—Stock Ownership Guidelines for Named Executive Officers and Directors."

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

We own and invest in a diversified group of sustainable infrastructure projects focused on reducing the impacts of climate change through the allocation of our capital across the energy efficiency, renewable energy and other sustainability focused markets. Under the direction of our chief executive officer and the board of directors, we are focused on achieving a high level of environmental and social responsibility and strong corporate governance. In February 2018, we changed the name of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of our board of directors to our Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee and amended its charter to further emphasize the board responsibility for ESG oversight, including for our policies and communications.

Our business strategy is focused on addressing climate change, including through the reduction of carbon emissions. This includes only investing in assets that have a neutral to negative impact on carbon emissions and setting targets for Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions resulting from the operation of our business. Refer to the “Environmental Impact” section below. In addition, we operate our business in manner intended to reduce the environmental impact, including purchasing carbon free electricity for our office and encouraging recycling. We also participate in a number of climate focused initiatives including Climate Action 100+, We Are Still In and the Climate Disclosure Standards Board (“CDSB”). In 2017, we joined the CDSB’s initiative to pledge to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (“TCFD”). In joining the CDSB’s initiative, it is our intention with the oversight of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee, to continue to enhance our reporting relating to our efforts on the reduction of carbon emissions.

We are also focused on our social responsibility within our workforce and our community. Our culture is focused on hiring and retaining diverse and highly talented employees and empowering them to create value for our stockholders. In our employee selection process and operation of our business we adhere to equal employment opportunity policies and encourage the participation of our employees in training programs that will enhance their effectiveness in the performance of their duties. Our chief executive officer leads employee meetings intended to encourage employees to understand why sustainability matters and regularly meets with small groups of employees to receive their feedback on the business.

We provide competitive benefits that promote the health of our employees and their families and design compelling job opportunities that are aligned with our mission in an energizing work environment. We also encourage our employees to continue to develop in their careers, including obtaining advanced degrees or professional certifications. We compensate our employees according to our fair remuneration policies and believe deeply in a pay-for-performance philosophy. Therefore, employees generally receive a portion of their compensation in the form of stock grants tied to performance. We encourage our employees to contribute their time to support various community and charitable activities and sponsor several local community organizations with a primary focus on environmental organizations.

We have structured our corporate governance in a manner we believe closely aligns our interests with those of our stockholders. Notable features of our corporate governance structure include the following:

- our board of directors is not staggered, with each of our directors subject to re-election annually;
- our board of directors has determined that six of our seven directors are independent for purposes of the NYSE corporate governance listing standards and Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act;
- two of our directors each qualify as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined by the SEC;
- two of our directors are women, constituting 29% of the board, in furtherance of our board diversity policy;
- our Guidelines provide for a majority vote policy for the election of directors pursuant to which any nominee who receives a greater number of votes “withheld” from his or her election than votes “for” such election shall promptly tender his or her resignation to our board of directors, which shall consider whether or not to accept such resignation, as described in greater detail below;
- we have established a target retirement age of 75 for our directors;
- we have an active stockholder outreach program;
- we have amended and restated our Statement of Corporate Policy Regarding Equity Transaction in 2017 to prohibit our directors and officers from hedging equity securities of the Company, holding such securities in a margin account or pledging such securities as collateral for a loan;

In 2017, we adopted a Clawback Policy which provides for the possible recoupment of performance or incentive-based compensation in the event of an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance by the Company with any financial reporting requirements under the securities laws (other than due to a change in applicable accounting methods, rules or interpretations);

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we have opted out of the control share acquisition statute in the Maryland General Corporations Law (the “MGCL”) and have exempted from the business combinations statute in the MGCL transactions that are approved by our board of directors;

- we do not have a stockholder rights plan; and

- we have expanded the role of our Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee to also focus on directing the strategy and oversight of our ESG strategies, activities, policies and communications.

In order to foster the highest standards of ethics and conduct in all business relationships, we have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics policy (the “Code of Conduct”). This policy, which covers a wide range of business practices and procedures, applies to our officers, directors and employees. In addition, we have implemented Whistleblowing Procedures related to accounting and auditing matters as well as Code of Conduct matters (the “Whistleblower Policy”) that sets forth procedures by which any Covered Persons (as defined in the Whistleblower Policy) may raise, on a confidential basis, concerns regarding, among other things, any questionable or unethical accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters with our Audit Committee as well as any potential code of conduct or ethics violations with our Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee or our General Counsel.

We have adopted a Statement of Corporate Policy Regarding Equity Transactions that governs the process to be followed in the purchase or sale of our securities by any of our directors, officers, employees and consultants and prohibits any such persons from buying or selling our securities on the basis of material nonpublic information, which we amended in 2017 to prohibit our directors and officers from hedging equity securities of the Company, holding such securities in a margin account or pledging such securities as collateral for a loan. We also adopted in 2017 a Clawback Policy which provides for the possible recoupment of performance or incentive-based compensation in the event of an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance by the Company with any financial reporting requirements under the securities laws (other than due to a change in applicable accounting methods, rules or interpretations), the result of which is that any performance or incentive based compensation paid to such Covered Executive (as defined in the Clawback Policy) during the three-year period preceding the publication of the restated financial statements would have been lower had it been calculated based on such restated financial statements. The Clawback Policy covers performance- or incentive-based compensation that is approved, awarded or granted for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2017. We review all of these policies on a periodic basis with our employees.

Role of the Board of Directors and Risk Oversight

Pursuant to our Charter and Bylaws and the MGCL, our business and affairs are managed under the direction of our board of directors. Our board of directors has the responsibility for establishing broad corporate policies and for our overall performance and direction but is not involved in our day-to-day operations which are managed by our senior management team. Members of our board of directors keep informed of our business by participating in meetings of our board of directors and its committees, by reviewing analyses, reports and other materials provided to them and through discussions with the chairman of our board of directors, president and chief executive officer and other executive officers.

Currently, Mr. Eckel serves as the chairman of our board of directors and chief executive officer. In addition, our board of directors has an active Lead Independent Director, Richard J. Osborne. Our board of directors believes that this leadership structure is best for the Company and its stockholders at this time. In his dual role, Mr. Eckel uses his extensive experience in managing companies operating in the energy sector and expertise in energy investments for over 35 years through many business cycles to effectively and efficiently guide the Company and our board of directors, including overseeing the Company’s strategies relating to ESG matters. He fulfills his responsibilities as chairman of the board of directors through close interaction with Mr. Osborne, who has served as our Lead Independent Director since 2014.

In reaching the conclusion that the roles of the chairman and chief executive officer should be held by one person, our board of directors has considered the performance of the Company since its IPO as well as the views expressed by our stockholders and other constituents, both through stockholder votes and through direct outreach by management and our board of directors. Our board of directors concluded that Mr. Eckel is a well-seasoned leader with a proven track

record of leading the Company over a long period of growth both before and after our IPO. Based on his and our track record, the board of directors determined that Mr. Eckel is the best person to continue to lead the Company and our board of directors. Our board of directors also considered the actual board relationships and determined that there is actual and effective independent oversight of management by our supermajority independent board led by Mr. Osborne in his capacity as our Lead Independent Director.

In connection with their oversight of risk to our business, our board of directors considers feedback from management concerning the risks related to our business, operations and strategies. In March 2017, the board of directors created the Finance and Risk Committee with the responsibility to discuss and review policies with respect to our risk assessment and risk management, including, but not limited to, guidelines and policies to govern the process by which risk assessment and risk management is

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undertaken, the adequacy of our insurance coverage, our interest rate risk management, our counter-party and credit risks, our capital availability and refinancing risks. Prior to the creation of the Finance and Risk Committee, these risk assessments and reviews were conducted by our Audit Committee who continues to consult with the Finance and Risk Committee on these matters. Management regularly reports to our board of directors on our leverage policies, our asset acquisition process, any asset impairments and our compliance with applicable REIT and Investment Company Act of 1940 rules. Members of our board of directors routinely meet with management in connection with their consideration of matters submitted for the approval of our board of directors and the risks associated with such matters.

Our board of directors believes that its composition protects stockholder interests and provides sufficient independent oversight of management. A majority of our current directors are “independent” under NYSE standards, as more fully described elsewhere in this section under “Corporate Governance and Social and Environmental Responsibility—Director Independence.” The independent directors, led by Mr. Osborne, our Lead Independent Director, meet separately from management at least four times a year and are active in the oversight of the Company. The independent directors oversee such critical matters as the integrity of our financial statements, the evaluation and compensation of executive officers and the selection and evaluation of directors. Each independent director has the ability to add items to the agenda of our board of directors meetings or raise subjects for discussion that are not on the agenda for that meeting.

Mr. Osborne works with the chairman of our board of directors to establish the agenda for regular meetings of our board of directors, serves as chair of regular meetings of our board of directors when our chairman is absent, presides at executive sessions, serves as a liaison between our chairman and chief executive officer and our independent directors, and encourages dialogue between our independent directors and management. He also establishes the agenda for meetings of our independent directors and performs such other duties as our board of directors may establish or delegate.

Our board of directors believes that its majority independent composition and the roles that our independent directors perform provide effective corporate governance at the board of directors’ level and independent oversight of both our board of directors and management. The current governance structure, when combined with the functioning of the independent director component of our board of directors and our overall corporate governance structure, strikes an appropriate balance between strong and consistent leadership and independent oversight of our business and affairs.

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

Our board of directors has adopted a Code of Conduct that applies to our directors, executive officers, and employees. The Code of Conduct was designed to assist in complying with the law, in resolving moral and ethical issues that may arise and in complying with our policies and procedures. Among the areas addressed by the Code of Conduct are compliance with applicable governmental, state and local laws, compliance with securities laws, the use and protection of company assets, data privacy, the protection of our confidential corporate information, dealings with the press and communications with the public, internal accounting controls, improper influence of audits, records retention, fair dealing, discrimination and harassment, health and safety, and conflicts of interest, including payments and gifts by third parties, outside financial interests that might be in conflict with our interests, access to our confidential records, corporate opportunities, and loans. The Code of Conduct is available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com. We will also provide the Code of Conduct, free of charge, to stockholders who request it. Requests should be directed to Steven L. Chuslo, our general counsel, executive vice president and secretary, at Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc., 1906 Towne Centre Blvd, Suite 370, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Corporate Governance Guidelines

Our board of directors has adopted Guidelines that address significant issues of corporate governance and set forth procedures by which our board of directors carries out its responsibilities. Among the areas addressed by the Guidelines are the composition of our board of directors, its functions and responsibilities, its standing committees, director qualification standards, access to management and independent advisors, director compensation, management succession, director orientation and continuing education and the annual performance evaluation and review of our board of directors and committees. The Guidelines are available for viewing on our website at

www.hannonarmstrong.com. We will also provide the Guidelines, free of charge, to stockholders who request it. Requests should be directed to Steven L. Chuslo, our general counsel, executive vice president and secretary, at Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc., 1906 Towne Centre Blvd, Suite 370, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Majority Vote Policy

The Guidelines provide for a majority vote policy for the election of directors. Pursuant to this policy, in any uncontested election of directors, any nominee who receives a greater number of votes “withheld” from his or her election than votes “for” such election shall promptly tender his or her resignation to our board of directors following certification of the stockholder vote. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee shall promptly consider the resignation and make a

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recommendation to our board of directors with respect to the tendered resignation. In considering whether to accept or reject the tendered resignation, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee shall consider all factors it deems relevant, which may include the stated reasons, if any, why stockholders withheld votes from the director, any alternatives for curing the underlying cause of the withheld votes, the length of service and qualifications of the director, the director's past and expected future contributions to the Company, the composition of our board of directors, and such other information and factors as members of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee shall determine are relevant.

Our board of directors will act on the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee's recommendation no later than 90 days after the certification of the stockholder vote. Any director who tenders his or her resignation to our board of directors will not participate in the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee's consideration or board action regarding whether to accept such tendered resignation. We will promptly disclose our board of director's decision whether to accept the resignation as tendered (providing a full explanation of the process by which the decision was reached and, if applicable, the reasons for rejecting the tendered resignation) in a press release, a filing with the SEC or in another broadly disseminated means of communication.

Director Independence

The Guidelines provide that a majority of the directors serving on our board of directors must be independent as required by NYSE listing standards. In addition, as permitted under the MGCL, our board of directors has adopted certain independence standards (the "Independence Standards") to assist it in making determinations with respect to the independence of directors. The Independence Standards are available for viewing on our website at www.hannonarmstrong.com. Based upon its review of all relevant facts and circumstances, our board of directors has affirmatively determined that six of our seven current directors—Rebecca Blalock, Teresa Brenner, Mark Cirilli, Charles O'Neil, Richard Osborne and Steven Osgood—qualify as independent directors under the NYSE listing standards and the Independence Standards.

Identification of Director Candidates

In accordance with the Guidelines and its written charter, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee is responsible for identifying director candidates for our board of directors and for recommending director candidates to our board of directors for consideration as nominees to stand for election at our annual meetings of stockholders. Director candidates are recommended for nomination for election as directors in accordance with the procedures set forth in the written charter of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee. We seek highly qualified director candidates from diverse business, professional and educational backgrounds who combine a broad spectrum of experience and expertise with a reputation for the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee periodically reviews the appropriate skills and characteristics required of our directors in the context of the current composition of our board of directors, our operating requirements and the long-term interests of our stockholders. In accordance with the Guidelines, directors should possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, exercise good business judgment, be committed to representing the long-term interests of the Company and our stockholders and have an inquisitive and objective perspective, practical wisdom and mature judgment. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee reviews director candidates with the objective of assembling a slate of directors that can best fulfill and promote our goals, regardless of gender, age or race, and recommends director candidates based upon contributions they can make to our board of directors and management and their ability to represent our long-term interests and those of our stockholders.

The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee evaluates the skill sets required for service on our board of directors and has developed a list of potential director candidates. If it is determined there is the need for additional or replacement board members, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee will assess potential director candidates included on the list as well as other appropriate potential director candidates based upon information it receives regarding such potential candidates or otherwise possesses, which assessment may be supplemented by additional inquiries. In conducting this assessment, the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee considers knowledge, experience, skills, diversity and such other factors as it deems

appropriate in light of our current needs and those of our board of directors. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee may seek input on such director candidates from other directors, including the chairman and chief executive officer, and recommends director candidates to our board of directors for nomination. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee does not solicit director nominations, but it will consider recommendations by stockholders with respect to elections to be held at an annual meeting, so long as such recommendations are sent on a timely basis and in accordance with applicable law. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee will evaluate nominees recommended by stockholders against the same criteria that it uses to evaluate other nominees. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee may, in its sole discretion, engage one or more search firms or other consultants, experts or

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professionals to assist in, among other things, identifying director candidates or gathering information regarding the background and experience of director candidates. The Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee will have sole authority to approve any fees or terms of retention relating to these services.

Our stockholders of record who comply with the advanced notice procedures set forth in our Bylaws and outlined under the “Submission of Stockholder Proposals” section of this proxy statement may nominate candidates for election as directors. Our Bylaws currently provide that stockholder nominations of director candidates for an annual meeting of stockholders must be received no earlier than the 150th day and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the date of the proxy statement for the immediately preceding annual meeting of stockholders; provided, however, in the event that the date of the annual meeting is advanced or delayed by more than 30 days from the first anniversary of the date of the preceding year’s annual meeting, notice by the stockholder, to be timely, must be so delivered not earlier than the 150th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting, as originally convened, or the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made.

Accordingly, to submit a director candidate for consideration for nomination at our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, stockholders must submit the recommendation, in writing, by December 12, 2018, but in no event earlier than November 12, 2018. The written notice must set forth the information and include the materials required by our Bylaws. The advanced notice procedures set forth in our Bylaws do not affect the right of stockholders to request the inclusion of proposals in our proxy statement pursuant to SEC rules. See “Submission of Stockholder Proposals” for information regarding providing timely notice of stockholder proposals under SEC rules.

Personal Loans to Executive Officers and Directors

We comply with, and operate in a manner consistent with, applicable law prohibiting extensions of credit in the form of personal loans to or for the benefit of our directors and executive officers.

Director Attendance at Annual Meetings of Stockholders

We have scheduled a board meeting in conjunction with the Annual Meeting and, as set forth in the Guidelines, our policy is to encourage and promote the attendance by each director at all scheduled meetings of our board of directors and all meetings of our stockholders.

Communications with the Board of Directors

Our board of directors has approved a process to enable communications with the independent members of the board of directors or the chair of any of the committees of the board of directors. Communications by email should be sent to generalcounsel@hannonarmstrong.com. Communications by regular mail should be sent to the attention of Steven L. Chuslo, our general counsel, executive vice president and secretary, at our office at 1906 Towne Centre Blvd, Suite 370, Annapolis, MD 21401. Each communication received will be reviewed to determine whether the communication requires immediate action. All appropriate communications received, or a summary of such communications, will be sent to the appropriate member(s) of our board of directors. However, we reserve the right to disregard any communication we determine is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal, does not reasonably relate to us or our business, or is similarly inappropriate. Our secretary, or his or her delegate, has the authority to disregard any inappropriate communications or to take other appropriate actions with respect to any such inappropriate communications. In addition, any of our stockholders and any other person may make a good faith report to the Audit Committee regarding any questionable or unethical accounting or auditing matters via regular mail addressed to the Audit Committee, 1906 Towne Centre Blvd, Suite 370, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Executive Sessions of Independent Directors

The independent directors serving on our board of directors meet in executive sessions at least four times per year at regularly scheduled meetings of our board of directors. These executive sessions of our board of directors will be presided over by Mr. Osborne, our Lead Independent Director.

Active Stockholder Outreach

We believe that engaging with investors is fundamental to our commitment to good governance and essential to maintaining our industry-leading practices. Throughout the year, we seek opportunities to connect with our investors to gain and share valuable insights into current and emerging business and governance trends. During 2017, we held over 65 meetings with stockholders whose ownership represent approximately 40% of shares outstanding as of the

end of the year to discuss various key corporate matters, including our investment criteria, interest rate and other risk management practices, political and regulatory matters and our focus on sustainability and strong governance practices. These meetings were conducted in person, via teleconference or one-on-one at industry

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conferences. Our engagement activities take place throughout the year and we also conduct quarterly earnings calls where we try to answer many of the new questions that we receive during our investor outreach.

Environmental Impact

We believe that sound investing practices should include analysis of the environmental benefit of the proposed investment. It is our practice to invest in projects that increase energy efficiency, provide cleaner energy, positively impact the environment, or make more efficient use of natural resources. As such, we evaluate the environmental impact of proposed investment as part of our investment process.

We define sustainability as positively impacting the environment while being neutral or reducing greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions. We calculate the estimated metric tons of CO₂ equivalent emissions, or carbon emissions avoided by our investments. In this calculation which we refer to as CarbonCount®, we apply emissions factor data from the U.S. Government or the International Energy Administration to an estimate of a project’s energy production or savings to compute an estimate of metric tons of carbon emissions avoided. We estimate that our investments originated in 2017 will reduce annual carbon emissions by approximately 530,000 metric tons. In addition to carbon emissions, investments are also screened for other environmental benefits, such as water use reduction. We have set targets for achieving zero Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard published by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Initiative (the “Protocol Initiative”). Scope 1 emissions are direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the Company and Scope 2 emissions are GHG emissions from the generation of purchased electricity consumed by the Company. In 2017, we achieved this target, which was verified by an independent third-party verification provider. We have also set a target of negative Scope 3 emissions, as defined in the Protocol Initiative, which are all indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions. We believe the GHG reductions from our annual investments would be classified as Scope 3 emissions and allow us to achieve this target, although we have not obtained third party verification.

2018 Corporate Governance Improvements

In February 2018, we changed the name to the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee from the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and amended its charter to further emphasize the board responsibility for ESG oversight.

Corporate Governance Review

In overseeing our corporate policies and our overall performance and direction, our board of directors has adopted the approach of operating in what it believes are the long-term best interests of the Company and our stockholders. In operating under these principles, our board of directors continuously reviews our corporate governance structure and considers whether any changes are necessary or desirable. As part of this review, our board of directors has adopted a number of corporate governance guidelines to better align the interests of our directors with those of our stockholders, including those set forth above. As part of this review, our board of directors also considered amending our bylaws to allow our stockholders (without the concurrence of our board of directors) to implement bylaw amendments. After careful consideration of this matter and discussion with some of our larger shareholders, our board of directors has determined that at this time, it remains in the best interests of our stockholders and the Company that the authority to amend our bylaws continues to remain vested exclusively in our board of directors as is permitted by Maryland law and which has been the case since our initial public offering in 2013.

INFORMATION REGARDING OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our Named Executive Officers and their ages as of April 5, 2018 are as follows:

Name	Age
Jeffrey W. Eckel	59
J. Brendan Herron	57
Nathaniel J. Rose	40
Steven L. Chuslo	60
Daniel K. McMahon	46
M. Rhem Wooten Jr. ⁽¹⁾	58

(1) Mr. Wooten retired from the Company effective April 2018.

Biographical information with respect to Mr. Eckel is set forth above under “Election of Directors—Information Regarding the Nominees for Election as Directors.”

J. Brendan Herron, 57, has served as an executive vice president and our chief financial officer since 2013 and served in a variety of roles at the Predecessor and its affiliates from 1994 to 2005, and from 2011 to 2013. Mr. Herron has over 20 years of experience in structuring, executing and operating infrastructure and technology investments. He formerly served on the U.S. Commerce Secretary’s Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee and is presently a member of the Board of Trustees of Calvert Hall College High School (Baltimore, MD). Mr. Herron received a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and computer science from Loyola University Maryland in 1982 and a Master of Business Administration degree from Loyola University Maryland in 1987 and has passed the CPA and CMA examinations.

Nathaniel J. Rose, CFA, 40, has been an executive vice president since 2015 and our chief investment officer since 2017. He served as our chief operating officer from 2015 to 2017, our chief investment officer from 2013 to 2015 and has been with the Company and its Predecessor since 2000. He has been involved with a vast majority of our transactions since 2000. He earned a joint Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Richmond in 2000, a Master of Business Administration degree from the Darden School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia in 2009, is a CFA charter holder and has passed the CPA examination. He holds a Series 63 and 79 securities licenses.

Steven L. Chuslo, 60, has served as an executive vice president and our general counsel since 2013 and with our Predecessor as general counsel since 2008. Mr. Chuslo is responsible for internal governance matters and is actively involved in structuring, developing, negotiating and closing transactions. He has more than 25 years of experience in the fields of securities, commercial finance and energy development, U.S. federal regulation and project finance. Mr. Chuslo received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst in 1982 and a Juris Doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1990.

Daniel K. McMahon, CFA, 46, has served us as an executive vice president since 2015 and is the head of our portfolio management group. He has been with the Company and its Predecessor since 2000 in a variety of roles, including as a senior vice president from 2007 to 2015. He has played a role in analyzing, negotiating and structuring several billion dollars of transactions. Mr. McMahon received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, San Diego in 1993, and is a CFA charter holder. He holds Series 24, 63 and 79 securities licenses.

M. Rhem Wooten Jr., 58, served us as an executive vice president since 2013 and was a managing director with our Predecessor since 2010. Mr. Wooten has worked in the energy industry for more than 30 years, and has extensive experience in project development, commodity trading/risk management and project finance. Mr. Wooten received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 1981. He holds Series 63 and 79 securities licenses.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis (“CD&A”) describes the executive compensation program that was in place for 2017 for our “chief executive officer” or “CEO” and our next five most highly compensated executive officers. We refer to these individuals as our “Named Executive Officers,” or “NEOs.”

This CD&A explains the overall objectives, elements and policies underlying our NEO compensation program for 2017. In general, our 2017 compensation consisted of a base salary, an annual bonus paid in cash and stock based on our 2017 performance and the 2017 long-term equity incentive program. We also provide some forward-looking detail in regard to 2018 target compensation, which consists of a base salary that was adjusted to be effective April 2018, an annual bonus to be paid in cash and stock (if earned) based on our 2018 performance and the 2018 long-term equity incentive program. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that are based on our current plans, considerations, expectations and determinations regarding future compensation programs.

The CD&A also details the annual equity bonus awarded in 2017 for 2016 performance. We provide this detail in compliance with the SEC Summary Compensation Table reporting rules, which require that all equity award values granted in fiscal 2017 be disclosed, despite the fact that these particular equity awards were made in connection with 2016 performance.

Executive Summary

We provide capital and services focused on reducing climate changing greenhouse gas emissions (“GHG” or carbon emissions) as well as mitigating the impact of, or increasing resiliency to, climate change. We focus primarily on the energy efficiency, renewable energy and other sustainable infrastructure markets. Our goal is to generate attractive returns for our stockholders by investing capital in assets or projects that generate long-term, recurring and predictable cash flows or cost savings from proven technologies. We also provide services to the various partners and counterparties in the markets where we invest.

We are internally managed, and our management team has extensive relevant industry knowledge and experience, dating back more than 30 years. We have long-standing relationships with the leading energy service companies (“ESCOs”), manufacturers, project developers, utilities, owners and operators. Our origination strategy is to use these relationships to generate recurring, programmatic investment and fee generating opportunities. Additionally, we have relationships with the leading banks, and institutional investors from which we receive additional investment and fee generating opportunities. Our investment strategy and the industry in which we operate require that we maintain a highly qualified executive management team with strong operational skills and market knowledge.

Executive Compensation Program Objectives

The Compensation Committee of our board of directors is responsible for establishing and administering policy with respect to the compensation of our NEOs on an annual basis. We are committed to providing an executive compensation program that supports the following goals and philosophies:

- aligning our management team’s interests with those of our stockholders;
- motivating and rewarding our management team for executing our operational plans with a focus on sustainable long-term growth in a manner that is consistent with appropriate risk-taking based on sound corporate governance practices; and
- attracting and retaining an experienced and effective management team while also maintaining an appropriate expense structure.

Structure of Our Executive Compensation Program

As discussed in more detail herein, our executive compensation program is comprised of the following primary compensation elements:

- base salary, which is an element of compensation set at levels that are commensurate with our NEOs positions and provide fixed pay to attract and retain our NEOs, taking into account our budgeted operating expenses;

incentive compensation (annual bonus) that is payable in cash or equity that vests over a period of time from date of grant and is based on achievement of certain quantitative and qualitative corporate and individual performance objectives; and

long-term equity incentive program comprised of awards subject to both time-based and performance-based vesting that are designed to meet both our long-term growth and retention objectives.

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For 2017, over 75% of our targeted executive compensation was variable or equity-based (as opposed to a fixed cash amount) as shown below:

Compensation Element	Type of Compensation	Percentage of 2017 Targeted Compensation	
		Mr. Eckel	Other Named Executive Officers
Annual base salary	Fixed	14%	18% to 23%
Annual cash or equity incentive	Variable / Equity-based	20%	22% to 28%
Long-term equity incentive program	Variable / Equity-based	66%	49% to 60%

Our Compensation Committee believes having a significant portion of variable or equity-based compensation achieves our goals of encouraging high performance, promoting accountability, retaining skilled leadership and motivating our executives to achieve our business objectives and aligning their interests with those of our stockholders.

Overview of 2017 Performance and our Pay for Performance Philosophy

One of the guiding principles underlying the Compensation Committee's executive compensation philosophy is that compensation should encourage and reward strong financial and operational performance. In furtherance of this philosophy, the Compensation Committee established the 2017 annual incentive plan with quantitative and qualitative performance goals based upon the Company's strategic goals. The quantitative goals were intended to focus the NEOs on the key financial metrics that impact the Company's results and stockholder value, including core earnings⁽¹⁾, net interest margin ⁽²⁾, efficiency ratio ⁽³⁾ and credit losses incurred. For the NEOs other than the chief executive officer, the qualitative goals included an evaluation of overall performance of the NEO. Set forth below is graphical illustration of our core earnings and net interest margin growth from 2016 to 2017, as well as the improvement in our efficiency ratio from 2016 to 2017 where a lower percentage indicates increased efficiency. We realized no credit losses in 2017.

Core earnings is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of core earnings to (1) GAAP net income is located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

Net interest margin is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. It is calculated as total interest income plus rental income plus core equity method investments earnings plus amortization of intangibles, less interest expense. Core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 (2) of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. The other amounts are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

The efficiency ratio is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A lower efficiency ratio indicates a more efficient use of compensation and general and administrative expenses to generate revenue. It is calculated as compensation and benefits expense plus general and administrative expense, divided by total revenue (3) plus core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles. Compensation and benefits expense, general and administrative expense and total revenue are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

Rising short term interest rates, a flattening yield curve and spread compression in some markets influenced our decision to fix out interest rates and increase our liquidity in the second half of the year. The addition of longer maturity fixed-rate debt increased our interest expense and impacted our Core Earnings and Net Interest Margin performance against our targets as discussed below in "2017

Bonus Awards awarded in 2018.” The Compensation Committee determined that the increase in fixed-rate debt was in the best interest of the Company and, based on their evaluation and discussion with the CEO, that the NEOs had performed at expected levels on their individual performance measures in connection with the annual incentive program, other than the CEO who was not subject to an individual performance measure. Given the performance and the decision to fix out interest rates, the Compensation Committee determined each NEO should receive approximately 80% of their targeted bonus value.

Our 2017 results would not have been achieved without the leadership and efforts of the NEOs, and the results had a direct impact on the compensation decisions. In making its compensation decisions to be paid in 2018, the Compensation Committee recognized the 2017 results and achievements noted above, the performance of the Company and the NEOs, the performance of the Company as compared to other companies in our peer group (as defined below) and the contributions and accomplishments of our NEOs to our continuing growth.

Our Executive Compensation Program Best Practices

Our executive compensation program incorporates the following best practices:

• Compensation Committee comprised solely of independent directors.

• Independent compensation consultant that is engaged directly by the Compensation Committee and provides no other services to management or the Company.

• Compensation structure with targeted compensation that is predominately variable and equity-based.

• Compensation Committee reviewed and considered total compensation for each NEO against a peer group (as defined below).

• Robust stock ownership guidelines.

• Recoupment policy for performance or incentive-based compensation in the event of an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance by the Company with any financial reporting requirements under the securities laws.

• Limited executive perquisites.

• Hedging, pledging and margin accounts related to our Common Stock not permitted by any of our NEOs.

• Equity incentive plan that prohibits repricing of stock options without prior stockholder approval.

• Equity incentive plan provides that equity awards are subject to a minimum vesting period of no less than one year.

Process for Setting Executive Compensation

The Compensation Committee has primary responsibility for setting and approving the compensation of our chief executive officer and reviewing, approving and recommending to our board of directors, compensation for our other NEOs in a manner that is effective and consistent with our overall executive compensation strategy. As part of that responsibility, the Compensation Committee reviews on an individual basis the performance of our NEOs. As part of its process for reviewing the performance of our NEOs for 2017, the Compensation Committee considered the recommendations of our chief executive officer, with respect to the compensation of our NEOs.

The Compensation Committee typically reviews compensation levels for our NEOs near the beginning of each calendar year in determining base salaries and budgeted amounts for total compensation for the new fiscal year, and then meets again following the end of such fiscal year to review the Company’s and the NEOs’ actual performance, at which time it makes determinations with respect to adjustments to base salary, annual cash and equity bonuses and our long-term equity incentive program. As part of its annual review of the compensation paid to our NEOs, the Compensation Committee typically considers a number of factors in determining or structuring compensation, including the nature of the executive’s job and the responsibilities related thereto, the executive’s job performance compared to goals and objectives established for the Company and the executive at the beginning of the year, the experience level of the executive in his or her current position, the compensation levels of competitive jobs within our peer group (as defined below), our financial performance and financial condition, the execution of our investment and financing strategy, the impact of compensation determinations on our budgeted operating expense ratios and certain other quantitative and qualitative factors. These factors described above may vary from year to year in importance to, and usage by, the Compensation Committee, depending upon market conditions, corporate priorities and individual circumstances.

The Compensation Committee engaged FTI to provide advice regarding the executive compensation program for our senior management team including analysis and recommendations regarding (1) base salaries, annual bonuses,

including the mix of cash and equity, and long-term incentive compensation for our executive management team, (2) the director compensation program for independent members of our board of directors, and (3) other matters as requested by the Compensation Committee. The

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Compensation Committee also engaged Pay Governance, a compensation consulting firm, to report to the Compensation Committee on the setting of certain annual bonus targets for 2018. FTI and Pay Governance report directly to the Compensation Committee and they have not performed, and do not currently provide, any other services to management or the Company.

As part of the annual review of compensation payable to each of our NEOs, the Compensation Committee typically considers the compensation practices and levels at other companies that it deems generally comparable in structure and strategy. For 2017, this consideration was based on a September 2017 FTI report that includes other internally managed mortgage REITs or specialty-finance companies with market capitalizations ranging from approximately \$0.5 billion to \$2.3 billion as compared to our market capitalization at the same time of approximately \$1.3 billion. We sometimes refer to this group as our “peer group” for purposes of determining compensation.

Arbor Realty Trust, Inc. New York Mortgage Trust, Inc.

Capstead Mortgage Corporation NewStar Financial, Inc.

CYS Investments, Inc. Pattern Energy Group Inc.

Hercules Capital, Inc. PHH Corporation

HFF, Inc. Redwood Trust, Inc.

iStar Inc. Triangle Capital Corporation

Ladder Capital Corp. Walker & Dunlop, Inc.

Main Street Capital Corporation

The Compensation Committee works jointly with management and the compensation consultant to design and implement our compensation plan that combines the elements of current cash compensation in the form of a base salary, an annual bonus (payable in cash and equity) and long-term equity incentive compensation in one plan, which we refer to as the executive compensation program, the components of which are described below. The Compensation Committee and our board of directors approved the program on an annual basis for the purpose of (i) attracting and retaining top performing employees, (ii) motivating employees by tying compensation directly to our financial performance, and (iii) rewarding exceptional individual performance that supports our overall objectives. The Compensation Committee believes that by issuing both cash and equity incentive awards based on an individual’s achievement of the performance criteria, the executive compensation program allows us to more closely match the incentives of our NEOs with both the long and short-term goals of the business while also improving our ability to monitor the results of our compensation program.

The Compensation Committee also reviews and makes recommendations to our board of directors annually with respect to the compensation of our independent directors. In setting director compensation, our board of directors generally considers the compensation practices and levels for directors paid by our peer group, as well as the expected time commitment from the independent directors in such year.

Scope of Authority of Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee has overall responsibility for approving, evaluating and, in some cases, recommending to the board of directors, on an annual basis, director and officer compensation plans, policies and programs of the Company, including determining salaries, annual cash bonuses, equity awards, change in control and termination arrangements and director fees. Pursuant to its charter, the Compensation Committee has the sole authority to retain, terminate and pay any compensation consultant to be used to assist in the evaluation of director and senior executive compensation, as well as the authority to retain special legal, accounting or other consultants to advise the committee and may form subcommittees and delegate its authority to such subcommittees. No subcommittees were formed by

the Compensation Committee in 2017.

Executive Compensation Program Components

The following provides an overview of our approach to each primary element of our NEO compensation program and an analysis of the compensation paid under each of these elements. Equity incentives are granted under the 2013 Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc. Equity Incentive Plan, as amended (the “Equity Incentive Plan”).

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Compensation Element	Objective	Key Features
Base Salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a fixed element of compensation commensurate with each NEOs position and responsibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustments are generally considered annually based on individual performance, level of pay relative to the market and our peer group, internal pay equity, and retention issues.
Annual Incentive Compensation (Cash and Equity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an annual cash incentive or bonus based upon our overall corporate and individual performance as well as objective and subjective performance criteria that are aligned with the strategic direction of the Company. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compensation Committee approves the overall corporate and individual performance measures as well as objective and subjective performance criteria on an annual basis. Compensation Committee determines allocation between cash and stock on an annual basis, as well as the vesting criteria of the annual equity awards.
Long-term incentive program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides equity-based incentives in the form of restricted stock or RSUs or other equity awards that contain multi- year vesting and/or performance criteria in order to further our retention objectives and align the interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders over a longer time period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compensation Committee determines allocation between time-based and performance-based awards. Compensation Committee determines the performance targets and vesting criteria.
Health Welfare, and Other Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers all eligible employees a competitive benefits package, which includes health and welfare benefits, such as 401(k), medical, dental, disability insurance, and life insurance benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plans under which these benefits are offered do not discriminate in scope, terms or operation in favor of officers and are available to all eligible employees.
Perquisites and Other Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently do not provide any perquisites and do not intend to provide perquisites exceeding \$15,000 in the aggregate to our NEOs because we believe that we can provide better incentives for desired performance with compensation in the forms described above. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

In terms of compensation paid to our NEOs, we have generally provided lower annual base salaries and annual bonuses than the median of the peer group with a higher level of long-term incentive equity compensation. For example, the 2017 annual base salary and target bonus of our chief executive officer that was earned in 2017 was approximately \$1.5 million as compared to a median chief executive officer annual base salary and bonus of the peer group of approximately \$2.1 million. The total target compensation of our chief executive officer including the 2017 long-term incentive grant was approximately \$4.6 million, which was approximately 70% of the total 2017 target compensation of the chief executive officers of our peer group which ranged from approximately \$1.9 million to approximately \$12.3 million. We do not, however, have a policy of targeting compensation for our NEOs to any

specific level within the range of total compensation paid by our peer group (i.e., median, upper or lower); rather, we have attempted to structure our executive compensation program and to compensate our NEOs in a manner that is both competitive enough to retain their services and rewards their performance, hard work and dedication, but is also consistent with our needs to maintain an appropriate expense structure.

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Base Salary

Base salary, which represents the fixed element of our executive compensation program, provides for basic economic security at a level that allows us to retain the executive's services. The Compensation Committee generally establishes annual base salaries for our NEOs commensurate with the level of experience that the executive brings to the position, the nature of the responsibilities required of the executive, such as whether the executive is performing in multiple roles, how successful the executive is in achieving goals established by the Compensation Committee and the executive's contributions to the Company, but does not assign any specific weights to these factors. As discussed in other parts of this CD&A, the Compensation Committee also considers the size of the Company and our budgeted operating expenses in setting annual base salaries and for 2017, targeted base salaries for our NEOs between the 25th and median of base salaries paid by our peer group. Base salaries are reviewed and may be adjusted to better match competitive market levels or to recognize an executive's professional growth and development, increased responsibility or other discretionary factors. The table below reflects the annual salary of our NEOs with increases effective in April of each of the years:

Name	2016 Annual Salary (\$)	2017 Annual Salary (\$)	2018 Annual Salary (\$)
Jeffrey W. Eckel	619,500	619,500	639,500
J. Brendan Herron	360,000	360,000	380,000
Nathaniel J. Rose	327,500	343,875	363,875
Steven L. Chuslo	355,000	355,000	360,000
Daniel K. McMahon	322,000	322,000	342,000
M. Rhem Wooten Jr.	343,500	343,500	343,500

The determination to increase base salaries in 2018 for our NEOs was driven in part by the size of the Company, the performance of our NEOs and our desire to establish a base salary that is more competitive with comparable base salaries.

Annual Incentive Compensation or Bonuses

Annual incentive compensation, in the form of cash incentive compensation and equity incentive awards subject to time-based vesting conditions (payable in the form of restricted stock), is available to each of the NEOs under our executive compensation program. Incentive compensation serves as a means of linking annual compensation both to our overall performance and to objective and subjective performance criteria that are aligned with the Company's strategic direction.

We provided our NEOs with the opportunity to earn annual incentive compensation for achieving corporate financial and non-financial goals for performance in 2016 and 2017. These bonus awards, which provide for no minimum award or guaranteed payment, are comprised of two parts: a quantitative component and a qualitative component. For 2017, our NEOs incentive compensation (other than our chief executive officer) was weighted such that 80% was based on overall corporate performance and 20% was based on an evaluation of individual performance. The 80% corporate performance was evaluated based under the quantitative component as shown in the chart below. The incentive compensation of our chief executive officer was based 100% on the corporate performance. Because Mr. Eckel is our chief executive officer and has ultimate responsibility over our investment portfolio and other business decisions, our success or failure is highly dependent on his ability to manage our portfolio and operate our business. As a result, the Compensation Committee concluded that Mr. Eckel's incentive compensation should be weighted more heavily on our achievement of the corporate performance criteria.

In part, to align our NEOs interests with those of our stockholders and to enable them to increase their ownership of our Common Stock, the Compensation Committee has structured the executive compensation program to require the NEOs to receive, subject to the amount of incentive compensation earned, a portion of their annual incentive compensation as equity incentive awards subject to time-based vesting conditions. The Compensation Committee believes that these equity incentive awards subject to time-based vesting conditions are important to motivate and reward the NEOs for maximizing stockholder value, and also help create an incentive for talented employees to remain with the Company, while the 2017 cash incentive compensation payable under our executive compensation program provides NEOs with current income for achieving performance criteria.

The following chart summarizes the target bonus % and actual awarded bonus % for 2016 and 2017 calculated as a percentage of the base salary at the end of the respective year.

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Name	2016 and 2017 Target Bonus (%)	2016 Actual Bonus (%)	2017 Actual Bonus (%)
Jeffrey W. Eckel	150	140	114
J. Brendan Herron	125	118	101
Nathaniel J. Rose	125	118	101
Steven L. Chuslo	125	118	101
Daniel K. McMahon	125	118	101
M. Rhem Wooten Jr.	125	118	101

The target bonus percentage for 2018 is unchanged from the prior years, other than for Mr. Eckel, whose target is increased to 175%, and Mr. Rose, whose target is increased to 150%. Target bonus percentage increases are reflective of each executive's continued meaningful contributions to the Company and remain aligned with peer practice.

2016 Bonus Awards awarded in 2017

The following table sets forth the quantitative company performance measure hurdles and corresponding incentive compensation payouts for each of the NEOs under the quantitative component of the incentive plan:

Corporate Performance Objectives	Weighting	Quantitative Company Performance Hurdle ⁽¹⁾	Payout as a % of Target Upon Achievement of Hurdle ⁽¹⁾	Actual Performance
2016 annual core earnings / share ⁽²⁾	50%	\$1.15 – \$1.21	50%	
		\$1.21	100%	\$1.20
		\$1.21 – \$1.27	150%	
Origination volume ⁽³⁾	15%	\$1.0 billion	50%	
		\$1.1 billion	100%	\$1.1 billion
		\$1.2 billion	150%	
Net credit losses, as % of total assets ⁽⁴⁾	15%	<0.11%	100%	0.0%
Execution of the finance plan	10%	Target	100%	100%
Sarbanes-Oxley readiness	10%	Target	100%	100%

(1) Actual results were pro-rated between the values, with exception of the net credit losses, execution of the finance plan and readiness under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act").

Core earnings is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of core earnings to (2) GAAP net income is located on pages 72-74 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2017.

(3) Origination volume is the dollar volume of transactions completed in a year as disclosed on page 6 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2017.

(4) Net credit losses is the dollar amount of any provision for credit losses as disclosed on page 74 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2017.

The calculated achievement of corporate goals was approximately 93% and there was a 100% payout on qualitative measures. In accordance with the 2016 Bonus Awards, our NEOs received the following amounts of total incentive compensation for 2016 that was paid or granted in 2017:

Name	Total Incentive Compensation Earned in 2016 (\$)	% of Incentive Compensation Paid in Cash	% of Incentive Compensation Paid in Restricted Stock ⁽¹⁾
Jeffrey W. Eckel	864,891	35	65
J. Brendan Herron	425,108	35	65
Nathaniel J. Rose	386,201	35	65
Steven L. Chuslo	419,276	35	65
Daniel K. McMahon	379,989	35	65
M. Rhem Wooten Jr.	405,474	35	65

Shares of restricted Common Stock issued as part of the annual incentive compensation are issued from our Equity (1) Incentive Plan, valued \$18.97 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant, and vest in March 2019.

2017 Bonus Awards awarded in 2018

The following table sets forth the quantitative company performance measure hurdles and corresponding incentive compensation payouts for each of the NEOs under the quantitative component of the incentive plan:

Corporate Performance Objectives	Weighting	Quantitative Company Performance Hurdle ⁽¹⁾	Payout as a % of Target Upon Achievement of Hurdle ⁽¹⁾	Actual Performance
2017 annual core earnings / share ⁽²⁾	60%	\$1.25 – \$1.32	50%	
		\$1.32	100%	\$1.27
		\$1.32 – \$1.39	150%	
Net interest margin (dollars in millions) ⁽³⁾	15%	\$68.2 - \$71.75	50%	
		\$71.75	100%	\$61.3
		\$71.75-\$75.3	150%	
Efficiency ratio ⁽⁴⁾	15%	21%	50%	
		20%	100%	20%
		19%	150%	
Net credit losses, as % of total assets ⁽⁵⁾	10%	<0.11%	100%	0.0%

(1) Actual results were pro-rated between the values below, with exception of the net credit losses.

Core earnings is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of core earnings to

(2) GAAP net income is located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

Net interest margin is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. It is calculated as total interest income plus rental income plus core equity method investments earnings plus amortization of intangibles, less interest expense. Core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 (3) of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. The other amounts are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

(4)

The efficiency ratio is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. A lower efficiency ratio indicates a more efficient use of compensation and general and administrative expenses to generate revenue. It is calculated as compensation and benefits expense plus general and administrative expense, divided by total revenue plus core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles. Compensation and benefits expense, general and administrative expense and total revenue are located on page 87 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Core equity method investments earnings and amortization of intangibles are located on page 73 of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. Our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 was filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018.

Net credit losses is the dollar amount of any provision for credit losses as disclosed on page 87 of our Form 10-K (5) for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 23, 2018. We realized no credit losses in 2017.

The calculated achievement of corporate goals was approximately 63% and there was a 100% payout on qualitative measures. As discussed above, the Compensation Committee also determined that the measures taken to increase fixed-rate debt were in the best interest of the Company, and as such increased the total award for each NEO so that each received approximately 80% of their targeted bonus value. In accordance with the 2017 Bonus Awards, our NEOs received the following amounts of total incentive compensation for 2017 that was paid or granted in 2018:

Name	Total Incentive Compensation Earned in 2017 (\$)	% of Incentive Compensation Paid in Cash	% of Incentive Compensation Paid in Restricted Stock ⁽¹⁾
Jeffrey W. Eckel	707,624	-	100
J. Brendan Herron	363,816	-	100
Nathaniel J. Rose	347,515	-	100
Steven L. Chuslo	358,752	-	100
Daniel K. McMahon	325,405	-	100
M. Rhem Wooten Jr.	347,133	-	100

Shares of restricted Common Stock issued as part of the annual incentive compensation are issued from our Equity (1)Incentive Plan, valued at \$19.11 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant, and vest in May 2019.

Long-Term Incentive Program Granted in 2017 and 2018

As noted above, NEOs were eligible to participate in a long-term equity incentive program that was based upon (i) our desire to increase the executive's ownership stake in the Company and better align the executive's long-term interests with those of our stockholders, (ii) our desire to tie total incentive compensation (including equity incentive awards) to specified quantitative performance measures, (iii) our desire to increase the amount of non-cash, equity incentive compensation earned by our NEOs as a percentage of their total compensation, and (iv) our desire to provide our NEOs with a competitive balance of current cash compensation and equity compensation subject to time-based and performance-based vesting conditions that increases the executive's incentive to remain with the Company over the longer-term.

To address the goal of aligning the interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders, the Compensation Committee allocated 50% of the award to each of our Named Executive Officers (60% of the award for the CEO in 2017) in the form of restricted stock or RSUs that vest only upon achievement of specified performance metrics. These performance awards subject our Named Executive Officers to the downside risk of a decrease in the value of their compensation if the returns to our stockholders do not match the returns of the index against which our returns are being measured ("Relative TSR") or we do not achieve a specified total stockholder return ("Absolute TSR"). Both Absolute and Relative TSR goals are measured on an approximate three-year basis or such shorter period upon the occurrence of a change of control.

We believe that growth in stockholder return is important to investors and is an appropriate measure of our long-term success. The use of stockholder return was based upon an analysis of the measures used by the other companies in our peer group. The Compensation Committee allocated the remaining portion of the annual award in the form of time-vested restricted Common Stock. This allocation satisfies the need for a useful retention tool, given that in our market there is a demand for experienced executive talent. The service-based award furthers our goal of aligning the long-term interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders as it subjects our NEOs to the downside risk of a decrease in compensation if the price of our Common Stock declines.

Name	2017 Performance Based Award Units ⁽¹⁾	2017 Time Based Award Shares ⁽²⁾	Total Value of 2017 Award (\$) ⁽³⁾	2018 Performance Based Award Units ⁽⁴⁾	2018 Time Based Award Shares ⁽⁵⁾	Total Value of 2018 Award (\$) ⁽⁶⁾
	94,740	63,160	2,997,258	62,100	62,100	2,443,635

Jeffrey W. Eckel						
J. Brendan Herron	31,620	31,620	1,200,295	25,876	25,874	1,018,182
Nathaniel J. Rose	22,750	22,750	863,590	18,976	18,974	746,667
Steven L. Chuslo	20,500	20,500	778,180	16,388	16,387	644,849
Daniel K. McMahon	19,500	19,500	740,220	16,388	16,387	644,849
M. Rhem Wooten Jr. (7)	19,500	19,500	740,220	-	-	-

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Represents the total amount of RSUs that have been granted, assuming target performance. 50% of the units are to be earned based on Absolute TSR over a three-year time period and 50% of the RSUs are to be earned based on Relative TSR over the same time period. The actual shares of Common Stock to be earned are calculated according to the chart below.

2017 Award: Total Stockholder Return Metrics	Threshold	Target	Outperform
	50%	100%	200%
Absolute TSR	25.5%	31.5%	39.0%
Relative TSR	30.0%	55.0%	80.0%

(2) Represents time-based restricted stock shares that vest in three equal annual amounts on March 15, 2018 and March 5, 2019 and 2020.

Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards of both the time-vested and performance-vested restricted shares of Common Stock computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 718 and the assumptions and methodologies set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 (Note 2 and Note 11, Equity). The time vested grants were valued at \$18.97 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant. The Absolute TSR RSUs were valued at \$15.22 per unit and the Relative TSR RSUs were valued at \$22.76, in each case by an independent appraisal.

(4) Represents the total amount of RSUs that have been granted, assuming target performance. 50% of the units are to be earned based on Absolute TSR over a three-year time period and 50% of the RSUs are to be earned based on Relative TSR over the same time period. The actual shares of Common Stock to be earned are calculated according to the chart below.

2018 Award: Total Stockholder Return Metrics	Threshold	Target	Outperform
	50%	100%	200%
Absolute TSR	18.0%	24.0%	30.0%
Relative TSR	30.0%	55.0%	80.0%

(5) Represents time-based restricted stock shares that vest in three equal annual amounts on May 15, 2019, and March 5, 2020 and 2021.

Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards of both the time-vested and performance-vested restricted shares of Common Stock computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 and the assumptions and methodologies set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 (Note 2 and Note 11, Equity). The time vested grants were valued at \$19.11 per share, the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant. The Absolute TSR RSUs were valued at \$17.43 per unit and the Relative TSR RSUs were valued at \$23.05, in each case by an independent appraisal.

(7) Mr. Wooten retired from the Company effective April 2018.

Benefits

Benefits are also established based upon a determination of what is needed to aid in attracting and retaining executive talent, as well as providing long-term financial security to our employees and their families. The NEOs are eligible to participate in our health, dental and vision plans, and various insurance plans, including disability and life insurance, and in our 401(k) plan.

Severance Benefits Payable Upon Termination of Employment or a Change in Control

In order to achieve our compensation objective of attracting, retaining and motivating qualified senior executives, we believe that we need to provide our NEOs with severance protections that are consistent with the severance protections offered by companies similar to us. Consistent with this philosophy, we believe that severance should be payable to our NEOs in the event their employments are terminated under certain circumstances. For more information regarding the terms of the employment agreements, see “—Narrative to Summary Compensation Table.” The employment agreements are reviewed annually by the Compensation Committee.

Tax Deductibility of Executive Compensation

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code places a \$1,000,000 limit on the amount of compensation that may be deducted annually by the Company on our tax return with respect to each of our NEOs. Historically, compensation paid for achieving pre-established and objective performance goals pursuant to a plan that has been approved by our stockholders has not been subject to this limit. Although the performance-based exemption under Section 162(m) was recently repealed for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, performance-based awards that were granted on or before November 2, 2017 or compensation to be paid pursuant to binding written contracts that were in effect on November 2, 2017 will, in many circumstances, remain eligible for the performance-

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based exemption. Our Equity Incentive Plan is designed so that performance-based restricted stock awards granted to our NEOs under the plan on or before November 2, 2017 can be exempt from the compensation deduction limitation described above. Going forward, when the Company determines whether to use performance-based awards in its grants to NEOs, it will no longer be taking into account the potential tax deduction with respect to compensation for an NEO in excess of \$1,000,000 a year, which will no longer be available, and the Company's performance-based pay practices may change accordingly in the future. Time-based awards are subject to the compensation deduction limitation. Although the Compensation Committee generally seeks to preserve the federal income tax deductibility of compensation paid, in order to maintain flexibility in compensating executives, including our NEOs, in a manner designed to promote our corporate goals, including retaining and incentivizing the NEOs, the Compensation Committee has not adopted a policy that all compensation must be deductible.

Adjustment or Recovery of Awards

The Company believes that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to create and maintain a culture that emphasizes integrity and accountability and that reinforces the Company's overall compensation philosophy. In furtherance of this goal our board of directors has adopted a policy which applies to performance or incentive-based compensation approved, awarded or granted to a Covered Executive beginning on, or after, January 1, 2017 and which provides for the possible recoupment of performance or incentive-based compensation in the event of an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance by the Company with any financial reporting requirements under the securities laws (other than due to a change in applicable accounting methods, rules or interpretations), the result of which is that any performance or incentive-based compensation paid to such Covered Executive during the three-year period preceding the publication of the restated financial statements would have been lower had it been calculated based on such restated financial statements. For the purposes of this policy, the term "Covered Executive" shall mean any Named Executive Officer as determined by the Committee pursuant to Item 402 of Regulation S-K and other key employees identified by the Committee and includes our NEOs.

Relationship of Compensation Practices to Risk Management

When structuring our overall compensation practices for our employees generally, consideration is given as to whether the structure creates incentives for risk-taking behavior and therefore impacts our risk management practices. Attention is given to the elements and the mix of pay as well as ensuring that employees' awards align with stockholders' value.

The Compensation Committee has assessed the compensation policies and practices for our employees, including our NEOs, and concluded that they do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. The Compensation Committee generally considers whether our compensation programs encourage excessive risk taking during its annual review of such programs, which typically occurs during the first quarter of each year.

Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the CD&A section of this proxy statement with management and, based on such review and discussion, the Committee recommends that it be included in this proxy statement.

Compensation Committee

Mark Cirilli (Chair)

Rebecca Blalock

Steven Osgood

April 11, 2018

The foregoing report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such acts.

Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$) (1)	Stock Awards (\$) ⁽²⁾	Non-equity incentive plan compensation (\$) ⁽³⁾	All other compensation (\$) ⁽⁴⁾	Total (\$)
Jeffrey W. Eckel, Director, President and Chief Executive Officer	2017	619,500	3,559,149	—	20,575	4,199,224
	2016	594,500	3,783,550	303,000	21,331	4,702,381
	2015	528,000	4,084,968	—	21,381	4,634,349
J. Brendan Herron, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2017	360,000	1,476,404	—	13,500	1,849,904
	2016	350,000	1,405,138	149,000	13,250	1,917,388
	2015	318,333	1,123,741	—	13,250	1,455,324
Nathaniel J. Rose, Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer	2017	338,417	1,114,791	—	13,500	1,466,708
	2016					